From: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
To: betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov; joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov; benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov; bryan_arroyo@fws.gov; jim_kurth@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov; matthew_huggler@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov; charisa_morris@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dia (b)(5) commercial @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b) (5) commercial privilege
When Thu Mar 9 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video cal (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar betsy_hildebrandt@f s.go
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
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Subject: New Event: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b) (5) commercial privilege... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
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When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
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Subject: Invitation: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP .. @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 12:30pm - 1:30pm (benjam n_tuggle@fws.gov)
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Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 12:30pm – 1:30pm Mountain Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
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Subject: Invitation: Border wall coordinat on - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP 1... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 12:30pm - 1:30pm (joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov)
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Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 12:30pm – 1:30pm Mountain Time
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Calendar joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
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Subject: Invitat on: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP 1... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (jonathan_andrew@ os.doi.gov)
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Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
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Calendar jonathan_andrew @ios.doi.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
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Subject: Invitation: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b)(5) CIP ... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 11:30am - 12:30pm (paul_souza@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 11:30am – 12:30pm Pacific Time
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Calendar paul_souza@f s.gov
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Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar jim_kurth@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov

Going? Yes <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action RESPOND&eid aHU3Mzl0NnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgamltX2t1cnRoQGZ3cy5nb3Y&rst 1&tok MjMjc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3ZmZTgzMTk1ZDg1NGFkMGJkZTAxOTgzNzMzNTA5M2E5MmRkNzVlZTdk&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
- Maybe <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action RESPOND&eid aHU3Mzl0NnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgamltX2t1cnRoQGZ3cy5nb3Y&rst 3&tok MjMjc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3ZmZTgzMTk1ZDg1NGFkMGJkZTAxOTgzNzMzNTA5M2E5MmRkNzVlZTdk&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
- No <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action RESPOND&eid aHU3Mzl0NnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgamltX2t1cnRoQGZ3cy5nb3Y&rst 2&tok MjMjc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3ZmZTgzMTk1ZDg1NGFkMGJkZTAxOTgzNzMzNTA5M2E5MmRkNzVlZTdk&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
more options » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action VIEW&eid aHU3Mzl0NnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgamltX2t1cnRoQGZ3cy5nb3Y&tok MjMjc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3ZmZTgzMTk1ZDg1NGFkMGJkZTAxOTgzNzMzNTA5M2E5MmRkNzVlZTdk&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account jim_kurth@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar jim_kurth@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Jonathan Andrew
To: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b)(5) CIP ... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Jonathan Andrew has accepted this invitation.
Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account stephen_guertin@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov.
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Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More
<https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Joy Nicholopoulos
To: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b)(5) CIP ... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Joy Nicholopoulos has accepted this invitation.
Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account stephen_guertin@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More
<https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
To: jim_kurth@fws.gov; bryan_arroyo@fws.gov; casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov; joy_n cholopoulos@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; charisa_morris@fws.gov; betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov; matthew_huggler@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Invitation: Border wall coordinat on - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(6) CIP ... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (cynthia_martinez@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action VIEW&eid aHU3Mzl0NnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgY3ludGhpYV9tYXJ0aW5lekBmd3MuZ292&tok MjMjc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3Y3YTE5NDJjOGE1M2YwYjMzZWYzODc1ZTQ4ZjA1MmJhZTk2OTRjZmQ1&ctz America/New_York&hl en>

Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video cal (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov

Going? Yes <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action RESPOND&eid aHU3Mzl0NnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgY3ludGhpYV9tYXJ0aW5lekBmd3MuZ292&rst 1&tok MjMjc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3Y3YTE5NDJjOGE1M2YwYjMzZWYzODc1ZTQ4ZjA1MmJhZTk2OTRjZmQ1&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
- Maybe <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action RESPOND&eid aHU3MzlfNnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgY3ludGhpYV9tYXJ0aW5lekBmd3MuZ292&rst 3&tok MjMjc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3Y3YTE5NDJjOGE1M2YwYjMzZWYzODc1ZTQ4ZjA1MmJhZTk2OTRjZmQ1&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
- No <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action RESPOND&eid aHU3Mzl0NnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgY3ludGhpYV9tYXJ0aW5lekBmd3MuZ292&rst 2&tok MjMjc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3Y3YTE5NDJjOGE1M2YwYjMzZWYzODc1ZTQ4ZjA1MmJhZTk2OTRjZmQ1&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
more options » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action VIEW&eid aHU3Mzl0NnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgY3ludGhpYV9tYXJ0aW5lekBmd3MuZ292&tok MjMjc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3Y3YTE5NDJjOGE1M2YwYjMzZWYzODc1ZTQ4ZjA1MmJhZTk2OTRjZmQ1&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account cynthia_martinez@fws gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov.
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Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Gary Frazer
To: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP ... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Gary Frazer has accepted this invitation.
Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account stephen_guertin@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov.
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Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Casey Hammond
To: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b)(5) CIP ... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Casey Hammond has accepted this invitation.
Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account stephen_guertin@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov.
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Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Betsy Hildebrandt
To: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP ... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Betsy Hildebrandt has accepted this invitation.
Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account stephen_guertin@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov.
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Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Matthew Huggler
To: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP ... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Matthew Huggler has accepted this invitation.
Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account stephen_guertin@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov.
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From: Paul Souza
To: Stephen Guertin
Subject: Re: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b) (5) commercial privilege
Date: Wednesday March 8 2017 4:17:24 PM

Thanks Steve . . . I'm traveling home tomorrow from the NA and it will be hard for me to join. Can I ask Jody Holzworth, my acting deputy, to cover it?

Best,

Paul Souza
Regional Director
Pacific Southwest
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825
916-414-6469
916-208-2457 Cell
https://www.fws.gov/cno

> On Mar 8, 2017, at 6:12 AM, Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> You have been invited to the following event.
>
> Title: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial (b) (5) commercial Code: (b)(5) con
> When: Thu Mar 9, 2017 11:30am – 12:30pm Pacific Time
> Video call: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
> Calendar: paul_souza@fws.gov
> Who:
> * stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
> * roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
> * jim_kurth@fws.gov
> * charisa_morris@fws.gov
> * bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
> * matthew_huggler@fws.gov
> * paul_souza@fws.gov
> * benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
> * betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
> * gary_frazer@fws.gov
> * joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
> * jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
> * casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
>
> Event details:
> https://www.google.com/calendar/event?action=VIEW&eid=aHU3Mzl0NnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgcGF1bF9zb3V6YUBmd3MuZ292&tok=MjMjc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3ZmMzM2OTM4NDgxN2IyMzBjOGRjMzdmMGJhNzBlNjlhNDU1NzFmYzBk&ctz=America/Los_Angeles&hl=en
>
> Invitation from Google Calendar: https://www.google.com/calendar/
>
> You are receiving this email at the account paul_souza@fws.gov because you
> are subscribed for invitations on calendar paul_souza@fws.gov.
>
> To stop receiving these emails, please log in to
> https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for
> this calendar.
>
> Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP
> response. Learn more at
> https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding
> <meeting.ics>

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Benjamin Tuggle
To: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Subject: Tentatively Accepted: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP ... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Benjamin Tuggle has replied "Maybe" to this invitation.
Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
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Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Ted Koch
To: Seth Willey
Cc: Frazer, Gary
Subject: Re: Agenda--NEED INFO!
Date: Thursday, March 9, 2017 9:34:33 AM

Thank you Gary!

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 8, 2017, at 4:57 PM, Seth Willey <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:

> Thank you again Gary for taking the time to share your thoughts and insights. Its always interesting, insightful, and thoughtful. I / We very much appreciate it. Thank you!
>
> Seth
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Mar 8, 2017, at 12:45 PM, Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Talk to you then
> >
> > *Gary Frazer*
> > *Assistant Director -- Ecological Services*
> > *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> > *(202) 208-4646*
> >
> > On Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 2:44 PM, Willey, Seth <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Hey Gary,
> > >
> > > You likely saw this in the updated invite, but here is the revised (correct) call in info:
> > >
> > > b5-CIP
> > >
> > > Thanks again for chatting with us this afternoon. Much appreciated!
> > >
> > > Seth
> > >
> > > **********
> > > Seth L. Willey
> > > Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
> > > Southwest Region, USFWS
> > > Seth_Willey@fws.gov

Work: 505-248-6492
Cell: 505-697-7600
****

On Tue, Feb 28, 2017 at 10:10 AM, Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

> Got it. thanks.
>
> *Gary Frazer*
> *Assistant Director -- Ecological Services*
> *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> *(202) 208-4646*
>
> On Tue, Feb 28, 2017 at 12:07 PM, Willey, Seth <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hey Gary,
> >
> > Note, I just updated the call in number on the invite (sorry about that). Here is the correct call in number:
> >
> > b5-CIP [redacted]
> >
> > Thanks,
> > Seth
> >
> > **********
> > Seth L. Willey
> > Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
> > Southwest Region, USFWS
> > Seth_Willey@fws.gov
> > Work: 505-248-6492
> > Cell: 505-697-7600
> > **********
> >
> > On Tue, Feb 28, 2017 at 9:18 AM, Willey, Seth <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Thank you Gary! I think a general update on transition, your growing relationship with the new team, priorities, dos and don'ts, budgets, hiring freeze, etc. New administration stuff is what I would imagine. If you are hearing any rumblings on Border Wall, Mexican wolf, LPC, and Mexican government cooperation / relations those might be a few R2 issues of particular interest (all stuff I'm learning more about in the new gig).
> > >
> > > Your insights are always super interesting. We will let you know if I hear anything else in particular.
> > >
> > > Thanks again!
> > > Seth

****
Seth L. Willey
Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
Southwest Region, USFWS
Seth_Willey@fws.gov
Work: 505-248-6492
Cell: 505-697-7600
****

On Mon, Feb 27, 2017 at 9:03 PM, Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

> Sounds good. Talk to you then. Let me know if there's anything in particular that people want to hear about. -- gDF
>
> *Gary Frazer*
> *Assistant Director -- Ecological Services*
> *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> *(202) 208-4646*
>
> On Mon, Feb 27, 2017 at 4:49 PM, Willey, Seth <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hey Gary,
> >
> > Wed afternoon at 3:30 mountain sounds great. Here's the call in number:
> >
> > b5-CIP [redacted]
> >
> > Still sound OK?
> >
> > Thanks! Everyone is looking forward to it!
> >
> > Seth
> >
> > **********
> > Seth L. Willey
> > Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
> > Southwest Region, USFWS
> > Seth_Willey@fws.gov
> > Work: 505-248-6492
> > Cell: 505-697-7600
> > **********
> >
> > On Sun, Feb 26, 2017 at 6:35 PM, Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

Seth -- I'll be in the air most of the day Mar 7, flying to Portland to stop by their project leaders' meeting before heading on to Spokane the next day for the North American. I don't see any way I can find time to call that day.

But I could call from the airport Wed afternoon, Mar 8, at around 3:30p Mountain, if that would work on your end. Just let me know.

If all else fails, I could probably fine a time to call from Spokane on Thurs, if you're still meeting that day. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Thu, Feb 23, 2017 at 5:39 PM, Willey, Seth <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hey Gary,
>
> I hope this finds you well.
>
> In a couple weeks, we are having our project leaders meeting. The team would very much like to hear your insights on current events, future trends, etc, if you can spare a few minutes to talk. Ideally, we are thinking Tuesday March 7th, perhaps 9am (11 eastern). That said, I know you are busy and if this time does not work, we will work around your schedule. Let us know.
>
> Thanks,
> Seth
>
> **********
> **********
> Seth L. Willey
> Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
> Southwest Region, USFWS
> Seth_Willey@fws.gov
> Work: 505-248-6492
> Cell: 505-697-7600
> **********
> **********
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Spangle, Steve** <steve_spangle@fws.gov>

Date: Thu, Feb 23, 2017 at 3:15 PM
Subject: Agenda--NEED INFO!
To: Debra Bills <Debra_Bills@fws.gov>, "Polk, Jonna" <jonna_polk@fws.gov>, Denise Baker <denise_baker@fws.gov>, "Barrett, Sherry" <sherry_barrett@fws.gov>, John Huffman <john_huffman@fws.gov>, Susan Jacobsen <susan_jacobsen@fws.gov>, Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, Seth Willey <seth_willey@fws.gov>, Susan Millsap <susan_millsap@fws.gov>, "Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, "Zerrenner, Adam" <adam_zerrenner@fws.gov>

Hi all: I just found out that we have only until this coming Tuesday to finish our agenda. I've started working on it but quickly found out I need a lot more info.

First, I need to know availability of the following people who would call in. Some of the topics look like we'll need a call-in but the caller isn't specified. In some cases I'm suggesting times (in ( )) to help with agenda flow and/or in consideration of Seth's availability. In **bold** is the person I'm "assigning" to track this info down:

Ted, Seth: Gary Fraser (9:00 Tuesday), Benjamin/Joy (8:30 Tuesday)

Susan J: Laverna (budget), Ben Jessup, Nathan, Shawn (T vs E), Shawn (listing work plan), Julie? (monarch update)

Denise: Don (funding fidelity), Justin? (wind energy discussion)

Adam: Dawn (Emphasis Area Discussion)

Susan M: Stacey Stanford and Kathy Konishi (S.7 on 10(a)(1)(A) permits)

Other holes that need to be filled:

"Being Safe". Who should lead?

"Coordination with OLE and SOL" Who should lead, and approximate duration?

"Fishnet". Debra lead? Approximate duration? Description of this topic?

"New FWS policies" (lead, duration? Any call-ins?)

"DTS routing review" (Chuck). Duration?

"Monarch updates" Lead? Duration?

"M-37041 (IT under MBTA)" Lead? Duration?

"Wind energy" Lead?

--
Steve Spangle, Field Supervisor
Arizona Ecological Services Office

Note new address and phone number:
DOI U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
9828 North 31st Avenue, #C3
Phoenix, Arizona 85051-2517

General office: 602/242-0210
Direct Line: 602/889-5958

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Benjamin Tuggle
To: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP ... @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Benjamin Tuggle has accepted this invitation.
Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov

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Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From:	JohnsonHughes, Christy
To:	Thatcher, Ben
Cc:	Cheryl Amrani; Frankie Green; Catherine Liller; London, Rachel; Jason Miller; Stephanie Nash; Jeffrey Herod; Morse, John
Subject:	Re: This week in BER 4/17
Date:	Tuesday, April 18, 2017 8:40:39 AM

Ben,

Can we get more information on the HQ review of infrastructure, energy and border wall projects from the Department? I would like to see the written request and discuss when we expect to see more information from the Department, what Gary has said about this, and any discussions with the ARDS.

Christy

Christy Johnson-Hughes
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
Branch of Environmental Review
703-358-1922

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

On Mon, Apr 17, 2017 at 5:32 PM, Thatcher, Ben <ben_thatcher@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hey Team- I'm back, and glad for it (although I wouldn't complain about having a few more days in the Keys)
>
> Here is rough agenda for tomorrow's BER staff meeting
>
> - General
> - Reminders:
>   - Scheduling mid-years EPAP (see Ben's email from 4/7)
>   - Upcoming Meetings
>   - All day management team retreat (4/19)
>   - Agenda for 4/26 CPA coord call: b5-CIP [redacted]
>   - Cube/Workspace Lottery (see email from Sue Ellis on 4/14. Deadline is 4/28)
> - Download from skyline chief's meetings
> - Update on BER retreat planning (Stephanie/Cheri)

- DISCUSSION (all): The Organizational Trust and Engagement Index for HQ ES: Please read the report (attached, and in email from Kayla on 4/6) and be prepared to discuss your feedback/ideas for moving forward

- DISCUSSION (ALL): ES HQ's "Desired Results (R2s)": What do you think of them, how do they resonate with you, what is your plan for increasing your ownership and demonstration of them?
    - R2: A culture of "us" in which we want to come to work because it's a positive and welcoming environment that encourages camaraderie, productivity and fun.
    - R2 Motivated, empowered, accountable employees finding a balance between pragmatism and excellence to produce work that is innovative, proactive, and meets program priorities and deadlines.
    - R2: Make better decisions and achieve greater buy-in by prioritizing communication throughout the decision-making process.

-Ben

****
Benjamin S. Thatcher, Ph.D.
Chief, Branch of Environmental Review
Ecological Services Program
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2171 (general)
703-358-2060 (direct)
ben_thatcher@fws.gov
website
****

From: jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
To: harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov; jim_kurth@fws.gov; stephen_guertin@fws.gov; rick_obernesser@nps.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Invitation: Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (jim_kurth@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.cs

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastructure
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When Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am – 11:30am Eastern Time
Where Room 5112 MIB (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q Room 5112 MIB&hl en>)
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Calendar jim_kurth@f s.go
Who • jonathan_andrew@ios doi.gov - organizer
• harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• stephen_guertin@fws.gov
• rick_obernesser@nps.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

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To: [redacted] ; harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; stephen_guertin@fws.gov; rick_obernesser@nps.gov; jim_kurth@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (cynthia_martinez@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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[redacted]
• harry_humbert@ios.doi.go
• cynthia_martinez@fws gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
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Subject:	New Event: Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments:	invite.ics

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Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov - organizer
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Calendar stephen_guertin@fi 's go
Who • jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• stephen_guertin@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov
• rick_obernesser@nps.gov
• (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

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To: stephen_guertin@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; [redacted]; jim_kurth@fws.gov; rick_obernesser@nps.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Invitation: Coordination mtg. w th DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (gary_frazer@fws.gov)
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Video cal [redacted]
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Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov - organizer
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From: Google Calendar on behalf of Jim Kurth
To: jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Accepted: Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)
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Jim Kurth has accepted this invitation.
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• gary_frazer@fws.gov
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From: Google Calendar on behalf of Stephen Guertin
To: jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Declined: Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)
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Stephen Guertin has declined this invitation.
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Who • jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov
• Jennifer Turner
• rick_obernesser@nps.gov
• lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov
• craig_aubrey@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• Eric Shepard
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
stephen_guertin@f s.go
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
• pamela_barkin@ios.doi.gov
• robert.johnston@sol.doi.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account shaun_sanchez@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar shaun_sanchez@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; G.na_Shultz@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: New event: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD&hl en>)
Video ca [redacted]
Calendar greg_j_sheehan@f s.go
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional

Your attendance is optional.
Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account thomas_irwin@fws.gov because you are subscribed for new event updates on calendar greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.cs

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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD&hl en>)
Video cal [redacted]
Calendar greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: gary_frazer@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_rwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (cynthia_martinez@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?action=VIEW&eid=MDQ3bm9xaTNoN3NvY2hvMWNpajdkZ3M2OXEgY3ludGhpYV9tYXJ0aW5lekBmd3MuZ292&tok=MjcjdGFzaGFfbF9yb2JiaW5zQGlvcy5kb2kuZ292ZDU5MTM5NDhlNzFkYmJlMWM4Nzc0MDA5NzVkZDk3MjQyODAzZWMzNw&ctz=America/New_York&hl=en>

Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=TBD&hl=en>)
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• thomas_rwin@fws.gov - optional
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional

Going? Yes <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?action=RESPOND&eid=MDQ3bm9xaTNoN3NvY2hvMWNpajdkZ3M2OXEgY3ludGhpYV9tYXJ0aW5lekBmd3MuZ292&rst=1&tok=MjcjdGFzaGFfbF9yb2JiaW5zQGlvcy5kb2kuZ292ZDU5MTM5NDhlNzFkYmJlMWM4Nzc0MDA5NzVkZDk3MjQyODAzZWMzNw&ctz=America/New_York&hl=en>
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account cynthia_martinez@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
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From: tasha_l_robbins@os.doi.gov
To: jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Invitat on: Border Barrier Brief ng w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (gina_shultz@fws.gov)
Attachments: inv te.ics

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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD&hl en>)
Video ca [redacted]
Calendar gina_shultz@fwsgo
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account gina_shultz@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar gina_shultz@fws gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Greg Sheehan
To: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Greg Sheehan has accepted this invitation.
Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=TBD&hl=en>)
Video call(b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: gary_frazer@fws.gov; alueders@blm.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
Cc: xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 12:30pm - 1pm (paul_souza@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 12:30pm – 1pm Pacific Time
Where TBD - [redacted] passcode [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q [redacted] passcode [redacted]&hl en>)
Video call [redacted]
Calendar paul_souza@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi gov - organizer
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• alueders@blm.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
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• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional

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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account paul_souza@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar paul_souza@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; alueders@blm.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov
Cc: xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: Border Barrier Br efing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (cynthia_martinez@fws.gov)
Attachments: .nvite.ics

This event has been changed.
more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action VIEW&eid MDQ3bm9xaTNoN3NvY2hvMWNpajdkZ3M2OXEgY3ludGhpYV9tYXJ0aW5lekBmd3MuZ292&tok MjcjdGFzaGFfbF9yb2JiaW5zQGlvcy5kb2kuZ292ZDU5MTM5NDhlNzFkYmJlMWM4Nzc0MDA5NzVkZDk3MjQyODAzZWMzNw&ctz America/New_York&hl en>

Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Changed: Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where Changed: TBD - (b)(5) CIP passcode (b)(5) C (map <https://maps google com/maps?q TBD (b)(5) CIP passcode (b)(5) C &hl en>)
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Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
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• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional
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• roslyn_sellars@fws gov - optional

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Cc: xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_se lars@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
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Subject: Updated invitation: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)
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From: tasha_l_robbins@os.doi.gov
To: greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; alueders@blm.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov
Cc: xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (gina_shultz@fws.gov)
Attachments: inv te.ics

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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
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Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
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• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
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Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)
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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
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Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
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To: maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; alueders@blm.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
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Subject: Updated invitation: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (shaun_sanchez@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
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Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
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To: jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; alueders@blm.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: Border Barrier Briefing @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 1:30pm - 2pm (amy_lueders@fws.gov)
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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 1:30pm – 2pm Mountain Time
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Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
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Cc: thomas_irwin@fws gov; roslyn_sellars@fws gov; xiomara_lab osa@fws gov
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Attachments: invite.ics

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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
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From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_rw n@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

This event has been changed.
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Changed: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
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Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitat on: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (roslyn_sellars@fws.gov)
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Cc: thomas_rwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (thomas_rwin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Video cal [redacted]
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Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_rwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (shaun_sanchez@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Where TBD - [redacted] passcode [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - [redacted] passcode - [redacted] &hl en>)
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Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
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Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Brief ng w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (gary_frazer@fws.gov)
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To: shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (gina_shultz@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?action=VIEW&eid=MDQ3bm9xaTNoN3NvY2hvMWNpajdkZ3M2OXEgZ2luYV9zaHVsdHpAZndzLmdvdg&tok=MjcjdGFzaGFfbF9yb2JiaW5zQGlvcy5kb2kuZ292MGQzNzJiYmRiN2VmMzhjM2RkYWU1NDMzNzE0MWQwNWE0N2FlYzM3ZQ&ctz=America/New_York&hl=en>

Changed: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD (b)(5) CIP passcode (b)(5) CIP (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=TBD (b)(5) CIP passcode - (b)(5) CIP&hl=en>)
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Calendar gina_shultz@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws gov - optional

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To: Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (cynthia_martinez@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Paul Souza
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Calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
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Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD (b)(5) CIP passcode - (b)(5) C (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - (b)(5) CIP passcode - (b)(5) C&hl en>)
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP

From: Google Calendar
To: Greg Sheehan
Subject: Daily Agenda for Greg Sheehan as of 5am
Date: Thursday, October 26, 2017 2:40:29 AM

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greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov, here is your schedule for:

Thu Oct 26, 2017

8:30am – 9am	Meeting: Greg Sheehah/Sec. Matt Beaton, Mass Energy & Environment; Dan Sieger, A/S; Thomas Daley, Fed Policy Advisor-Gov Char...	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
9am – 9:30am	Director's Office Meeting – (Dial: (b)(5) CIP , Code: (b)(5) CIP)- – Rm 3359	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
9:30am – 10am	TRAVEL: To Hill meeting	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
10am – 10:30am	Meeting with Congressman Estes (R) Kansas) to discuss Lesser prairie chicken (POC: Marty) - Rayburn 2452	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
10:30am – 11am	TRAVEL: Rtn to MIB	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
11am – 12pm	Briefing with Fish and Wildlife Service (David Bernhardt, Gary Frazer, Greg Sheehan, Todd Willens) (Room 6120)	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
12pm – 1pm	Do Not Schedule	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
1pm – 2:30pm	Speaking Engagement: Veterans and Sportsmens Event with Secretary Zinke - South Penthouse	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
2:30pm – 3pm	Meeting: Greg Sheehan, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (Rm 3358-Main Interior Bldg)	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
3:30pm – 4pm	RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS (Room TBD, Dial: (b)(5) CIP , Code: (b)(5) CIP)	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director

5pm – 8pm	Dinner with Ron after Secretary's open house	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director

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Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitat on: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (roslyn_sellars@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am – 12pm Eastern Time
Where TBD [redacted] passcode [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD [redacted] passcode [redacted]&hl en>)
Video cal [redacted]
Calendar roslyn_sellars@f s.go
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
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• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
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Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
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To: gary_frazer@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; G.na_Shultz@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; x.omara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Brief ng w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (gina_shultz@fws.gov)
Attachments: inv te.ics

This event has been changed.
more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am – 12pm Eastern Time
Where TBD [redacted] passcode [redacted] (map <https://maps.google com/maps?q TBD - [redacted] passcode [redacted]&hl en>)
Video ca [redacted]
Calendar gina_shultz@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
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To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
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From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_rwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (shaun_sanchez@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Calendar shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
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To: shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (gary_frazer@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Video call [redacted]
Calendar gary_frazer@f s.go
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
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• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account gary_frazer@fws.gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar gary_frazer@fws.gov.
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To: greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (thomas_irwin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am – 12pm Eastern Time
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Video ca [redacted]
Calendar thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
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• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional

Your attendance is optional.
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
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From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; maureen_foster@os.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_rw n@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barr er Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (cynthia_mart nez@fws.gov)
Attachments: nvite.ics

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Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
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Where TBD - (b)(5) CIP passcode (b)(5) CIP(map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q (b)(5) CIP passcode - (b)(5) C&hl en>)
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Calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
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Video cal [redacted]
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; G na_Shultz@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Br ef ng w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

This event has been changed.
more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am – 12pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - (b)(5) CIP passcode (b)(5) CIP (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - (b)(5) CIP passcode (b)(5) CIP &hl en>)
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Calendar xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional

Your attendance is optional.
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You are receiving this email at the account xiomara_labiosa@fws gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Greg Sheehan
To: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Accepted: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Greg Sheehan has accepted this invitation.
RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am – 12pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - (b)(5) CIP passcode - (b)(5) CIP (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=TBD++-+(b)(5) CIP ++passcode+(b)(5) CIP &hl=en>)
Video call (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP
Calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov
Cc: xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 9:30am - 10am (amy_lueders@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Nov 2, 2017 9:30am – 10am Mountain Time
Where TBD - (b)(5) CIP - passcode (b)(5) CIP map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=TBD+-+(b)(5)+CIP+-+(b)(5)+CIP&hl=en>)
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Calendar amy_lueders@i s.go
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
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• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional

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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account amy_lueders@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar amy_lueders@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov
Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 8:30am - 9am (paul_souza@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Nov 2, 2017 8:30am – 9am Pacific Time
Where TBD -[b)(5) CIP] 8 passcode -[b)(5) C]map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q [b)(5) CIP passcode -[b)(5) C]&hl en>)
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Calendar paul_souza@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• amy_lueders@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
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• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional

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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account paul_souza@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar paul_souza@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@os.doi.gov
To: maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (gina_shultz@fws.gov)
Attachments: inv te.ics

This event has been changed.
more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm – 1:30pm Eastern Time
Where TBD [b)(5) CIP] passcode: [b)(5) CI (map <https://maps.google com/maps?q TBD - [b)(5) CIP] passcode [b)(5) CI&hl en>)
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Calendar gina_shultz@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
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• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional

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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account gina_shultz@fws.gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar gina_shultz@fws gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
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From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barr er Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (cynthia_martinez@fws.gov)
Attachments: .nvite.ics

This event has been changed.
more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Fri Nov 3 2017 1pm – 1:30pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - (b)(5) CIP passcode (b)(5) C(map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD (b)(5) CIP (b)(5) CIP &hl en>)
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Calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• amy_lueders@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
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To: greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Updated nvitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 11am - 11:30am (amy_lueders@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Fri Nov 3, 2017 11am – 11:30am Mountain Time
Where TBD - [redacted] passcode - [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD ~ [redacted] passcode ~ [redacted]&hl en>)
Video cal [redacted]
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Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm – 1:30pm Eastern Time
Where Room TBD, Dial: [redacted], Code [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q Room TBD, Dial: [redacted], Code: [redacted]&hl en>)
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Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
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Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; x omara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 10am - 10:30am (paul_souza@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Fri Nov 3, 2017 10am – 10:30am Pacific Time
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Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi gov - organizer
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
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Cc: thomas_rw n@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Brief ng w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Fri Nov 3 2017 1pm – 1:30pm Eastern Time
Where Room TBD. Dia [redacted] Code [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q Room TBD. Dial: [redacted] Code: [redacted]&hl en>)
Video cal [redacted]
Calendar greg_j_sheehan@f s.go
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
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Cc: xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitat on: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (roslyn_se lars@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm – 1:30pm Eastern Time
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Calendar roslyn_sellars@f s.go
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• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional

Your attendance is optional.
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You are receiving this email at the account roslyn_sellars@fws.gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar roslyn_sellars@fws.gov.
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From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (gary_frazer@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Fri Nov 3 2017 1pm – 1:30pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - [redacted] passcode [redacted] Rmap <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - [redacted] passcode - [redacted] &hl en>)
Video call [redacted]
Calendar gary_frazer@f s.go
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• amy_lueders@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
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Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Brief ng w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (thomas_irw n@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Paul Souza
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Where TBD - [redacted] passcode [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - [redacted] passcode - [redacted] &hl en>)
Video cal [redacted]
Calendar thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
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• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
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Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Br ef ng w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
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• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
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Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barr er Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (shaun_sanchez@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Video cal [redacted]
Calendar shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
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From: Google Calendar
To: Greg Sheehan
Subject: Daily Agenda for Greg Sheehan as of 5am
Date: Friday, November 3, 2017 2:16:07 AM

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greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov, here is your schedule for:

Fri Nov 3, 2017

All day	Fri Nov 3	Roslyn - Out of Office (9a- 11a)	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
	8am – 8:30am	Catch Up Meeting: Greg Sheehan/Robyn Thorson-in person (Room 3358)	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
	8:30am – 9am	Director's Office Meeting – (Dial: (b)(5) CIP , Code: (b)(5) CIP) – Rm 3359	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
	9am – 10am	Priority Items (Greg, Charisa, Michael) - Room 3358	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
	10am – 10:30am	BREIFING (Greg, Gary and R4 ES Office) on Barrens Top Minnow (Dial-in: (b)(5) CIP Passcode: (b)(5) CIP #) - Rm 3358	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
	10:30am – 11:30am	Meeting (Greg, AIA and OLE) to discuss October Grants - Rm 3358	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
	12pm – 1pm	Do Not Schedule	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
	1pm – 1:30pm	RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS (Room TBD, Dial: (b)(5) CIP , Code: (b)(5) CIP)	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
	1:30pm – 2:30pm	[Paul Rauch will attend for Greg] CFC kickoff event - Skyline (Rm Rachel Carson Conference Center)	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
	2:30pm – 3pm	Priority Items (Greg, Charisa, Michael) Rm 3358	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
	3pm –	[HOLD] Meeting between Dept of the Navy/FWS/USGS r... (1849 C Street NW, Room 3038, Wash., DC or Dial:	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal

4pm	(b)(5) CIP , Code: (b)(5) CIP	Deputy Director
3pm – 4pm	Guam National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) (1849 C Street NW | Room 3038 | Washington, DC)	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
3:30pm – 4pm	NOTE: TIME CHANGE - AS/FWP Check In (AS/FWP conference room - 3144)	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director
4:15pm – 5pm	Follow-up meeting (Greg Sheehan and Sylvia Burns) Rm - 3358	Greg J Sheehan, FWS Principal Deputy Director

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From: seth_willey@fws.gov
To: steve_spangle@fws.gov; lois_wellman@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov
Subject: Updated Invitat on: R2 Project Leader discussion w/ Gary Frazer @ Wed Mar 8, 2017 5:30pm - 6:30pm (gary_frazer@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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R2 Project Leader discussion w/ Gary Frazer
Changed: Note - modified call in number (again).
Thank you Gary! I think a general update on transition, your growing relationship with the new team, priorities, dos and don'ts, budgets, hiring freeze, etc. New administration stuff is what I would imagine. If you are hearing any rumblings on Border Wall, Mexican wolf, LPC, and Mexican government cooperation / relations those might be a few R2 issues of particular interest (all stuff I'm learning more about in the new gig).
Your insights are always super interesting. We will let you know if I hear anything else in particular.

When Wed Mar 8 2017 5:30pm – 6:30pm Eastern Time
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Calendar gary_frazer@fws.gov
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• steve_spangle@fws.gov
• lois_wellman@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov

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From:	stephen_guertin@fws.gov
To:	benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; bryan_arroyo@fws.gov; jim_kurth@fws.gov; jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov; joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov; charisa_morris@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; matthew_huggler@fws.gov; casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov; betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
Subject:	New Event: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: b5-CIP @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments:	invite.ics

more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?action=VIEW&eid=aHU3Mzl0NnBncm12c20zMm9rZjRtMTlkdmMgc3RlcGhlbl9ndWVydGluQGZ3cy5nb3Y>

Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial: b5-CIP
When Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm – 3:30pm Eastern Time
Video call b5-CIP

Calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov

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You are receiving this email at the account thomas_irwin@fws.gov because you are subscribed for new event updates on calendar stephen_guertin@fws.gov.
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From: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
To: jim_kurth@fws.gov; bryan_arroyo@fws.gov; casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov; joy_n cholopoulos@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; charisa_morris@fws.gov; betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov; matthew_huggler@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Invitation: Border wall coordinat on - Room 3357 or Dial:[redacted] Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (cynthia_martinez@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial:[redacted]
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Video call[redacted]
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• jim_kurth@fws.gov
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• casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
• joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• charisa_morris@fws.gov
• betsy_hildebrandt@fws.gov
• matthew_huggler@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
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• paul_souza@fws.gov
• jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov

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- Maybe <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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From: Google Calendar on behalf of Gary Frazer
To: stephen_guertin@fws.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border wall coordination - Room 3357 or Dial b5-CIP @ Thu Mar 9, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Gary Frazer has accepted this invitation.
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Video call b5-CIP
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Who • stephen_guertin@fws.gov - organizer
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - creator
• benjamin_tuggle@fws.gov
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• bryan_arroyo@fws.gov
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From: jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
To: rick_obernesser@nps.gov; craig_aubrey@fws.gov; [redacted] ; stephen_guertin@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; jim_kurth@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (craig_aubrey@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastructure
DHS - will be presenting their near term plans for work in South Texas. This will include some description of new border wall/fence in the three southernmost counties.
When Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am – 11:30am Eastern Time
Where Room 5112 MIB (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q Room 5112 MIB&hl en>)
Video call [redacted]
Calendar craig_aubrey@f s.go
Who • jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• rick_obernesser@nps.gov
• craig_aubrey@fws.gov
• [redacted]
• stephen_guertin@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov

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From: Google Calendar on behalf of Craig Aubrey
To: jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Accepted: Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Craig Aubrey has accepted this invitation.
Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastructure
DHS - will be presenting their near term plans for work in South Texas. This will include some description of new border wall/fence in the three southernmost counties.
When Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am – 11:30am Eastern Time
Where Room 5112 MIB (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=Room+5112+MIB&hl=en>)
Video call b5-CIP [redacted]
Calendar jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
Who • jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov
• rick_obernesser@nps.gov
• james_gallagher@ios.doi.gov
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To: pamela_barkin@ os.doi.gov; harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov; craig_aubrey@fws.gov; stephen_guertin@fws.gov; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ; robert.johnston@sol.doi.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov; j m_kurth@fws.gov; cynthia_mart nez@fws.gov; rick_obernesser@nps.gov
Subject: Updated Invitation: Coord nation mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (stephen_guertin@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Where Changed: Room 5112 MIB(b)5-CIP <https://maps.google.com/maps?q Room 5112 MIB (b)5-CIP
Video call(b)5-CIP
Calendar stephen_guertin@fws gov
Who • jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• pamela_barkin@ios.doi.gov
• harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov
• craig_aubrey@fws.gov
• stephen_guertin@fws.gov
• (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
• robert.johnston@sol.doi.go
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov
• jim_kurth@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws gov
• rick_obernesser@nps.gov

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From: Google Calendar on behalf of Gary Frazer
To: jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Declined: Coordination mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Gary Frazer has declined this invitation.
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Who • jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov - organizer
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From: jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov
To: jim_kurth@fws.gov; robert.johnston@sol.doi.gov; Eric Shepard; stephen_guertin@fws.gov; pamela_barkin@ os.doi.gov; rick_obernesser@nps.gov; harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov; craig_aubrey@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ; lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Jennifer Turner
Subject: Updated Invitation: Coord nation mtg. with DHS/CBP on Texas Border Infrastruc... @ Wed Apr 26, 2017 10am - 11:30am (cynthia_martinez@fws.gov)
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• craig_aubrey@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
• (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ios.doi.gov
• (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
• (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Attachments CBP DOI Meeting Agenda 042517.doc <https://drive.google.com/a/ios.doi.gov/file/d/0B0aRFLBODh2yM2tKdGNpMHlvaFpUY2Jic1JlTHdOd25VYkhv/view?usp drive_web>

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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account cynthia_martinez@fws.gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios doi gov
To: gary_frazer@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; cynthia_mart nez@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_ rw n@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (cynthia_mart nez@fws.gov)
Attachments: nvite.ics

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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
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Calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios doi.gov - organizer
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
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• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
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Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: gary_frazer@fws.gov; alueders@blm.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
Cc: xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 12:30pm - 1pm (paul_souza@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 12:30pm – 1pm Pacific Time
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Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi gov - organizer
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
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From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; alueders@blm.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov
Subject: Invitation: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 1:30pm - 2pm (amy_lueders@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 1:30pm – 2pm Mountain Time
Where TBD - 65-CIP (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - 65-CIP passcode - 65-CIP hl en>)
Video cal 65-CIP
Calendar amy_lueders@f s.go
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
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• alueders@blm.gov
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account amy_lueders@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar amy_lueders@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
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From: Google Calendar on behalf of Gary Frazer
To: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Gary Frazer has accepted this invitation.
Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - b5-CIP (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=TBD++-+b5-CIP passcode+-+b5-CIP hl=en>)
Video call b5-CIP
Calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
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• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• alueders@blm.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• amy_lueders@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov.
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From: Google Calendar on behalf of Gina Shultz
To: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Accepted: Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Gina Shultz has accepted this invitation.
Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - b5-CIP (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=TBD++-+b5-CIP passcode+-+b5-CIP hl=en>)
Video call b5-CIP
Calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
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• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: aluaders@blm.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; [redacted] ; amy_lueders@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ os.doi.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws gov; roslyn_sellars@fws gov; xiomara_lab osa@fws gov
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Attachments: invite.ics

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Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD -[redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - [redacted] passcode - [redacted] hl en>)
Video call link: [redacted]
Calendar [redacted]
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• aluaders@blm.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
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- Maybe <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account [redacted] because you are subscribed for invitations on calenda [redacted] .
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
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From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (cynthia_martinez@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

This event has been changed.
more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Changed: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - [redacted] passcode - [redacted] hl en>)
Video call [redacted]
Calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional

Going? Yes <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account cynthia_martinez@fws.gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Gary Frazer
To: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Declined: RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm - 4pm (tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Gary Frazer has declined this invitation.
RESCHEDULING - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Oct 26, 2017 3:30pm – 4pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - b5-CIP (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=TBD++-+b5-CIP passcode+-+b5-CIP hl=en>)
Video call b5-CIP
Calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ os.doi.gov
To: gary_frazer@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; G na_Shultz@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; x omara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Brief ng w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (gina_shultz@fws.gov)
Attachments: inv te.ics

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more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am – 12pm Eastern Time
Where TBD [redacted] (map <https://maps.google com/maps?q TBD - [redacted] passcode - [redacted] hl en>)
Video cal [redacted]
Calendar gina_shultz@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
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• xiomara_labiosa@fws gov - optional

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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account gina_shultz@fws.gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar gina_shultz@fws gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
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From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; G na_Shultz@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Br ef ng w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

This event has been changed.
more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am – 12pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - [redacted] passcode - [redacted] hl en>)
Video call [redacted]
Calendar xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional

Your attendance is optional.
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account xiomara_labiosa@fws gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Gary Frazer
To: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Declined: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Gary Frazer has declined this invitation.
RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Nov 2, 2017 11:30am – 12pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - b5-CIP [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=TBD++-+b5-CIP [redacted] passcode+-+b5-CIP [redacted] hl=en>)
Video call b5-CIP [redacted]
Calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From:	tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To:	jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov
Cc:	roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov
Subject:	Invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Thu Nov 2, 2017 8:30am - 9am (paul_souza@fws.gov)
Attachments:	invite.ics

more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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RESCHEDULED FROM 10/26 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Thu Nov 2, 2017 8:30am – 9am Pacific Time
Where TBD-[redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - [redacted] passcode - [redacted] hl en>)
Video call[redacted]
Calendar paul_souza@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• amy_lueders@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional

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- Maybe <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account paul_souza@fws.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar paul_souza@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
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From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
Cc: roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; thomas_irwin@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barr er Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (cynthia_martinez@fws.gov)
Attachments: .nvite.ics

This event has been changed.
more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Fri Nov 3 2017 1pm – 1:30pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - [redacted] passcode - [redacted] hl en>)
Video call [redacted]
Calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
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• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• amy_lueders@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
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• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional

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- Maybe <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
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Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account cynthia_martinez@fws.gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar cynthia_martinez@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
To: jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov; amy_lueders@fws.gov; Gina_Shultz@fws.gov; cynthia_martinez@fws.gov; shaun_sanchez@fws.gov; gary_frazer@fws.gov; maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; paul_souza@fws.gov
Cc: thomas_irwin@fws.gov; roslyn_sellars@fws.gov; xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov
Subject: Updated invitation: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (gary_frazer@fws.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

This event has been changed.
more details » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action VIEW&eid MDQ3bm9xaTNoN3NvY2hvMWNpajdkZ3M2OXEgZ2FyeV9mcmF6ZXJAZndzLmdvdg&tok MjcjdGFzaGFfbF9yb2JiaW5zQGlvcy5kb2kuZ292ZjY2YjljZGFkZDAxNGJiMmZmM2JhMTk5NzZhNjA5YTE2MGJjNGUyYQ&ctz America/New_York&hl en>

Changed: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Changed: Fri Nov 3 2017 1pm – 1:30pm Eastern Time
Where TBD- b5-CIP (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q TBD - b5-CIP passcode - b5-CIP hl en>)
Video call b5-CIP
Calendar gary_frazer@f s.go
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• amy_lueders@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional

Going? Yes <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action RESPOND&eid MDQ3bm9xaTNoN3NvY2hvMWNpajdkZ3M2OXEgZ2FyeV9mcmF6ZXJAZndzLmdvdg&rst 1&tok MjcjdGFzaGFfbF9yb2JiaW5zQGlvcy5kb2kuZ292ZjY2YjljZGFkZDAxNGJiMmZmM2JhMTk5NzZhNjA5YTE2MGJjNGUyYQ&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
- Maybe <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action RESPOND&eid MDQ3bm9xaTNoN3NvY2hvMWNpajdkZ3M2OXEgZ2FyeV9mcmF6ZXJAZndzLmdvdg&rst 3&tok MjcjdGFzaGFfbF9yb2JiaW5zQGlvcy5kb2kuZ292ZjY2YjljZGFkZDAxNGJiMmZmM2JhMTk5NzZhNjA5YTE2MGJjNGUyYQ&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
- No <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action RESPOND&eid MDQ3bm9xaTNoN3NvY2hvMWNpajdkZ3M2OXEgZ2FyeV9mcmF6ZXJAZndzLmdvdg&rst 2&tok MjcjdGFzaGFfbF9yb2JiaW5zQGlvcy5kb2kuZ292ZjY2YjljZGFkZDAxNGJiMmZmM2JhMTk5NzZhNjA5YTE2MGJjNGUyYQ&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
more options » <https://www.google.com/calendar/event?
action VIEW&eid MDQ3bm9xaTNoN3NvY2hvMWNpajdkZ3M2OXEgZ2FyeV9mcmF6ZXJAZndzLmdvdg&tok MjcjdGFzaGFfbF9yb2JiaW5zQGlvcy5kb2kuZ292ZjY2YjljZGFkZDAxNGJiMmZmM2JhMTk5NzZhNjA5YTE2MGJjNGUyYQ&ctz America/New_York&hl en>
Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account gary_frazer@fws.gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar gary_frazer@fws.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Gary Frazer
To: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Declined: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Gary Frazer has declined this invitation.
RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm – 1:30pm Eastern Time
Where TBD - b5-CIP [redacted] (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=TBD++-+b5-CIP [redacted] passcode+-+b5-CIP [redacted] hl=en>)
Video call b5-CIP [redacted]
Calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• amy_lueders@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov.
To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From: Google Calendar on behalf of Gina Shultz
To: tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Declined: RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS @ Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm (tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov)
Attachments: invite.ics

Gina Shultz has declined this invitation.
RESCHEDULED FROM 11/2 - Border Barrier Briefing w/FWS
Amy Lueders
Paul Souza
When Fri Nov 3, 2017 1pm – 1:30pm Eastern Time
Where AS/FWP conference room - 3144 - b5-CIP (map <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=AS/FWP+conference+room+-+3144+-+b5-CIP passcode+-+b5-CIP hl=en>)
Video call b5-CIP

Calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov
Who • tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov - organizer
• jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov
• gary_frazer@fws.gov
• cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
• shaun_sanchez@fws.gov
• maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov
• greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov
• Gina_Shultz@fws.gov
• paul_souza@fws.gov
• amy_lueders@fws.gov
• roslyn_sellars@fws.gov - optional
• thomas_irwin@fws.gov - optional
• xiomara_labiosa@fws.gov - optional

Invitation from Google Calendar <https://www.google.com/calendar/>
You are receiving this email at the account tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov because you are subscribed for invitation replies on calendar tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov.
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Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding> .

From:	Yuen, Andy
To:	Stephen Guertin; Robert Miller; Polly Wheeler; Kevin Foerster; Slader Buck; Alice Garrett; Chantel Jimenez; Jill Terp; Mendel Stewart
Subject:	Sunday schedule and field trip
Date:	Friday, June 2, 2017 11:22:05 AM
Attachments:	image.png Guertin Miller Wheeler Garrett Monday Afternoon Tour Itinerary 06-02-17.xlsx

---

Thank you for the opportunity to support and participate in the Service's commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Midway! We look forward to seeing all of you next week.

Robert: I will pick you up at the airport on Sunday afternoon (UAL #231 arriving at 3:24 pm).

Steve: I will pick you up at the airport on Sunday evening (UAL #240 arriving at 8:19 pm).

I live close to the airport and picking you up is not a problem for me.

I will be waiting in the cellphone lot, when you are curbside, please call my cellphone and I will swing by and pick you up. Your hotels are about 15 minutes away in downtown San Diego, close to the airport.

760-535-7065 (work cellphone)
(b) (6) (personal cellphone)
(b) (6) (home)

I will pick you up at the US Grant Hotel (Steve and Polly) and Westin San Diego (Robert) on Monday morning at 7:30 am and drop you off at the USS Midway Museum.

After the commemoration, we have scheduled either a tour of the coastal Refuges (Sweetwater Marsh Unit-San Diego Bay NWR and Tijuana Slough NWR) or a tour of the Sweetwater Marsh Unit and the border fence. We can decide on Monday on the tour.

Polly: either option gets you back to the airport by 6:15 pm (in time for your 7:30 pm return flight).

Hope this helps! Have a safe trip!

Andy

Refuge Tour: Steve Guertin, Rob Miller, Polly Wheeler, and Alice Garrett (Option 1)	
Tour: June 5, 2017 (Monday afternoon)	
Noon	Battle of Midway Commemoration ends
12:45 PM	Depart USS Midway with Steve, Rob, Polly, and Alice
1:30 PM	Lunch at Rubios (Chula Vista)
2:15 PM	Tour Refuge HQ, Sweetwater Marsh Unit, Living Coast Discovery Center
3:15 PM	Depart Sweetwater Marsh
3:45 PM	Arrive at Tijuana Slough NWR
4:30 PM	Depart Tijuana Slough NWR
5:00 PM	Arrive Sweetwater Marsh
5:30 PM	Arrive downtown San Diego
6:15 PM	Drop Polly at airport (7:30 PM departure)

Refuge Tour: Steve Guertin, Rob Miller, Polly Wheeler, and Alice Garrett (Option 2)	
Tour: June 5, 2017 (Monday afternoon)	
Noon	Battle of Midway Commemoration ends
12:45 PM	Depart USS Midway with Steve, Rob, Polly, and Alice
1:30 PM	Lunch at Rubios (Chula Vista)
2:15 PM	Tour Refuge HQ, Sweetwater Marsh Unit, Living Coast Discovery Center
3:00 PM	Depart Sweetwater Marsh
3:45 PM	Arrive at U.S.-Mexico border fence
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5:30 PM	Arrive downtown San Diego
6:15 PM	Drop Polly at airport (7:30 PM departure)

Andrew Yuen
Project Leader
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1080 Gunpowder Point Drive
Chula Vista, CA 91910
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Cellular: 760-535-7065
FAX: 619-476-9149
andy_yuen@fws.gov

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Chula Vista, CA 91912

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SanDiegoRefuges?fref=nf

Twitter: https://twitter.com/SanDiegoRefuges

Flickr: http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_pacificsw/

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5:30 PM	Arrive downtown San Diego
6:15 PM	Drop Polly at airport (7:30 PM departure)

Refuge Tour: Steve Guertin, Rob Miller, Polly Wheeler, and Alice Garrett (Option 2)	
Tour: June 5, 2017 (Monday afternoon)	
Noon	Battle of Midway Commemoration ends
12:45 PM	Depart USS Midway with Steve, Rob, Polly, and Alice
1:30 PM	Lunch at Rubios (Chula Vista)
2:15 PM	Tour Refuge HQ, Sweetwater Marsh Unit, Living Coast Discovery Center
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5:00 PM	Arrive Sweetwater Marsh
5:30 PM	Arrive downtown San Diego
6:15 PM	Drop Polly at airport (7:30 PM departure)

From: Wheeler, Polly
To: Yuen, Andy
Cc: Stephen Guertin; Robert Miller; Kevin Foerster; Slader Buck; Alice Garrett; Chantel Jimenez; Jill Terp; Mendel Stewart
Subject: Re: Sunday schedule and field trip
Date: Friday, June 2, 2017 11:34:08 AM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks a million Andy, much appreciated!

On Fri, Jun 2, 2017 at 11:21 AM, Yuen, Andy <andy_yuen@fws.gov> wrote:

> Thank you for the opportunity to support and participate in the Service's commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Midway! We look forward to seeing all of you next week.
>
> Robert: I will pick you up at the airport on Sunday afternoon (UAL #231 arriving at 3:24 pm).
>
> Steve: I will pick you up at the airport on Sunday evening (UAL #240 arriving at 8:19 pm).
>
> I live close to the airport and picking you up is not a problem for me.
>
> I will be waiting in the cellphone lot, when you are curbside, please call my cellphone and I will swing by and pick you up. Your hotels are about 15 minutes away in downtown San Diego, close to the airport.
>
> 760-535-7065 (work cellphone)
> (b) (6) (personal cellphone)
> (b) (6) (home)
>
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>
> Polly: either option gets you back to the airport by 6:15 pm (in time for your 7:30 pm return flight).
>
> Hope this helps! Have a safe trip!
>
> Andy

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4:30 PM	Depart Tijuana Slough NWR
5:00 PM	Arrive Sweetwater Marsh
5:30 PM	Arrive downtown San Diego
6:15 PM	Drop Polly at airport (7:30 PM departure)

Refuge Tour: Steve Guertin, Rob Miller, Polly Wheeler, and Alice Garrett (Option 2)	
Tour: June 5, 2017 (Monday afternoon)	
Noon	Battle of Midway Commemoration ends
12:45 PM	Depart USS Midway with Steve, Rob, Polly, and Alice
1:30 PM	Lunch at Rubios (Chula Vista)
2:15 PM	Tour Refuge HQ, Sweetwater Marsh Unit, Living Coast Discovery Center
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Andrew Yuen
Project Leader
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Cellular: 760-535-7065
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Twitter: https://twitter.com/SanDiegoRefuges

Flickr: http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_pacificsw/

--

Polly Wheeler, PhD.
Chief, Pacific SW National Wildlife Refuge System
2800 Cottage Way, Suite 2606
Sacramento, CA 95825
Office #: 916/414-6476
Cell #: 916/708-2054

From: Guertin, Stephen
To: Yuen, Andy
Cc: Robert Miller; Polly Wheeler; Kevin Foerster; Slader Buck; Alice Garrett; Chantel Jimenez; Jill Terp; Mendel Stewart
Subject: Re: Sunday schedule and field trip
Date: Friday, June 2, 2017 11:43:02 AM
Attachments: image.png

Thank you very much for the detailed plan and transportation and hospitality. Steve

On Fri, Jun 2, 2017 at 2:21 PM, Yuen, Andy <andy_yuen@fws.gov> wrote:

> Thank you for the opportunity to support and participate in the Service's commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Midway! We look forward to seeing all of you next week.
>
> Robert: I will pick you up at the airport on Sunday afternoon (UAL #231 arriving at 3:24 pm).
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Twitter: https://twitter.com/SanDiegoRefuges

Flickr: http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_pacificsw/

From: Robert Jess
To: Sheehan, Greg
Subject: Re: Fellow Utah State Aggie!
Date: Friday, November 3, 2017 1:42:01 PM

Greg,
Just a follow up note- looks like I'm tied up next week during your visit. We have former First Lady Laura Bush in town and I'm part of the background entourage for the event which is fine with me!
I would like to get caught up with you, at your convenience, to answer any questions you might have on the issues we discussed prior- my personal cell is (b) (6) (Fairbanks, Alaska). I'm always available and perhaps we can get together some evening when you return.
Best wishes on your trip to south Texas- I do hope you get some one on one time with project leader Tim Cooper- he is top notch and comes with a high level of integrity.
Thanks for all you do and best wishes.
Rob

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 29, 2017, at 3:38 PM, Sheehan, Greg <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hi Rob
>
> Thank you for reaching out and introducing yourself. It is good to meet an Aggie and a gentlemen with an unpaid extracurricular calling. Both good things. I graduated in 1986 so a bit more decrepit that you. You have some tough issues with the areas that you oversee. Fever tick and walls, both tricky. I would like to discuss those more with you. I will be down in Texas on Nov 8-10. Not sure of where I will be traveling then but primarily to visit the hurricane refuges. If you can make it up briefly that would be great. Maybe we could talk one evening later this week after 7 pm EST. I suspect you are busy on Tuesday and Wednesday eves.
>
> My cell is 202-676-7675. Let me know what works.
>
> Thanks again,
> Greg

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 10:59 AM, Jess, Robert <robert_jess@fws.gov> wrote:

> Mr. Sheehan,
>
> I just wanted to take a moment to say hello and welcome to the Service! And that it's about time we got a fellow Aggie into the upper levels of the Interior!
>
> I understand you had to cancel your recent trip to deep south Texas. We hope that on the next go-around that you might have time to visit us at the South

> Texas Refuge Complex, where we're addressing the next installation of border fence at the Santa Ana Refuge and the Cattle Fever Tick outbreak at both the Laguna Atascosa and Lower Rio Grande Refuges.
>
> My wife, five children and I graduated from Utah State in 1993- Dr. John Kadlec (Fisheries) and Dr. Barry Gilbert (Wildlife) were my advisors.
>
> Best wishes to you and your family in D.C. and thank you for all you do.
> Rob
>
> (BTW- There are a few members in the Service-I'm Bishop Jess on the weekends...)
>
> --
> robert jess
> project leader
> south texas refuge complex
> alamo, texas

--
Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street NW, Room 3358
Washington, DC 20240
Office 202-208-4545
Cell 202-676-7675

From: gregory_sheehan@fws.gov on behalf of Sheehan, Greg
To: Robert Jess
Subject: Re: Fellow Utah State Aggie!
Date: Friday, November 3, 2017 4:10:19 PM

Thanks Rob. I am sorry I will miss you. I have extended my time through Friday, Veterans Day, although I feel bad about asking people to work on a holiday.

Please call me anytime that you have questions, ideas, or suggestions. Best wishes with your event with Mrs. Bush.

Thanks for everything,
Greg

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 4:41 PM, Robert Jess <robert_jess@fws.gov> wrote:

> Greg,
> Just a follow up note- looks like I'm tied up next week during your visit. We have former First Lady Laura Bush in town and I'm part of the background entourage for the event which is fine with me!
> I would like to get caught up with you, at your convenience, to answer any questions you might have on the issues we discussed prior- my personal cell is (b) (6) (Fairbanks, Alaska). I'm always available and perhaps we can get together some evening when you return.
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> Rob
>
> Sent from my iPhone
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> --
> robert jess
> project leader
> south texas refuge complex
> alamo, texas

--
Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street NW, Room 3358
Washington, DC 20240
Office 202-208-4545
Cell 202-676-7675

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Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
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Washington, DC 20240
Office 202-208-4545

Cell 202-676-7675

From: Todd Willens
To: Margaret Everson
Subject: Re: South Texas Update
Date: Monday, February 11, 2019 7:23:47 AM

10-4

Todd Willens
Acting Chief of Staff
Associate Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW - MIB Room 6136
Washington, DC 20240

On Feb 11, 2019, at 10:04 AM, Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov> wrote:

> FYI
> We continue to monitor.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> **From:** "Martinez, Cynthia" <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov>
> **Date:** February 11, 2019 at 6:55:23 AM PST
> **To:** Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>, Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>
> **Cc:** Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>
> **Subject: South Texas Update**
>
> Good Morning,
>
> On Sunday, protesters staged a walk in protest of wall construction. No construction was occurring and there were no incidents or arrests. Operation Border Surge continued in other areas without interference. The incident planning efforts are continuing.
>
> Thanks,
> Cynthia

(b)(6) Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Sat Apr 1, 2017

All day USVI

Thu Mar 30, 2017 - Sun Apr 2, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

3:55pm - 7:06pm Flight: STX to MIA

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
American Flight 1293 Seat: 20F Flight Time: 3 hours, 11 minutes Confirmation No: NPDBYS

8:29pm - 11:06pm Flight: MIA to DCA

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
American Flight 1621 Seat: 15D Flight Time: 2 hours, 37 minutes Confirmation No: NPDBYS

Mon Apr 3, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6) Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Laura Rigas, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Micah Chambers, Downey Magallanes, Katharine MacGregor, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Lori Mashburn

10:15am - 10:30am Andrew Goodrich Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description: Attendees: Andrew Goodrich Topic: Dog Days at DOI

11am - 11:15am Depart DOI for Washington Hilton

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description: Drive Time: 15 minutes

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11:25am - 11:45am

North American Building Trades Union Legislative Conference Speaker

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 1919 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Wadi Yakhour, Heather Swift, Russell Roddy
Description:
Arrive 11:20 Speaking 11:25 POC: Sonia Ramirez, Government Affairs sramirez@buildingtrades.org (b)(6) Advance: Rusty Roddy, Wadi Yakhour

11:45am - 12pm Depart Washington Hilton en route DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 1849 C St NW, Washington, DC 20240, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Russell Roddy

1pm - 2pm Hallway Tour

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of Policy Analysis, Room 3512
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Wadi Yakhour, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1:55pm - 2:05pm Depart for White House

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2:05pm - 2:30pm Arrive White House

Where: The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20500, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2:30pm - 3:30pm White House Press Briefing

Where: White House
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

3:30pm - 3:40pm Depart for DOI

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3:45pm - 4:45pm PSA Filming

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: DOI/Tidal Basin
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Amy Mitchell
Description:
Conserve America National Parks Indian Craft Council 3PM: Tape IACB PSA, location TBD (Mike, please advise on telepromter and quilt placement in the studio). Tape second PSA if ready, blue backdrop. 3:30PM: Tape National Parks PSA, location Tidal Basin (if the CBs are still out) or Constitution Gardens.

5:30pm - 6:30pm Dick Boyce

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Tue Apr 4, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Laura Rigas, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Micah Chambers, Downey Magallanes, Katharine MacGregor, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Lori Mashburn

10am - 11am Meeting with the IG

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mary Kendall, Karen Edwards

11:15am - 12pm Interview: Salena Zito | Washington Examiner

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description: Topic: General profile Role as Secretary in guiding POTUS' agenda

12pm - 12:30pm Meeting with Governor of the Mariana Islands

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Downey Magallanes
Description: Attending: Governor Ralph Torres Vincent Torres Jason Osborne Michael Rubino

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

12:30pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1pm - 2pm Briefing on Wildland Fire in California

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Bryan Rice, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden

2pm - 2:30pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2:30pm - 3pm Aurelia Skipwith

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3pm - 4pm Domestic Energy Producers Alliance Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Katharine MacGregor
Description:
Attendees: Harold Hamm, Continental Resources Mike McDonald, Triad Energy Peter Regan, DEPA Tim Charters, National Stripper Well Association Ed Cross, Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association Jerry Simmons, National Association of Royalty Owners Blu Hulsey, Continental Resources Darlene Wallace, Columbus Oil Berry Mullennix, Panther Energy Company, LLC Tim Wigley, Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association Greg Schnacke, Denbery Resource, Inc. Shane Matson, Osage Producers Association Charles Wickstrom, Iron Hawk Energy Topic: Bureau of Land Management (BLM) -- Methane, Venting & Flaring

5:30pm - 6:30pm Admiral Losey

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description: Jack Daley Dan Malcolm Dick Boyce

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

6:40pm - 6:55pm Depart for MLK Memorial

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20245, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

7pm - 7:45pm MLK Wreath Laying

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20245, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Wadi Yakhour, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description: Arrive: 6:45PM Remarsk: 7-10 minute remarks Attire: business

7:45pm - 8pm Depart for Residence

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Wed Apr 5, 2017

7:45am - 7:55am Drive to Liaison Hotel

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

8am - 8:30am

Remarks to Equipment Dealers Association & Association of Equipment Distributors

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Liaison Hotel, 415 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
8:00am Welcome 8:05am Introduction of Secretary Zinke (Partridge) 8:05am-8:25am Remarks from Secretary Zinke on Trump Administration land management policy/environmental regulation issues/conservation issues. 8:25am-8:30am Dealer Questions for Secretary Zinke The onsite contact is Natalie Higgins with EDA (+1 (314) 302-6288)

8:30am - 8:45am Drive to DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Daniel Jorjani (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Laura Rigas, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Micah Chambers, Downey Magallanes, Katharine MacGregor, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Lori Mashburn

11am - 11:45am Team Never Quit Podcast Recording

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
Hosts: Marcus Luttrell Morgan Luttrell Topic: The questions we will be asking will mostly revolve around your greatest "Never Quit" story. We will want to know the story itself, who and what got you there, and what lessons you've learned from your amazing experience(s). The interview will be broken in two basic parts. The first part will include your story and the backstory. The second part will be centered around your lessons learned in order to provide great takeaways for our listeners.

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12:15pm - 12:45pm Senator Lee Call

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

12:45pm - 1pm Call with Former VP Cheney

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1pm - 1:30pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1:30pm - 2pm National Alliance of Forest Owners Board of Directors

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Conference Room, Room 6151
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Timothy Williams, Casey Hammond
Description:
Attendees: Rep. Bruce Westerman (AR-04)--TBD Jonathan Shuffield,Legislative Director for Rep. Westerman--TBD Dave Tenny – CEO, NationalAlliance of Forest Owners Chip Murray – VP for Policy and GeneralCounsel, National Alliance of Forest Owners Doyle Simons - Presidentand CEO, Weyerhaeuser Company Craig Blair - President and CEO, Resource Management Service Douglas Reed - President, Green Diamond ResourceCompany Mark Emmerson - Chairman and CFO, Sierra Pacific IndustriesMike Covey - Chairman and CEO, Potlatch Corporation Peter Sikora –Chief Operating Officer, Giustina Resources Chris Zinkan - Chairman andCEO, The Forestland Group Peter Stein - Managing Director, The LymeTimber Co John Cashwell - Representative, BBC Land, LLC Rene Ancinas -President, Port Blakely Tree Farms Dan Christensen - Chairman, HancockNatural Resource Group Wesley Langdale - President, The LangdaleCompany Dick Molpus - President, Molpus Woodlands Group Michael Kelly -President, Forest Investment Associates Tom Colgan - President and CEO,Wagner Forest Management Topic: Federal issues affecting private forestowners and how to effectively partner with the federal government,voluntary management approaches to at-risk species

2pm - 2:30pm ExxonMobil Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description:
Attendees: Darren Woods, President and CEO, ExxonMobil Theresa Fariello, Vice President, Public and Government Affiars and head of ExxonMobil Washington, DC Office Daniel Easley, Senior Director Federal Affairs, ExxonMobil Topic: Introduction Discussion of ExxonMobil's U.S. operations

2:45pm - 3pm Mike Schauf | Western Montana Military Officers Association

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description: Coin presentation Attending: Mike Schauf, President

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3:15pm - 4pm Chairman Bishop Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Amanda Kaster, Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description:
Topic: House Natural Resources Committee priorities Utah Land Issues (Bears Ears) Tribal trust lands, Indian water settlements, Border Patrol and Jones Act, Border Patrol and Memo of Understanding, energy development, environmental law and the military, territories, sage grouse, and national monuments, etc. Attending: Chairman Rob Bishop Jason Knox, Committee Staff Director Adam Stewart, Legislative Director

4pm - 4:30pm Gentry Beach Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

4:30pm - 5pm Chris Cox Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Chief of Staff
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description: Gentry Beach

5pm - 6pm Chris Cox, Gentry Beach Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description: Jeff Crane Chris Cox Gentry Beach

Thu Apr 6, 2017

6:45am - 7:10am Drive to White House

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

7:10am - 7:30am Arrive at White House

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

7:30am - 8:30am Interviews at White House

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20500, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
7:30 AM EST - FNC - FOX & Friends with Pete Hegseth (NATIONAL) 7:40 AM EST - Sinclair Broadcasting Group with Michelle Macaluso (REGIONAL) 7:50 AM EST - Gray TV with Jacqueline Policastro and Ted Fioraliso (REGIONAL) BREAK 8:10 AM EST - Sirius XM with Andrew Wilkow - "The Wilkow Majority" (RADIO) 8:20 AM EST - Nexstar Media with Mark Meredith (REGIONAL) 8:30 AM EST - Military Times with Leo Shane (PRINT)

8:20am - 8:30am Drive to White House

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

8:30am - 10am Wounded Warrior Ride with the President

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where:
White House East Wing, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20500, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Laura Rigas, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Micah Chambers, Downey Magallanes, Katharine MacGregor, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Lori Mashburn

10am - 10:15am Drive to DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

10:30am - 11am Call with Tom Farrell

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description: Attendees: Tom Farrell, Dominion

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11am - 12pm Briefing on California National Parks

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
Briefing: Maureen Foster Mike Reynolds Virginia Johnson Alexa Viets Tasha Robbins Topic: Yosemite Channel Islands Presidio

12:50pm - 1pm Depart for the Ritz Carlton

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1pm - 1:30pm Remarks at NOIA Annual Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: The Ritz-Carlton, Washington, D.C., 1150 22nd St NW, Washington, DC 20037, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Wadi Yakhour, Heather Swift, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description:
Secretary's remarks begin at 1:10PM Lunch will be in Salon 2 Lunch begins 12:30PM

1:35pm - 1:45pm Depart for DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2pm - 2:30pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2:30pm - 3pm Port of San Diego Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description:
Attendees: Dan Malcolm, Port of San Diego Board of Port Commissioners Job Nelson, Assistant Vice President, External Relations Jason Giffen, Assistant Vice President, Planning and Green Port David Yow, Legislative Policy Advisor David Wetmore, Carpi and Clay Government Relations Topic: Fisheries Aquaculture and ocean management issues in the contiguous intersection of CA state and federal ocean waters off the California coast

3:15pm - 3:30pm Monica Morrill

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

3:30pm - 4pm California Natural Resources Agency Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Cameron, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description:
Attendees: John Laird, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency Joaquin Esquivel, Assistant Secretary for Federal Water Policy, California Natural Resources Agency Topic: Introduction Overview of California Water Priorities and California Water Action Plan

Fri Apr 7, 2017

8:30am - 8:45am Drive to Fox Studio

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 400 North Capitol St NW, Washington, DC 20001, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

8:45am - 9:30am Interview: Varney & Co. | Fox Business

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 400 North Capitol St NW
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
Hit time: 9:15AM Topic: What have you been up to? POTUS Donation of Salary to NPS POC: Jonathan St. John (b) (6)

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Laura Rigas, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Micah Chambers, Downey Magallanes, Katharine MacGregor, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Lori Mashburn

9:30am - 9:45am Drive to DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

10am - 11am Briefing on ESA in California

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Gary Frazer, Paul Souza, Casey Hammond, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Cameron

11am - 11:30am Ray Chavez & Richard Rovesk

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Tami Heilemann, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description:
Attendees: Richard Rovesk, Spirit of Liberty Foundation Founder Ray Chavez, oldest survivor of Pearl Harbor

12:30pm - 1pm Call with Senator Portman

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Amanda Kaster
Description: Topic: Follow up on methane conversation

12:30pm - 1:30pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1:45pm - 2:15pm Briefing on Inauguration Day

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Russell Roddy, Amy Mitchell

2pm - 2:30pm NFWF Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Casey Hammond
Description:
Attendees: Jeff Trandahl, NFWF Executive Director & CEO John Faraci, NFWF Board Chair Topic: NFWF mission and goals

Sat Apr 8, 2017

8am - 8:30am Drive to Stables via DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description: Note: needs to pick up hat in the office

8:30am - 10am Arrive at H-1 Stables / Prepare for Parade

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

10am - 12pm National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: National Mall, Washington, DC 20565, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12pm - 12:30pm Drive to Residence

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Sun Apr 9, 2017

6:10am - 6:30am Drive to Vietnam Memorial

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6:30am - 8:30am Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall Washing

Where: Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Washington, DC 20245, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

8:30am - 8:50am Drive to Residence

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Mon Apr 10, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Laura Rigas, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Micah Chambers, Downey Magallanes, Katharine MacGregor, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Lori Mashburn

11am - 12pm Internal Meeting on South Interior Building

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
Jim Cason Scott Hommel Meg Bloomgren Downey Magallenes Amy Holley Olivia Ferriter

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:30pm - 2pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

5:30pm - 6pm Drive to National Geographic

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6pm - 8:30pm National Geographic Salon Dinner

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: National Geographic Society, 1145 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20036, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Amanda Kaster
Description:
Dinner at Hubbard Hall 5:50/6:00 p.m.: Secretary Zinke and guests arrive at NGS; parking in garage (confirm escort) 6:00 p.m.: Reception begins 7:00 p.m.: Jean Case invites guests to be seated, welcomes attendees/VIPs 7:35 p.m.: Gary Knell comes to the podium, delivers opening remarks and introduces NG Explorers Arthur Middleton and Erika Larsen 7:40 p.m.: Arthur Middleton 7:50 p.m.: Erika Larsen 8:00 p.m.: Gary Knell returns to the podium, introduces Secretary Zinke who will then address the audience 8: 15 p.m.: Zinke concludes remarks and floor will be open for a few questions 8:20 p.m.: Gary Knell closes the evening and invites guest upstairs to the boardroom to enjoy the historic exhibition

8:30pm - 9pm Drive to Residence

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Tue Apr 11, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Laura Rigas, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Micah Chambers, Downey Magallanes, Katharine MacGregor, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Lori Mashburn

10:15am - 10:30am Tom & Beth Rolfe

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

10:30am - 11am Whitefish Christian Academy Visit

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
Joy Keuylian Joe Coco Cory Bristol Tami Miller Kids: Anoush Keuylian Maria Frampton Allison Miller Hannah Amuck Carson Restivo Alex Wojciechowski

11am - 12pm Briefing on NPS Fees at Parks

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Virginia Johnson, Scott Hommel, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Maureen Foster, Downey Magallanes, Megan Bloomgren, James Cason, Gareth Rees, Lena McDowall

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1pm - 1:30pm Call with Senator Risch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:30pm - 2pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2pm - 2:30pm Forrest Lucas Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Downey Magallanes, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Megan Bloomgren, Scott Hommel, Christine Bauserman, Nancy Guiden, Katharine MacGregor
Description:
Topics: 1. Wild Horse and Burro Program 2. BLM grazing program 3. ESA and Monument designations 4. Brief update of Proof Research Attendees Forest Lucas- CEO Lucas Oi Romona Hage Morrison (works for Forest) Dave Duquette (works for Forest) KK Jense- Proof Research- White Fish, MT Larry Murphy- CEO Proof Research- White Fish, MT John Clements- Proof Research- White Fish, MT Brian Kelly- Man About Town (loves White Fish, MT)

2:50pm - 3pm Phone Call with Sec. Ross

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description: Brooke Alexander (EA) will answer and get Sec. Ross on the line

3pm - 4pm Park Video Recording

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Thomas Baptiste, Heather Swift
Description:
Location: It's at the foot on 19th Street and around the bend a little bit, nice view of the pond, with Washington Monument in the background.

4pm - 5pm Interview: Shawn Regan | National Review Magazine

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description:
Topic: It will be a policy-focused profile piece, describing a bit of Zinke's background as a freshman congressman-turned-Interior Secretary but mostly looking at the issues facing the department today. I'd like to discuss Sec. Zinke's priorities and positions on major western land issues like energy development, the national park maintenance backlog, and the recent conflicts over grazing rights. I know he's mentioned many of those as priorities, including building front-line trust with local communities. Just trying to get some quotes to go along with the piece. It will largely be meant to introduce him to a national audience who may not know much about him, exploring his positions on the major issues and describing the challenges the department faces today.

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

6pm - 8:30pm Shakespeare and the Law Panel: The Rules of War

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Lansburgh Theatre
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
Paid for by Shakespeare Theater Company POC: Kathryn Burns-Yocum 816-853-3377 Event start: 7:00PM Walk through/mic check: 6-6:45pm

Wed Apr 12, 2017

All day California

Wed Apr 12, 2017 - Fri Apr 21, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Laura Rigas, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Micah Chambers, Downey Magallanes, Katharine MacGregor, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Lori Mashburn

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Russell Roddy

12:30pm - 1pm Palmer Luckey & Charles Johnson Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Megan Bloomgren
Description:
Topic: Border Wall building plans Attendees: Palmer Luckey, Founder of Oculus VR / Oculus Rift Charles Johnson, CEO of WeSearchr.com & Gotnews.com

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1pm - 2pm Briefing on DOI Revenue Streams

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, Scott Hommel, James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Gareth Rees, Amy Holley, Downey Magallanes, Denise Flanagan, Catherine Callaway, Megan Bloomgren, Olivia Ferriter, Adrianne Moss

2pm - 2:30pm Terry Maple

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Megan Bloomgren
Description:
Topic: Public-private partnerships to enhance the environment and the economy
ESA Concerns Follow up from Ron Forman meeting with RZ Attendees: Terry Maple, leadership consultant + member of the DELS committee at the National Academy of Sciences

2:30pm - 3pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3pm - 3:30pm President Russell Begaye

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Downey Magallanes
Description: Speaker Lorenzo Bates Kirk Adams, Chief of Staff for Gov. Doug Ducey

4pm - 5pm Drive to Dulles Airport

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Russell Roddy

6:08pm - 11:54pm Flight: IAD to SMF

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Russell Roddy
Description:
Flight: United 291 RZ Seat: 30B Flight time: 5 hours, 46 minutes Confirmation: CCWZGX

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Thu Apr 13, 2017

All day California

Wed Apr 12, 2017 - Fri Apr 21, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Fri Apr 14, 2017

All day California

Wed Apr 12, 2017 - Fri Apr 21, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5) 5oo64

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Sat Apr 15, 2017

All day California

Wed Apr 12, 2017 - Fri Apr 21, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Sun Apr 16, 2017

All day California

Wed Apr 12, 2017 - Fri Apr 21, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Mon Apr 17, 2017

All day California

Wed Apr 12, 2017 - Fri Apr 21, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Tue Apr 18, 2017

All day California

Wed Apr 12, 2017 - Fri Apr 21, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Wed Apr 19, 2017

All day California

Wed Apr 12, 2017 - Fri Apr 21, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Thu Apr 20, 2017

All day California

Wed Apr 12, 2017 - Fri Apr 21, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

All day Personal Travel: Montana

Thu Apr 20, 2017 - Mon Apr 24, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Fri Apr 21, 2017

All day Personal Travel: Montana

Thu Apr 20, 2017 - Mon Apr 24, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Sat Apr 22, 2017

All day Personal Travel: Montana

Thu Apr 20, 2017 - Mon Apr 24, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Sun Apr 23, 2017

All day Personal Travel: Montana

Thu Apr 20, 2017 - Mon Apr 24, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

7:55pm - 12am Flight: FCA to BWI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Mon Apr 24, 2017

12am - 5am Flight: FCA to BWI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

All day Derrick Crandall Event

Mon Apr 24, 2017 - Tue Apr 25, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

4:30pm - 4:40pm Drive to White House

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where:
Eisenhower Executive Office Building, 1650 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20502, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

4:45pm - 5:45pm Meeting on the Jones Act

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: EEOB Suite 252
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
4:45-5:45pm EDT: Meeting on the Jones Act Location: EEOB, Suite No. 252
Participants: Director Mulvaney (host) Secretary Kelly (invited) Gary Cohn Don McGahn Peter Navarro Andrew Bremberg Rick Dearborn USTR Principal

5:45pm - 5:55pm Drive to DOI / Residence

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6pm - 7:30pm Outdoor Recreation Leaders

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Tue Apr 25, 2017

7:35am - 7:55am Drive to National Press Club

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: The National Press Club, 529 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20045, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

8am - 8:45am Outdoor Industry Association Press Event

Where: The National Press Club, 529 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20045, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Laura Rigas, Christine Bauserman
Description:
For the release of the Recreation Economy Report 8:13 introduction 8:15 remarks (up to 30 minutes) POC: Alex Boian aboian@outdoorindustry.org 303-327-3509

8:45am - 9am Drive to DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Laura Rigas, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Micah Chambers, Downey Magallanes, Katharine MacGregor, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Lori Mashburn

10am - 11am Briefing on Offshore EO & Mineral Withdrawal

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Katharine MacGregor, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Downey Magallanes, Amanda Kaster, Megan Bloomgren, Scott Hommel, Laura Rigas, Nancy Guiden

11am - 11:30am Little Shell Tribe Meeting

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Amanda Kaster, Downey Magallanes, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Megan Bloomgren, James Cason, Gareth Rees
Description:
Attending: Chairman Gerald Gray Vice Chairman Clancy Siversten Josh Clause, Sixkiller Consulting Casey Sixkiller, Sixkiller Consulting Topic: Congratulations Little Shell Restoration Act Federal Recognition Lead Staff: Amanda Kaster Averill

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11:30am - 12:30pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12:30pm - 1pm Review of Upcoming Secretarial Orders

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, Scott Hommel, James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Downey Magallanes, Nancy Guiden

1pm - 1:30pm Western Energy Alliance

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Katharine MacGregor, Downey Magallanes, Megan Bloomgren, Christine Bauserman
Description:
Attendees: Rich Frommer, CEO, Great Western Oil and Gas Rick Grisinger, Senior VP, Halliburton Brad Johnson, Senior VP, Operations, Ultra Petroleum Sam Knaizer, Director, Government Affairs, Colorado, BP Lower 48 Shane Schulz, Director, Government Affairs, QEP Resources Gabrielle Gerholt, Senior Government Affairs Advisor Kathleen Sgamma, President, Western Energy Alliance Topic: Regulatory certainty on federal lands regarding leasing, NEPA analysis, rights-of-way, and permitting. Aligning agencies involved in energy development e.g., BLM, Fish & Wildlife Service, BIA, so that they encourage responsible development instead of hindering it Lead Staff: Kate MacGregor

1:30pm - 2pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2:30pm - 3pm (b) (6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Nancy Guiden

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3pm - 3:30pm University of Oregon President Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Christine Bauserman, Downey Magallanes, Scott Cameron, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Megan Bloomgren
Description:
Attendees: University of Oregon President Michael H. Schill ChuckLillis, Chair of the UO Board of Trustees David Conover, UO VicePresident for Research and Innovation and Professor of Biology DougToomey, UO Professor, Earth Sciences and Oregon faculty lead for the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network (a partnership with USGS) andShakeAlert John Vidale, University of Washington Professor of EarthSciences and the Director/Washington State lead for the PacificNorthwest Seismic Network and ShakeAlert Betsy Boyd, UO Associate VP,Federal Affairs Angela Wilhelms, UO Board Secretary (and former stafferto Congressman Greg Walden) Topics: Congratulations ShakeAlert and UO'sinvolvement with the US Geological Survey's Cascades VolcanoObservatory Lead Staff: Scott Cameron Meeting POC: Betsey Boyd (mobile: (b) (6) ; email: eaboyd@uoregon.edu)

3:30pm - 4:30pm Briefing on Monuments EO

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Conference Room, No. 6151
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Heather Swift, Scott Hommel, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Downey Magallanes, Laura Rigas, Megan Bloomgren

4:40pm - 4:55pm Drive to White House

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

5pm - 6pm White House Media Background Briefing on Monuments EO

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: White House Press Room
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Wed Apr 26, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
James Cason, Lori Mashburn, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Downey Magallanes, Douglas Domenech, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Daniel Jorjani, Micah Chambers, Laura Rigas, Nancy Guiden, Katharine MacGregor

11:15am - 11:45am Executive Order Signing Ceremony: Antiquities

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Description:
11:10 POTUS Arrives 11:15 Secretary greets POTUS in reception area by Guard Station 11:20 Secretary walks to podium without POTUS 11:20-11:25 Secretary remarks/introduction of POTUS 11:25-11:30 POTUS remarks 11:30 EO Signing 11:40 POTUS Departs 20-25 attendees

12:30pm - 2pm Briefing on Reorganization

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Scott Hommel, James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Olivia Ferriter, Gareth Rees, Amy Holley, Downey Magallanes, Denise Flanagan, Nancy Guiden, Megan Bloomgren, Elena Gonzalez, Laura Rigas

2pm - 2:30pm Personnel Interview: (b) (6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Natalie Davis, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Lori Mashburn
Description: Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST)

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2:30pm - 3pm Channel City Club Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Downey Magallanes
Description:
Attendees: Denice Spangler Adams Elena Alcerro Jill Ashcroft David Bates Keith Berry, Previews Estates Director, Coldwell Banker Previews International Darlene Bierig Robin Cederlof Edith M. Clark Donald Fareed Linda Fareed Judith Hill Cheri Jasinski Denise Lockhart Debra Papageorge Judy Robertson Brian Robertson, Robertson International Travel Consultants Joyce Vigneaud Robert Zeman Topic: Regulatory issues facing the Western U.S. in regards to agriculture; balancing environmental concerns with droughts concerns; Secretary's objectives in CA

3pm - 3:30pm Phone Call with Canadian Minister Jim Carr

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Karen Senhadji, Downey Magallanes, Ryan Close, Megan Bloomgren, Timothy Williams, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Christine Bauserman
Description:
Attendees: Jim Carr, Canadian Minister of Natural Resources POC: Aaron Annable, Counsellor (energy), Embassy of Canada

3:30pm - 4pm Rep. Emmer & Rep. Nolan Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Katharine MacGregor, Kathleen Benedetto, Micah Chambers (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Christine Bauserman, Amanda Kaster
Description:
Attendees: Rep Emmer Landon Zinda, Legislative Counsel Rep. Nolan Will Mitchell, staff Topic: Twin Metals Lease Lead Staff: Micah Chambers Lead Briefing: Kathy Benedetto Kate Macgregor

4pm - 4:30pm Western Governors Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Katharine MacGregor, Kathleen Benedetto, Timothy Williams, Christine Bauserman
Description:
Attendees: Governor John Hickenlooper (CO) John Swartout, Staffer Governor Mead (WY) Nephi Cole, Staffer Governor Sandoval (NV) Sandoval staffer Topic: Greater Sage Grouse Plans Western Land issues Lead Staff: Kate/Kathy

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

4:40pm - 4:55pm Drive to White House

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

5pm - 6pm White House First 100 Days Press

Where: Indian Treaty Room
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description: 5:00-5:10 Gray TV 5:10-5:20 Nexstar 5:20-5:30 Sinclair 5:30-5:30 WWMT (MI)

6pm - 9pm TRCP Capital Conservation Awards Dinner

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Andrew W Mellon Auditorium, 1301 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20240, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description: Cocktails 6:00pm Dinner 7:30pm 8:45pm Closing Remarks

Thu Apr 27, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Megan Bloomgren, Laura Rigas, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Micah Chambers, Downey Magallanes, Katharine MacGregor, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Lori Mashburn

10am - 10:30am Tony Gumataotao Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

10:30am - 11am Depart for the Capitol

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

11am - 11:45am Governor Herbert & Utah Delegation

Where: 104 Hart SOB
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Christine Bauserman
Description: Lead Staff: Micah Chambers Downey

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

12pm - 1pm Remarks at Western Caucus Members Only Luncheon

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Rayburn 2247
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description:
69 Members in the Caucus 15 minutes remarks, 5 minute Q&A Format: -Grab lunch -Introductions around the room -Chairman Gosar gives introduction/reviews Caucus activity -Chairman Gosar introduces the Secretary -Remarks + Q&A -Informal discussion about how they can work together -Photo opportunity at end POC: Jeff Small, Executive Director of Congressional Western Caucus jeff.small@mail.house.gov 202-226-8272 (direct) 202-480-7931 (work cell)

1pm - 1:30pm Drive to White House

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:30pm - 2:30pm NEC Principals Meeting: Paris Agreement

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: White House Situation Room
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2:30pm - 3pm Drive to Capitol

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

3pm - 3:45pm House Natural Resources Minority Caucus

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Longworth HOB 1324
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description: Off-the-record meeting to discuss member priorities

4pm - 4:45pm House Natural Resources Majority Caucus

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Longworth HOB 1324
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Description: Off-the-record meeting to discuss member priorities

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

5pm - 6pm Briefing on Offshore EO

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: EEOB 155
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6pm - 6:30pm White House Media Background Briefing on Offshore EO

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: White House Press Room
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6:30pm - 7pm Drive to REI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Fri Apr 28, 2017

All day Atlanta

Fri Apr 28, 2017 - Sat Apr 29, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

10:30am - 10:45am Executive Order Signing Ceremony: Offshore Energy

Video call:
(b)(5) rjhmse

Where: Roosevelt Room
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2:48pm - 3pm NRA-ILA's 2017 Leadership Forum

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where:
George World Congress Center, Hall A3, 285 Andrew Young International Blvd NW, Atlanta, Ga 30313
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Fri Mar 3, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

Mon Mar 6, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

Tue Mar 7, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Wed Mar 8, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Thu Mar 9, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Fri Mar 10, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Mon Mar 13, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Tue Mar 14, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Wed Mar 15, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Thu Mar 16, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Fri Mar 17, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Mon Mar 20, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

10:45am - 11:15am National Bison Range Briefing

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Office
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Caroline Boulton, James Cason, Gisella Ojeda-dodds, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Daniel Jorjani, Douglas Domenech, Gareth Rees, Catherine Gulac, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Nancy Guiden, Scott Hommel, Kevin Haugrud, Ann Navaro, Virginia Johnson, Amanda Kaster
Going? Yes

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11:15am - 11:45am Sage Grouse Briefing

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Michael Anderson, Katharine Macgregor, Scott Hommel, James Cason, Catherine Gulac, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Gareth Rees, Tracie Lassiter, Gisella Ojeda-dodds, Nancy Guiden, Douglas Domenech, Daniel Jorjani, Kathleen Benedetto, Richard Cardinale, Caroline Boulton

12pm - 1pm Metropolitan Infrastructure for DOI Briefing

Where: 3400 West Wing Interior Operations Center
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Caroline Boulton, Nancy Guiden, James Cason, Gareth Rees, Susan Lang, Olivia Ferriter, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Daniel Jorjani, Elena Gonzalez, Jean Parrish, Scott Hommel, Amy Holley, Abigail Miller, Catherine Gulac, Gisella Ojeda-dodds, Douglas Domenech, Catherine Callaway, Debra Sonderman
Going? Yes

1pm - 1:30pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:30pm - 2:30pm Personnel Interview: (b)(6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2:30pm - 3pm California Water Briefing

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Caroline Boulton, Scott Cameron, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Going? Yes

3pm - 3:30pm 9/11 Memorial and Museum Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Conference Room
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Caroline Boulton
Going? Yes

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3:30pm - 4:30pm Hallway Tour: Office of Surface Mining

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: South Interior Building Auditorium
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Wadi Yakhour

5pm - 6pm Meeting with Members of Congress

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Micah Chambers, Caroline Boulton, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Going? Yes

Tue Mar 21, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

10:30am - 11am Phone Call with Rep. Mark Amodei

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Caroline Boulton
Going? Yes

11am - 12pm U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Directors Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Conference Room
Who: Caroline Boulton, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Going? Yes

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1pm - 1:30pm Meeting with Chevron Leadership

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Conference Room #6151
Who:
Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, Katharine Macgregor, Caroline Boulton, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Timothy Williams
Going? Yes

1:30pm - 2pm Hallway Tour: Indian Arts & Crafts Board

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: #2528
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Wadi Yakhour, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2pm - 2:30pm Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Conference Room
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Cameron, Timothy Williams

2:30pm - 3:30pm Meeting with Jean Sagouspe

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Caroline Boulton
Going? Yes

3:30pm - 4:30pm Personnel Interview

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Conference Room
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Caroline Boulton
Going? Yes

Wed Mar 22, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

10:30am - 11am Museum & Art Follow Up Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Caroline Boulton

11am - 11:30am Meeting with BP America

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Conference Room #6151
Who: Caroline Boulton, Scott Hommel, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Nancy Guiden
Going? Yes

12pm - 12:30pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12:30pm - 1pm Briefing on Secretarial Order on Coal Moratorium

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Katharine Macgregor, Caroline Boulton, Kathleen Benedetto, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1pm - 1:30pm Personnel Interview

Video call:
(b)(5)

Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Caroline Boulton
Going? Yes

2pm - 2:30pm Tour a Hallway

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of Budget, room 4223
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Wadi Yakhour, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2:30pm - 3pm Secretary's Meeting with Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3pm - 3:30pm Call with CSKT

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Amanda Kaster

3:30pm - 4pm Tom Colligan Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke
Boulton

4pm - 5pm Landon Ash

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Caroline Boulton
Going? Yes

5pm - 5:30pm WPX Energy

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Thu Mar 23, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

10:10am - 10:20am Drive to Trump International Hotel

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where:
Trump International Hotel Washington, D.C., 1100 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

10:30am - 11am Address API Board of Directors Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where:
Trump International Hotel Washington, D.C., 1100 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Timothy Williams, Heather Swift

11am - 11:15am Drive to Department of the Interior

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 1849 C St NW, Washington, DC 20240, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12pm - 12:30pm Meeting with Governor Butch Otter

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Daniel Jorjani, Gisella Ojeda-dodds, Timothy Williams, Caroline Boulton, Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, Downey Magallanes
Going? Yes

12:30pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1pm - 1:30pm Ed Walker Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6) @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:45pm - 2pm Astronaut Jeff Williams Stop By

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2pm - 3pm Scott Faulkner & Lew Knopp

Video call:
(b)(5)

Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Gisella Ojeda-dodds, Daniel Jorjani, Caroline Boulton
Going? Yes

3pm - 3:30pm Professional Photo with Tami

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

3:30pm - 4:30pm Tour a Hallway

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Bureau of Reclamation, 7600 hallway
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Wadi Yakhour, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

5pm - 6pm Zack Gambill

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Fri Mar 24, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

10am - 10:30am Call with Rep. Zeldin

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

10:30am - 11am Peter Horn Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11:15am - 11:35am Interview: Julie Turkewitz | New York Times

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 301 928 5072
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Heather Swift

11:45am - 12pm Depart DOI for the White House

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12pm - 1:30pm Lunch at White House

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:30pm - 1:45pm Depart White House for DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2pm - 2:45pm Secretary's Briefing on Wild Horse & Burros

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Marshall Critchfield, Kristin Bail, Kathleen Benedetto, Dean Bolstad, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Michael Nedd

3pm - 3:30pm Jay Gilmore, WHMO

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Caroline Boulton, Russell Roddy, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Sun Mar 26, 2017

12pm - 3pm Harpers Ferry

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

7pm - 8:30pm Rep. Denham Dinner

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: The Capital Grille, 601 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Mon Mar 27, 2017

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

10am - 11am Meeting with Jim Cason

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:30pm - 2pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2pm - 2:30pm Call with Senator Hatch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2:30pm - 2:45pm Drive to White House

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2:45pm - 4pm Oval Office Bill Signing Ceremony

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20500, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

4pm - 4:15pm Drive to DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

4:30pm - 5pm Interview: Charilie Spiering | Breitbart

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Tue Mar 28, 2017

6:15am - 6:30am Drive to Fox News

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6:30am - 7:30am Interview: Fox News

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 400 North Capitol St NW, Washington, DC 20001, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

7:30am - 7:45am Drive to Residence

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

9am - 10:30am HOLD: Personal

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

10:20am - 10:30am Interview: Kilmeade and Friends

Where: 212-938-1574
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11am - 11:15am Test Teleprompter

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

11:35am - 11:50am Drive to Liaison Hotel

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12pm - 12:30pm

Public Lands Council Legislative Conference Lunch Keynote Speaker

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Liaison Hotel, 415 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Wadi Yakhour, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Heather Swift

12:20pm - 12:35pm Drive to DOI

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1pm - 1:30pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:15pm - 1:30pm Drive to EPA

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2pm - 3pm Executive Order

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where:
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

3pm - 3:15pm Drive to DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

4pm - 4:30pm Chuck Roady Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Amanda Kaster, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

4:40pm - 5:10pm Interview: Jenn Dlouhy | Bloomberg

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 202-807-2159
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6pm - 7pm
National Automobile Dealers Association PAC Board of Trustees Dinner

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Bobby Van's Grill, 1201 New York Ave NW, Washington, DC 20005, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Wed Mar 29, 2017

5:30am - 5:45am Drive to Fox Studio

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 400 North Capitol St NW, Washington, DC 20001, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

5:45am - 6:30am Interview: Fox & Friends

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 400 North Capitol St NW, Washington, DC 20001, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

6:30am - 6:45am Drive to Residence

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

10am - 11am Secretarial Orders

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

11am - 11:30am Jeff Crane

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11:30am - 12pm Meeting with Nevada Attorney General Laxalt

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Timothy Williams, Downey Magallanes

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12pm - 1pm Regional Press Call on Secretarial Order

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Conference Room
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1pm - 1:30pm Ron Forman Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1:30pm - 2pm Montana Stockgrowers Association Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2:45pm - 3pm Record Army OCS Graduation Video

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

3:15pm - 3:30pm Drive to White House

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

3:30pm - 4:30pm White House Meeting on Utah

Where:
Eisenhower Executive Office Building Room 234, Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest, Washington, DC, United States
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

4:30pm - 4:45pm Drive to DOI

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

5pm - 6pm Chris Cox Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6:15pm - 6:30pm Drive to Fox Studio

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6:30pm - 7:15pm Interview: Lou Dobbs

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 400 North Capitol St NW, Washington, DC 20001, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

7:15pm - 7:30pm Drive to Residence

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Thu Mar 30, 2017

All day USVI

Thu Mar 30, 2017 - Sun Apr 2, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6:45am - 7:05am Drive to DCA

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

7:59am - 10:53am Flight: DCA to MIA

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Downey Magallanes, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Douglas Domenech, Micah Chambers, Lori Mashburn, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Megan Bloomgren

12:23pm - 3pm Flight: MIA to STX

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:30pm - 2pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

5pm - 5:45pm Veterans Meet & Greet

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: #2 Old Hospital Grounds, Christiansted, St Croix
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6pm - 8pm USVI Governor's Welcome Reception

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: King Street, King St, Christiansted, St Croix 00820, USVI
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Fri Mar 31, 2017

All day USVI

Thu Mar 30, 2017 - Sun Apr 2, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

9am - 10am Secretary Zinke's Daily Sr. Staff Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Immediate Office
Calendar: Nancy Guiden
Who:
Megan Bloomgren, Nancy Guiden, Katharine Macgregor, James Cason, Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Lori Mashburn, Douglas Domenech

1:30pm - 2pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Sat Apr 1, 2017

All day USVI

Thu Mar 30, 2017 - Sun Apr 2, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3:55pm - 7:06pm Flight: STX to MIA

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

8:29pm - 11:06pm Flight: MIA to DCA

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Mon May 1, 2017

All day Houston

Mon May 1, 2017 - Tue May 2, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:30pm - 2pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Tue May 2, 2017

8:50am - 9:10am Drive to JW Marriott

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

9am - 9:45am National Tribal Energy Summit

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: JW Marriott Washington, DC, 1331 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Heather Swift, Laura Rigas

9:45am - 10am Drive to DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

10am - 10:30am Meet with Downey

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Downey Magallanes

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

10:30am - 11am San Juan County Commissioners

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Downey Magallanes, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Timothy Williams, Megan Bloomgren, Christine Bauserman

11am - 11:30am Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

11:30am - 12:30pm Personnel Interview: (b)(6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Natalie Davis, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Lori Mashburn

12:30pm - 1pm Meeting on Denver

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: David Mihalic, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, James Cason, Scott Hommel, Alan Mikkelsen

1pm - 2pm Arizona Stakeholder Meeting

Video call:
https://plus.google.com/hangouts/_/doi.gov/cdr06?hceid=Y2RyMDZAaW9zLmRvaS5nb3Y.3vn0iu

Where: Secretary's Conference Room, No. 6151
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Daniel Jorjani, Alan Mikkelsen, Downey Magallanes, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Christine Bauserman

2pm - 3pm Personnel Interview: (b)(6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Natalie Davis, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Lori Mashburn

3pm - 3:30pm Meeting with California Assembly Members

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Downey Magallanes, Megan Bloomgren, Timothy Williams, Christine Bauserman, Scott Cameron

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3:30pm - 4:30pm Personnel Interview: (b)(6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Natalie Davis, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Lori Mashburn

4:30pm - 5pm Partnership of Rangeland Trust Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Christine Bauserman, Katharine MacGregor, Downey Magallanes, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Wed May 3, 2017

7:40am - 7:55am Drive to Capitol

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

8am - 8:45am Land Trust Alliance

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 2045 Rayburn House Office Building
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Christine Bauserman, Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, Micah Chambers

9:15am - 10am Meet the Cabinet GOP Conference Event

Where: HC-5
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Micah Chambers

10am - 10:30am Drive to DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

10:30am - 11am Briefing on Infrastructure

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Gareth Rees, James Cason, Amy Holley, Olivia Ferriter

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11am - 12pm Personnel Interview: (b)(6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Natalie Davis, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Lori Mashburn

12pm - 12:45pm Meeting with the Office of American Innovation

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1pm - 1:30pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:30pm - 2pm Lunch

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2pm - 3pm Interior Appropriations Roundtable Prep

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Gareth Rees, Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers, Megan Bloomgren, Olivia Ferriter, Adrianne Moss, Denise Flanagan, Amanda Kaster

3pm - 3:30pm Briefing on Reorganization

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Gareth Rees, Downey Magallanes, James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3:30pm - 4pm Personnel Interview: (b)(6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Natalie Davis, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Scott Hommel, Nancy Guiden, Lori Mashburn

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

4pm - 4:30pm (b)(6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

4:30pm - 5pm Northern Utes

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

5pm - 5:30pm Fort Belknap

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

5:30pm - 6:30pm (b)(6)Ryan Zinke

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

7pm - 9pm (b) (6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Thu May 4, 2017

7:30am - 8:30am Breakfast Meeting on NPS Issues

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: White House Mess
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mariagrazia Caminiti

9am - 9:30am Drive to Capitol

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

9:30am - 11am
Informal House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Roundtable
Where: Rayburn G-2007
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Christine Bauserman, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11am - 11:30am Drive to DOI
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

11:30am - 12pm Doggy Day Discussion
Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of rhe Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Laura Rigas, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

12:15pm - 12:30pm Drive to USDA
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12:30pm - 1:30pm Meeting with Secretary Perdue
Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: 1400 Jefferson Drive SW
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Christine Bauserman, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Gareth Rees, James Cason

1:30pm - 1:45pm Drive to DOI
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2pm - 2:30pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff
Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2:30pm - 3pm Wayne LaPierre & Chris Cox
Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3pm - 4pm Briefing on Klamath ROD

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Alan Mikkelsen, Downey Magallanes, Scott Cameron, Megan Bloomgren, Christine Bauserman

4pm - 5pm Interview: CBS Morning Show

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Fri May 5, 2017

All day Doggy Day at Interior

Fri May 5, 2017 - Sat May 6, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6:50am - 7am Interview: Hugh Hewitt

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Call **(b) (6)** | Backup **(b) (6)**
Calendar: (b)(6) Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

7:30am - 8am Drive to DOI

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

8am - 9am Interview: CBS Morning Live

Where: 1849 C St NW, Washington, DC 20240, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

11:30am - 12pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12pm - 1pm Doggy Day at Interior Event

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1:40pm - 2pm Interview: SiriusXM Wilkow

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

2pm - 2:30pm Interview: Dana Perino | Fox News

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

5:27pm - 12am Flight: BWI to GTF

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Sat May 6, 2017

12am - 12:11am Flight: BWI to GTF

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

All day Havre, MT

Sat May 6, 2017 - Sun May 7, 2017
Video call:
https://plus.google.com/hangouts/_/doi.gov/cdr06?hceid=Y2RyMDZAaW9zLmRvaS5nb3Y.n4bqsc

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12pm - 2pm MSU-Northern Commencement Address

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Sun May 7, 2017

All day Salt Lake City, UT

Sun May 7, 2017 - Mon May 8, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Mon May 8, 2017

All day Bears Ears National Monument

Mon May 8, 2017 - Wed May 10, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Tue May 9, 2017

All day Bears Ears National Monument

Mon May 8, 2017 - Wed May 10, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

11am - 12pm

Bi-Weekly Meeting with Assistant Secretaries, Directors, & Advisors

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Secretary's Conference Room, No. 6151
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Wed May 10, 2017

All day Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

Wed May 10, 2017 - Thu May 11, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Thu May 11, 2017

All day California

Thu May 11, 2017 - Fri May 12, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Fri May 12, 2017

All day Billings with VPOTUS

Fri May 12, 2017 - Sun May 14, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Sat May 13, 2017

All day Billings with VPOTUS

Fri May 12, 2017 - Sun May 14, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Tue May 16, 2017

8:45am - 11:04am Flight: FCA to DEN

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

11:45am - 3:04pm Flight: DEN to IAD

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

4:40pm - 4:55pm Drive to White House

Video call:
(b)(5) 6

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

5pm - 6pm NEC Principals Meeting: Infrastructure

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Roosevelt Room at the White House
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Christine Bauserman, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

6pm - 6:15pm Drive to DOI

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Wed May 17, 2017

10am - 11:30am Budget Rollout Walk Through

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Heather Swift, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Olivia Ferriter, Downey Magallanes, Adrianne Moss, Laura Rigas, Denise Flanagan, Micah Chambers, Megan Bloomgren, James Cason

11:30am - 12:30pm Briefing on the Everglades

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Christine Bauserman, Marshall Critchfield, Downey Magallanes, Virginia Johnson, Daniel Jorjani, James Cason, Gareth Rees, Shannon Estenoz

12:30pm - 1pm Lunch

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1pm - 1:30pm Meeting on Top 10

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Gareth Rees, Downey Magallanes, Scott Hommel, James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1:30pm - 2pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Nancy Guiden

2pm - 2:30pm Alaska Federation of Natives

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Gareth Rees, James Cason, Christine Bauserman, Downey Magallanes

2:30pm - 3pm Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Christine Bauserman, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Alan Mikkelsen, davemihalic@bresnan.net

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3:30pm - 4pm Meeting with Rep. Collins

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Christine Bauserman, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Daniel Jorjani, Mariagrazia Caminiti

6pm - 6:30pm Call with Senator Barrasso

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Thu May 18, 2017

10:15am - 10:45am Call with Senator King

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

10:45am - 11am Call with Senator Collins

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11am - 11:45am GQ Interview

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Megan Bloomgren, Heather Swift, Laura Rigas

12pm - 12:15pm Wert Yeager

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12:30pm - 1pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Nancy Guiden

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1pm - 1:45pm Drive to Fort Meade

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

1:45pm - 3:15pm (b) (6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Fort Meade, MD, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Caroline Boulton, Heather Swift

3:15pm - 4pm Drive to DC

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

4:30pm - 5pm Record BLM Volunteer Day Video

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

5:30pm - 6:30pm Rep. Scott Taylor

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Fri May 19, 2017

10:45am - 11:15am Call with Rep. Tom Cole

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Gareth Rees, Daniel Jorjani, Mariagrazia Caminiti, James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Christine Bauserman, Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers

12pm - 12:30pm Lunch

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12:30pm - 1pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Nancy Guiden

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1:15pm - 1:45pm Call with Rep. Greg Walden

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Micah Chambers, Christine Bauserman, Downey Magallanes

2pm - 3pm Interview: Michael Carpel | Fox News

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3:30pm - 4:30pm Meeting with Mary Kendall

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Mary Kendall, Gisella Ojeda-dodds, Mariagrazia Caminiti, Karen Edwards, Vincent Devito

4:30pm - 5pm Personnel Interview: (b)(6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Natalie Davis, Lori Mashburn, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Mon May 22, 2017

10:30am - 11am White Stallion Energy

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Aaron Thiele, Christine Bauserman, Downey Magallanes, Vincent Devito, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11am - 11:45am Budget Rollout Pre-Brief

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6) Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Heather Swift, James Cason, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Olivia Ferriter, Gareth Rees, Downey Magallanes, Adrianne Moss, Denise Flanagan, Laura Rigas

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11:45am - 1pm HOLD: Run

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Aurelia Skipwith, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

1pm - 1:30pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2pm - 2:30pm Meeting with Senator Cortez Masto

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Christine Bauserman, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers

2:30pm - 3pm American Petroleum Institute Meeting

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Christine Bauserman, Aaron Thiele, Vincent Devito, Gisella Ojeda-dodds, Downey Magallanes

3pm - 4pm Great Outdoors Month Video Recording

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Heather Swift, Laura Rigas, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Tue May 23, 2017

10:30am - 11am Set Up International Travel Phone

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

11am - 11:30am Meeting with Scott Angelle

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Christine Bauserman, Downey Magallanes, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

11:30am - 12:30pm Lunch

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

12:30pm - 1:30pm Media Call on Budget

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Heather Swift, Olivia Ferriter, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Christine Bauserman, Adrianne Moss, Downey Magallanes, Denise Flanagan, Laura Rigas

2pm - 3pm Stakeholder Call on Budget

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Heather Swift, Olivia Ferriter, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Christine Bauserman, Adrianne Moss, Downey Magallanes, Denise Flanagan, Laura Rigas, Micah Chambers, Timothy Williams

3pm - 3:30pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

3:45pm - 4pm Call with Senator Tillis

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: **(b) (6)**
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

6:30pm - 7:30pm **(b) (6)**

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Wed May 24, 2017

11am - 11:30am Meeting with CLUB 20

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Christine Bauserman, Downey Magallanes, Timothy Williams

11:30am - 12pm Personnel Interview: (b)(6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Natalie Davis, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Katharine MacGregor

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

12pm - 1pm Lunch

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

12pm - 12:30pm National Association Home Builders

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Scott Hommel, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Kathleen Benedetto

1pm - 1:30pm Newfield Exploration Company

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Christine Bauserman, Katharine MacGregor, Downey Magallanes, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Vincent Devito

1:30pm - 2pm Secretary's Daily Meeting with the Chief of Staff

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

2pm - 2:30pm Call with Governor Scott

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, Christine Bauserman, Downey Magallanes, Mariagrazia Caminiti, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Marshall Critchfield

2:45pm - 3pm Blackfeet Tribe Stop By

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Alan Mikkelsen, Amanda Kaster

3pm - 3:30pm Call with Governor Kate Brown

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: (b) (6)
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Timothy Williams

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

3:30pm - 4pm Meeting with Chairman Lamar Smith

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Christine Bauserman, Downey Magallanes, Micah Chambers, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Daniel Jorjani, Amanda Kaster

4:30pm - 5pm Mayor Bowser Meeting

Where: Office of the Secretary
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who:
Daniel Jorjani, Christine Bauserman, Downey Magallanes, Mariagrazia Caminiti, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

5pm - 6pm Staff Reception

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

6:30pm - 8pm (b) (6)

Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Thu May 25, 2017

10:30am - 11am US Oil & Gas Association Board Meeting

Video call:
(b)(5)

Where: Hay-Adams Hotel, Washington, DC 20006, USA
Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton
Who: Laura Rigas, Heather Swift, (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov, Katharine MacGregor, Vincent Devito

Fri May 26, 2017

All day Norway

Fri May 26, 2017 - Sat May 27, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

(b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov

Sat May 27, 2017

All day Greenland/Alaska
Sat May 27, 2017 - Sun May 28, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Sun May 28, 2017

All day Denali
Sun May 28, 2017 - Tue May 30, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Mon May 29, 2017

All day Denali
Sun May 28, 2017 - Tue May 30, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Tue May 30, 2017

All day Anchorage, AK
Tue May 30, 2017 - Thu Jun 1, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

Wed May 31, 2017

All day Anchorage, AK
Tue May 30, 2017 - Thu Jun 1, 2017
Video call:
(b)(5)

Calendar: (b)(6)Ryan Zinke @ios.doi.gov
Created by: Caroline Boulton

From:	Ferriter, Olivia
To:	DOI_Bureau_Budget_Officers; James Cason; Scott Hommel; Scott Cameron; Katharine Macgregor; Benjamin Keel; Virginia Johnson; Douglas Domenech; Pula, Nikolao; Kevin Haugrud; Edward Keable; Deb Dumontier; Mary Kendall; Kerry Rae; Foster, Maureen; Cardinale, Richard; Michael Black; Sarah Walters; Holley, Amy; William Werkheiser; David Murillo; Michael Reynolds; Glenda Owens; Walter Cruickshank; Margaret Schneider; Kristin Bail; Weldon Loudermilk; Dearman, Tony; Stephen Guertin; Jim Kurth
Cc:	Denise Flanagan; Adrianne Moss; Jason Freihage
Subject:	OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday - ACTION NEEDED
Date:	Tuesday, February 21, 2017 11:25:42 AM

This is a heads up that OMB plans to provide the FY 2018 passback to the Department on Friday, Feb. 24, with appeals due back to OMB on Monday, Feb. 27, close of business. The Office of Budget will provide guidance to the Bureau Budget Officers for determining appeals. To prepare, Bureaus and Offices should consider Presidential priorities (border wall; oil, gas and coal production; multiple use of public lands; infrastructure; jobs), and anticipate deep cuts (10% or more). Bureaus and Offices should be prepared to propose efficiencies and cost-saving strategies (co-locations, shared services etc.) and identify programs that can be shut down completely.

Meetings will be scheduled for late Friday, Feb. 24, and for Saturday, Feb. 25, for Bureaus and Offices to discuss proposed appeals with Departmental senior leadership. Acting Assistant Secretaries, Acting Bureau Directors and Bureau Budget Officers, along with senior political leaders for program Assistant Secretary offices should plan to be available.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please let us know if you have any questions. Olivia

Olivia Barton Ferriter
Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW MS 7228, Washington, DC 20240
Desk: 202-208-4881 Cell: 202-251-4139 FAX: 202-208-1067
Olivia_Ferriter@ios.doi.gov

From: Guertin, Stephen
To: Nolin, Chris; Rebekah Giddings; Denise Sheehan
Cc: Jim Kurth; Charisa Morris; Matthew Huggler; Betsy Hildebrandt
Subject: Close Hold -- OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 12:00:14 PM

We are already scheduled for a pre-brief tomorrow at 10. Please bring appropriate tables, scenarios, etc. (We are also hearing from AS-FWP channels about funding levels with a -10% reduction, though from the 2016 level). We have already invested considerable effort and thinking into developing these budget scenarios at these levels if required so that Jim as acting Director has a lot of background already.

Note expected timeline for meetings with DOI either Friday afternoon or sometime Saturday.

Jim and I just talked -- we will confirm tomorrow but we're probably not going to have lots of time/opportunity to respond so may be just reaching out to individual ADs. That is one of the reasons we sat down with the ADs as a group earlier in January.

See you tomorrow at 10.

Steve

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Ferriter, Olivia** <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 2:25 PM
Subject: OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday - ACTION NEEDED
To: DOI_Bureau_Budget_Officers <doi_bureau_budget_officers@ios.doi.gov>, James Cason <james_cason@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Hommel <scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Cameron <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>, Katharine Macgregor <katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov>, Benjamin Keel <benjamin_keel@ios.doi.gov>, Virginia Johnson <virginia_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Douglas Domenech <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>, "Pula, Nikolao" <nikolao_pula@ios.doi.gov>, Kevin Haugrud <jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov>, Edward Keable <edward.keable@sol.doi.gov>, Deb Dumontier <debra_dumontier@ost.doi.gov>, Mary Kendall <mary_kendall@doioig.gov>, Kerry Rae <kerry_rae@ios.doi.gov>, "Foster, Maureen" <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>, "Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov>, Michael Black <mike.black@bia.gov>, Sarah Walters <sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov>, "Holley, Amy" <Amy_Holley@ios.doi.gov>, William Werkheiser <whwerkhe@usgs.gov>, David Murillo <DMurillo@usbr.gov>, Michael Reynolds <michael_reynolds@nps.gov>, Glenda Owens <gowens@osmre.gov>, Walter Cruickshank <walter.cruickshank@boem.gov>, Margaret Schneider <margaret.schneider@bsee.gov>, Kristin Bail <kbail@blm.gov>, Weldon Loudermilk <Bruce.Loudermilk@bia.gov>, "Dearman, Tony" <tony.dearman@bie.edu>, Stephen Guertin <Stephen_Guertin@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>
Cc: Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, Adrianne Moss <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>

This is a heads up that OMB plans to provide the FY 2018 passback to the Department on Friday, Feb. 24, with appeals due back to OMB on Monday, Feb. 27, close of business. The Office of Budget will provide guidance to the Bureau Budget Officers for determining appeals. To prepare, Bureaus and Offices should consider Presidential priorities (border wall; oil,

gas and coal production; multiple use of public lands; infrastructure; jobs), and anticipate deep cuts (10% or more). Bureaus and Offices should be prepared to propose efficiencies and cost-saving strategies (co-locations, shared services etc.) and identify programs that can be shut down completely.

Meetings will be scheduled for late Friday, Feb. 24, and for Saturday, Feb. 25, for Bureaus and Offices to discuss proposed appeals with Departmental senior leadership. Acting Assistant Secretaries, Acting Bureau Directors and Bureau Budget Officers, along with senior political leaders for program Assistant Secretary offices should plan to be available.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please let us know if you have any questions. Olivia

Olivia Barton Ferriter
Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW MS 7228, Washington, DC 20240
Desk: 202-208-4881 Cell: 202-251-4139 FAX: 202-208-1067
Olivia_Ferriter@ios.doi.gov

From: Nolin, Chris
To: Guertin, Stephen
Subject: Re: Close Hold -- OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 12:04:04 PM

---

ok - let us know if you want anything in advance.

On Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 3:00 PM, Guertin, Stephen <stephen_guertin@fws.gov> wrote:

> We are already scheduled for a pre-brief tomorrow at 10. Please bring appropriate tables, scenarios, etc. (We are also hearing from AS-FWP channels about funding levels with a -10% reduction, though from the 2016 level). We have already invested considerable effort and thinking into developing these budget scenarios at these levels if required so that Jim as acting Director has a lot of background already.
>
> Note expected timeline for meetings with DOI either Friday afternoon or sometime Saturday.
>
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> See you tomorrow at 10.
>
> Steve
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Ferriter, Olivia** <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>
> Date: Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 2:25 PM
> Subject: OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday - ACTION NEEDED
> To: DOI_Bureau_Budget_Officers <doi_bureau_budget_officers@ios.doi.gov>, James Cason <james_cason@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Hommel <scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Cameron <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>, Katharine Macgregor <katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov>, Benjamin Keel <benjamin_keel@ios.doi.gov>, Virginia Johnson <virginia_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Douglas Domenech <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>, "Pula, Nikolao" <nikolao_pula@ios.doi.gov>, Kevin Haugrud <jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov>, Edward Keable <edward.keable@sol.doi.gov>, Deb Dumontier <debra_dumontier@ost.doi.gov>, Mary Kendall <mary_kendall@doioig.gov>, Kerry Rae <kerry_rae@ios.doi.gov>, "Foster, Maureen" <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>, "Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov>, Michael Black <mike.black@bia.gov>, Sarah Walters <sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov>, "Holley, Amy" <Amy_Holley@ios.doi.gov>, William Werkheiser <whwerkhe@usgs.gov>, David Murillo <DMurillo@usbr.gov>, Michael Reynolds <michael_reynolds@nps.gov>, Glenda Owens <gowens@osmre.gov>, Walter Cruickshank <walter.cruickshank@boem.gov>, Margaret Schneider <margaret.schneider@bsee.gov>, Kristin Bail <kbail@blm.gov>, Weldon Loudermilk <Bruce.Loudermilk@bia.gov>, "Dearman, Tony" <tony.dearman@bie.edu>, Stephen Guertin <Stephen_Guertin@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>
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Olivia Barton Ferriter
Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW MS 7228, Washington, DC 20240
Desk: 202-208-4881 Cell: 202-251-4139 FAX: 202-208-1067
Olivia_Ferriter@ios.doi.gov

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

From: Guertin, Stephen
To: Nolin, Chris
Subject: Re: Close Hold -- OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 12:34:51 PM

If you can bring copies of

the comp table
scenario tables
the AD worksheets

Thanks

On Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 3:03 PM, Nolin, Chris <chris_nolin@fws.gov> wrote:

> ok - let us know if you want anything in advance.
>
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Desk: 202-208-4881 Cell: 202-251-4139 FAX: 202-208-1067
Olivia_Ferriter@ios.doi.gov

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Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

From: Nolin, Chris
To: Guertin, Stephen
Subject: Re: Close Hold -- OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 12:41:44 PM

---

yup will do

On Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 3:34 PM, Guertin, Stephen <stephen_guertin@fws.gov> wrote:

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail

Mcdonald, Shane <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>

Fwd: OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday - ACTION NEEDED

7 messages

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 2:54 PM
To: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>
Cc: Robert Eaton <robert_eaton@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>

Chris,
Kim just sent this email to us. It sounds fairly daunting with a short turn around. I'll start gathering information and start preparing a scenario and possible strategies if our fire program is cut 10% or more. I will be sure to identify the cut we've takend this FY because of the risk based.

Thx

****
Gillian Fay
Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Salwasser, Kimberly** <kimberly_salwasser@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 2:50 PM
Subject: Fwd: OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday - ACTION NEEDED
To: "Beebe, Grant S" <gbeebe@blm.gov>, Mark Koontz <Mark_Koontz@nps.gov>, Gillian Fay <gillian_fay@fws.gov>, Linda Tatum <linda.tatum@bia.gov>
Cc: "Kishpaugh, Amy" <amy_kishpaugh@ios.doi.gov>, Thao Tran <thao_tran@ios.doi.gov>

Below is the most recent information we have on the FY 2018 OMB passback. As we know more, we'll let you know.

Thanks,

Kimberly Salwasser, CPA
Budget Accountability Analyst
Office of Wildland Fire
Office: 208-334-1554
Mobile: 208-407-6317
kimberly_salwasser@ios.doi.gov
@DOIWildlandFire

DOI Office of Wildland Fire

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Desk: 202-208-4881 Cell: 202-251-4139 FAX: 202-208-1067
Olivia_Ferriter@ios.doi.gov

Mcdonald, Shane <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 3:39 PM
To: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>
Cc: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, Robert Eaton <robert_eaton@fws.gov>

Chris - Do you want me to kick a note out, and/or organize calls, to the coordinators asking them to describe, in one page or less, what the world as they see it would look like at a -10% while considering some of the suggestions in the note from the Department? I don't think the recent workforce plans addressed a reduction of that nature.
[Quoted text hidden]

--
Shane McDonald
Deputy Chief (Operations)
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Branch of Fire Management
National Interagency Fire Center
3833 S. Development Ave
Boise, ID 83705
208-387-5583 (w)
208-608-8331 (c)
shane_mcdonald@fws.gov

Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 4:35 PM
To: "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>
Cc: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>, Robert Eaton <robert_eaton@fws.gov>

Looking through this now...

Sent from my iPhone
[Quoted text hidden]

Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov> Wed, Feb 22, 2017 at 6:09 AM
To: "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>
Cc: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>, Robert Eaton <robert_eaton@fws.gov>

Once you are both in, shoot me a text and I will see if we can jump on a short call. I'm not sure we need a data call or if we just send up our best info on impacts.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 21, 2017, at 5:47 PM, Mcdonald, Shane <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Robert Eaton <robert_eaton@fws.gov> Wed, Feb 22, 2017 at 6:14 AM
To: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>
Cc: "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>

I can do a call at 2:30 pm (est) if that works for you. Otherwise, I will catch up later today.

Robert S. Eaton
Deputy Chief (Management)
Branch of Fire Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Falls Church, VA 22041
208-859-8525 (cell)

Sent from my iPhone
[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]
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<OWFLogoTransparent (2).png>
[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Shane Mcdonald <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov> Wed, Feb 22, 2017 at 7:09 AM

To: Robert Eaton <robert_eaton@fws.gov>
Cc: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>

FMB will be over by then or the way my morning i haping up I hould be in a little early before FMB

Shane McDonald
Deputy Chief (Operations)
U S Fi h and Wildlife Service
Branch of Fire Management
208-387-5583 (w)
208-608-8331 (c)
[Quoted text hidden]

Mcdonald, Shane <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov> Tue, May 21, 2019 at 1:26 PM
To: Chris Wilcox <Chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, Gillian Fay <gillian_fay@fws.gov>

Here' one for the FOIA
[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]

Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

Fwd: OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday - ACTION NEEDED

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>> Thanks,
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>> Kimberly Salwasser, CPA
>> Budget Accountability Analyst
>> Office of Wildland Fire
>> Office: 208-334-1554
>> Mobile: 208-407-6317
>> kimberly_salwasser@ios.doi.gov

@DOIWildlandFire

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Subject: OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday - ACTION NEEDED
To: DOI_Bureau_Budget_Officers <doi_bureau_budget_officers@ios.doi.gov>, James Cason <james_cason@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Hommel <scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Cameron <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>, Katharine Macgregor <katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov>, Benjamin Keel <benjamin_keel@ios.doi.gov>, Virginia Johnson <virginia_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Douglas Domenech <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>, "Pula, Nikolao" <nikolao_pula@ios.doi.gov>, Kevin Haugrud <jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov>, Edward Keable <edward.keable@sol.doi.gov>, Deb Dumontier <debra_dumontier@ost.doi.gov>, Mary Kendall <mary_kendall@doioig.gov>, Kerry Rae <kerry_rae@ios.doi.gov>, "Foster, Maureen" <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>, "Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov>, Michael Black <mike.black@bia.gov>, Sarah Walters <sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov>, "Holley, Amy" <Amy_Holley@ios.doi.gov>, William Werkheiser <whwerkhe@usgs.gov>, David Murillo <DMurillo@usbr.gov>, Michael Reynolds <michael_reynolds@nps.gov>, Glenda Owens <gowens@osmre.gov>, Walter Cruickshank <walter.cruickshank@boem.gov>, Margaret Schneider <margaret.schneider@bsee.gov>, Kristin Bail <kbail@blm.gov>, Weldon Loudermilk <Bruce.Loudermilk@bia.gov>, "Dearman, Tony" <tony.dearman@bie.edu>, Stephen Guertin <Stephen_Guertin@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>
Cc: Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, Adrianne Moss <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>

This is a heads up that OMB plans to provide the FY 2018 passback to the Department on Friday, Feb. 24, with appeals due back to OMB on Monday, Feb. 27, close of business. The Office of Budget will provide guidance to the Bureau Budget Officers for determining appeals. To prepare, Bureaus and Offices should consider Presidential priorities (border wall; oil, gas and coal production; multiple use of public lands; infrastructure; jobs), and anticipate deep cuts (10% or more). Bureaus and Offices should be prepared to propose efficiencies and cost-saving strategies (co-locations, shared services etc.) and identify programs that can be shut down completely.

Meetings will be scheduled for late Friday, Feb. 24, and for Saturday, Feb. 25, for Bureaus and Offices to discuss proposed appeals with Departmental senior leadership. Acting Assistant Secretaries, Acting Bureau Directors and Bureau Budget Officers, along with senior political leaders for program Assistant Secretary offices should plan to be available.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please let us know if you have any questions. Olivia

Olivia Barton Ferriter
Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW MS 7228, Washington, DC 20240
Desk: 202-208-4881 Cell: 202-251-4139 FAX: 202-208-1067
Olivia_Ferriter@ios.doi.gov

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Shane McDonald
Deputy Chief (Operations)
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Branch of Fire Management
National Interagency Fire Center
3833 S. Development Ave
Boise, ID 83705
208-387-5583 (w)
208-608-8331 (c)
shane_mcdonald@fws.gov

Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

Fwd: OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday - ACTION NEEDED

Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov> Wed, Feb 22, 2017 at 6:09 AM
To: "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>
Cc: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>, Robert Eaton <robert_eaton@fws.gov>

Once you are both in, shoot me a text and I will see if we can jump on a short call. I'm not sure we need a data call or if we just send up our best info on impacts.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 21, 2017, at 5:47 PM, Mcdonald, Shane <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov> wrote:

> Chris - Do you want me to kick a note out, and/or organize calls, to the coordinators asking them to describe, in one page or less, what the world as they see it would look like at a -10% while considering some of the suggestions in the note from the Department? I don't think the recent workforce plans addressed a reduction of that nature.
>
> On Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 2:54 PM, Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> wrote:
>> Chris,
>> Kim just sent this email to us. It sounds fairly daunting with a short turn around. I'll start gathering information and start preparing a scenario and possible strategies if our fire program is cut 10% or more. I will be sure to identify the cut we've takend this FY because of the risk based.
>>
>> Thx
>>
>> **********
>> Gillian Fay
>> Fire Budget Officer
>> US Fish and Wildlife Service
>> 3833 S. Development Avenue
>> Boise, ID 83705-5354
>> 208-387-5536 work
>> 208-559-1124 cell
>>
>> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
>> From: **Salwasser, Kimberly** <kimberly_salwasser@ios.doi.gov>
>> Date: Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 2:50 PM
>> Subject: Fwd: OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday - ACTION NEEDED
>> To: "Beebe, Grant S" <gbeebe@blm.gov>, Mark Koontz <Mark_Koontz@nps.gov>, Gillian Fay <gillian_fay@fws.gov>, Linda Tatum <linda.tatum@bia.gov>
>> Cc: "Kishpaugh, Amy" <amy_kishpaugh@ios.doi.gov>, Thao Tran <thao_tran@ios.doi.gov>
>>
>> Below is the most recent information we have on the FY 2018 OMB passback. As we know more, we'll let you know.
>>
>> Thanks,
>>
>> Kimberly Salwasser, CPA
>> Budget Accountability Analyst
>> Office of Wildland Fire
>> Office: 208-334-1554
>> Mobile: 208-407-6317
>> kimberly_salwasser@ios.doi.gov

@DOIWildlandFire

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Ferriter, Olivia** <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 12:25 PM
Subject: OMB FY 2018 Passback Expected Friday - ACTION NEEDED
To: DOI_Bureau_Budget_Officers <doi_bureau_budget_officers@ios.doi.gov>, James Cason <james_cason@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Hommel <scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Cameron <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>, Katharine Macgregor <katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov>, Benjamin Keel <benjamin_keel@ios.doi.gov>, Virginia Johnson <virginia_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Douglas Domenech <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>, "Pula, Nikolao" <nikolao_pula@ios.doi.gov>, Kevin Haugrud <jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov>, Edward Keable <edward.keable@sol.doi.gov>, Deb Dumontier <debra_dumontier@ost.doi.gov>, Mary Kendall <mary_kendall@doioig.gov>, Kerry Rae <kerry_rae@ios.doi.gov>, "Foster, Maureen" <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>, "Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov>, Michael Black <mike.black@bia.gov>, Sarah Walters <sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov>, "Holley, Amy" <Amy_Holley@ios.doi.gov>, William Werkheiser <whwerkhe@usgs.gov>, David Murillo <DMurillo@usbr.gov>, Michael Reynolds <michael_reynolds@nps.gov>, Glenda Owens <gowens@osmre.gov>, Walter Cruickshank <walter.cruickshank@boem.gov>, Margaret Schneider <margaret.schneider@bsee.gov>, Kristin Bail <kbail@blm.gov>, Weldon Loudermilk <Bruce.Loudermilk@bia.gov>, "Dearman, Tony" <tony.dearman@bie.edu>, Stephen Guertin <Stephen_Guertin@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>
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--

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3833 S. Development Ave
Boise, ID 83705
208-387-5583 (w)
208-608-8331 (c)
shane_mcdonald@fws.gov

From: Andrew, Jonathan
To: Stephen Guertin; Charisa Morris
Subject: Possible Border Security Activity and Waiver
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 2:14:22 PM

Just wanted to clarify something on this - I spoke with Charisa earlier today but have had an ongoing discussion with SOL-excuse me if I am repeating myself Charisa...

We still do not know what will be proposed for new wall, fence etc. Regardless of what is proposed it is highly likely that DHS will invoke their waiver authority since this is the only way that work could proceed right away. If they do use the waiver there will be no NEPA, ESA, NHPA, refuge permits etc. required for work to begin. I know that the Secretary's office has been inquiring about things that may impede construction - I have gotten this question on several occasions and told them a waiver is very likely and we would not be in our usual role in environmental review.

I am around all week - let me know if you have any questions on this.

--
Jon Andrew
Interagency Borderlands Coordinator
Office of the Secretary
Department of the Interior

202-208-7431
202-320-0718 (cell)

From: Morris, Charisa
To: Andrew, Jonathan
Cc: Stephen Guertin
Subject: Re: Possible Border Security Activity and Waiver
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 2:52:02 PM

I just spoke with SOL; their concern was that we had referenced "a BO" as an example of something that could cause an impediment. We had perhaps used that example to represent the broader concept of identifying any critical issues that would require a conversation; we understand that under a waiver, we would not be issuing BOs.

On Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 5:14 PM, Andrew, Jonathan <jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> Just wanted to clarify something on this - I spoke with Charisa earlier today but have had an ongoing discussion with SOL-excuse me if I am repeating myself Charisa...
>
> We still do not know what will be proposed for new wall, fence etc. Regardless of what is proposed it is highly likely that DHS will invoke their waiver authority since this is the only way that work could proceed right away. If they do use the waiver there will be no NEPA, ESA, NHPA, refuge permits etc. required for work to begin. I know that the Secretary's office has been inquiring about things that may impede construction - I have gotten this question on several occasions and told them a waiver is very likely and we would not be in our usual role in environmental review.
>
> I am around all week - let me know if you have any questions on this.
>
> --
> Jon Andrew
> Interagency Borderlands Coordinator
> Office of the Secretary
> Department of the Interior
>
> 202-208-7431
> 202-320-0718 (cell)

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

From: Jonathan Andrew
To: Morris, Charisa
Cc: Stephen Guertin
Subject: Re: Possible Border Security Activity and Waiver
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 3:35:50 PM

OK - thanks. That helps.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 7, 2017, at 5:51 PM, Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> I just spoke with SOL; their concern was that we had referenced "a BO" as an example of something that could cause an impediment. We had perhaps used that example to represent the broader concept of identifying any critical issues that would require a conversation; we understand that under a waiver, we would not be issuing BOs.
>
> On Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 5:14 PM, Andrew, Jonathan <jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
>
> > Just wanted to clarify something on this - I spoke with Charisa earlier today but have had an ongoing discussion with SOL-excuse me if I am repeating myself Charisa...
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> > I am around all week - let me know if you have any questions on this.
> >
> > --
> > Jon Andrew
> > Interagency Borderlands Coordinator
> > Office of the Secretary
> > Department of the Interior
> >
> > 202-208-7431
> > 202-320-0718 (cell)

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 |
For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

From: Foster, Maureen
To: Aurelia Skipwith
Cc: Brian Pavlik; Greg Sheehan
Subject: Slides and TPs for tomorrow
Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 2:39:55 PM
Attachments: Biweekly bullets 2017-08-16.docx
ASFWP Briefing Slides 2017-08-16 rev.pptx

Attached are the slides and talking points for the biweekly briefing with the Deputy Secretary and other senior political leadership.

As Todd is on travel, Aurelia will be making the presentation; Greg and Brian are there for technical expertise.

Just to confirm for Greg and Brian, the meeting is in room 5160 and starts at 9:00 am.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks.

Maureen

Maureen D. Foster
Chief of Staff
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for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
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Washington, DC 20240

202.208.5970 (desk)
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Maureen_Foster@ios.doi.gov

Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Current Operations

- Secretarial event on deferred maintenance/backlog, August 25
- NPS
  - Revocation of Director's Order #100, *Resource Stewardship for the 21st Century,* week of August 14
  - Revocation of NPS Policy Memo 11-03, *Disposable Plastic Water Bottle Recycling and Reduction,* week of August 14
  - Eclipse viewing on the MIB roof with a NPS ranger, August 21 (1:17pm begins/2:42 maximum/4:01 ends)
- FWS
  - Wildlife Hunting and Heritage Council teleconference, August 30
  - Release of 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, late August

Fish and Wildlife and Parks

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- FWS
  - *Federal Register* notice stating import permits can be issued for African elephant trophy animals taken in Zimbabwe on or after January 21, 2016, through 2017, August.
  - Authorization of imports of wild and wild-managed lions from South Africa taken in 2017-2019, August.
  - 6-month extension of Final Determination on the Proposed Endangered Status for Texas Hornshell, August
  - National Wildlife Refuge Week, October 8-14, 2017.
- NPS
  - Release of Great Smoky Mountains National Park fire report, late August/early September
  - Golden Gate National Recreation Area Dog Walking Rule, under review by ASFWP
  - Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Off-Road Vehicle Proposed Rule, FR publication, August
  - U.S. Semiquincentennial (250th) Anniversary Commission establishment, September

Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Major Events and Travel

- Deputy Secretary David Bernhardt
  - Visit to Yellowstone National Park, August 17
- Acting Assistant Secretary Todd Willens
  - Visit to San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park, August 15
  - Speak at American Wildlife Conservation Partners, San Antonio, Texas, August 16
- Deputy Assistant Secretary Aurelia Skipwith
  - Attend and speak at Wild Horses and Burro event, Salt Lake City, Utah, August 22-25
- FWS Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan
  - Attend FWS leadership meeting in MIB/NoVa, August 15-16
  - Visit to Cape Romaine National Wildlife Refuge, South Carolina, with Representative Turner and Chairman Bishop, August 20-22
- Acting NPS Director Mike Reynolds
  - Attend solar eclipse events at Homestead National Monument of America, Nebraska, August 21
- Eclipse events at NPS and FWS sites across the United States, August 21

SLIDE 1

Secretarial event on deferred maintenance/backlog, August 25

- Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee; and Blue Ridge Parkway, North Carolina.
- Park visit with hike.
- Morning and afternoon press events.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Revocation of Director's Order #100, *Resource Stewardship for the 21st Century,* week of August 14

- During the week of August 14, the acting NPS director will revoke National Park Service (NPS) Director's Order # 100, *Resource Stewardship for the 21st Century*, which was signed December 20, 2016.
- The stated goal of Order #100 was to guide the NPS in taking the necessary actions to support resource stewardship to fulfill its mission in the 21st century.
- Secretary Zinke is leading a new, comprehensive initiative to identify Departmental priorities and to reorganize the Department for the next hundred years. The Department is working with all of the bureaus and offices, including the NPS, on this initiative. NPS Director's Order #100 is, therefore, already obsolete.
- Revoking this policy statement will eliminate confusion among the public and NPS employees about current NPS policy.

Revocation of NPS Policy Memo 11-03, *Disposable Plastic Water Bottle Recycling and Reduction,* week of August 14

- During the week of August 14, the acting NPS director will revoke NPS Director's Policy Memorandum 11-03 (*Disposable Plastic Water Bottle Recycling and Reduction*), which was signed on December 14, 2011.
- The Policy Memorandum stated that the use of disposable plastic water bottles had a greater environmental impact than the use of tap water and refillable bottles. It went on to say, however:

  > The issues surrounding plastic bottles are complex. Banning the sale of water bottles in national parks has great symbolism but runs counter to our healthy food initiative as it eliminates the healthiest choice for bottled drinks, leaving sugary drinks as a primary alternative. A ban could pose challenges for diabetics and others with health issues who come to a park expecting bottled water to be readily available. For parks without access to running water, filling stations for reusable bottles are impractical. A ban could affect visitor safety; proper hydration is key to planning a safe two-hour hike or a multi-day backcountry excursion. Even reasonably priced reusable water bottles may be out of reach for some visitors, especially those with large families.

- Secretary Zinke acknowledges the potential negative effects of banning the sale of plastic water bottles in the parks and believes the issue warrants further review. Revoking this policy memorandum will ensure that all facets of the issue are fully explored.
- This revocation is effective immediately and will be implemented throughout all parks.

Eclipse viewing on the MIB roof with a NPS ranger, August 21 (1:17pm begins/2:42 maximum/4:01 ends)

- The NPS will host an eclipse event at the Main Interior Building on Monday, August 21. NPS rangers will lead the viewing session on the roof (two sections) of the building. The eclipse begins in Washington, DC, at 1:17 pm, maximum eclipse (85 percent) at 2:42 pm, and ends at 4:01 pm.
- The NPS will provide eclipse viewing glasses for all participants.
- Accommodations are being arranged if attendance exceeds the capacity of the roof.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Wildlife Hunting and Heritage Conservation Council teleconference, August 30

- The Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council is an official advisory group established under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. It advises the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture on wildlife and habitat conservation, and recreational hunting issues.
- The Council is also responsible to help implement the Recreational Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Plan - A Ten Year Plan for Implementation (Executive Order 13443), which was developed in 2008.
- The Council works to assist the federal government in promoting hunting opportunities and the management of game species and their habitats.
- The Council consists of 18 members, appointed by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, plus seven ex officio members, who represent the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and six federal agencies: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Bureau of Land Management; National Park Service; U.S. Forest Service; Natural Resources Conservation Service; and Farm Service Agency.
- On August 30, the Council will hold a teleconference to discuss how best to implement Secretarial Order 3347, to increase outdoor recreation opportunities and asking federal bureaus and agencies to identify areas where recreational hunting can be expanded.

Release of 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, late August

- In August, FWS will release preliminary results of the 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation.
- The survey, conducted every five years since 1955 in partnership with state wildlife agencies and the Census Bureau, surveyed more than 7,000 households nationwide. Participants were given detailed interviews about their participation and expenditures in

2016 related to hunting, angling, wildlife watching and other wildlife-associated recreational pursuits.

- Release of the preliminary report is eagerly awaited by the conservation community and the outdoor recreation industry, because of the detailed snapshot it provides of public engagement with wildlife and the outdoors.
- A final, more detailed national report will be issued in January 2018. Significant media and congressional interest is also expected. Outreach is planned.

SLIDE TWO

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

***Federal Register* notice stating import permits can be issued for African elephant trophy animals taken in Zimbabwe on or after January 21, 2016, through 2017, August.**

- At the end of August, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a change to the permitting status for imports of African elephant trophies from Zimbabwe.
- In 2014 and 2015, FWS was unable to determine that the hunting programs and subsequent imports of African elephant trophies from Zimbabwe met criteria under ESA regulations, so FWS could not authorize the issuance of import permits.
- After receiving information from Zimbabwe on a number of substantial improvements to their management program and elephant conservation efforts, FWS has determined that taking of African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe on or after January 21, 2016 (the date that Zimbabwe's new management plan was officially adopted) through 2017 would enhance the survival of African elephants, and import permits can be issued for these trophies.
- Planned outreach includes a news release, comprehensive FAQs and social media.

Authorization of imports of wild and wild-managed lions from South Africa taken in 2017-2019, August.

- In August, FWS will announce that after reviewing updated information, it will again authorize imports of wild and wild-managed lions from South Africa taken during 2017-2019.
- In 2016, FWS listed the lion in eastern and southern Africa as threatened under the ESA.
- FWS contacted each of the countries within this region that have conducted trophy lion hunts in the past few years to obtain information on the country's lion population, management of lions, and how sport hunting has contributed to survival of the species.
- FWS then authorized the import of wild and wild managed lion sport-hunted trophies in 2016.
- Outreach in the form of a blog is planned.

6-month extension of Final Determination on the Proposed Endangered Status for Texas Hornshell, August

- The FWS will publish a six-month extension on the final determination to list the Texas hornshell as an endangered species. The Texas hornshell is a freshwater mussel in New Mexico, Texas, and Mexico that was proposed as an endangered species on August 10, 2016.
- In May 2017, the comment period was reopened in May 2017 in order to hold public hearings. They were held in Laredo, Texas, and Carlsbad, New Mexico, on June 13 and 15, 2017.
- The FWS has coordinated repeatedly with Customs and Border Protections and the International Boundary and Water Commission regarding effects on upcoming projects,

including a potential border wall. Customs and Border Protection has indicated that direct impacts to the hornshell from the types of wall construction as have done in the past would be unlikely because the hornshells occur in the river where construction is not possible.

- Candidate Conservation Agreements and Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances have been developed, and we anticipate that a number of affected landowners will sign up

National Wildlife Refuge Week, October 8-14, 2017.

- In early September, FWS will announce National Wildlife Refuge Week, which will take place October 8-14 2017.
- Refuge Week is an annual celebration of the nation's wildlife conservation heritage and the national wildlife refuges that protect it.
- The timing provides notice for print and online media to announce the annual celebration and regional events for the public to plan ahead, as well as for the regions and refuges to begin preparing additional promotional information.
- Outreach, including a press release, is planned.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Release of Great Smoky Mountains National Park fire report, late August/early September

- The Chimney Tops 2 Fire was the largest fire in the history of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
- The National Park Service established an independent fire review team that has completed a Significant Wildland Fire Review report, which is one part of the effort to understand the full story of the fire both inside the park and beyond park boundaries. This report will support the broader effort among federal, state and local to understand the fire through the ongoing *Sevier County Fires After Action Review (AAR).*
- The fire review team focused on the portion of the Chimney Tops 2 fire that burned within the boundaries of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The fire review is not an investigation, but it is intended to help us understand what happened and how we can prevent it from happening again. The review report does not cover the response to Sevier County fires, but it will be part of the broader effort to understand the full scope of what happened on November 23. A separate process will be used for reviewing the larger response effort by all agencies in the Sevier County area. A date has not been scheduled for that work, but discussions are underway.
- Briefings for the Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, the Deputy Secretary and the Secretary are being scheduled prior to the release of the final report.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Dog Walking Rule, under review by ASFWP

- Following the release of the Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Dog Management Plan at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in December 2016, the NPS learned that a former employee used a personal email account to communicate with outside parties, and did not forward those communications to a government e-mail account.
- In January 2017, the NPS commissioned an independent review panel of three government officials from non-NPS federal agencies (OEPC, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, and the Bureau of Land Management) with expertise in environmental planning, rulemaking and National Environmental Policy Act procedures to review this use of personal email. They were asked to evaluate and report on how these emails may have impacted the planning, rulemaking process, and environmental impact study, and make recommendations on how best to proceed given the significant body of work to date – including thousands of comments and more than a decade of analysis. Both CEQ and OIG declined to participate in the review.
- The review panel was given access to all records and information associated with the planning, rulemaking and environmental review conducted on the Dog Management Plan. The NPS has received the report from the team and briefed Acting Assistant Secretary Willens. Following more than ten years of public engagement, including more than 4,100 comments, and investment in a process intended to balance the needs of all park users, the findings of this independent review team will help the NPS determine the best path forward to meet the needs of all park visitors at Golden Gate NRA.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Off-Road Vehicle Proposed Rule, FR publication, August

- The National Park Service has prepared a proposed rule governing off-road vehicle use at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. The NPS is required to publish a special regulation pursuant to the terms of a court-approved 2008 Settlement Agreement. The rule would require a special use permit to operate a motor vehicle off-road in selected locations and designate routes and areas where motor vehicles may be used off-road. The rule would establish management prescriptions for off-road vehicle (ORV) use, including speed limits and quiet hours. The rule would allow the Superintendent to implement other closures or restrictions to maintain visitor safety, protect resources, and meet management objectives. The rule would allow certain types of ORVs on some paved and unpaved roads.
- The rule would comply with the terms of a 2008 Settlement Agreement between the NPS and Friends of the Earth, the National Parks Conservation Association, and Wildlands CPR, which required the NPS to develop an environmental impact statement and a special regulation for ORV use at the Recreation Area. This rule would conclude a 7-year planning process by implementing the preferred alternative in the January 2017 ORV Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement.

- The rule may be somewhat controversial. ORV user groups are likely to oppose any closures of existing routes and areas. Utah counties strongly favor vehicle access and local users have vocalized opposition to any limitations on ORV use. During alternatives development, public meetings were well attended by ORV enthusiasts. Environmental organizations oppose continued ORV use.
- The proposed rule has been reviewed and surnamed by ASFWP and is currently with the Office of the Executive Secretariat for final DOI review and approval.

U.S. Semiquincentennial (250th) Anniversary Commission establishment, September

- Public Law 114-196 established the United States Semiquincentennial Commission to "plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the history of the United States leading up to the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States." The Secretary of the Interior serves as an ex officio member to the Commission.
- This law directs the Secretary of the Interior to undertake a study of actions that could be taken to further preserve and develop historic sites and battlefields to ensure that appropriate observances and exhibits may be held during the 250th commemoration. The Secretary is to submit a report containing the results of the study to the Commission. The law also instructs the Commission to use the Secretary's study to develop a report with recommendations to the President and Congress within two years of its formation.
- The Secretary is directed to competitively seek a nonprofit partner who will provide financial and administrative support and serve as the secretariat to the Commission. The National Park Service is assisting with this effort.
- Brian Pavlik is the point of contact for the Commission until the Secretary appoints his representative.

From:	Jesup, Benjamin
To:	Stephen Guertin; Jim Kurth; Romanik, Peg; Charisa Morris
Cc:	Helen Speights; Joan Goldfarb; Kimberly Fondren; Larry Mellinger; Linus Chen; Lynn Long; Nada Naseri; Nancy Brown-Kobil; Philip Kline; Russell Husen; Shawn Finley
Subject:	Fish and Wildlife Branch workload reports
Date:	Thursday, October 19, 2017 6:05:09 AM
Attachments:	Long Report 18 Oct 2017.docx Finley Report 10.18.2017 (1).docx Brown-Kobil.Oct16-20.2017.docx Chen Report 101817 track changes.docx Goldfarb Report - 10-18-2017.docx Speights Report October 18 2017.docx Kline Report (10-18).docx Naseri report-Oct 18 2017.docx Fondren101817.docx

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See you at 11:30.

Ben

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Ben Jesup
Assistant Solicitor for Fish and Wildlife
Solicitor's Office
Department of the Interior
202-208-3170

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Lynn Long

The Long Report – October 18, 2017

In addition to participating in scheduled meetings and handling immediate requests for advice from FWS, I expect to work on the following:

Within two weeks:

- Provide ongoing legal support on FWS's ITDS ACE implementation.
  - Attended COAC meeting Oct 6
  - Working on update for Rick (with Sheila)
- [redacted]
- Reviewed Indian Arts & Crafts Act language on "investigation" and compare to other statutes LE provisions
  - Met with Dominic Malone on the draft amendment (Sept 15)
  - ~~Worked through Dominic's revisions & suggestions~~
  - ~~Walked through reward account/fund language with General Law (Tony Irish)~~
  - Submitted final language to Dominic – awaiting to hear if any further action items
- MOUs
  - Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network (CaribWEN) MOU (with Russ)
    - Reviewed updated version circulated Oct 3
  - CBP's National Targeting Center for FWS-OLE
    - Reviewed draft from CBP & provided comments to FWS-OLE
    - Waiting for edits/comments from FWS-OLE – pinged Phil for his edits/comments
- RTPs
  - Crow Tribe: assigned May 31 ~~– talked to Kim about edits (Sept. 7 & 11) – working on final edits – reviewed with Ben & Kim (Sept 28)~~
    - Submitted updated draft to DIA Oct 12
  - Navajo: assigned June 6 talked to Kim about edits (Sept 7 & 11) – working on final edits – reviewed with Ben & Kim (Sept 28)
    - Generally researched abrogation
    - Submitted updated draft Oct 3
  - Three Affiliated Tribes Nation: assigned Oct 2 – working on 1st draft
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- Litigation support to ENRD appellate for *Obendorfer v. United States* (9th Cir.) – Defendant's reply received – awaiting moot court date
  - 9th Circuit put on calendar for oral arguments in February 2018

- Reviewing Chief's Directives – (on hold b/c no SAC-INV)
  - retirement credentials – 1st edits done & returned to OLE (July 28) – no update
  - vehicle pursuits – returned comments & edits to OLE (Aug 7) – no update
- Met with Elinor on forfeiture sales issue (July 12)
  - Editing response paper; found new documentation (SOL documents and CAFRA legislative history) to support arguments
  - ~~Meeting~~ Discussed with Elinor ~~again to discuss her white paper (TBD)~~ Oct 16
  - Agreed with Elinor to table
- Briefing paper on *Ziglar v. Abbasi* with Roland – assigned July 26
  - *Abbasi* to be discussed at next LE Practice Group meeting (date TBD)
- Responded to GAO Questions (Aug 8)
  - Responded to final follow-up (Sept. 12)
- NAFTA negotiations with Joan – assigned Aug 1
  - Continue to provide feedback on wildlife trafficking & other environmental language
  - ~~Round 4 in DC (week of Oct 9)~~
- Civil penalties & back fees issue – working on briefing for OLE (assigned Aug 10) & talked to Kim (Sept 7)
  - Initial research complete – working on first draft
- Received inquiry from CA Dept. Fish & Wildlife attorneys on ivory law/rules in relation to new CA state law on ivory
  - ~~Worked through questions (w/Russ) and developed draft talking points~~
  - ~~Had call Sept 29~~
  - Developing draft white paper on ESA § 6(f) in relation to preemption
  - Received follow-up questions
- ~~Will attend inaugural call for SOL NEPA working group (Oct 11)~~ Done

Within 4-6 weeks:

- Continue drafting Part 14 regulations. Working with Sheila on developing a first draft
- Finalizing response to comments on proposed Part 12 regulations. Revamping work on Part 12 regs with Nada

Ongoing/Future:

- Continue discussions on proposed CBP/Canada cargo pre-clearance program. – No new update from CBP

I am unaware of any projects that I won't complete.

Privileged and Confidential: Attorney-Client Communication and Attorney Work Product

Upcoming Workload Priorities
Shawn Finley
October 18, 2017

This Week

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--Follow-up with DOJ on whether Plaintiffs have responded to FWS's counter settlement proposal in the predacide litigation.

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--Finished legal review of the MMPA stock assessment report for the Washington stock of Northern Sea Otters.

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-- Continue to assist and advise on proposed terms for settlement of the legal challenges to the adverse modification and critical habitat rules brought by the States and Industry (w. Goldfarb)

Within Four Weeks

--Provide legal review of draft biological opinion on chlorpyrifos (w. Brown-Kobil).

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--Read Oregon District Court Opinion regarding EPA's approval of TMDL under the CWA as subject to consultation under the ESA Section 7(a)(2)

--Read recent ND Cal District Court opinion involving claims against EPA under the ESA and FIFRA re: 59 pesticides.

--Continue to provide document review of responsive materials to CBD's request for FWS's "decision file" for the adverse modification rule.

--Organize files, including files received from Holly Wheeler and Mike Young.

Longer Term

-- Prepare for the US-Russia Polar Bear Commission annual meeting. This year, Russia is scheduled to host the meeting, but it will take place via a teleconference call (likely to last only 2 hours). The US and Russia are working to schedule the call sometime during the week of November 20.

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Nancy Brown-Kobil

Weekly Report 10/16-10/20/17

This week:

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~~3.~~2. Continue Solicitor ~~Read and~~ review of draft chlorpyrifos BiOP. ~~Meet with ES on ITS approach on October 3.~~

3. ~~Begin reviewing~~Review administrative record in *WildEarth Guardians v. Zinke/CBD v. USFWS* (D.Mont.) due 12/15/17.

~~4. Read and digest complaint in *City of Palm Beach v. USCOE* (D.D.C.)~~

~~5. Assist in Answer to Amended Complaint in Black Creek Mine permit.~~

Coming Weeks:

~~1. Meet with ES on ITS question on pesticide consultation week of October 2.~~

~~2.~~1. Monthly meetings with ASLM and ASFWP on status of reinitiation.

~~3.~~2. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP

~~4.~~3. Review briefs and documents withheld in FEMA consultation litigation over flood insurance in California counties. Third Amended Complaint filed May 15.

~~5. Administrative record due to SOL office on October 1 in *WildEarth Guardians v. Zinke* and *CBD v. USFWS* (D. Mont. consolidated cases)~~

~~6.~~4. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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Linus Chen's Work Priorities

1 Week:

Item	Due Date
Cormorant Environmental Action Statement template for CatExs	Currently drafting
Refuge specific hunt regulations draft final rule	ASAP, w/ front office
CBRA Hurricane Sandy Mapping Project Packag	ASAP, early copy received, not in DTS yet

Within 4-weeks:

Item	Due Date
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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP	Reviewing BJC comments
(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP	Comments sent 9/29
Fur Bearer ESA sec 7/CITES litigation, review of the Administrative Record	Mid-Nov; certify deadline 12/15

Over 4-weeks:

Item	Due Date
Nationwide Pesticide consultation; ~~possible response to DowAg's letter;~~ compliance with settlement agreement deadlines; assist w/ FOIA response.	Ongoing
Review draft EA for resident Canada geese Agricultural Depredation Order	Comments to FWS 6/20
Recovery Plan implementation litigation risk analysis	ASAP

Litigation items awaiting result

Item	Date
Tamarisk Beetle Case (CBD v. Vilsak); Assisting Nancy Brown-Kobil, FWS providing APHIS recovery tasks	Order issued 8/1, no FWS violation, responding to motion to order injunction
Hymas litigation; Assisting Sherry Kaswell	hearing 9/14

SL/Telework:

AL: 12/26-29

NCTC:

November 3, Friday, HCP Course, SOL session

Workload Report – October 18, 2017

Joan Goldfarb

Assignments for This Week

1) Regulations
   - When Helen has ~~D~~developed updated legal review checklist for listing determinations, review
   - ~~Talk to Sarah about making sure that the Species Assessment Forms provide the Service's analysis on the legal standards~~
   - Finish consolidated advice on Required Determinations and E.O. 13771, and communicate with PPM, Exec., FWS, and RO attorneys; address government-to-government issue
     - Respond to government-to-government relations email
   - Respond to Dana J. question about cumulative threats
   - Clear out any DTS items
   - Complete review of eastern puma delisting rule, especially taxonomy aspect
   - Preliminary review of where-listed corrections
   - Research case law on APA Section 705 (potentially for grizzly)
   - Research case law on "amending" or "revising" a final rule
   - Review BOEM comments on NOAA false killer whale CH asap

2) Litigation
   - Bi-State Sage-Grouse—Review draft SJ brief; respond to DOJ questions
   - WGL Wolf—Keep apprised of fees negotiations
   - Bonecave harvestman—Work with Frank Lupo and FWS on developing responses to plaintiffs' and intervenors' briefs
   - For dusky gopher frog attorney at DOJ, work with FWS to identify any examples of instances where the agency thought about what "habitat" means, and concluded that it is more broad than just places where the species currently lives or could live
   - Critical Habitat/Adverse Mod Case
     - Keep apprised of Deputy Solicitor efforts to get NOAA concurrence on draft settlement letter and send letter to DOJ, as well as DOJ efforts to negotiate with plaintiffs; ~~After policy team weighs in, incorporate any revisions to draft settlement letter and finalize upon SOL and ASFWP approval;~~ review FWS settlement memo as needed
   - Grizzly—Continue to work with Tyson and FWS on next steps in light of WGL wolf and CY decisions; provide assistance on no-appeal recommendation as needed
   - Continue to work with SOL and FWS on negotiating fees in WGL wolf case
   - Read eagle decision
   - Continue to work with Veronica on 3 Sierra amphibians challenge to "new" approach to reg-flex analysis for CH determination
   - Gunnison Sage-Grouse—Get direction on settlement request letter; if policy team concur with settlement, finalize letter; synthesize conversations and documents from FWS and NOAA/OGC regarding affirmative and responsive arguments on SPR Policy, coordinate with FWS and NOAA, and to provide outline to DOJ
   - Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout—Talk to Dana J. about record question.

- Keep any settlement memos and agreements moving through the office

3) Legislation—

4) FOIA and Administrative Record Issues
   - Check on parameters of referral process to evaluate whether an agreement with NMFS privilege review for SPR Policy documents would exceed those parameters; review draft of agreement with NMFS

5) Listing Program and Policy Work
   - ~~Review FWS summary of approach to evaluating taxonomic information~~
   - ~~Provide any final advice as the terminology draft gets distributed more widely within FWS/SOL; participate in next team call~~
   - Nail down DOJ position on SPR Policy vacatur
   - Participate in any follow-up on Kristen Floom's question about req'd determinations
   - Talk to Sarah Quamme about SOL review protocol and best package tracking document
   - Complete review of Helen's summary of the WGL wolf decision and send her comments
   - Review Maggie's draft Commerce Clause memo
   - Work with FWS on understanding SAT approach to evaluating rangewide status of species

6) Regular Tracking Activities
   - Compile listing and critical habitat deadline information for weekly report
   - Work with Parks on improved case tracking; get input from Ben and Peg
   - Participate in next ESA Litigation and Attorneys ~~e~~Calls (10/19 and 11/9~~/14~~)

7) Administrative Tasks
   - Prepare for performance review
   - Work with Helen to figure out which cases/matters would be good candidates for her to work on and which would be good for both of us to work on
   - Work with Ben and Helen on better process for the three of us to keep up with litigation deadlines

Assignments for Next 4 Weeks

1) Review Branch Practice Area Chart and Provide Comments

2) Regulations
   - Review December batch of 12-month findings

~~2)~~3) Listing Program and Policy Work
   - Complete review and surname of response to petition to remove blanket 4(d) rule
   - Classification handbook – review relevant case law to assist in advising FWS
   - Hear back from Helen about FWS approach to DPS issues we discussed; have conversation with FWS/Q →

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- Check in with FWS/Kelly about putting a list of state contacts on their website, to address concerns expressed over the new petition regs.
- Participate in monthly SAT/SSA Calls
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- Work with FWS to Identify Actual Deadlines for Next 6 Months
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~~3)~~4) Litigation
- Review Patagonia silk moth NOI and brief Ben on its contents
- ~~Review northern long-eared bat reply brief (due 9/8)~~

~~4)~~5) FOIA and Administrative Record Issues
- Deliberative process privilege scope (review draft standard of practice from FWS)
- Read New FOIA/DPP Amendments
- Work with DOJ and Tyson Santos on improved attorneys' fees reporting

Pending Assignments for Beyond Next 4 Weeks

1) Listing Program and Policy Work
   - (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
   - Complete Review of Revised FWS Petition Guidance
   - Participate in FIT and SAT meetings
   - (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP
2) Sage-Grouse
   - Continue discussions of state role in SSA
3) Develop concept paper on incorporating conflict management or ADR into the process for developing and implementing the work plan
   - Set up meeting with FWS to brainstorm
4) (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
5) Tracking Activities, Back-Up Review
6) Coordinate with FWS Regarding Tracking of EAJA Fees
7) Take FWS webinar on Species Status Assessment process
8) Continue developing Section 4 Reference Library for Google Docs

Speights Weekly Activity Report for Week of October 18, 2017

Main Activities this week:

1. [redacted]

2. Golden conure deadline litigation: Draft Agreement shared with Plaintiff. Awaiting comments and then will share final draft with Service/Ben/Peg/Rick. Review motion for two-week extension of answer.

3. USARK Litigation: Service will agree to pay 150K if plaintiff moves to dismiss with prejudice the remaining claim on merits of rule. Review/edit draft settlement agreement.

4. [redacted]

5. [redacted]

~~3.~~6. [redacted]

~~4.~~7. Assist Joan in counseling Service regarding FR notices for not warranted petition findings. Research related case law to inform guidance.

8. Continue to add ESA decisions to law digest.

9. Work on updated checklist for solicitor review of ESA listing and critical habitat packages.

~~5.~~10. Conduct mandatory DOI Learn training.

~~6. Review draft answer and serve as point of contact for S7 litigation assigned to SE SOL while lead attorney is away for 2 weeks. Black Warrior Riverkeeper, Inc. v. USACE (N.D. Ala.)(Black Creek Mine).~~

Anticipated Priority Work Items for the Next 4 Weeks and Longer Term

1. Counsel the Service related to the litigation for failure to make a 12-month finding on the golden conure.

~~1.~~ Counsel Service in response to complaint for negative 90-day finding on petition to list *homo sapiens* as endangered or threatened species under ESA. ~~Trying to confirm whether US Attorney's office was properly served. If not, will move to dismiss.~~

2. Work on updated checklist for solicitor review of ESA listing and critical habitat packages.
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4. Provide final legal review of direct final rule outlining technical corrections for listed domestic species.
5. USARK litigation briefing of merits and resolution of fees related to claims challenging Service's interpretation of transport provision.
6. Provide legal summaries of decisions issued involving ESA Section 4 challenges. Seek to update and maintain list of Section 4 decisions by topic.
7. Research issues related to Service's responsibility to translate and consider data submitted in another language via APA notice and comment procedures.

Philip Kline Weekly Report (10/18/17):

Current Week:

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- Hawaii Longline Permit litigation - Received court order requesting supplemental briefing on whether any deference is owed to FWS's agency practice of issuing special purpose permits to cover incidental take of migratory birds under the MBTA. The Court also asks whether any deference is owed to the suspended M-Opinion explaining how the MBTA prohibits incidental take of migratory birds and its summary of past agency practice.
    - Reviewing supplemental brief and advising DoJ and the Department on the contents of the brief. Elevated review to SOL management for review of arguments relating to withdrawn M-Opinion on whether MBTA applies to incidental take.
    - Requested 14-day filing extension to provide time for proper briefing of management. DoJ motion granted by court.
    - Tracked down all FWS special purpose permits issued that authorize incidental take.
    - SOL management provided review.
    - Supplemental brief filed on May 22nd.
    - Supplemental briefing complete. Awaiting court decision.
    - Provided DoJ with an update on the status of SOL review of the temporarily-suspended M-Opinion.

- Pygmy-owl/SPR Litigation – District court issued opinion vacating and remanding the Services' SPR Policy and pygmy-owl no warranted finding, which relied on the Policy.

- Draft Motion for Reconsideration filed on April 26th. Requested that court clarify the scope of vacatur order.
- Plaintiffs filed response late on May 15th. Reviewed response and provided comments to DoJ.
- Our reply filed on May 22nd. Requested update of weekly litigation report if necessary.
- Awaiting court's ruling on our motion for reconsideration.

- EWAC v. Zinke – Status report delivered to the court on August 27th. This case challenging the basis for FWS's incidental take permit regulation under the Eagle Act was voluntarily stayed by Plaintiff shortly after it was filed two years ago. Parties agreed to continue the stay.

- Barred Owl Permit litigation – 9th Circuit oral argument. Assisted DoJ in prepping for argument and moot court on September 28th. Oral argument occurred on October 5th. DoJ reported that it went very well. Awaiting opinion.

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- ANILCA – Assuming lead role for issues related to this statute in the Branch. Coordinating with Jason Waanders in the National Parks Branch. Alaska Regional Office is putting together background reading material for me to get up to speed. Reviewing materials. Ongoing.

- Tribal ESA Training in Phoenix (October) – Will present on issues related to FOIA and sharing of information during consultations between Indian tribes and the federal government in the context of the ESA and also the Eagle Act and MBTA. Updated presentation from previous training. Developed presentation on MBTA/Eagle Act/ Lacey Act to fill in for another presenter who can't make the training. Delivered both presentations on Thursday and worked with tribal representatives on addressing their information confidentiality concerns.

- NEPA Working Group (SOL) – Attended inaugural session reviewing new Executive and Secretarial Orders on streamlining of NEPA for infrastructure projects. Will develop future topic on issues that come up for NEPA analysis of incidental take permits under ESA and the Eagle Act.

Next Three Months:

- Wind projects – Continuing to advise R1 and HQ on issues relating to review of several wind-energy projects in the region, including reviewing EA for the Horse Butte and other wind project. FWS webinar with the wind industry and other stakeholders to discuss updating the fatality prediction model with new data.
- CFPO Litigation – Draft appeal recommendation after court rules on motion for reconsideration.
- (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
- *Public Citizen v. Trump* – DPW F&W Branch lead for reviewing plaintiffs' summary judgement motion in this case challenging the so-called Two-for-One Executive Order. Developed and submitted response to DoJ request for examples of categories of statutes that DPW's client agencies implement. Briefing complete. May need to provide DOJ future updates regarding any development of rulemakings affected by the challenged Executive Order.
- Reviewing ANILCA materials provided by the Alaska Regional Office. Gaining sufficient knowledge to represent the Branch of Fish and Wildlife on any ANILCA-related issues.
- Tribal Consultation on Grizzly Bear DPS delisting – Advising Denver Regional Office on engaging in adequate tribal consultation that complies with Departmental policy and applicable case law.

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Nada Naseri workload summary, week of 10/18/17:

In addition to my participation in weekly meetings and handling immediate requests for help or advice that may come up, I expect to work on the following this week:

- (b)(5) DPP, (b)(7)(A) (b)(5) DPP, (b)(7)(A) (b)(5) DPP, (b)(7)(A) (b)(5) DPP, (b)(7)(A) (b)(5) DPP, (b)(7)(A)
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- Edited MOU between FWS OLE and New Mexico Game and Fish
- (b)(5) DPP, (b)(7)(A) (b)(5) DPP, (b)(7)(A) (b)(5) DPP, (b)(7)(A) (b)(5) DPP, (b)(7)(A) (b)(5) DPP, (b)(7)(A)
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- Researching and drafting letter re: law enforcement intelligence sharing for FWS OLE; reached out to records manager for FWS to obtain delegation memo
- Responding to DOJ re: responses to interrogatories and requests for production in US v. Robert Brace; spoke with original biologist and DOJ attorneys; ~~meeting with Rachel Spector to discuss~~issued litigation hold
- (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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- Editing memo re: forfeiture of collateral schedule in Texas; discussed with AFMLS;
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- Updating template for MOU for cooperative law enforcement between FWS and other law enforcement agencies
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Long-Term Projects/Research

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Fondren -Weekly 10/18/17

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4. Review of declarations in case of litigation with Catharsis involving 47-foot-tall (she's grown 2 feet) naked woman statue proposed for placement on National Mall as part of New Age religion protest/religious event.
5. Review of restitution order in Criminal Damage on Refuge case.
6. (b) (7)(A)(b) (7)(A)(b) (7)(A)(b) (7)(A)(b) (7)(A)(b) (7)(A)(b) (7)(A)(b) (7)(A)(b) (7)(A)(b) (7)(A) (b) (7)(A)
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Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

Fwd: POB Info: Status of FY 2018 Appropriations

Gillian Fay <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Wed, Nov 8, 2017 at 5:27 PM
To: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Salwasser, Kimberly" <kimberly_salwasser@ios.doi.gov>
Date: November 8, 2017 at 1:40:43 PM PST
To: Joseph Majewski <jmajewski@blm.gov>, Mark Koontz <Mark_Koontz@nps.gov>, Gillian Fay <gillian_fay@fws.gov>, Linda Tatum <linda.tatum@bia.gov>, "Kishpaugh, Amy" amy ki hpaugh@io doi gov
Cc: Judy Mitchell <judy.mitchell@bia.gov>, Paula Landon <paula.landon@bia.gov>, "Grayshield, Adrian" <adrian.Grayshield@bia.gov>, Lisa McDevitt <lmcdevit@blm.gov>, Thao Tran <thao_tran@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Fwd: POB Info: Status of FY 2018 Appropriations

FYI late t on the FY 2018 appropriation tatu

Kimberly Salwa er, CPA
Budget Accountability Analyst
Office of Wildland Fire
Office: 208-334-1554
Mobile 208 407 6317
kimberly_salwasser@ios.doi.gov
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DOI Office of Wildland Fire

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Moss, Adrianne** <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>
Date Wed, Nov 8, 2017 at 2 30 PM
Subject: POB Info: Status of FY 2018 Appropriations
To: DOI_Bureau_Budget_Officers <doi_bureau_budget_officers@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>

All,

The article below provide the mo t current tate of play on FY 2018 appropriation action

Spending caps deal unlikely before Thanksgiving

By Sarah Ferris

11/08/2017 04:16 PM EDT

Congressional leaders have little hope of striking a deal on spending caps before Thanksgiving, almost certainly setting up another stopgap extension in December, according to top appropriators and aides.

Leaders in both chambers have spent weeks haggling over how much to spend on military and domestic programs in fiscal 2018. But with the GOP's tax overhaul plans taking center stage, a deal on the overarching funding levels isn't expected to be unveiled until late November at the earliest, putting the federal government on track for a stopgap spending bill that could last weeks, if not months.

Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.) said Wednesday that GOP leaders told him not to expect topline spending levels until after Congress' weeklong break this month, dashing hopes of passing a comprehensive appropriations bill before government funding runs out on Dec. 8.

A multi-week continuing resolution is "likely," as House Speaker Paul Ryan aims now for a deal no later than New Year's to fund the government for the remainder of the fiscal year, Cole said.

But a senior Republican aide privy to the process said even that time frame is unlikely, instead predicting a February omnibus as the best-case scenario.

"No way 2-3 weeks is realistic," the aide said by email, adding that it would take at least a month, "more likely two," to hammer out final spending details between the House and Senate.

That process includes several weeks of subcommittee negotiations, drafting and scoring the actual bill, and allotting floor time in both chambers. Final leadership-level negotiations — on highly controversial items like a "DREAMers" deal, border wall funding and Obamacare subsidies — could drag out the process even longer, the GOP aide warned.

The topline spending levels are long overdue for House and Senate appropriators, who have been forced to hit pause on negotiating their individual spending bills as they await a leadership-level deal.

"Sometimes it's lost on some people that the appropriators just can't waive a magic wand and create a product. This does take time," Steve Womack (R-Ark.) — a contender to be the House Budget Committee's next chairman — said Wednesday afternoon, adding that "we're at" the point when spending leaders need to have topline numbers to stand a chance at negotiating a funding package by the Dec. 8 deadline.

Most subcommittee leaders say they haven't been able to start internal negotiations at all without knowing their total spending level. And the Senate Appropriations Committee has yet to introduce or mark up four of its 12 annual funding bills.

As chairman of the Homeland Security subcommittee, Sen. John Boozman (R-Ark.) is in charge of one of those lagging measures. Without caps, he said, his panel can't begin formal discussions with House lawmakers.

"People, even though we haven't marked up, have been talking," Boozman said. "But it's a challenge."

Rep. Mike Simpson (R-Idaho), who confirmed the delayed timeline, said he's increasingly anxious as days dwindle in the countdown to government shutdown.

"We could get this done by Dec. 8 if we have a number," Simpson said Tuesday night. "But apparently we're not going to get a number until after Thanksgiving."

This year's talks are particularly divisive because Congress must also repeal sequester-era funding caps to boost spending.

Jennifer Scholtes contributed to this report.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail

Mcdonald, Shane <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>

Fwd: POB Info: Another CR likely as Hill focuses on tax overhaul

2 messages

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 8:09 AM
To: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, Robert Eaton <robert_eaton@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>

FYI, everyone is expecting another CR - possibly through the end of December or into 2018.

****

Gillian Fay
Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Salwasser, Kimberly** <kimberly_salwasser@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 7:25 AM
Subject: Fwd: POB Info: Another CR likely as Hill focuses on tax overhaul
To: Joseph Majewski <jmajewski@blm.gov>, Mark Koontz <Mark_Koontz@nps.gov>, Gillian Fay <gillian_fay@fws.gov>, Linda Tatum <linda.tatum@bia.gov>, "Kishpaugh, Amy" <amy_kishpaugh@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Thao Tran <thao_tran@ios.doi.gov>, Judy Mitchell <judy.mitchell@bia.gov>, Paula Landon <paula.landon@bia.gov>, "Grayshield, Adrian" <adrian.Grayshield@bia.gov>, Lisa McDevitt <lmcdevit@blm.gov>

FYI....FY 2018 budget update.

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DOI Office of Wildland Fire

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Moss, Adrianne** <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 7:17 AM
Subject: POB Info: Another CR likely as Hill focuses on tax overhaul
To: DOI_Bureau_Budget_Officers <doi_bureau_budget_officers@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>

FYI. According to the article below we're looking ahead to another CR after December 8 and the prognosis for a Senate Interior mark up is not clear.

APPROPRIATIONS

Another CR likely as Hill focuses on tax overhaul

George Cahlink, E&E News reporter
Published: Tuesday, November 14, 2017

With tax overhaul efforts dominating Capitol Hill, lawmakers say it's likely Congress will need to pass stopgap spending legislation to avoid a government shutdown next month.

House and Senate appropriators say they do not have enough time to negotiate a final bicameral deal before current funding expires Dec. 8. Those lawmakers suggest the most l kely scenario is that Congress would pass another short-term funding measure, known as a continuing resolution (CR).

A stopgap would mean the Energy, Interior and Commerce departments and other agencies, among them U.S. EPA, would continue to be funded at fiscal 2017 spending levels until a final accord is hammered out.

A CR would also avoid a government shutdown, a scenario neither Democrats nor Republicans favor. Several appropriators said they believe a CR running through the end of December would get bipartisan backing.

However, lawmakers did not rule out the stopgap spilling into 2018, if House and Senate leaders cannot soon agree on overall spending levels. They said they are aiming to have all 12 of the annual spending bills in the final omnibus package.

Debate on tax reform is delaying negotiations on a year-end spending accord. Wikipedia (money); Ed Uthman/Flickr (Capitol)

"I think right now we are focusing on taxes, and then probably after that we'll focus on the approps," said Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.), a senior appropriator, who said he prefers a short-term CR through the end of the year rather than pushing off the work into 2018.

Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), another senior appropriator, agreed that spending talks are being crowded out. "With the Trump tax plan front and center and taking up all of our attention and time for the next several weeks, we are going to be bumping up against the Dec. 8 deadline," he said.

Asked about the fiscal 2018 Interior-EPA bill, Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), head of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee with jurisdiction over the agencies, said she's ready to mark it up but concedes it faces long odds. Her bill is one of only four yet to surface in the Senate.

Murkowski agreed the focus on taxes has taken time away from spending work. "It kind of feels l ke [taxes are the priority]. I don't like to say that out loud because we worked so hard to make sure as a subcommittee we had done our work, and we really have. Now, we need to be able to finish up that last step, which is going to markup," she said last week.

Fiscal 2018 spending bills

Bill	House	Senate
Agriculture	$20 billion	$20.5 billion
Commerce, Justice, Science	$54 billion	$53.4 billion
Defense	$658.1 billion	NA*
Energy and Water	$37.6 billion	$38.4 billion
Financial Services	$20.2 billion	NA*
Homeland Security	$44.3 billion	NA*
Interior and Environment	$31.4 billion	NA*
Labor, HHS and Education	$156 billion	$164.1 billion
Legislative Branch	$3.6 billion	$3.2 billion
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs	$88.8 billion	$88.9 billion
State and Foreign Operations	$47.4 billion	$51.2 billion
Transportation, HUD	$56.5 billion	$60.1 billion

* The bill has yet to be released.
Source: Senate and House appropriations committees

If the Senate Interior-EPA bill is not marked up — the most likely scenario — the subcommittee will likely do what it has done in years past and release a summary of its bill ahead of talks with the House, which passed its version over the summer.

Negotiations ongoing

Already, aides in both chambers have been meeting for weeks to lay the groundwork for a spending deal, but they say leaders need to give them final discretionary caps for the year.

Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.), a senior appropriator, said last week Republican leaders have told him that those numbers won't come until after the Thanksgiving break. "I don't see how [Dec. 8] is possible. The thinking likely is the end of the year is the best we can do," he added.

As it stands now, the House is pushing for increases in defense spending at the expense of domestic accounts. The Senate has called for more modest military increases with largely flat funding for domestic programs.

Any deal would also likely have to take into account existing caps under sequestration. Lawmakers will almost certainly have to raise them to account for discretionary spending that will likely top $1 trillion.

Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), a senior appropriator who also serves in Senate GOP leadership, said he hopes for spending directions "sooner rather than later" to allow more spending across the government.

"I think we all believe there'll be more money available on both the defense side and the non-defense side," Blunt told reporters last week. "I can assure you that the appropriations staff is looking at several different ways to spend different amounts of money depending on how that higher agreement comes down."

Storm aid

Other questions remain before a final spending deal can advance.

Lawmakers increasingly expect the final spending package to include billions of dollars in new aid for Texas, Florida, California and Puerto Rico in the wake of storms and wildfires.

A proposal from the White House could come this week. Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rosselló and Resident Commissioner Jenniffer González-Colón said they were requesting a $94 billion package for the island.

Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rosselló and Resident Commissioner Jenniffer González Colón yesterday requested billions of dollars in new aid for the island. @RepJenniffer/Twitter

"What we are asking for is equal treatment," the governor said during a Washington news conference. Other states have also requested tens of billions of dollars from Congress.

House conservatives have said they will insist any additional storm aid, on top of the two emergency spending packages that passed this fall, be offset by spending cuts elsewhere, and they appear to have the attention of White House's budget chief, Mick Mulvaney.

The administration recently requested billions of dollars more be added to any fiscal 2018 spending deal for the Defense Department as well as funding for building a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Democrats, for their part, say they also want to address the children of illegal immigrants, known as dreamers, who potentially face a spring deadline for deportation.

Senate Majority Whip John Cornyn (R-Texas) — who has led efforts to secure more emergency aid for the Lone Star State and has questioned the need for offsets — said he worries a push for too much additional spending or extraneous provisions could sink the omnibus.

"My worry is if we load that up too much, we will wind up with a [long-term] continuing resolution that would be a disaster in more ways than one," he said.

Reporter Nick Sobczyk contributed.

Mcdonald, Shane <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov> Tue, May 21, 2019 at 1:45 PM
To: Chris Wilcox <Chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, Gillian Fay <gillian_fay@fws.gov>, Tate Fischer <tate_fischer@fws.gov>

This one references a wall in the E&E article
[Quoted text hidden]

--
Shane McDonald
Deputy Chief (Operations)
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Branch of Fire Management
National Interagency Fire Center
3833 S. Development Ave
Boise, ID 83705
208-387-5583 (w)
208-608-8331 (c)
shane_mcdonald@fws.gov

From:	Flanagan, Denise
To:	David Bernhardt; Downey Magallanes; Scott Hommel; James Cason; Todd Willens; John Tanner; Micah Chambers; Amanda Kaster; Heather Swift; Laura Rigas; Daniel Jorjani; John Tahsuda; Andrea Travnicek; Tim Petty; Katharine MacGregor; Jason Larrabbee; Doug Domenech; Mary Kendall; Brian Steed; Bryan Rice; Brenda Burman; Scott Angelle; Greg Sheehan; Mike Reynolds; Nikolao Pula; Glenda Owens; Jerold Gidner; Jeff Ruppert; William Werkheiser; Greg Gould; Richard Cardinale; Jill Moran; Rae, Kerry; Elizabeth Appel; Maureen Foster; Elena Gonzalez; Harry Humbert; Douglas Glenn; Megan Olsen; Beck, Richard; Steve Glomb; Mary Pletcher; Martin Quinlan; Sylvia Burns; Robert Wolf; Linda Chambers; Jennifer Werner; Chris Nolin; Cynthia Lodge; Barrett, Anne; Tonya Jackson; Linda Smith; James Anderson; Annie Yang; Craig Prestenbach; James Burckman; George Bearpaw; Eric Modrow; Tran, Thao; Jonathan Dunn; Sharon Smith; Bruce Nesslage; Santos, Tyrone; Reed Murray; Walter Cruickshank; Wendy Fink; Jessica Bowron; Beth Lamb; Raymond Limon; Gulac, Catherine; Gareth Rees
Cc:	Scott Cameron; Olivia Ferriter; Denise Flanagan; Adrianne Moss; OS_POB_BPR; Thomas C Wayson; Laura Nicholson; Kimberly N Prendergast
Subject:	Action: Review Draft FY 2019 Budget in Brief Front Section Chapters by Thursday, January 18 at 5pm
Date:	Tuesday, January 16, 2018 3:23:20 PM
Attachments:	2018_01_16 FY 2019 Budget in Brief Legislative Proposals Chapter.docx 2018_01_16 FY 2019 Budget in Brief Overview Chapter.docx

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All,

This email requests your assistance to review two Department FY 2019 Budget documents by 5pm on Thursday, January 18th.

The release of the President's FY 2019 budget will occur on Monday, February 5, 2018. We are in the final stages of preparing the 2019 Budget in Brief (BIB).

The BIB is a summary of Interior's 2019 budget request. The attached Overview and Legislative Proposals chapters showcase Administration and Department priorities and shape the message for how these priorities will be communicated to Congress and the public. Your input on potential "fatal flaws" in these chapters is important.

Send any suggested edits in Microsoft Word track changes or hard copy to Jason Freihage (jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov) and copy Denise Flanagan (Denise_Flanagan@ios.doi.gov) and Adrianne Moss (Adrianne_Moss@ios.doi.gov) by 5pm on Thursday, January 18th.

Please email or call me at my desk 202-208-5309 or my cell 202-316-1383 if you have questions. Thanks so much for your help! Denise

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2019 Legislative Proposals

The 2019 President's budget includes legislative proposals affecting revenues, and available budget authority that require action by the Congress. These proposals provide an important contribution to the Administration's policy goals, including achieving a fair return to the American taxpayer from the sale of Federal resources.

Public Lands Infrastructure Initiative – The Administration proposes legislation for a new Public Lands Infrastructure Fund to help pay for repairs and improvements in national parks, national wildlife refuges, and Bureau of Indian Education schools, which have over $12 billion in deferred maintenance. The Fund would be derived from 50 percent of incremental energy leasing receipts over 2018 Budget projections not otherwise allocated for other purposes. As the Department works to expand energy development on Federal lands and waters, this initiative has the potential to generate up to $18 billion over ten years for national parks, national wildlife refuges, and BIE schools. The 2019 budget baseline assumes $6.8 billion is available for the Fund over ten years.

Bureau of Reclamation Title Transfer – The Administration proposes legislation to better facilitate title transfer of BOR facilities to non-Federal entities when the transfers are beneficial to all parties. This proposal would allow local water managers to make their own decisions to improve water management at the local level, while allowing BOR to focus management efforts on projects with a greater Federal nexus.

Redirect Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act Account Balances – The budget proposes to cancel $230 million in unobligated balances from the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act program over a three year period. The SNPLMA was enacted in 1998 authorizing the Bureau of Land Management to sell specified public lands around Las Vegas, Nevada, and retain the proceeds for capital improvements and various conservation, restoration, and recreational purposes in the State. The budget proposes to redirect a portion of the program balances to the Treasury where they are available for broader taxpayer use. The SNPLMA program is not proposed for elimination and viable conservation efforts will continue to be supported with remaining available funds.

Reauthorize the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act – The budget assumes permanent reauthorization of FLTFA's land sale authority, allowing Interior to dispose of lands with low conservation value and use the proceeds to acquire lands with high conservation values, consistent with the original FLTFA mandate. Also consistent with the prior authorization, 80 percent of the receipts would be spent in the same state in which the funds were generated. The FLTFA authority provides Interior with the flexibility to manage its land portfolio to improve

access to public lands or to acquire inholdings within existing Interior areas, in a constrained budget environment. This proposal is estimated to result in savings of $36.0 million over ten years.

Recreation Fee Program – The budget proposes to permanently reauthorize the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, which expires in September 2018. As a precaution, the budget also proposes appropriations language to provide a two-year extension of FLREA through September 2021. The revenues collected by Interior from these recreation fees—approximately $316 million in FY 2017—are an important source of funding for land management operations, maintenance and improvements to recreation facilities on public lands.

Termination of EPAct Geothermal Payments to Counties – The budget proposes to restore the disposition of Federal geothermal leasing revenues to the historical formula of 50 percent to the states and 50 percent to the U.S. Treasury by repealing Section 224(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. That section changed the distribution to direct 50 percent to states, 25 percent to counties, and 25 percent to the Federal government. The 25 percent share for county payments is inconsistent with longstanding revenue-sharing practices and reduces the return to Federal taxpayers from geothermal leases on Federal lands. The proposal is estimated to result in savings of $40.0 million over ten years.

Land and Water Conservation Fund – The LWCF receipts authorization expires at the end of fiscal year 2018 and the Administration will review options for reauthorization.

Wildland Fire Suppression Disaster Cap Adjustment – The budget responsibly funds 100 percent of the rolling 10-year average cost for wildfire suppression in the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior within discretionary budget caps, and proposes a separate annual cap adjustment for wildfire suppression operations. Similar to how unanticipated funding needs for other natural disasters are addressed, the budget proposes a separate Fund that will include an annual cap adjustment appropriation for wildfire suppression to ensure adequate resources are available to fight wildland fires, protect communities, and safeguard human life during the most severe wildland fire seasons. The cap proposal is described separately in the President's Budget Appendix and will be managed by the Office of Management and Budget on behalf of both Departments.

"Across the Department we are striking the right balance to protect our greatest treasures and also generate the revenue and energy our country needs"

Secretary Ryan Zinke, December 28, 2017

The 2019 budget for the Department of the Interior features targeted investments to further the Administration's objectives to prioritize American interests by leading in American Energy Dominance, restoring public access to public lands, and strengthening the economy through infrastructure investment, regulatory relief, and fiscal responsibility.

The Department of the Interior conserves and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, provides scientific and other information about natural resources and natural hazards to address societal challenges and create opportunities for the American people, and honors the Nation's trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities to help them prosper. The Department's 2019 budget reflects the Administration's commitment to strike the right balance of development and conservation of America's resources to advance important national objectives.

The Department of the Interior strives to fulfill a vision to:

- *Promote energy and minerals dominance* to create jobs for Americans, insulate our Nation from volatile political developments overseas, provide additional energy security to allies via surplus domestic supply, and generate revenue for all levels of government so they in turn have the resources to better serve the American people.
- *Increase access to outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans* so our people can be healthier, more fully enjoy the wonderful features of their Federal lands, and take advantage of hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation pursuits that are the roots of the conservation movement.
- *Enhance conservation stewardship* whereby all levels of government and private landowners work cooperatively together in an atmosphere of mutual respect to achieve shared natural resource management goals across landscapes.
- *Improve management of species and their habitats* by focusing our financial and staff resources on improving the status of our Nation's fish and wildlife and the healthy habitats that support them, and by streamlining bureaucracy to help us spend relatively more of our funding productively on the ground to better meet societal needs and our own natural resource management responsibilities.
- *Uphold trust and related responsibilities*, recognizing the importance of government-to-government relationships with Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives, and insular areas, and respecting self-determination and sovereignty.

The Department's 2019 budget request supports the Administration's broader economic goals to manage Federal spending with restraint. Interior's fiscal 2019 budget request is $11.3 billion in current authority, $2.2 billion or 16 percent below the 2018 Continuing Resolution level. The budget also proposes to transfer $111 million from the Department of Defense for commitments to the Republic of Palau, increasing Interior's total 2019 budget to $11.4 billion in current authority.

A major component of the 2019 budget is the Public Lands Infrastructure legislative proposal which would provide up to $18.0 billion over 10 years to address Interior's deferred maintenance backlog in the national parks, national wildlife refuges, and BIE schools. The investment in the Department's infrastructure would be funded by energy leasing revenues. The proposal complements the

President's national infrastructure investment proposal and recognizes the strategic importance of a long-term investment in America's treasures.

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SECRETARY RYAN ZINKE'S TOP TEN PRIORITIES:

- Create a conservation stewardship legacy second only to Teddy Roosevelt
- Sustainably develop our energy and natural resources
- Restore trust and be a good neighbor
- Ensuring sovereignty means something
- Increase revenues to support DOI and national interests
- Protect our people and the border
- Strike a regulatory balance
- Modernize our infrastructure
- Reorganize DOI for the next 100 years
- Achieve our goals and lead our team forward

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GENERATING REVENUE AND UTILIZING NATURAL RESOURCES

GROWING AMERICA'S ECONOMY

The Department of the Interior touches American lives in more ways than any other Federal agency – managing one-fifth of the land in the United States and delivering water and power in the West. Across Interior's diverse mission, this budget emphasizes the Department's crucial role in promoting economic growth for America. The Department is responsible for the oversight and management of America's public lands, national parks, mineral resources, grazing lands, and more. As the stewards of this public trust, the Department manages America's public lands for multiple uses, ensuring these lands are available for recreation, job growth and creation, and responsible energy development. It is this balanced stewardship of resources that drives job opportunities and economic growth.

America's lands hold tremendous job-creating assets. In 2017, Interior's energy, mineral, grazing, and forestry activities resulted in $9.6 billion in revenue to the American people, including direct revenue payments to states, Tribes, and local communities. Interior supported $254 billion in economic benefit. In addition, direct grants and payments to states, Tribes, and local communities provided an estimated $10 billion in economic benefit. Interior also supports the economy by eliminating unnecessary and burdensome Federal regulatory requirements. For example, in 2017, Interior initiated 21 deregulatory actions, saving the taxpayer $3.8 billion over time.

The Department creates jobs across America through our national parks and outdoor recreation opportunities at Interior's spectacular and unique public lands and cultural sites. Visitors to our parks spend more than $18.4 billion in local gateway communities, supporting approximately 318,000 jobs and contributing $34.9 billion into the national economy, according to the *2016 National Park Service Visitor Spending Effects Report*.

Interior also plays an important role in the Administration's key economic objective to strengthen

America's infrastructure. Interior manages thousands of real property assets with responsibility for reviewing and approving permits for access to Interior lands, and ensuring necessary environmental compliance including upfront and formal consultations to avoid conflicts over protected species.

Interior is one of 13 Federal agencies designated to implement Title 41 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act—commonly referred to as FAST-41—designed to improve the timeliness, predictability, and transparency of the Federal environmental review and authorization process for specific infrastructure projects.

The Department is a member of the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council, which includes senior leadership of Federal agencies responsible for conducting reviews and permitting for covered projects. FAST-41 is designed to improve consultation and coordination among government agencies; increase transparency and timeliness of Federal authorizations and environmental reviews; and increase accountability through consultation and reporting on projects. There are currently 26 FAST-41 infrastructure projects, of which the Department is the lead agency for eight, and a coordinating or cooperating agency for 14 projects. Dovetailing with the FAST-41 effort, in 2017, Secretarial Order 3355 was issued to enhance and modernize the Federal environmental review process and restore the purpose of the National Environmental Protection Act requirements to support the adoption of sound decisions based on an informed understanding of environmental consequences, rather than the generation of vast amounts of expensive and time consuming paperwork.

The 2019 budget maintains support for Interior programs that play a critical role in encouraging national infrastructure development. The 2019 budget includes $98.8 million for Fish and Wildlife Service up-front planning and consultation activities to avoid species conflicts. This request enables FWS to meet legal consultation requirements and avoid logjams that could delay infrastructure projects and associated economic benefits. The budget also includes $48.3 million for the Bureau of Land Management's cadastral program, which maps and surveys lands and resources and is needed to permit rights of way and other infrastructure project requirements in a timely fashion. An example of the projects this work supports is the recently approved Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project which will provide additional electrical capacity between the Pacific Northwest and the Intermountain West regions. The project will improve the Nation's energy infrastructure, strengthen energy reliability, create nearly 500 jobs, and boost local economies.

ADVANCING ENERGY DOMINANCE

Interior plays a significant role in the Administration's objective to achieve America's energy dominance. Interior supports the Administration's efforts to unlock America's domestic energy resources to advance both the Nation's economic and national security position by reducing dependence on other nations for energy. The Department of the Interior is working to improve access to public lands, remove unnecessary and burdensome roadblocks, and smartly balance conservation while facilitating exploration and development of America's energy opportunities.

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UNLEASHING AMERICA'S ENERGY POTENTIAL

In response to Executive Order 13783, Interior released the report *"Review of the Department of the Interior Actions that Potentially Burden Domestic Energy,"* identifying agency actions that potentially burden the development or use of domestically produced energy resources. This review guided real action to foster multiple-use, which includes energy development under reasonable regulations. Among the actions identified in the review that are underway or accomplished:

- Launch development of a new 5-year offshore energy development program.
- Repeal the 2016 moratorium on new Federal coal leases.
- Rescind the Hydraulic Fracturing on Federal and Indian Lands Rule.
- Review the Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation Rule.
- Address unnecessarily lengthy NEPA reviews that delay projects.
- Re-examine compensatory mitigation policies unnecessarily burdening permitting and authorization timelines.
- Address systematic delays in the onshore leasing program and permitting process.
- Develop recommendations to improve the application of the Endangered Species Act to avoid abuses that unnecessarily increase costs and delay projects.

At the same time, Secretary Zinke signed Secretarial Order 3358 establishing an Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting at Interior. The ECEP includes the Deputy Secretary and Assistant Secretarial leadership from across the Department, with the charge to improve Interior's energy permitting in service to the American public and Indian Country. The Committee will evaluate and recommend energy-permitting policies to better meet the Nation's energy needs, facilitate identification of energy rights-of-way corridors on Federal lands for expedited review of energy infrastructure projects, improve interagency communication regarding energy permitting, and identify best practices and reforms.

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Interior is the steward and manager of America's natural resources including oil, gas, coal, and hydropower and supports installation of renewable energy sources. American energy resources create jobs and generate significant revenue for the U.S. Treasury, states and local economies. With policies that foster growth and local input, the Department provides opportunities for new jobs and revenue for Federal, state, local, and tribal governments. Interior disbursements from energy and minerals production on Federal and American Indian lands and offshore areas totaled $7.11 billion in fiscal year 2017, an increase of nearly $1 billion over the previous year. Of this, states received $1.44 billion, tribal governments and individual mineral rights owners received nearly $676 million, and $950 million went into the Land and Water Conservation Fund to support outdoor recreation opportunities and conservation.

Onshore, the Department oversees more than 480 million acres of lands, and 700 million acres of subsurface minerals, mostly through BLM and Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement. Offshore, the Department oversees oil, gas, and wind development for 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement.

This budget proposes $792.0 million in current and permanent funding for energy related programs across the Department, an increase of $42.9 million from 2018. Interior's 2019 budget continues to support an "all-of-the-above" energy development strategy, increasing funding for onshore and offshore oil and gas, expanding coal activities, and sustaining the current pace of renewable energy development.

A large portion of Interior's energy development activities occur on the Outer Continental Shelf. The 2019 request includes support from offsetting collections, and supports a total offshore energy development and safety program of $379.2 million, an increase of $32.5 million compared to 2018.

The budget includes a total of $179.3 million for offshore oil, gas and renewable energy development activities in BOEM, an increase of $10.9 million from 2018. This funding reflects the importance of offshore production to America's economic and energy security. It includes a $9.4 million increase for BOEM to prepare a leasing program for FY 2019-2024. In January 2018, Secretary Zinke announced the Draft Proposed National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2019-2024.

The request for BOEM also includes $20.7 million for Renewable Energy activities. In 2017, the Department announced completion of the Nation's seventh competitive lease sale for renewable wind energy in Federal waters. A Wind Energy Area of 122,405 acres offshore Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, received the high bid of $9,066,650. Although the energy production from the sale will depend on the size of the project developed, the lease area is estimated to generate potentially enough energy to power more than 500,000 homes.

Integral to a strong offshore energy program are the continued efforts of BSEE, whose staff in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska are dedicated to maintaining a strong offshore safety culture. The 2019 budget includes $199.9 million for BSEE's programs to evaluate emerging offshore technologies, improve safety, conduct training, and maintain up-to-date policies, standards and guidelines. BSEE also manages an oil spill response and preparedness program as well as compliance programs governing offshore oil, gas and mineral operations. The 2019 request is a $21.7 million increase from the 2018 CR level, reflective of a one-time rescission of prior year balances in FY 2017.

Onshore, the budget includes $173.8 million in current and mandatory funding for the BLM oil and gas management program which in 2017, generated $348.9 million in combined onshore oil and gas lease sales. A recent U.S. Geological Survey and BLM assessment of undiscovered, technically recoverable onshore oil and gas resources in Alaska indicates higher than previously estimated oil and gas resource potential largely due to new insights on two geological formations in the National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska area. The assessment estimates a mean of 8.7 billion barrels of oil and 25 trillion cubic feet of gas of potential resources in the area, a significant increase from a 2010 assessment, which estimated a mean of 1.5 billion barrels of oil. In 2017, USGS, BLM, and BOEM conducted these assessments in compliance with Secretarial Order 3352 and as part of a program directed at estimating the undiscovered, technically recoverable oil and gas resources of priority petroleum basins in the United States. The next USGS assessments to be announced are for the Alaska 1002 Area and the area west of the NPR-A.

The 2019 budget includes $137.2 million in appropriated funds for oil and gas management and oversight, including leasing, permitting, and inspections. Increases are requested to expand areas

available for leasing, expedite permitting, and improve various aspects of the program management. The funding will also help to facilitate infrastructure needs to move oil and gas to refineries and end-users with resources to expedite the processing of BLM rights-of-way.

The budget includes $19.0 million for the BLM coal management program which will continue to focus on reducing processing times, simplify the lease application process, and improve the timeliness to complete lease sale fair market value determinations. In 2017, the Administration ended a Federal coal leasing moratorium, recognizing the Federal coal leasing program supplies roughly 40 percent of the coal produced in the United States. In 2017, the BLM approved a $22 million coal lease on the Green Hollow tract in Utah, estimated to contain more than 55 million tons of recoverable, high-energy producing coal. Also in 2017, the Administration rescinded the Stream Protection Rule, which impacts surface coal mining operations.

The budget includes $16.0 million for BLM to support onshore Renewable Energy development. The BLM Renewable Energy Management program processes leasing and development applications for geothermal energy, rights-of way and leasing applications for wind and solar energy, and rights-of-way applications for transmission lines connecting to renewable energy-related projects. The BLM conducts full environmental reviews under the NEPA on all renewable energy projects proposed on BLM-administered public lands. The request aligns with anticipated BLM workload addressing near-term demand.

An important component of Interior's natural resource programs is the collection and disbursement of receipts from development. The 2019 budget includes $137.5 million for the Office of Natural Resources Revenue. In 2017, Secretary Zinke held the first meeting of the reestablished Royalty Policy Committee, which includes 20 members representing local, tribal, and state government, and other stakeholders. They will advise the Secretary on the fair market value and revenue collection from Federal and Indian mineral and energy leases, including renewable energy sources.

INCREASING NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Interior manages a wealth of additional natural resource assets that require balanced stewardship and management. The BLM manages close to 65 million acres of forest and woodlands across 12 western states and Alaska in accordance with the multiple-use, sustained yield mandate of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The Bureau of Indian Affairs has a trust responsibility concerning the management of Indian forest lands by 313 Tribes across 18.3 million acres. The BIA works closely with the Tribes regarding land management decisions to help ensure resource sustainability, forest health, and continued economic development.

Interior is working together with other Federal partners to achieve a better balance of forest health and productivity in the Nation's timber-rich areas. Many of the Nation's forests and woodlands are increasingly overgrown and unhealthy, increasing the risk of catastrophic wildfire. Sharp declines in timber-related employment have devastated many rural communities. Increasing timber harvests can spur job growth and local economies in timber-rich and historically timber-dependent communities, including tribal communities; reduce fire risk; and help create healthier forests and woodlands for wildlife and to support a viable timber industry well into the future.

Maintaining healthy and productive forests requires active management. The 2019 budget includes $9.5 million for BLM's Public Domain Forestry program and $90.0 million for the Oregon and California grant lands. Both programs support jobs and local economies through timber and timber product sales. The programs also maintain and improve the productivity and resilience of forest and woodland ecosystems through sales and forest development projects such as density management and reforestation. In 2019, BLM will continue to implement efficiencies and prioritize Allowable Sale Quantity timber sale outputs in western Oregon.

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HELPING TO PROTECT WORKING LANDSCAPES

In December 2017, the BLM initiated an environmental analyses of fuel breaks, fuels reduction and habitat restoration projects on sagebrush steppe rangelands in Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Utah and California to ensure healthy, productive working landscapes and wildlife habitats. Region-wide analysis of impacts and cumulative effects will help the BLM streamline authorization of projects aimed at reducing the threat of wildfires and restoring degraded habitats.

Large-scale wildfires have become significantly more frequent throughout the western U.S. in recent years, particularly in sagebrush-steppe ecosystems. Wildfires have begun to exceed 100,000 acres on a regular basis, and areas are re-burning more often. Large and frequent fires often result in conversion of sagebrush to annual grasses like invasive cheatgrass, and native habitats cannot recover naturally.

Strategically sited fuel breaks can slow the progress of wildfires, allowing better firefighter safety and increased protection of human life and property, livestock forage and important ecological resources such as sage-grouse habitat. Treating invasive plants like cheatgrass and encroaching species like juniper further reduces the threat of catastrophic wildfire.

BLM has identified fire, invasive annual grasses and conifer encroachment as the most significant threats to sagebrush-steppe in the Great Basin. Focusing on these threats will also help the BLM protect working landscapes that contribute to healthy local economies.

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The BLM actively manages rangeland and grazing activities on public lands in the West which remain a vital part of local Western economies. The 2019 budget includes $82.1 million for the Rangeland Management program. The Rangeland Management Program focuses on efforts to maintain or improve public land health through monitoring and land health evaluations; administration of grazing use through permit renewals (largely 10-year permits); development of grazing systems and range improvements; grazing permit compliance inspections; management of permittee, allotment and resource data; and, management of invasive species and noxious weeds. The BLM manages approximately 17,950 livestock grazing permits and leases on the public lands.

The USGS is the Nation's leading source of expertise in earth and natural sciences and works closely with other Interior bureaus and state, local, tribal, and other Federal partners to help resource managers make informed decisions. The USGS focuses on core earth science and data used by land and resource managers not only within Interior and other Federal agencies, but also partners across the

world. The 2019 budget includes $859.6 million for USGS programs, to focus on core science activities including land and water resources, energy and minerals, mapping, ecosystems, invasive species, natural hazards, and maintains funding for the Landsat 9 ground system.

An example of the importance of the USGS work is its Mineral Resource program, which conducts assessments to identify critical minerals and estimate potential supplies. President Trump and Secretary Zinke signed Orders prioritizing the need to reduce America's dependence on foreign sources for critical mineral supplies, citing a recent USGS report examining 23 minerals the U.S. relies upon for manufacturing everything from batteries and computer chips to equipment used by our military. Secretary Zinke's Order directs Interior bureaus to identify a list of critical minerals, identify domestic sources, and streamline permitting to encourage domestic production of these critical minerals. The 2019 budget for the USGS includes a $10.0 million increase to support this Administration priority. With the additional funding, the USGS will accelerate the first nationwide geological and topographical survey of the United States in modern history to locate domestic critical mineral sources.

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BREAKING AMERICA'S DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN MINERALS

In response to the President's Executive Order on a *Federal Strategy to Ensure Secure and Reliable Supplies of Critical Minerals*, the Secretary directed the USGS to identify new sources of critical minerals by providing access to the most advanced geological and topographical surveys, and BLM and USGS to provide a list of minerals defined as "critical minerals," which will be coordinated with the Department of Defense. Ensuring the Nation has access to advanced topographic, geologic, and geophysical data will increase private-sector domestic exploration, production, and development of critical minerals to reduce dependence on foreign imports and improve the balance of trade, support job creation, preserve the Nation's innovation leadership, improve national security and enhance the technological superiority of the United States Armed Forces, a significant consumer of critical minerals.

"Right now the United States is almost completely reliant on foreign adversaries and competitors for many of the minerals that are deemed critical for our national and economic security. As both a former military commander and geologist, I know the risk this presents to our Nation," said Secretary Ryan Zinke. "The problem is we can't fix the problem if we don't know where the minerals are within our own borders. Other nations are far ahead of us with mapping of their mineral resources, leading to private sector investment overseas rather than right here at home. Creating a complete topographical and geographic survey of the United States is exactly the kind of task the USGS was created to do."

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CONSERVING OUR LAND AND WATER AND EXPANDING OUTDOOR ACCESS

Interior is the steward of America's public lands and cultural resources for the benefit of current and future generations. Among Secretary Zinke's top priorities for the Department are to create a conservation stewardship legacy second only to Teddy Roosevelt and to restore trust and be a good

neighbor to the states and local communities where Interior manages lands and resources. An important part of achieving these priorities has been the Secretary's efforts to increase public access to Interior's lands for sportsmen and other types of recreation, and strengthen Federal-state conservation efforts.

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MAKING OUR PUBLIC LANDS MORE ACCESSIBLE FOR AMERICANS

As part of "National Hunting and Fishing Month," Secretary Zinke hosted a first-of-its-kind meeting with veteran service organizations to share experiences and ideas to make public lands more accessible to veterans with and without disabilities. The Hunting and Fishing Access for Veterans roundtable discussion hosted by Secretary Zinke included members of his leadership team. More than 20 veteran advocates participated, including many who specialize in hunting and fishing therapy for returning warriors.

Secretary Zinke told the group that, "Hunting and fishing present such an incredible healing opportunity for our veterans who return home with physical and emotional wounds. Unfortunately, many of our public lands are either inaccessible to individuals with various physical disabilities, or we just don't offer programs to encourage veterans to access and use them. I want these warriors to be able to return home from their service and enjoy the very lands they fought to protect. I want to make sure hunting and fishing on public lands is easily accessible and available. Hearing ideas from leaders in the veteran community about how to achieve this goal has given my team some much-needed insight as we move forward."

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Taking care of the resources we have rather than acquiring new Federal lands continues to be a top priority in the 2019 budget. The budget does not propose funding for new Federal land acquisition projects in 2019 and continues to focus resources on conservation stewardship and increased access for the public use and enjoyment of Interior's existing lands. The budget for land acquisition programs across the Department is $8.1 million, which includes the proposed cancellation of $25.0 million in prior year balances.

The 2019 budget includes $4.3 billion for operating programs in the three primary land management bureaus – NPS, FWS, and BLM. This funding supports the day to day management of the natural resources and public amenities of America's national parks, national wildlife refuges, and national conservation lands. This includes funding to support visitor services and safety, law enforcement, and maintenance of facilities. Operating funds also support the primary stewardship activities needed to carry out each of the bureau's unique resource stewardship missions. Early eradication and control of invasive species is an example of a core stewardship activity shared across the Department. The 2019 budget includes a total of $100.8 million for invasive species activities to address significant issues such as the spread of invasive mussels and Asian Carp.

Since taking office last year, Secretary Zinke has issued three Secretarial Orders to expand access to public lands and increase hunting, fishing, and recreation opportunities nationwide. Under Secretary Zinke's leadership, the Department opened public access to the Sabinoso Wilderness, which contains

some of the most pristine sportsmen opportunities in the country, expanded hunting and fishing access on 10 national wildlife refuges, successfully defended a mineral withdrawal near the Grand Canyon, and advocated for a mineral withdrawal north of Yellowstone.

Focusing on the future of America's national parks, national wildlife refuges, and BLM public lands, in 2017, Secretary Zinke established the Recreation Advisory Committee. The Committee will develop recommendations on policies and programs to expand and improve visitor infrastructure through public-private partnerships; implement sustainable operations embracing fair, efficient and convenient fee collection and strategic use of the collected fees; improve interpretation using technology; and create better tools and/or opportunities for Americans to discover their lands and waters. This Committee will consider new ideas to better leverage partnerships and technologies to ensure the magnificence of America's treasures into the future. Secretary Zinke also created the Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council in order to more effectively gather advice and recommendations from experts on existing and proposed policies and authorities with regard to wildlife and habitat conservation.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund matching grants provided to states, and through states to local governments, support the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities all across the Nation. The 2019 budget reflects a shift in funding for NPS State Assistance grants from discretionary to mandatory funding. In prior years, annual discretionary appropriations derived from the LWCF provided the main source of funding for this program. Starting in 2009, discretionary LWCF appropriations for the State Assistance program were supplemented by revenues from certain oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico, as authorized by Section 105 of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act. Under existing law, this permanent funding for NPS State Assistance grants is expected to reach $89 million in 2019.

Ensuring the availability of water is central to the Department's resource stewardship mission and is vitally important to communities across the West. The 2019 budget includes $1.0 billion for Bureau of Reclamation water resource programs to ensure millions of customers continue to receive the water and power essential for daily life, healthy local economies, and land management. Reclamation is the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 western states and the Nation's second largest producer of hydroelectric power. Reclamation manages water for agricultural, municipal and industrial uses, and provides flood risk reduction and recreation for millions of people.

The 2019 budget continues support for Reclamation's efforts to address America's water reliability and availability. Together with the USGS, Reclamation partners with states and local communities to assess future water supply and demand in key basins. This effort is part of Reclamation's suite of WaterSMART programs. The 2019 budget includes funding to continue the WaterSMART water conservation grants and Title XVI water recycling reuse grants that support local innovation efforts to stretch water supplies.

The 2019 budget includes funding to support innovation by incentivizing research through Reclamation's Water and Power Technology Prize Competitions. Reclamation is using prize competitions to harness the innovative capacity of the American public and private sectors to solve research and development problems related to Reclamation's mission and stakeholder interests. Reclamation prize competitions target difficult scientific and technological problems related to infrastructure, water availability, and environmental compliance that affect water delivery and hydropower generation. The budget also includes $4.5 million for Reclamation to pro-actively stop the spread of invasive

mussels in the West, including preventing the spread of zebra and quagga mussels into the Columbia River Basin.

Secretary Zinke has set another important priority for our land and water management programs -- to restore trust and be a good neighbor to the communities surrounding Interior's lands. Being a good neighbor means honoring Interior's commitments to localities and working closely with and listening to state and local partners in land management decisions. An example of this commitment is the establishment and implementation of the recommendations of a Sage-Grouse Review Team to complement state efforts to improve Greater Sage-Grouse conservation and economic development on public lands. The team of representatives from 11 states with sage-grouse habitat as well as officials across Interior and the U.S. Forest Service issued recommendations to strengthen communication and collaboration between states and the Federal government to conserve and protect sage-grouse and their habitat, while also ensuring conservation efforts do not impede local economic opportunities.

The 2019 budget maintains an important commitment to neighboring communities, by including $396.9 million in the discretionary request for Payments in Lieu of Taxes program. PILT payments offset the loss in property tax revenue for communities with significant Federal lands in their jurisdiction. The 2019 funding level for PILT is consistent with the 2018 President's Request and ensures continuation of this important program supporting rural America.

FULFILLING OUR TRUST AND INSULAR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Department of the Interior upholds the Federal government's unique trust responsibilities by fostering the government-to-government relationship between the Federal government and federally recognized Tribes, American Indians and Alaskan Natives. The U.S. also has important relationships with Native Hawaiians, and the affiliated insular areas including the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Interior administers and oversees Federal assistance to the three Freely Associated States: the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

Interior's programs maintain strong and important relationships with Native and insular communities, helping to promote efficient and effective governance and support nation-building and self-determination. These programs deliver community services, restore tribal homelands, fulfill commitments related to water and other resource rights, execute fiduciary trust responsibilities, support the stewardship of energy and other natural resources, create economic opportunity, and expand access to education.

The Department provides services directly, or through contracts, grants or compacts, to 567 federally recognized Tribes with a service population of nearly two million American Indians and Alaska Natives. The Department and its bureaus and offices play an important leadership role in carrying out the Federal trust responsibility to Tribes and individual Indians. The 2019 budget addresses Federal responsibilities and tribal needs related to education, social services, infrastructure, and stewardship of land, water, and other natural resources. The budget prioritizes support for programs that serve the broadest service population and proposes reductions in initiatives that are more narrowly focused. Throughout Interior's bureaus and offices, the 2019 budget supports the Administration's commitment to help empower tribal and insular communities to improve quality of life, create educational and economic opportunities, promote efficient and effective governance, preserve and foster

cultural heritage, and steward natural resources.

The President's budget maintains the Administration's strong support for the principle of tribal self-determination, and efforts to strengthen tribal communities across Indian Country. The budget calls for full funding for Contract Support Costs and Tribal Grant Support Costs that Tribes incur from managing Federal Indian programs.

The budget includes $350.1 million for BIA Public Safety and Justice programs. The programs provide law enforcement, corrections, and courts services to Indian communities. The programs safeguard life and property, enforce laws, maintain justice and order, and ensure that detained American Indian offenders are held in safe, secure, and humane environments. The BIA also provides technical assistance to Tribes to amend tribal legal codes to reflect provisions in the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Violence Against Women Act as reauthorized.

BIA also undertakes initiatives to promote the development of resilient tribal communities. The 2019 budget includes $2.5 million to address the opioid crisis, which has been particularly devastating in Indian Country. This initiative would expand BIA capacity to address the increase in drug-related activities through interdiction programs to reduce drug use, distribution, and drug related crime. The initiative will support BIA participation in intra- and inter-agency initiatives that support opioid and substance abuse prevention efforts. The BIA liaisons will align, leverage, and coordinate Federal efforts and resources to assist American Indian and Alaska Native communities in achieving their goals to reduce the supply of drugs, provide opioid addition prevention assistance, and otherwise combat the opioid crisis which the Trump Administration has identified as one of epic proportions and a priority to address.

The 2019 budget request includes $739.7 million to continue support for core Indian education programs, including formula funding and operation and maintenance funding for elementary and secondary schools, and support for post-secondary programs. The request prioritizes programs that support the Bureau of Indian Education's responsibilities to directly support educational services to Indian children at BIE schools.

The 2019 budget includes $172.4 million across the Department to honor Indian Water Settlement commitments. This includes $127.4 million in Reclamation and $45.0 million in BIA. The budget continues to meet Federal responsibilities outlined in enacted land and water rights claim settlements with Indian Tribes to ensure they have access to land and water to meet domestic, economic, and cultural needs. These settlements support infrastructure projects needed to improve the health and well-being of tribal members and their communities. The 2019 funding level proposed for BIA provides sufficient funding to meet imminent settlement dates, however, specific settlement funding levels for 2019 will depend on the outcome of Congressional action on the 2018 Appropriations.

The 2019 budget includes $3.0 million to implement a phased closure of the independent agency, the Office of Navajo Hopi Indian Relocation. As part of this phased closure, the Office of Special Trustee would assume responsibility for development of a detailed transition plan and the transfer of land management activities currently conducted by ONHIR to Interior in 2019. Interior will work with ONHIR to ensure a smooth transition of activities.

The 2019 budget for the Office of Insular Affairs focuses resources to support the most critical needs of insular communities—improving quality of life, creating economic opportunity, and promoting

efficient and effective governance. The proposed 2019 OIA budget is $718.8 million, with $84.1 million in current appropriations. The budget also includes $111.0 million in discretionary Department of Defense appropriations as a transfer to the Department of the Interior to support enactment of the 2010 Compact Review Agreement with Palau. The Compact is an important element of the Pacific national security strategy.

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COMPACT WITH PALAU

The United States and Palau governments signed the Palau Compact Review Agreement in 2010, which proposed continued U.S. financial assistance totaling $229 million through 2024. Until recently, funding for the pact has not been authorized by Congress. Beginning with 2010, subsequent Interior discretionary appropriations have included annual economic assistance to Palau of approximately $13.1 million a year for a total of $118.3 million in discretionary funding by the end of 2017. In 2017, Congress enacted the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act, which officially authorized the strategic agreement signed between the United States and Palau governments in 2010.

"Authorizing full funding for the agreement is an important element of the Pacific national security strategy to maintain stability in the Western Pacific Region and we look forward to continuing our work with Congress to get this job done. President Trump's strong support for the agreement, the Department's budget request, and Congress' support for it all point to the strategic importance of our U.S. Territories and the Freely Associated States." - Secretary Zinke, 12/13/2017

The 2019 President's Budget requests $111.0 million in the Department of Defense, to be transferred to the Department of the Interior, to fully fund the U.S. Government's remaining commitment to Palau. These funds are provided to assist the Government of Palau in its efforts to advance the well-being of its people and in recognition of the special relationship that exists between the United States and Palau, and its importance in the Nation's Pacific national security strategy.

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PROTECTING OUR PEOPLE AND THE BORDER

Inherent in Interior's management of public lands is the requirement to protect employees and visitors to those public lands. Ensuring employee and public safety is complex and requires the resources of multiple bureaus and offices. The Department's Law Enforcement Program has the third largest contingent of Federal law enforcement officers in the Executive Branch. Depending on the season, approximately 3,500-4,000 law enforcement officers, rangers, and other employees patrol vast acres of public lands, national parks, national wildlife refuges, and Indian communities and protect people, as well as natural, cultural, and heritage resources from illegal activities; and address emergency needs.

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RESPONDING TO HURRICANE EMERGENCIES

In response to the devastation caused by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria during 2017, Interior deployed 560 employees on 31 Federal Emergency Management Agency mission assignments in the immediate response. When the flooding started during the Hurricane events, teams from the USGS risked their safety to deploy storm-tide sensors, helping partners at the Federal, state, and local levels track the storm and get a head start on their response. Hundreds of Interior law enforcement officers deployed to evacuate, prepare and respond to emergency needs in the hurricane zones.

Many Interior employees who were hurricane victims themselves helped to serve not only the immediate needs of Interior's mission, but even more importantly they also supported their communities. For example, on the island of Vieques, off the coast of Puerto Rico, FWS employees coordinated an airdrop of food and water for 4,600 residents, and the National Park Service served as points of distribution for FEMA supplies.

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A key component of Interior's land stewardship and public safety goals is management of wildland fire. The 2019 budget provides $388.1 million for wildfire suppression–the full 10-year average of suppression expenditures. This level of funding is projected to be sufficient to meet fire suppression needs in an average fire season without the risk of needing emergency transfers from other departmental accounts.

The budget responsibly funds 100 percent of the rolling 10-year average cost for wildfire suppression in the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior within discretionary budget caps, and proposes a separate annual cap adjustment for wildfire suppression operations. Similar to how unanticipated funding needs for other natural disasters are addressed, the budget proposes a separate fund that will include an annual cap adjustment appropriation for wildfire suppression to ensure adequate resources are available to fight wildland fires, protect communities, and safeguard human life during the most severe wildland fire seasons.

Devastating fires in California and Montana, and high-profile fires in Yosemite and Glacier National Parks have caught national headlines, however, millions of acres of other forest and grassland burned in 2017. As a result, Secretary Zinke directed Department of the Interior bureaus, park superintendents, and land managers at all levels to adopt more aggressive practices to prevent and combat the spread of catastrophic wildfires through robust fuels reduction and pre-suppression techniques.

There are over 12.5 million acres under Interior jurisdiction within 50 miles of the United States-Mexico border. More than 40 percent of the border, or 820 linear miles, is managed by Interior's land management agencies and the U.S. Forest Service. Interior is engaged with the Department of Homeland Security to increase security on the Southwest border, including 54 border miles on tribal lands, primarily made up of lands located on and managed by the Tohono O'odham Nation in Arizona. Currently, 305 miles, or 38 percent, of Interior border lands have a vehicle or pedestrian fence or wall. Interior's responsibilities include conservation of over 200 threatened and endangered species in the border region and over 500 species of migratory birds. Interior's investments are focused primarily on law enforcement and security; environmental coordination and land management on national wildlife refuges, national parks and BLM lands; protection of trust resources; and water resource management by Reclamation on the Lower Colorado. The budget includes $1.8 million to

expand the Department's Southwest Border Radio Demonstration Project. The project was developed in cooperation with BLM, NPS, FWS, and the U.S. Forest Service in the Southwest border region to address Inspector General-identified material deficiencies in the land mobile radio program and infrastructure.

Interior plays an important role in preparation for and addressing the aftermath of natural hazard events. The USGS provides scientific information to emergency responders, policy makers, and the public to reduce the risk of losses from a wide range of natural hazards, including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, landslides, magnetic storms, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, and wildfires. The 2019 budget includes $116.6 million for the USGS Natural Hazards programs to maintain important nation-wide monitoring networks that provide vital scientific information to emergency managers.

MODERNIZING OUR ORGANIZATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS

INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT

Interior manages an infrastructure asset portfolio with a replacement value exceeding $300 billion, ranging from elementary and secondary schools serving Indian children in the West, to highways and bridges serving the daily commuting needs of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Most well-known, are Interior's iconic and unique national treasures that have priceless historical significance.

Many of these assets are deteriorating, with older assets becoming more expensive to repair and maintain in good condition. The FY 2019 budget launches Interior's new Public Lands Infrastructure Fund to help pay for repairs and improvement in national parks, national wildlife refuges, and BIE schools. The Department is taking action to increase revenue from energy leasing and development over 2018 budget projections and will keep for Department infrastructure needs 50 percent of additional revenue that is not otherwise allocated for other purposes. This would generate an estimated $6.8 billion over 10 years. As Interior works to expand energy development on Federal lands and waters, this initiative has the potential to generate up to $18 billion over ten years for national parks, national wildlife refuges, and BIE schools. This investment would significantly improve the Nation's most visible and visited public facilities that support a multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy. The other 50 percent of increased revenues would go to the Treasury supporting deficit reduction.

Interior owns approximately 43,000 buildings, 100,000 miles of road, and 80,000 structures–including dams, laboratories, employee housing, and irrigation and power infrastructure. Taking care of this significant asset portfolio is a persistent challenge. Interior's deferred maintenance backlog has grown to over $16 billion in 2017, of which over $11 billion belongs to the NPS. The 2019 budget for NPS includes $256.5 million in current funding for construction and deferred maintenance projects, an increase of $1.0 million from 2018. Construction and maintenance funding across the Department totals over $1.3 billion in 2018, excluding Reclamation.

Reclamation is responsible for roughly 40 percent of the value of Interior's structure portfolio, which includes dams, power plants, water pipelines and canals in the 17 western states. Maintenance of this significant infrastructure is funded through a combination of Federal appropriations, direct revenue, customer payments, and payments from other Federal agencies. The 2019 budget for Reclamation is over $1.0 billion, and includes $88.1 million for the Dam Safety Program, of which $66.5

million is requested to correct identified safety issues.

Transportation assets—such as roads and bridges—account for about half of the deferred maintenance backlog. The Congress provides for some transportation maintenance and repair through the Federal Lands Transportation Program funded by the Department of Transportation Highway Trust Fund. This will provide more than $300 million for Interior projects in 2019. The Department also funds transportation maintenance and repair through bureau operating and construction appropriations.

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ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE REPAIRS ARE UNDERWAY

In December 2017, NPS announced a $227 million project to rehabilitate Arlington Memorial Bridge, a historic and critical transportation link in the Nation's capital. The project will save American taxpayers $35 million and 1.5 years of estimated construction time. The NPS, with the District of Columbia as co-signer, received a $90 million FASTLANE grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. In order to complete the project in a single phase, the NPS will invest $107 million of its annual transportation and construction funds. A "design-build" contract – meaning the contractor will both design the work and conduct the repairs – will save money and accelerate the project's completion time.

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The budget includes $264.6 million for construction and maintenance funding within Indian Affairs. Within this total are targeted increases for resource management infrastructure, roads, and other construction and deferred maintenance programs. Projects address needs at dams and irrigation systems to improve delivery of water to aid economic development, as well as protect lives, resources, and property. The BIA has maintenance responsibility for approximately 27,900 miles of bureau-owned roads and 970 bridges. Other construction programs maintain regional and agency facilities at 127 locations where Indian programs are administered. In 2019, funding for education related construction is focused on facilities improvement and repair, and employee housing repair.

MANAGEMENT AND REFORMS

During the peak summer seasons, the Department of the Interior has nearly 70,000 employees in 2,400 locations across the United States, Puerto Rico, U.S. Territories, and Freely Associated States. Interior's varied mission, wide geographic presence, direct public service programs, and trust and stewardship responsibilities, make it a personnel intensive and field oriented agency. Interior's diverse staff works to protect and manage the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage, provide scientific and other information about those resources, and provide services to American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and insular communities.

Secretary Zinke set some top management objectives to better achieve his goals and lead Interior's team forward – and implementation is underway. From day one, Secretary Zinke made improving the work experience a priority while at the Department. At the end of his first year, according to the *Partnership for Public Service's Best Places to Work* report, the numbers show progress toward that goal. In 2017, Interior moved from 11th place in the rankings to 9th place among all the large Federal agencies. Key to achieving improvement is the clear direction from Departmental leadership

there is zero tolerance for any type of workplace harassment. Recently released results from an anonymous Work Environment Survey at Interior show 35 percent of employees reported they were harassed or discriminated against in the preceding 12 months. In response, Interior is instilling a culture change through transparency and a zero-tolerance policy, swift personnel actions, clear management accountability and reporting procedures for harassing conduct, training, and action plans from all bureau and office heads across the Department.

Interior is also taking bold steps to better position itself for the next 100 years. In response to President Trump's Executive Order on a *Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch*, Secretary Zinke laid out a vision for a reorganized Department of the Interior which aligns regional boundaries within Interior to provide better coordination across the Department to improve mission delivery and focuses resources in the field. The 2019 budget includes a total of $17.5 million to start this effort. The budget also proposes additional shifts to better align functions within the Department and respond to Congressional direction related to the Office of the Special Trustee.

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DEPARTMENT WIDE REORGANIZATION PLAN

The Department of the Interior intends to establish scientifically based common regional boundaries for Interior's bureaus in FY 2018, and to further develop this approach in FY 2019. The goal is to improve overall operations, internal communication, customer service, and stakeholder engagement. Aligning geographic jurisdictions across Interior will enhance coordination of resource decisions and policies affecting ecosystems, and will simplify how citizens engage with the Department.

Organizing bureaus along common geographic lines, based on ecosystems, will allow for more integrated and better coordinated decision making across our bureaus. The Department will migrate to common regional boundaries, based primarily upon watershed features. For administrative simplicity, we plan to use county lines that most closely align to the watersheds.

Currently, Interior's bureaus have more than 40 distinct regions, each with their own geographic boundaries. This complicates coordination and hampers Interior's ability to get things done expeditiously. Having 13 common regions would help streamline the bureaucracy and in doing so, provide better service to the American people. Bureaus within a region will focus on common issues, taking a comprehensive approach versus a bureau-centric approach. This culture shift will help us work better together to accomplish one vision.

The new regional boundaries currently under discussion, and subject to modification, are expected to have minimal budgetary impact and only change the maps included in the detailed budget justification material. The BIA has initiated discussions with Indian Country and will continue with tribal consultations regarding any proposed adjustments to the regional field organizations serving the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education. The regions would operate virtually and gradually shift toward consolidated and collocated office space as leases expire. In 2019, the budget includes funding to support the establishment of joint offices in Alaska and California, and shift some FWS, BLM and Reclamation headquarters staff to the West.

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[Insert Map with New Common Boundaries]

The 2019 budget assumes efficiencies and reduces lower priority programs $2.3 billion below 2018 and supports 59,759 full time equivalents. This represents a reduction of roughly 4,500 full time equivalent staff from 2018, or 7 percent of our employees. To accomplish this, the Department will rely on a combination of attrition and separation incentives. Presently, 16 percent of our employees are eligible to retire. Actual attrition rates and acceptance of separation incentives will determine the need for further action to reduce staffing.

The Department annually spends nearly $3 billion to procure goods and services, over $1 billion on information technology and over $300 million to administer acquisition and human resources services. Interior will work to achieve cost savings of $50 million through more aggressive use of shared services and use of multi-agency procurement vehicles, such as shared contracting with other bureaus and Federal agencies. These savings will take effort to achieve, however, identifying administrative efficiencies provides the best opportunity to meet broader fiscal objectives and maintain programmatic funding. While all bureaus and offices will contribute to overall savings, specific targeted administrative savings apply to the following bureaus below.

Administrative Savings (dollars in millions)	**2019 Request**
BLM	-5.6
BIA	-8.3
FWS	-5.6
NPS	-22.2
USGS	-8.3
Total, Administrative Savings	**-50.0**

Reducing Interior's physical footprint and seeking ways to consolidate space and resources continues to be an important management priority. Efforts build on several multi-year actions to reduce Interior's nationwide facilities footprint and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its information technology infrastructure and financial reporting capabilities.

Ensuring Interior's cybersecurity strength continues to be a top priority. The 2019 budget maintains $9.9 million in the appropriated working capital fund to continue the Department's remediation of its cybersecurity systems and processes. The request continues support for activities launched in 2015 and supports Department of Homeland Security Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation investments to identify, isolate, and quantify cyber threats. In 2019, Interior will sustain activities that identify and manage hardware and software assets and security configuration settings; protect trusted internet connections at gateways; and introduce measures to prevent malware and phishing attacks through e-mail.

Maintaining the integrity of Interior's financial and business systems is another top priority. A

multi-year Department-wide effort successfully implemented the Financial and Business Management System, a modern, integrated, and secure system supporting better management, accountability, and transparency in budget execution, financial management, acquisition and financial assistance, fleet and facilities management, and property management. The system continues to deliver promised improvements in functionality, consistency in reporting, standardized internal controls and processes, and improved data availability.

The 2019 budget includes $46.8 million for the Financial and Business Management System. The request will maintain the system, avoid technical obsolescence, and implement high priority improvements to support the Department's operations. The FBMS tool continues to improve data quality and consistency across the Department, enables informed management decisions, and decreases manual processes.

The Department of the Interior's 2019 budget request maintains core functions important to the American people and supports a transformation the Department needs to accomplish for more effective management over the next 100 years. It reflects tough choices to prioritize and focus limited resources where investments have the most impact, but continues to deliver access and services that are critical to Americans. Achieving success in all of Interior's important responsibilities for the American people is the Department's primary focus. Interior is committed to take necessary actions to better accomplish our mission.

From:	Flanagan, Denise
To:	David Bernhardt; Downey Magallanes; Scott Hommel; James Cason; Todd Willens; John Tanner; Micah Chambers; Amanda Kaster; Heather Swift; Laura Rigas; Daniel Jorjani; John Tahsuda; Andrea Travnicek; Tim Petty; Katharine MacGregor; Jason Larrabbee; Doug Domenech; Mary Kendall; Brian Steed; Bryan Rice; Brenda Burman; Scott Angelle; Greg Sheehan; Mike Reynolds; Nikolao Pula; Glenda Owens; Jerold Gidner; Jeff Ruppert; William Werkheiser; Greg Gould; Richard Cardinale; Jill Moran; Rae, Kerry; Elizabeth Appel; Maureen Foster; Elena Gonzalez; Harry Humbert; Douglas Glenn; Megan Olsen; Beck, Richard; Steve Glomb; Mary Pletcher; Martin Quinlan; Sylvia Burns; Robert Wolf; Linda Chambers; Jennifer Werner; Chris Nolin; Cynthia Lodge; Barrett, Anne; Tonya Jackson; Linda Smith; James Anderson; Annie Yang; Craig Prestenbach; James Burckman; George Bearpaw; Eric Modrow; Tran, Thao; Jonathan Dunn; Sharon Smith; Bruce Nesslage; Santos, Tyrone; Reed Murray; Walter Cruickshank; Wendy Fink; Jessica Bowron; Beth Lamb; Raymond Limon; Gulac, Catherine; Gareth Rees
Cc:	Scott Cameron; Olivia Ferriter; Denise Flanagan; Adrianne Moss; OS_POB_BPR; Thomas C Wayson; Laura Nicholson; Kimberly N Prendergast
Subject:	Reminder: Comments due today Fwd: Action: Review Draft FY 2019 Budget in Brief Front Section Chapters by Thursday, January 18 at 5pm
Date:	Thursday, January 18, 2018 2:21:12 PM
Attachments:	2018_01_16 FY 2019 Budget in Brief Legislative Proposals Chapter.docx 2018_01_16 FY 2019 Budget in Brief Overview Chapter.docx

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All,
This is a reminder comments on the attached draft BIB chapters were due today at 5pm. Please send any outstanding comments tonight. Thanks to all who have sent comments, much appreciated!
Thanks! Denise

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Flanagan, Denise** <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 16, 2018 at 6:23 PM
Subject: Action: Review Draft FY 2019 Budget in Brief Front Section Chapters by Thursday, January 18 at 5pm
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Cc: Scott Cameron <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>, Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, Adrianne Moss <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, OS_POB_BPR <OS_POB_BPR@ios.doi.gov>, Thomas C Wayson <Thomas_C_Wayson@ios.doi.gov>, Laura Nicholson <laura_nicholson@ios.doi.gov>, Kimberly N Prendergast <kimberly_prendergast@ios.doi.gov>

All,

This email requests your assistance to review two Department FY 2019 Budget documents by 5pm on Thursday, January 18th.

The release of the President's FY 2019 budget will occur on Monday, February 5, 2018. We are in the final stages of preparing the 2019 Budget in Brief (BIB).

The BIB is a summary of Interior's 2019 budget request. The attached Overview and Legislative Proposals chapters showcase Administration and Department priorities and shape the message for how these priorities will be communicated to Congress and the public. Your input on potential "fatal flaws" in these chapters is important.

Send any suggested edits in Microsoft Word track changes or hard copy to Jason Freihage (jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov) and copy Denise Flanagan (Denise_Flanagan@ios.doi.gov) and Adrianne Moss (Adrianne_Moss@ios.doi.gov) by 5pm on Thursday, January 18th.

Please email or call me at my desk 202-208-5309 or my cell 202-316-1383 if you have questions. Thanks so much for your help! Denise

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2019 Legislative Proposals

The 2019 President's budget includes legislative proposals affecting revenues, and available budget authority that require action by the Congress. These proposals provide an important contribution to the Administration's policy goals, including achieving a fair return to the American taxpayer from the sale of Federal resources.

Public Lands Infrastructure Initiative – The Administration proposes legislation for a new Public Lands Infrastructure Fund to help pay for repairs and improvements in national parks, national wildlife refuges, and Bureau of Indian Education schools, which have over $12 billion in deferred maintenance. The Fund would be derived from 50 percent of incremental energy leasing receipts over 2018 Budget projections not otherwise allocated for other purposes. As the Department works to expand energy development on Federal lands and waters, this initiative has the potential to generate up to $18 billion over ten years for national parks, national wildlife refuges, and BIE schools. The 2019 budget baseline assumes $6.8 billion is available for the Fund over ten years.

Bureau of Reclamation Title Transfer – The Administration proposes legislation to better facilitate title transfer of BOR facilities to non-Federal entities when the transfers are beneficial to all parties. This proposal would allow local water managers to make their own decisions to improve water management at the local level, while allowing BOR to focus management efforts on projects with a greater Federal nexus.

Redirect Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act Account Balances – The budget proposes to cancel $230 million in unobligated balances from the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act program over a three year period. The SNPLMA was enacted in 1998 authorizing the Bureau of Land Management to sell specified public lands around Las Vegas, Nevada, and retain the proceeds for capital improvements and various conservation, restoration, and recreational purposes in the State. The budget proposes to redirect a portion of the program balances to the Treasury where they are available for broader taxpayer use. The SNPLMA program is not proposed for elimination and viable conservation efforts will continue to be supported with remaining available funds.

Reauthorize the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act – The budget assumes permanent reauthorization of FLTFA's land sale authority, allowing Interior to dispose of lands with low conservation value and use the proceeds to acquire lands with high conservation values, consistent with the original FLTFA mandate. Also consistent with the prior authorization, 80 percent of the receipts would be spent in the same state in which the funds were generated. The FLTFA authority provides Interior with the flexibility to manage its land portfolio to improve

access to public lands or to acquire inholdings within existing Interior areas, in a constrained budget environment. This proposal is estimated to result in savings of $36.0 million over ten years.

Recreation Fee Program – The budget proposes to permanently reauthorize the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, which expires in September 2018. As a precaution, the budget also proposes appropriations language to provide a two-year extension of FLREA through September 2021. The revenues collected by Interior from these recreation fees—approximately $316 million in FY 2017—are an important source of funding for land management operations, maintenance and improvements to recreation facilities on public lands.

Termination of EPAct Geothermal Payments to Counties – The budget proposes to restore the disposition of Federal geothermal leasing revenues to the historical formula of 50 percent to the states and 50 percent to the U.S. Treasury by repealing Section 224(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. That section changed the distribution to direct 50 percent to states, 25 percent to counties, and 25 percent to the Federal government. The 25 percent share for county payments is inconsistent with longstanding revenue-sharing practices and reduces the return to Federal taxpayers from geothermal leases on Federal lands. The proposal is estimated to result in savings of $40.0 million over ten years.

Land and Water Conservation Fund – The LWCF receipts authorization expires at the end of fiscal year 2018 and the Administration will review options for reauthorization.

Wildland Fire Suppression Disaster Cap Adjustment – The budget responsibly funds 100 percent of the rolling 10-year average cost for wildfire suppression in the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior within discretionary budget caps, and proposes a separate annual cap adjustment for wildfire suppression operations. Similar to how unanticipated funding needs for other natural disasters are addressed, the budget proposes a separate Fund that will include an annual cap adjustment appropriation for wildfire suppression to ensure adequate resources are available to fight wildland fires, protect communities, and safeguard human life during the most severe wildland fire seasons. The cap proposal is described separately in the President's Budget Appendix and will be managed by the Office of Management and Budget on behalf of both Departments.

"Across the Department we are striking the right balance to protect our greatest treasures and also generate the revenue and energy our country needs"

Secretary Ryan Zinke, December 28, 2017

The 2019 budget for the Department of the Interior features targeted investments to further the Administration's objectives to prioritize American interests by leading in American Energy Dominance, restoring public access to public lands, and strengthening the economy through infrastructure investment, regulatory relief, and fiscal responsibility.

The Department of the Interior conserves and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, provides scientific and other information about natural resources and natural hazards to address societal challenges and create opportunities for the American people, and honors the Nation's trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities to help them prosper. The Department's 2019 budget reflects the Administration's commitment to strike the right balance of development and conservation of America's resources to advance important national objectives.

The Department of the Interior strives to fulfill a vision to:

- *Promote energy and minerals dominance* to create jobs for Americans, insulate our Nation from volatile political developments overseas, provide additional energy security to allies via surplus domestic supply, and generate revenue for all levels of government so they in turn have the resources to better serve the American people.
- *Increase access to outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans* so our people can be healthier, more fully enjoy the wonderful features of their Federal lands, and take advantage of hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation pursuits that are the roots of the conservation movement.
- *Enhance conservation stewardship* whereby all levels of government and private landowners work cooperatively together in an atmosphere of mutual respect to achieve shared natural resource management goals across landscapes.
- *Improve management of species and their habitats* by focusing our financial and staff resources on improving the status of our Nation's fish and wildlife and the healthy habitats that support them, and by streamlining bureaucracy to help us spend relatively more of our funding productively on the ground to better meet societal needs and our own natural resource management responsibilities.
- *Uphold trust and related responsibilities*, recognizing the importance of government-to-government relationships with Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives, and insular areas, and respecting self-determination and sovereignty.

The Department's 2019 budget request supports the Administration's broader economic goals to manage Federal spending with restraint. Interior's fiscal 2019 budget request is $11.3 billion in current authority, $2.2 billion or 16 percent below the 2018 Continuing Resolution level. The budget also proposes to transfer $111 million from the Department of Defense for commitments to the Republic of Palau, increasing Interior's total 2019 budget to $11.4 billion in current authority.

A major component of the 2019 budget is the Public Lands Infrastructure legislative proposal which would provide up to $18.0 billion over 10 years to address Interior's deferred maintenance backlog in the national parks, national wildlife refuges, and BIE schools. The investment in the Department's infrastructure would be funded by energy leasing revenues. The proposal complements the

President's national infrastructure investment proposal and recognizes the strategic importance of a long-term investment in America's treasures.

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SECRETARY RYAN ZINKE'S TOP TEN PRIORITIES:

- Create a conservation stewardship legacy second only to Teddy Roosevelt
- Sustainably develop our energy and natural resources
- Restore trust and be a good neighbor
- Ensuring sovereignty means something
- Increase revenues to support DOI and national interests
- Protect our people and the border
- Strike a regulatory balance
- Modernize our infrastructure
- Reorganize DOI for the next 100 years
- Achieve our goals and lead our team forward

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GENERATING REVENUE AND UTILIZING NATURAL RESOURCES

GROWING AMERICA'S ECONOMY

The Department of the Interior touches American lives in more ways than any other Federal agency – managing one-fifth of the land in the United States and delivering water and power in the West. Across Interior's diverse mission, this budget emphasizes the Department's crucial role in promoting economic growth for America. The Department is responsible for the oversight and management of America's public lands, national parks, mineral resources, grazing lands, and more. As the stewards of this public trust, the Department manages America's public lands for multiple uses, ensuring these lands are available for recreation, job growth and creation, and responsible energy development. It is this balanced stewardship of resources that drives job opportunities and economic growth.

America's lands hold tremendous job-creating assets. In 2017, Interior's energy, mineral, grazing, and forestry activities resulted in $9.6 billion in revenue to the American people, including direct revenue payments to states, Tribes, and local communities. Interior supported $254 billion in economic benefit. In addition, direct grants and payments to states, Tribes, and local communities provided an estimated $10 billion in economic benefit. Interior also supports the economy by eliminating unnecessary and burdensome Federal regulatory requirements. For example, in 2017, Interior initiated 21 deregulatory actions, saving the taxpayer $3.8 billion over time.

The Department creates jobs across America through our national parks and outdoor recreation opportunities at Interior's spectacular and unique public lands and cultural sites. Visitors to our parks spend more than $18.4 billion in local gateway communities, supporting approximately 318,000 jobs and contributing $34.9 billion into the national economy, according to the *2016 National Park Service Visitor Spending Effects Report*.

Interior also plays an important role in the Administration's key economic objective to strengthen

America's infrastructure. Interior manages thousands of real property assets with responsibility for reviewing and approving permits for access to Interior lands, and ensuring necessary environmental compliance including upfront and formal consultations to avoid conflicts over protected species.

Interior is one of 13 Federal agencies designated to implement Title 41 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act—commonly referred to as FAST-41—designed to improve the timeliness, predictability, and transparency of the Federal environmental review and authorization process for specific infrastructure projects.

The Department is a member of the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council, which includes senior leadership of Federal agencies responsible for conducting reviews and permitting for covered projects. FAST-41 is designed to improve consultation and coordination among government agencies; increase transparency and timeliness of Federal authorizations and environmental reviews; and increase accountability through consultation and reporting on projects. There are currently 26 FAST-41 infrastructure projects, of which the Department is the lead agency for eight, and a coordinating or cooperating agency for 14 projects. Dovetailing with the FAST-41 effort, in 2017, Secretarial Order 3355 was issued to enhance and modernize the Federal environmental review process and restore the purpose of the National Environmental Protection Act requirements to support the adoption of sound decisions based on an informed understanding of environmental consequences, rather than the generation of vast amounts of expensive and time consuming paperwork.

The 2019 budget maintains support for Interior programs that play a critical role in encouraging national infrastructure development. The 2019 budget includes $98.8 million for Fish and Wildlife Service up-front planning and consultation activities to avoid species conflicts. This request enables FWS to meet legal consultation requirements and avoid logjams that could delay infrastructure projects and associated economic benefits. The budget also includes $48.3 million for the Bureau of Land Management's cadastral program, which maps and surveys lands and resources and is needed to permit rights of way and other infrastructure project requirements in a timely fashion. An example of the projects this work supports is the recently approved Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project which will provide additional electrical capacity between the Pacific Northwest and the Intermountain West regions. The project will improve the Nation's energy infrastructure, strengthen energy reliability, create nearly 500 jobs, and boost local economies.

ADVANCING ENERGY DOMINANCE

Interior plays a significant role in the Administration's objective to achieve America's energy dominance. Interior supports the Administration's efforts to unlock America's domestic energy resources to advance both the Nation's economic and national security position by reducing dependence on other nations for energy. The Department of the Interior is working to improve access to public lands, remove unnecessary and burdensome roadblocks, and smartly balance conservation while facilitating exploration and development of America's energy opportunities.

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UNLEASHING AMERICA'S ENERGY POTENTIAL

In response to Executive Order 13783, Interior released the report *"Review of the Department of the Interior Actions that Potentially Burden Domestic Energy,"* identifying agency actions that potentially burden the development or use of domestically produced energy resources. This review guided real action to foster multiple-use, which includes energy development under reasonable regulations. Among the actions identified in the review that are underway or accomplished:

- Launch development of a new 5-year offshore energy development program.
- Repeal the 2016 moratorium on new Federal coal leases.
- Rescind the Hydraulic Fracturing on Federal and Indian Lands Rule.
- Review the Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation Rule.
- Address unnecessarily lengthy NEPA reviews that delay projects.
- Re-examine compensatory mitigation policies unnecessarily burdening permitting and authorization timelines.
- Address systematic delays in the onshore leasing program and permitting process.
- Develop recommendations to improve the application of the Endangered Species Act to avoid abuses that unnecessarily increase costs and delay projects.

At the same time, Secretary Zinke signed Secretarial Order 3358 establishing an Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting at Interior. The ECEP includes the Deputy Secretary and Assistant Secretarial leadership from across the Department, with the charge to improve Interior's energy permitting in service to the American public and Indian Country. The Committee will evaluate and recommend energy-permitting policies to better meet the Nation's energy needs, facilitate identification of energy rights-of-way corridors on Federal lands for expedited review of energy infrastructure projects, improve interagency communication regarding energy permitting, and identify best practices and reforms.

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Interior is the steward and manager of America's natural resources including oil, gas, coal, and hydropower and supports installation of renewable energy sources. American energy resources create jobs and generate significant revenue for the U.S. Treasury, states and local economies. With policies that foster growth and local input, the Department provides opportunities for new jobs and revenue for Federal, state, local, and tribal governments. Interior disbursements from energy and minerals production on Federal and American Indian lands and offshore areas totaled $7.11 billion in fiscal year 2017, an increase of nearly $1 billion over the previous year. Of this, states received $1.44 billion, tribal governments and individual mineral rights owners received nearly $676 million, and $950 million went into the Land and Water Conservation Fund to support outdoor recreation opportunities and conservation.

Onshore, the Department oversees more than 480 million acres of lands, and 700 million acres of subsurface minerals, mostly through BLM and Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement. Offshore, the Department oversees oil, gas, and wind development for 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement.

This budget proposes $792.0 million in current and permanent funding for energy related programs across the Department, an increase of $42.9 million from 2018. Interior's 2019 budget continues to support an "all-of-the-above" energy development strategy, increasing funding for onshore and offshore oil and gas, expanding coal activities, and sustaining the current pace of renewable energy development.

A large portion of Interior's energy development activities occur on the Outer Continental Shelf. The 2019 request includes support from offsetting collections, and supports a total offshore energy development and safety program of $379.2 million, an increase of $32.5 million compared to 2018.

The budget includes a total of $179.3 million for offshore oil, gas and renewable energy development activities in BOEM, an increase of $10.9 million from 2018. This funding reflects the importance of offshore production to America's economic and energy security. It includes a $9.4 million increase for BOEM to prepare a leasing program for FY 2019-2024. In January 2018, Secretary Zinke announced the Draft Proposed National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2019-2024.

The request for BOEM also includes $20.7 million for Renewable Energy activities. In 2017, the Department announced completion of the Nation's seventh competitive lease sale for renewable wind energy in Federal waters. A Wind Energy Area of 122,405 acres offshore Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, received the high bid of $9,066,650. Although the energy production from the sale will depend on the size of the project developed, the lease area is estimated to generate potentially enough energy to power more than 500,000 homes.

Integral to a strong offshore energy program are the continued efforts of BSEE, whose staff in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska are dedicated to maintaining a strong offshore safety culture. The 2019 budget includes $199.9 million for BSEE's programs to evaluate emerging offshore technologies, improve safety, conduct training, and maintain up-to-date policies, standards and guidelines. BSEE also manages an oil spill response and preparedness program as well as compliance programs governing offshore oil, gas and mineral operations. The 2019 request is a $21.7 million increase from the 2018 CR level, reflective of a one-time rescission of prior year balances in FY 2017.

Onshore, the budget includes $173.8 million in current and mandatory funding for the BLM oil and gas management program which in 2017, generated $348.9 million in combined onshore oil and gas lease sales. A recent U.S. Geological Survey and BLM assessment of undiscovered, technically recoverable onshore oil and gas resources in Alaska indicates higher than previously estimated oil and gas resource potential largely due to new insights on two geological formations in the National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska area. The assessment estimates a mean of 8.7 billion barrels of oil and 25 trillion cubic feet of gas of potential resources in the area, a significant increase from a 2010 assessment, which estimated a mean of 1.5 billion barrels of oil. In 2017, USGS, BLM, and BOEM conducted these assessments in compliance with Secretarial Order 3352 and as part of a program directed at estimating the undiscovered, technically recoverable oil and gas resources of priority petroleum basins in the United States. The next USGS assessments to be announced are for the Alaska 1002 Area and the area west of the NPR-A.

The 2019 budget includes $137.2 million in appropriated funds for oil and gas management and oversight, including leasing, permitting, and inspections. Increases are requested to expand areas

available for leasing, expedite permitting, and improve various aspects of the program management. The funding will also help to facilitate infrastructure needs to move oil and gas to refineries and end-users with resources to expedite the processing of BLM rights-of-way.

The budget includes $19.0 million for the BLM coal management program which will continue to focus on reducing processing times, simplify the lease application process, and improve the timeliness to complete lease sale fair market value determinations. In 2017, the Administration ended a Federal coal leasing moratorium, recognizing the Federal coal leasing program supplies roughly 40 percent of the coal produced in the United States. In 2017, the BLM approved a $22 million coal lease on the Green Hollow tract in Utah, estimated to contain more than 55 million tons of recoverable, high-energy producing coal. Also in 2017, the Administration rescinded the Stream Protection Rule, which impacts surface coal mining operations.

The budget includes $16.0 million for BLM to support onshore Renewable Energy development. The BLM Renewable Energy Management program processes leasing and development applications for geothermal energy, rights-of way and leasing applications for wind and solar energy, and rights-of-way applications for transmission lines connecting to renewable energy-related projects. The BLM conducts full environmental reviews under the NEPA on all renewable energy projects proposed on BLM-administered public lands. The request aligns with anticipated BLM workload addressing near-term demand.

An important component of Interior's natural resource programs is the collection and disbursement of receipts from development. The 2019 budget includes $137.5 million for the Office of Natural Resources Revenue. In 2017, Secretary Zinke held the first meeting of the reestablished Royalty Policy Committee, which includes 20 members representing local, tribal, and state government, and other stakeholders. They will advise the Secretary on the fair market value and revenue collection from Federal and Indian mineral and energy leases, including renewable energy sources.

INCREASING NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Interior manages a wealth of additional natural resource assets that require balanced stewardship and management. The BLM manages close to 65 million acres of forest and woodlands across 12 western states and Alaska in accordance with the multiple-use, sustained yield mandate of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The Bureau of Indian Affairs has a trust responsibility concerning the management of Indian forest lands by 313 Tribes across 18.3 million acres. The BIA works closely with the Tribes regarding land management decisions to help ensure resource sustainability, forest health, and continued economic development.

Interior is working together with other Federal partners to achieve a better balance of forest health and productivity in the Nation's timber-rich areas. Many of the Nation's forests and woodlands are increasingly overgrown and unhealthy, increasing the risk of catastrophic wildfire. Sharp declines in timber-related employment have devastated many rural communities. Increasing timber harvests can spur job growth and local economies in timber-rich and historically timber-dependent communities, including tribal communities; reduce fire risk; and help create healthier forests and woodlands for wildlife and to support a viable timber industry well into the future.

Maintaining healthy and productive forests requires active management. The 2019 budget includes $9.5 million for BLM's Public Domain Forestry program and $90.0 million for the Oregon and California grant lands. Both programs support jobs and local economies through timber and timber product sales. The programs also maintain and improve the productivity and resilience of forest and woodland ecosystems through sales and forest development projects such as density management and reforestation. In 2019, BLM will continue to implement efficiencies and prioritize Allowable Sale Quantity timber sale outputs in western Oregon.

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HELPING TO PROTECT WORKING LANDSCAPES

In December 2017, the BLM initiated an environmental analyses of fuel breaks, fuels reduction and habitat restoration projects on sagebrush steppe rangelands in Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Utah and California to ensure healthy, productive working landscapes and wildlife habitats. Region-wide analysis of impacts and cumulative effects will help the BLM streamline authorization of projects aimed at reducing the threat of wildfires and restoring degraded habitats.

Large-scale wildfires have become significantly more frequent throughout the western U.S. in recent years, particularly in sagebrush-steppe ecosystems. Wildfires have begun to exceed 100,000 acres on a regular basis, and areas are re-burning more often. Large and frequent fires often result in conversion of sagebrush to annual grasses like invasive cheatgrass, and native habitats cannot recover naturally.

Strategically sited fuel breaks can slow the progress of wildfires, allowing better firefighter safety and increased protection of human life and property, livestock forage and important ecological resources such as sage-grouse habitat. Treating invasive plants like cheatgrass and encroaching species like juniper further reduces the threat of catastrophic wildfire.

BLM has identified fire, invasive annual grasses and conifer encroachment as the most significant threats to sagebrush-steppe in the Great Basin. Focusing on these threats will also help the BLM protect working landscapes that contribute to healthy local economies.

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The BLM actively manages rangeland and grazing activities on public lands in the West which remain a vital part of local Western economies. The 2019 budget includes $82.1 million for the Rangeland Management program. The Rangeland Management Program focuses on efforts to maintain or improve public land health through monitoring and land health evaluations; administration of grazing use through permit renewals (largely 10-year permits); development of grazing systems and range improvements; grazing permit compliance inspections; management of permittee, allotment and resource data; and, management of invasive species and noxious weeds. The BLM manages approximately 17,950 livestock grazing permits and leases on the public lands.

The USGS is the Nation's leading source of expertise in earth and natural sciences and works closely with other Interior bureaus and state, local, tribal, and other Federal partners to help resource managers make informed decisions. The USGS focuses on core earth science and data used by land and resource managers not only within Interior and other Federal agencies, but also partners across the

world. The 2019 budget includes $859.6 million for USGS programs, to focus on core science activities including land and water resources, energy and minerals, mapping, ecosystems, invasive species, natural hazards, and maintains funding for the Landsat 9 ground system.

An example of the importance of the USGS work is its Mineral Resource program, which conducts assessments to identify critical minerals and estimate potential supplies. President Trump and Secretary Zinke signed Orders prioritizing the need to reduce America's dependence on foreign sources for critical mineral supplies, citing a recent USGS report examining 23 minerals the U.S. relies upon for manufacturing everything from batteries and computer chips to equipment used by our military. Secretary Zinke's Order directs Interior bureaus to identify a list of critical minerals, identify domestic sources, and streamline permitting to encourage domestic production of these critical minerals. The 2019 budget for the USGS includes a $10.0 million increase to support this Administration priority. With the additional funding, the USGS will accelerate the first nationwide geological and topographical survey of the United States in modern history to locate domestic critical mineral sources.

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BREAKING AMERICA'S DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN MINERALS

In response to the President's Executive Order on a *Federal Strategy to Ensure Secure and Reliable Supplies of Critical Minerals*, the Secretary directed the USGS to identify new sources of critical minerals by providing access to the most advanced geological and topographical surveys, and BLM and USGS to provide a list of minerals defined as "critical minerals," which will be coordinated with the Department of Defense. Ensuring the Nation has access to advanced topographic, geologic, and geophysical data will increase private-sector domestic exploration, production, and development of critical minerals to reduce dependence on foreign imports and improve the balance of trade, support job creation, preserve the Nation's innovation leadership, improve national security and enhance the technological superiority of the United States Armed Forces, a significant consumer of critical minerals.

"Right now the United States is almost completely reliant on foreign adversaries and competitors for many of the minerals that are deemed critical for our national and economic security. As both a former military commander and geologist, I know the risk this presents to our Nation," said Secretary Ryan Zinke. "The problem is we can't fix the problem if we don't know where the minerals are within our own borders. Other nations are far ahead of us with mapping of their mineral resources, leading to private sector investment overseas rather than right here at home. Creating a complete topographical and geographic survey of the United States is exactly the kind of task the USGS was created to do."

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CONSERVING OUR LAND AND WATER AND EXPANDING OUTDOOR ACCESS

Interior is the steward of America's public lands and cultural resources for the benefit of current and future generations. Among Secretary Zinke's top priorities for the Department are to create a conservation stewardship legacy second only to Teddy Roosevelt and to restore trust and be a good

neighbor to the states and local communities where Interior manages lands and resources. An important part of achieving these priorities has been the Secretary's efforts to increase public access to Interior's lands for sportsmen and other types of recreation, and strengthen Federal-state conservation efforts.

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MAKING OUR PUBLIC LANDS MORE ACCESSIBLE FOR AMERICANS

As part of "National Hunting and Fishing Month," Secretary Zinke hosted a first-of-its-kind meeting with veteran service organizations to share experiences and ideas to make public lands more accessible to veterans with and without disabilities. The Hunting and Fishing Access for Veterans roundtable discussion hosted by Secretary Zinke included members of his leadership team. More than 20 veteran advocates participated, including many who specialize in hunting and fishing therapy for returning warriors.

Secretary Zinke told the group that, "Hunting and fishing present such an incredible healing opportunity for our veterans who return home with physical and emotional wounds. Unfortunately, many of our public lands are either inaccessible to individuals with various physical disabilities, or we just don't offer programs to encourage veterans to access and use them. I want these warriors to be able to return home from their service and enjoy the very lands they fought to protect. I want to make sure hunting and fishing on public lands is easily accessible and available. Hearing ideas from leaders in the veteran community about how to achieve this goal has given my team some much-needed insight as we move forward."

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Taking care of the resources we have rather than acquiring new Federal lands continues to be a top priority in the 2019 budget. The budget does not propose funding for new Federal land acquisition projects in 2019 and continues to focus resources on conservation stewardship and increased access for the public use and enjoyment of Interior's existing lands. The budget for land acquisition programs across the Department is $8.1 million, which includes the proposed cancellation of $25.0 million in prior year balances.

The 2019 budget includes $4.3 billion for operating programs in the three primary land management bureaus – NPS, FWS, and BLM. This funding supports the day to day management of the natural resources and public amenities of America's national parks, national wildlife refuges, and national conservation lands. This includes funding to support visitor services and safety, law enforcement, and maintenance of facilities. Operating funds also support the primary stewardship activities needed to carry out each of the bureau's unique resource stewardship missions. Early eradication and control of invasive species is an example of a core stewardship activity shared across the Department. The 2019 budget includes a total of $100.8 million for invasive species activities to address significant issues such as the spread of invasive mussels and Asian Carp.

Since taking office last year, Secretary Zinke has issued three Secretarial Orders to expand access to public lands and increase hunting, fishing, and recreation opportunities nationwide. Under Secretary Zinke's leadership, the Department opened public access to the Sabinoso Wilderness, which contains

some of the most pristine sportsmen opportunities in the country, expanded hunting and fishing access on 10 national wildlife refuges, successfully defended a mineral withdrawal near the Grand Canyon, and advocated for a mineral withdrawal north of Yellowstone.

Focusing on the future of America's national parks, national wildlife refuges, and BLM public lands, in 2017, Secretary Zinke established the Recreation Advisory Committee. The Committee will develop recommendations on policies and programs to expand and improve visitor infrastructure through public-private partnerships; implement sustainable operations embracing fair, efficient and convenient fee collection and strategic use of the collected fees; improve interpretation using technology; and create better tools and/or opportunities for Americans to discover their lands and waters. This Committee will consider new ideas to better leverage partnerships and technologies to ensure the magnificence of America's treasures into the future. Secretary Zinke also created the Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council in order to more effectively gather advice and recommendations from experts on existing and proposed policies and authorities with regard to wildlife and habitat conservation.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund matching grants provided to states, and through states to local governments, support the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities all across the Nation. The 2019 budget reflects a shift in funding for NPS State Assistance grants from discretionary to mandatory funding. In prior years, annual discretionary appropriations derived from the LWCF provided the main source of funding for this program. Starting in 2009, discretionary LWCF appropriations for the State Assistance program were supplemented by revenues from certain oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico, as authorized by Section 105 of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act. Under existing law, this permanent funding for NPS State Assistance grants is expected to reach $89 million in 2019.

Ensuring the availability of water is central to the Department's resource stewardship mission and is vitally important to communities across the West. The 2019 budget includes $1.0 billion for Bureau of Reclamation water resource programs to ensure millions of customers continue to receive the water and power essential for daily life, healthy local economies, and land management. Reclamation is the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 western states and the Nation's second largest producer of hydroelectric power. Reclamation manages water for agricultural, municipal and industrial uses, and provides flood risk reduction and recreation for millions of people.

The 2019 budget continues support for Reclamation's efforts to address America's water reliability and availability. Together with the USGS, Reclamation partners with states and local communities to assess future water supply and demand in key basins. This effort is part of Reclamation's suite of WaterSMART programs. The 2019 budget includes funding to continue the WaterSMART water conservation grants and Title XVI water recycling reuse grants that support local innovation efforts to stretch water supplies.

The 2019 budget includes funding to support innovation by incentivizing research through Reclamation's Water and Power Technology Prize Competitions. Reclamation is using prize competitions to harness the innovative capacity of the American public and private sectors to solve research and development problems related to Reclamation's mission and stakeholder interests. Reclamation prize competitions target difficult scientific and technological problems related to infrastructure, water availability, and environmental compliance that affect water delivery and hydropower generation. The budget also includes $4.5 million for Reclamation to pro-actively stop the spread of invasive

mussels in the West, including preventing the spread of zebra and quagga mussels into the Columbia River Basin.

Secretary Zinke has set another important priority for our land and water management programs -- to restore trust and be a good neighbor to the communities surrounding Interior's lands. Being a good neighbor means honoring Interior's commitments to localities and working closely with and listening to state and local partners in land management decisions. An example of this commitment is the establishment and implementation of the recommendations of a Sage-Grouse Review Team to complement state efforts to improve Greater Sage-Grouse conservation and economic development on public lands. The team of representatives from 11 states with sage-grouse habitat as well as officials across Interior and the U.S. Forest Service issued recommendations to strengthen communication and collaboration between states and the Federal government to conserve and protect sage-grouse and their habitat, while also ensuring conservation efforts do not impede local economic opportunities.

The 2019 budget maintains an important commitment to neighboring communities, by including $396.9 million in the discretionary request for Payments in Lieu of Taxes program. PILT payments offset the loss in property tax revenue for communities with significant Federal lands in their jurisdiction. The 2019 funding level for PILT is consistent with the 2018 President's Request and ensures continuation of this important program supporting rural America.

FULFILLING OUR TRUST AND INSULAR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Department of the Interior upholds the Federal government's unique trust responsibilities by fostering the government-to-government relationship between the Federal government and federally recognized Tribes, American Indians and Alaskan Natives. The U.S. also has important relationships with Native Hawaiians, and the affiliated insular areas including the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Interior administers and oversees Federal assistance to the three Freely Associated States: the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

Interior's programs maintain strong and important relationships with Native and insular communities, helping to promote efficient and effective governance and support nation-building and self-determination. These programs deliver community services, restore tribal homelands, fulfill commitments related to water and other resource rights, execute fiduciary trust responsibilities, support the stewardship of energy and other natural resources, create economic opportunity, and expand access to education.

The Department provides services directly, or through contracts, grants or compacts, to 567 federally recognized Tribes with a service population of nearly two million American Indians and Alaska Natives. The Department and its bureaus and offices play an important leadership role in carrying out the Federal trust responsibility to Tribes and individual Indians. The 2019 budget addresses Federal responsibilities and tribal needs related to education, social services, infrastructure, and stewardship of land, water, and other natural resources. The budget prioritizes support for programs that serve the broadest service population and proposes reductions in initiatives that are more narrowly focused. Throughout Interior's bureaus and offices, the 2019 budget supports the Administration's commitment to help empower tribal and insular communities to improve quality of life, create educational and economic opportunities, promote efficient and effective governance, preserve and foster

cultural heritage, and steward natural resources.

The President's budget maintains the Administration's strong support for the principle of tribal self-determination, and efforts to strengthen tribal communities across Indian Country. The budget calls for full funding for Contract Support Costs and Tribal Grant Support Costs that Tribes incur from managing Federal Indian programs.

The budget includes $350.1 million for BIA Public Safety and Justice programs. The programs provide law enforcement, corrections, and courts services to Indian communities. The programs safeguard life and property, enforce laws, maintain justice and order, and ensure that detained American Indian offenders are held in safe, secure, and humane environments. The BIA also provides technical assistance to Tribes to amend tribal legal codes to reflect provisions in the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Violence Against Women Act as reauthorized.

BIA also undertakes initiatives to promote the development of resilient tribal communities. The 2019 budget includes $2.5 million to address the opioid crisis, which has been particularly devastating in Indian Country. This initiative would expand BIA capacity to address the increase in drug-related activities through interdiction programs to reduce drug use, distribution, and drug related crime. The initiative will support BIA participation in intra- and inter-agency initiatives that support opioid and substance abuse prevention efforts. The BIA liaisons will align, leverage, and coordinate Federal efforts and resources to assist American Indian and Alaska Native communities in achieving their goals to reduce the supply of drugs, provide opioid addition prevention assistance, and otherwise combat the opioid crisis which the Trump Administration has identified as one of epic proportions and a priority to address.

The 2019 budget request includes $739.7 million to continue support for core Indian education programs, including formula funding and operation and maintenance funding for elementary and secondary schools, and support for post-secondary programs. The request prioritizes programs that support the Bureau of Indian Education's responsibilities to directly support educational services to Indian children at BIE schools.

The 2019 budget includes $172.4 million across the Department to honor Indian Water Settlement commitments. This includes $127.4 million in Reclamation and $45.0 million in BIA. The budget continues to meet Federal responsibilities outlined in enacted land and water rights claim settlements with Indian Tribes to ensure they have access to land and water to meet domestic, economic, and cultural needs. These settlements support infrastructure projects needed to improve the health and well-being of tribal members and their communities. The 2019 funding level proposed for BIA provides sufficient funding to meet imminent settlement dates, however, specific settlement funding levels for 2019 will depend on the outcome of Congressional action on the 2018 Appropriations.

The 2019 budget includes $3.0 million to implement a phased closure of the independent agency, the Office of Navajo Hopi Indian Relocation. As part of this phased closure, the Office of Special Trustee would assume responsibility for development of a detailed transition plan and the transfer of land management activities currently conducted by ONHIR to Interior in 2019. Interior will work with ONHIR to ensure a smooth transition of activities.

The 2019 budget for the Office of Insular Affairs focuses resources to support the most critical needs of insular communities—improving quality of life, creating economic opportunity, and promoting

efficient and effective governance. The proposed 2019 OIA budget is $718.8 million, with $84.1 million in current appropriations. The budget also includes $111.0 million in discretionary Department of Defense appropriations as a transfer to the Department of the Interior to support enactment of the 2010 Compact Review Agreement with Palau. The Compact is an important element of the Pacific national security strategy.

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COMPACT WITH PALAU

The United States and Palau governments signed the Palau Compact Review Agreement in 2010, which proposed continued U.S. financial assistance totaling $229 million through 2024. Until recently, funding for the pact has not been authorized by Congress. Beginning with 2010, subsequent Interior discretionary appropriations have included annual economic assistance to Palau of approximately $13.1 million a year for a total of $118.3 million in discretionary funding by the end of 2017. In 2017, Congress enacted the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act, which officially authorized the strategic agreement signed between the United States and Palau governments in 2010.

"Authorizing full funding for the agreement is an important element of the Pacific national security strategy to maintain stability in the Western Pacific Region and we look forward to continuing our work with Congress to get this job done. President Trump's strong support for the agreement, the Department's budget request, and Congress' support for it all point to the strategic importance of our U.S. Territories and the Freely Associated States." - Secretary Zinke, 12/13/2017

The 2019 President's Budget requests $111.0 million in the Department of Defense, to be transferred to the Department of the Interior, to fully fund the U.S. Government's remaining commitment to Palau. These funds are provided to assist the Government of Palau in its efforts to advance the well-being of its people and in recognition of the special relationship that exists between the United States and Palau, and its importance in the Nation's Pacific national security strategy.

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PROTECTING OUR PEOPLE AND THE BORDER

Inherent in Interior's management of public lands is the requirement to protect employees and visitors to those public lands. Ensuring employee and public safety is complex and requires the resources of multiple bureaus and offices. The Department's Law Enforcement Program has the third largest contingent of Federal law enforcement officers in the Executive Branch. Depending on the season, approximately 3,500-4,000 law enforcement officers, rangers, and other employees patrol vast acres of public lands, national parks, national wildlife refuges, and Indian communities and protect people, as well as natural, cultural, and heritage resources from illegal activities; and address emergency needs.

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RESPONDING TO HURRICANE EMERGENCIES

In response to the devastation caused by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria during 2017, Interior deployed 560 employees on 31 Federal Emergency Management Agency mission assignments in the immediate response. When the flooding started during the Hurricane events, teams from the USGS risked their safety to deploy storm-tide sensors, helping partners at the Federal, state, and local levels track the storm and get a head start on their response. Hundreds of Interior law enforcement officers deployed to evacuate, prepare and respond to emergency needs in the hurricane zones.

Many Interior employees who were hurricane victims themselves helped to serve not only the immediate needs of Interior's mission, but even more importantly they also supported their communities. For example, on the island of Vieques, off the coast of Puerto Rico, FWS employees coordinated an airdrop of food and water for 4,600 residents, and the National Park Service served as points of distribution for FEMA supplies.

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A key component of Interior's land stewardship and public safety goals is management of wildland fire. The 2019 budget provides $388.1 million for wildfire suppression–the full 10-year average of suppression expenditures. This level of funding is projected to be sufficient to meet fire suppression needs in an average fire season without the risk of needing emergency transfers from other departmental accounts.

The budget responsibly funds 100 percent of the rolling 10-year average cost for wildfire suppression in the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior within discretionary budget caps, and proposes a separate annual cap adjustment for wildfire suppression operations. Similar to how unanticipated funding needs for other natural disasters are addressed, the budget proposes a separate fund that will include an annual cap adjustment appropriation for wildfire suppression to ensure adequate resources are available to fight wildland fires, protect communities, and safeguard human life during the most severe wildland fire seasons.

Devastating fires in California and Montana, and high-profile fires in Yosemite and Glacier National Parks have caught national headlines, however, millions of acres of other forest and grassland burned in 2017. As a result, Secretary Zinke directed Department of the Interior bureaus, park superintendents, and land managers at all levels to adopt more aggressive practices to prevent and combat the spread of catastrophic wildfires through robust fuels reduction and pre-suppression techniques.

There are over 12.5 million acres under Interior jurisdiction within 50 miles of the United States-Mexico border. More than 40 percent of the border, or 820 linear miles, is managed by Interior's land management agencies and the U.S. Forest Service. Interior is engaged with the Department of Homeland Security to increase security on the Southwest border, including 54 border miles on tribal lands, primarily made up of lands located on and managed by the Tohono O'odham Nation in Arizona. Currently, 305 miles, or 38 percent, of Interior border lands have a vehicle or pedestrian fence or wall. Interior's responsibilities include conservation of over 200 threatened and endangered species in the border region and over 500 species of migratory birds. Interior's investments are focused primarily on law enforcement and security; environmental coordination and land management on national wildlife refuges, national parks and BLM lands; protection of trust resources; and water resource management by Reclamation on the Lower Colorado. The budget includes $1.8 million to

expand the Department's Southwest Border Radio Demonstration Project. The project was developed in cooperation with BLM, NPS, FWS, and the U.S. Forest Service in the Southwest border region to address Inspector General-identified material deficiencies in the land mobile radio program and infrastructure.

Interior plays an important role in preparation for and addressing the aftermath of natural hazard events. The USGS provides scientific information to emergency responders, policy makers, and the public to reduce the risk of losses from a wide range of natural hazards, including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, landslides, magnetic storms, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, and wildfires. The 2019 budget includes $116.6 million for the USGS Natural Hazards programs to maintain important nation-wide monitoring networks that provide vital scientific information to emergency managers.

MODERNIZING OUR ORGANIZATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS

INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT

Interior manages an infrastructure asset portfolio with a replacement value exceeding $300 billion, ranging from elementary and secondary schools serving Indian children in the West, to highways and bridges serving the daily commuting needs of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Most well-known, are Interior's iconic and unique national treasures that have priceless historical significance.

Many of these assets are deteriorating, with older assets becoming more expensive to repair and maintain in good condition. The FY 2019 budget launches Interior's new Public Lands Infrastructure Fund to help pay for repairs and improvement in national parks, national wildlife refuges, and BIE schools. The Department is taking action to increase revenue from energy leasing and development over 2018 budget projections and will keep for Department infrastructure needs 50 percent of additional revenue that is not otherwise allocated for other purposes. This would generate an estimated $6.8 billion over 10 years. As Interior works to expand energy development on Federal lands and waters, this initiative has the potential to generate up to $18 billion over ten years for national parks, national wildlife refuges, and BIE schools. This investment would significantly improve the Nation's most visible and visited public facilities that support a multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy. The other 50 percent of increased revenues would go to the Treasury supporting deficit reduction.

Interior owns approximately 43,000 buildings, 100,000 miles of road, and 80,000 structures–including dams, laboratories, employee housing, and irrigation and power infrastructure. Taking care of this significant asset portfolio is a persistent challenge. Interior's deferred maintenance backlog has grown to over $16 billion in 2017, of which over $11 billion belongs to the NPS. The 2019 budget for NPS includes $256.5 million in current funding for construction and deferred maintenance projects, an increase of $1.0 million from 2018. Construction and maintenance funding across the Department totals over $1.3 billion in 2018, excluding Reclamation.

Reclamation is responsible for roughly 40 percent of the value of Interior's structure portfolio, which includes dams, power plants, water pipelines and canals in the 17 western states. Maintenance of this significant infrastructure is funded through a combination of Federal appropriations, direct revenue, customer payments, and payments from other Federal agencies. The 2019 budget for Reclamation is over $1.0 billion, and includes $88.1 million for the Dam Safety Program, of which $66.5

million is requested to correct identified safety issues.

Transportation assets—such as roads and bridges—account for about half of the deferred maintenance backlog. The Congress provides for some transportation maintenance and repair through the Federal Lands Transportation Program funded by the Department of Transportation Highway Trust Fund. This will provide more than $300 million for Interior projects in 2019. The Department also funds transportation maintenance and repair through bureau operating and construction appropriations.

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ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE REPAIRS ARE UNDERWAY

In December 2017, NPS announced a $227 million project to rehabilitate Arlington Memorial Bridge, a historic and critical transportation link in the Nation's capital. The project will save American taxpayers $35 million and 1.5 years of estimated construction time. The NPS, with the District of Columbia as co-signer, received a $90 million FASTLANE grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. In order to complete the project in a single phase, the NPS will invest $107 million of its annual transportation and construction funds. A "design-build" contract – meaning the contractor will both design the work and conduct the repairs – will save money and accelerate the project's completion time.

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The budget includes $264.6 million for construction and maintenance funding within Indian Affairs. Within this total are targeted increases for resource management infrastructure, roads, and other construction and deferred maintenance programs. Projects address needs at dams and irrigation systems to improve delivery of water to aid economic development, as well as protect lives, resources, and property. The BIA has maintenance responsibility for approximately 27,900 miles of bureau-owned roads and 970 bridges. Other construction programs maintain regional and agency facilities at 127 locations where Indian programs are administered. In 2019, funding for education related construction is focused on facilities improvement and repair, and employee housing repair.

MANAGEMENT AND REFORMS

During the peak summer seasons, the Department of the Interior has nearly 70,000 employees in 2,400 locations across the United States, Puerto Rico, U.S. Territories, and Freely Associated States. Interior's varied mission, wide geographic presence, direct public service programs, and trust and stewardship responsibilities, make it a personnel intensive and field oriented agency. Interior's diverse staff works to protect and manage the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage, provide scientific and other information about those resources, and provide services to American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and insular communities.

Secretary Zinke set some top management objectives to better achieve his goals and lead Interior's team forward – and implementation is underway. From day one, Secretary Zinke made improving the work experience a priority while at the Department. At the end of his first year, according to the *Partnership for Public Service's Best Places to Work* report, the numbers show progress toward that goal. In 2017, Interior moved from 11th place in the rankings to 9th place among all the large Federal agencies. Key to achieving improvement is the clear direction from Departmental leadership

there is zero tolerance for any type of workplace harassment. Recently released results from an anonymous Work Environment Survey at Interior show 35 percent of employees reported they were harassed or discriminated against in the preceding 12 months. In response, Interior is instilling a culture change through transparency and a zero-tolerance policy, swift personnel actions, clear management accountability and reporting procedures for harassing conduct, training, and action plans from all bureau and office heads across the Department.

Interior is also taking bold steps to better position itself for the next 100 years. In response to President Trump's Executive Order on a *Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch*, Secretary Zinke laid out a vision for a reorganized Department of the Interior which aligns regional boundaries within Interior to provide better coordination across the Department to improve mission delivery and focuses resources in the field. The 2019 budget includes a total of $17.5 million to start this effort. The budget also proposes additional shifts to better align functions within the Department and respond to Congressional direction related to the Office of the Special Trustee.

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DEPARTMENT WIDE REORGANIZATION PLAN

The Department of the Interior intends to establish scientifically based common regional boundaries for Interior's bureaus in FY 2018, and to further develop this approach in FY 2019. The goal is to improve overall operations, internal communication, customer service, and stakeholder engagement. Aligning geographic jurisdictions across Interior will enhance coordination of resource decisions and policies affecting ecosystems, and will simplify how citizens engage with the Department.

Organizing bureaus along common geographic lines, based on ecosystems, will allow for more integrated and better coordinated decision making across our bureaus. The Department will migrate to common regional boundaries, based primarily upon watershed features. For administrative simplicity, we plan to use county lines that most closely align to the watersheds.

Currently, Interior's bureaus have more than 40 distinct regions, each with their own geographic boundaries. This complicates coordination and hampers Interior's ability to get things done expeditiously. Having 13 common regions would help streamline the bureaucracy and in doing so, provide better service to the American people. Bureaus within a region will focus on common issues, taking a comprehensive approach versus a bureau-centric approach. This culture shift will help us work better together to accomplish one vision.

The new regional boundaries currently under discussion, and subject to modification, are expected to have minimal budgetary impact and only change the maps included in the detailed budget justification material. The BIA has initiated discussions with Indian Country and will continue with tribal consultations regarding any proposed adjustments to the regional field organizations serving the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education. The regions would operate virtually and gradually shift toward consolidated and collocated office space as leases expire. In 2019, the budget includes funding to support the establishment of joint offices in Alaska and California, and shift some FWS, BLM and Reclamation headquarters staff to the West.

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[Insert Map with New Common Boundaries]

The 2019 budget assumes efficiencies and reduces lower priority programs $2.3 billion below 2018 and supports 59,759 full time equivalents. This represents a reduction of roughly 4,500 full time equivalent staff from 2018, or 7 percent of our employees. To accomplish this, the Department will rely on a combination of attrition and separation incentives. Presently, 16 percent of our employees are eligible to retire. Actual attrition rates and acceptance of separation incentives will determine the need for further action to reduce staffing.

The Department annually spends nearly $3 billion to procure goods and services, over $1 billion on information technology and over $300 million to administer acquisition and human resources services. Interior will work to achieve cost savings of $50 million through more aggressive use of shared services and use of multi-agency procurement vehicles, such as shared contracting with other bureaus and Federal agencies. These savings will take effort to achieve, however, identifying administrative efficiencies provides the best opportunity to meet broader fiscal objectives and maintain programmatic funding. While all bureaus and offices will contribute to overall savings, specific targeted administrative savings apply to the following bureaus below.

Administrative Savings (dollars in millions)	**2019 Request**
BLM	-5.6
BIA	-8.3
FWS	-5.6
NPS	-22.2
USGS	-8.3
Total, Administrative Savings	**-50.0**

Reducing Interior's physical footprint and seeking ways to consolidate space and resources continues to be an important management priority. Efforts build on several multi-year actions to reduce Interior's nationwide facilities footprint and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its information technology infrastructure and financial reporting capabilities.

Ensuring Interior's cybersecurity strength continues to be a top priority. The 2019 budget maintains $9.9 million in the appropriated working capital fund to continue the Department's remediation of its cybersecurity systems and processes. The request continues support for activities launched in 2015 and supports Department of Homeland Security Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation investments to identify, isolate, and quantify cyber threats. In 2019, Interior will sustain activities that identify and manage hardware and software assets and security configuration settings; protect trusted internet connections at gateways; and introduce measures to prevent malware and phishing attacks through e-mail.

Maintaining the integrity of Interior's financial and business systems is another top priority. A

multi-year Department-wide effort successfully implemented the Financial and Business Management System, a modern, integrated, and secure system supporting better management, accountability, and transparency in budget execution, financial management, acquisition and financial assistance, fleet and facilities management, and property management. The system continues to deliver promised improvements in functionality, consistency in reporting, standardized internal controls and processes, and improved data availability.

The 2019 budget includes $46.8 million for the Financial and Business Management System. The request will maintain the system, avoid technical obsolescence, and implement high priority improvements to support the Department's operations. The FBMS tool continues to improve data quality and consistency across the Department, enables informed management decisions, and decreases manual processes.

The Department of the Interior's 2019 budget request maintains core functions important to the American people and supports a transformation the Department needs to accomplish for more effective management over the next 100 years. It reflects tough choices to prioritize and focus limited resources where investments have the most impact, but continues to deliver access and services that are critical to Americans. Achieving success in all of Interior's important responsibilities for the American people is the Department's primary focus. Interior is committed to take necessary actions to better accomplish our mission.

From: Foster, Maureen
To: Lisa Mendelson; Charisa Morris
Subject: Fwd: ASFWP Weekly Report
Date: Thursday, January 25, 2018 8:38:25 AM
Attachments: ASFWP Weekly Report 2018-01-24.docx

Here is what went upstairs.

Except for spacing and highlighting, the Google and Word docs should match.

Maureen D. Foster
Chief of Staff
Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3161
Washington, DC 20240

202.208.5970 (desk)
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Maureen_Foster@ios.doi.gov

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Foster, Maureen** <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 25, 2018 at 11:37 AM
Subject: ASFWP Weekly Report
To: Gareth Rees <gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Jason Larrabee <jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov>

Sorry for the delay in submitting.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Maureen

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WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR/Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
January 24, 2018

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

From January 24-26, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Jason Larrabee will be in Sacramento, California, for various meetings.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Aurelia Skipwith will be in the office.

Week Ahead Announcements and Actions

On January 24, Director of Gulf of Mexico Restoration, Mary Josie Blanchard, and representatives of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance will meet with representatives of the Port Fourchon, including the Executive Director, staff, and four Port Commissioners and the Port's engineering consultant.

On January 26, Mary Josie Blanchard will meet with the Director, Gulf of Mexico Program of The Nature Conservancy.

30-60 Day Look Ahead

WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
January 24, 2018

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings and Travel

On January 24, Greg Sheehan will travel to Albuquerque, New Mexico, for an All Employee Meeting with FWS, South Region Staff on DOI Priorities. On January 25, Mr. Sheehan will travel to Denver, Colorado, for the Sage Grouse Task Force Meeting.

Week Ahead Announcement and Actions

On January 27, the Sierra Club is organizing a "Save Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge" event from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The independently organized rally will take place in a field east of the refuge. Representative Filemon Vela (D-TX) is expected to attend, and representatives from the 19 cities/counties that passed resolutions opposing the proposed border wall have been invited. The event coincides with a FWS-organized 75th anniversary event at the Santa Ana NWR. The FWS event is being coordinated to have guest speakers, guided walks, interpretive exhibits and displays, games and activities, and refreshments. FWS will have increased law enforcement as well as External Affairs support onsite to help as needed.

FWS and partners will conduct the annual Mexican wolf population survey and capture, weather conditions permitting through February 2. The Mexican Wolf Recovery Program is a multi-agency cooperative effort among FWS, Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Forest Service, USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services and the White Mountain Apache Tribe, as well as in consultation with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Survey flights will occur on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, Apache and Gila National Forests in eastern Arizona and western New Mexico, and possibly on some areas immediately outside the forests. The count is not open to the public. A limited number of reporters may be invited to observe the count.

The biennial meeting of the signatories to the Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears, which includes Canada, Greenland, Norway, Russia, and the United States (Ranges States) will be meeting February 2-4 in Fairbanks, Alaska. The parties plan to exchange information on polar bear management and research and will evaluate the progress on implementation of the Circumpolar Action Plan. FWS is organizing and will be participating in the meeting. Alaska congressional offices have been notified. No news release is planned, but FWS may pitch stories to a couple of local reporters and offer interviews with some of the meeting participants. The meeting is not open to the public, so no media will be there during proceedings. No controversy is expected.

On or around January 26, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice announcing the availability of comprehensively revised boundaries for the first batch of Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) units included in the Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project. CBRS was created by the Coastal Barrier Resources Act in 1982 to conserve relatively undeveloped, highly vulnerable coastal barriers along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coasts. The proposed revisions will affect 112 existing and 36 proposed new units in Delaware, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and New Jersey. The notice will announce a 120-day public comment period and also advise of

upcoming public meetings to be held via webcast. Landowners, state and local officials (and their representatives in Congress) will likely support the removal of areas from the CBRS and similarly oppose the addition of new areas into the CBR. Properties in a CBRA unit are ineligible for federally subsidized flood insurance. Taxpayer groups, recreational interest groups and conservation groups will likely support the additions to the CBRS. Outreach will include a news release and FAQs, as well as stakeholder and congressional outreach.

In January, FWS and Forest Service representatives are scheduled to meet with a private rancher and staff from Representative Pearce's (R-NM) office. The rancher's cattle graze Forest Service-managed lands that are inhabited by the ESA-listed New Mexico meadow jumping mouse. Discussions will include development of a framework to address long-term land management practices that will benefit the mouse while meeting the needs of the rancher.

In late January, FWS, NOAA, and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (the Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees) plan to release an injury determination report that concludes PCBs released by General Electric have caused repeated and prolonged exceedances of state and federal water quality standards and contaminated surface water resources of the Hudson River for decades. The report is the latest demonstration of the Trustees' measurement of natural resource injuries from General Electric's release of PCBs to the Hudson River from its manufacturing facilities in Hudson Falls and Fort Edward, New York. The Trustees are planning coordinated outreach through a joint news release and congressional notifications.

In late January, FWS, NOAA and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (the Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees) plan to release a data report regarding polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) concentrations in eggs of the gray catbird. In 2015, the Trustees collected catbird eggs from along the Hudson River to determine PCB exposure. The study indicates that seven of the 29 eggs collected from the Hudson River exceed an avian effects threshold for PCBs quantified in scientific literature, suggesting the potential for embryo-mortality, an injury to these birds. The Catbird Egg Data Report is part of the Trustees' ongoing natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) to determine appropriate actions needed to injured restore natural resources and natural resource services of the Hudson River. The Trustees are planning coordinated outreach through posting on the web.

In January or February, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice of issuance for letters of authorizations issued in 2015, 2016, and 2017 under regulations authorizing the non-lethal, incidental, unintentional take of marine mammals in the Chukchi and Beaufort seas. This is an administrative action and is noncontroversial. No news release will be issued for this notice of issuance.

30-60-Day Look Ahead

FWS has completed a Draft Recovery Plan for the Southern California Distinct Population Segment of the mountain yellow-legged frog. The recovery plan is expected to be announced for public comment and review in February and is designed to help southern populations of this species in three recovery units through a set of recovery strategies with associated objectives and measurable criteria. The recovery units include San Bernardino Mountains, San Gabriel Mountains and San Jacinto Mountains. The draft plan includes input from partners including the

San Diego and Los Angeles Zoos, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Forest Service. This is not controversial. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications and a press release to media.

In January and February, several border projects involving FWS are anticipated to begin. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will need access to water from a FWS-owned well on Buenos Aires NWR in Arizona for a road repair project. The Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO) plans a road construction project for a 66-mile portion of the Presumido Canyon Road through the Baboquivari Mountains in Arizona. CBP will update existing communications and surveillance towers on and adjacent to the Buenos Aires NWR.

On February 5-8, the Management Board of the Arctic Council's Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) Working Group will be meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska. FWS coordinates U.S. engagement in the CAFF Working Group. Participants will include representatives from all Arctic Council countries (Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Russia and the United States); Arctic indigenous communities, including several representing Alaska native communities; and observer countries and organizations. Experts from FWS and across the U.S. government will join the U.S. delegation. A number of priority activities for the FWS, and the broader U.S. government, will be discussed at this meeting, including Arctic migratory birds, invasive species, wetlands, and monitoring, among others. The meeting is not open to the public. FWS may send a media alert about the meeting to a few reporters to invite them to attend a reception, which will be held prior to the meeting. Reporters would learn more about CAFF, the topics that the CAFF board will discuss at the upcoming meeting, and have the opportunity to interview participants.

On February 8, Jan Butts' farm (approximately 730 acres) in Kankakee County, Illinois, will be sold at auction. In his will, the former farm owner, Mr. Butts, directed that a large portion of his estate be provided to the "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Grand Kankakee Marsh National Wildlife Refuge." Grand Kankakee Marsh National Wildlife Refuge does not exist. It is called Kankakee National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area. Staffs from FWS, together with attorneys from the Interior Solicitor's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Illinois have been working with lawyers representing the Jan Butts Estate and the State Circuit Court to secure a path forward for the acceptance of what will likely be a donation valued at several million dollars.

FWS and the Marine National Monuments office have completed a public scoping process to evaluate ways to protect seabirds from predation by invasive house mice at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge and Battle of Midway National Memorial, located in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Midway is the largest Laysan albatross colony in the world and more than 3 million birds from 29 species nest on Midway's three islands. All of them are potentially vulnerable to mouse predation. The mice have been documented eating seabirds while they are nesting, resulting in injury and death. Due to their extreme dedication to raising their young, the birds won't leave the nest if attacked. FWS is preparing a draft environmental assessment that will evaluate alternatives to protect seabirds from mouse predation. The draft Environmental Assessment (EA) should be ready for public comment in

mid-February. Outreach is planned to include local public notifications through the web and social media, when the draft EA is published, and notifications to members of Congress in Hawaii, with targeted stakeholder outreach.

In February, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice seeking public review and comment on a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) describing the potential effects of issuing a proposed Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for construction and development activities in Thurston County, Washington. UPC, LLC developed a draft Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and applied for a 15-year ITP. The project development site is 127 acres, and the conservation site is 64 acres. Species covered in the HCP include the threatened Olympia subspecies of the Mazama pocket gopher and the threatened Oregon spotted frog. This is not controversial. This HCP is a single-site developer and independent from the HCP that FWS briefed ASFWP on November 17. This applicant would like to move forward with development in advance of the completion of the Thurston County HCP.

In February, FWS will award nearly $19 million in grants to coastal states to conserve and restore coastal wetlands and their fish and wildlife habitat. Each year, the Service supports coastal wetland conservation through the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program and the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. The grant funds are derived from excise taxes on fishing tackle and motorboat and small engine fuels. The grants will support 22 projects in 13 coastal states to protect, restore or enhance more than 30,000 acres of coastal wetlands and adjacent upland habitats, including 287 miles of shoreline. Over $21 million in additional matching funds will be provided by partner contributions from state and local governments, private landowners and conservation groups. Conservation of this habitat will help recover coastal-dependent federal trust species, enhance flood protection and water quality, provide economic benefits to coastal communities and increase recreational opportunities for hunters and anglers. The grant recipients (states) have not yet been informed that they will be receiving funds. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications and a news release.

In December, BNSF Railway submitted a final draft grizzly bear Habitat Conservation Plan to the FWS. The plan minimizes the effects of railway operations on grizzly bears and mitigates for unavoidable strikes by investing in bear conservation efforts in the project area. FWS is reviewing the plan. FWS is preparing for the other steps of environmental review including National Environmental Policy Act compliance, Incidental Take Permit issuance criteria, and intra-Service section 7 consultation. Since 1967, at least 55 grizzly bears have been struck and killed on railroad tracks in the 160-mile project area, which traverses the Continental Divide and is south of Glacier National Park. Beginning in the 1990s, BNSF instituted a series of voluntary measures directed at reducing or eliminating the causes of bear strikes. The incidence of grizzly bear strikes in the project area has markedly declined to less than one per year on average since 2009.

Endangered Species Act Listing/Delisting Actions

Pending approval by the Department, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* the final delisting determination for Eureka Valley evening-primrose and downlisting, to threatened from endangered, of the Eureka dune grass. These are two plant species that occur in Death Valley

National Park, California. The primary partner and stakeholder is the National Park Service who supports the actions. Some environmental groups opposed delisting the two species. However, in response to new information, we are no longer delisting Eureka dunegrass and are instead reclassifying it to a threatened species which may reduce the level of concern among the interested parties. Planned outreach will include a news release and notifications to stakeholders and members of Congress.

Pending approval by the Department, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed listing determination and proposed critical habitat designation for the Island marble butterfly, found in Washington. The proposed critical habitat designation includes approximately 812 acres. This action is not expected to be opposed and media coverage is expected to be neutral. Interested stakeholders include Xerces (the petitioner), federal partners including National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management, and state partners including Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Washington Department of Natural Resources, San Juan County Land Bank, the San Juan Preservation Trust, and local landowners. A news release to all interested parties and the media is planned.

On or around February 2, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final listing determination for the Texas hornshell, a mussel that occurs in New Mexico, Texas, and Mexico. The states of New Mexico and Texas have not overtly opposed listing the hornshell, and FWS has worked with oil and gas companies extensively on a Candidate Conservation Agreement for the Black and Delaware rivers, the only portion of the range of Texas hornshell where oil and gas production is occurring. FWS anticipates significant participation in these agreements which will provide regulatory certainty for these companies. Stakeholders include the Center for Biological Diversity, the States of Texas and New Mexico, the Bureau of Land Management, the Independent Petroleum Association of America, and local landowners. Planned outreach will include notifications to stakeholders and relevant members of Congress and a news release to local media. FWS is required by settlement agreement to publish the final determination in the *Federal Register* by February 10; therefore, FWS plans to submit it by February 2.

On or around February 19, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice of availability of a draft post-delisting monitoring plan for the black-capped vireo. While this action is not expected to be controversial, stakeholders who oppose the delisting of the species may use this notice to express their concerns about the delisting. Stakeholders include the petitioners, Pacific Legal Foundation, Jim Chilton, New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association, New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau, New Mexico Federal Lands Council, and Texas Farm Bureau, and the Office of Travis Co. Judge and Big Bend National Park. Planned outreach will include notifications to local stakeholders, a news release to local media and social media posts.

On or around February 28, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed rule to downlist to threatened from endangered the Kuenzler hedgehog cactus. When first listed, only one population of 200 plants was known. The discovery of additional populations, together with efforts to conserve the plant and its habitat, indicate the cactus is no longer at risk of extinction. Today, there are 3,300 individual cacti in 11 known populations within its southern New Mexico range. Additionally, the permitting of captive propagation and sale of the plant has relieved much of the threat from collection of the species in the wild. This downlisting is not expected to be

controversial. Planned outreach includes a news release, phone calls to stakeholders and web postings.

On or around February 28, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to downlist the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened. FWS will also propose to establish special regulations for the conservation of the species under section 4(d) of the ESA to allow for flexibility in managing lands. Landowners of resort, golf course, agricultural, residential and recreational properties are likely to support the reclassification and associated 4(d) rule while conservation groups may be opposed. Interested stakeholders include the State of Hawaii, federal agencies, conservation and bird groups, various private landowners, and the public. Outreach includes a news release, social media, emails and phone calls to Congressional offices and stakeholders.

On or around February 28, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination on a proposed rule to reclassify the Tobusch fishhook cactus from endangered to threatened. This plant species has shown significant recovery due in part to collaborative conservation efforts with partners. Supporters of this action include the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, The Nature Conservancy. FWS has gained positive coverage on downlisting proposals, and anticipates more interest when this final determination is announced. Outreach planned includes a news release and social media postings.

On or around March 6, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to delist the Colorado butterfly plant due to recovery. This species is located in Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming. This action is not expected to be opposed. Outreach plans include a news release, and an if-asked Q&A. Key stakeholders include private landowners, F.E. Warren Air Force Base, the City of Fort Collins, Colorado, and the Bureau of Land Management.

On or around March 8, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination to withdraw our proposed rule to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant found in California. This action is not expected to be strongly opposed; however, the Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment, a local environmental organization, has filed litigation regarding a development project in the range of the species and will likely oppose the withdrawal of the proposed rule. Other interested stakeholders include Newhall Land Company, City of Calabasas, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, WildEarth Guardians, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and local landowners. Media coverage is expected to be neutral. Planned outreach includes a news release to all interested parties and the media. FWS is required by settlement agreement to submit the determination to the *Federal Register* by March 15; therefore, FWS plans to submit it by March 8.

On or around March 9, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* an amendment to the current listing of the southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou (endangered) to include the entire Southern Mountain Caribou population as a distinct population segment (DPS). The revised DPS (17 subpopulations; 15 extant, 2 extirpated) includes the currently listed southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, which is a transboundary population between British Columbia, Canada and northern Idaho and northeastern Washington.

The critical habitat designation will remain unchanged. Non-governmental organizations including the International Fund for Wildlife, Kettle Range Conservation Group, Selkirk Conservation Alliance, Kootenai Environmental Alliance, Center for Biological Diversity, Idaho Conservation League, and the State of Idaho may be opposed to the DPS listing. The Pacific Legal Foundation (representing Bonner County) is likely to challenge the determination. FWS received a notice of intent to sue from the Pacific Legal Foundation on behalf of Bonner County in June 2017 because FWS has not met the statutory deadline for finalizing this rule (a proposed rule was published in 2014). Planned outreach includes a news release, social media, emails and phone calls to Congressional offices and stakeholders.

On or around March 9, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a minor map correction in the final rule designating critical habitat for two butterflies, the Poweshiek skipperling and Dakota skipper. One map incorrectly labeled Poweshiek skipperling critical habitat as Dakota skipper critical habitat in Minnesota. FWS does not expect any opposition to this. No outreach is needed for this simple correction notice.

On or around March 16, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a rule removing the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain wildlife entries that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. FWS is taking this action in accordance with the May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries. No outreach is planned.

Migratory Bird Management Actions

In January, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* the proposed 2018-19 hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. FWS annually prescribes frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow state selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications.

In January, FWS plans to publish a final rule removing regulations setting forth the provisions for two depredation orders for double-crested cormorants. FWS had used these standing orders to allow for lethal control of cormorants where they impact aquaculture and public resources; however, on May 25, 2016, the District Court for the District of Columbia ordered that both the Aquaculture Depredation Order and the Public Resources Depredation Order be vacated until FWS performs a new and legally adequate environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement for national cormorant management orders in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This final rule administratively implements the court's decision. While the depredation orders no longer exist, on November 15, 2017, FWS provided some measure of relief to aquaculture facilities. It issued a final EA under NEPA, which allows aquaculture facility managers and property owners across 37 central and eastern states and the District of Columbia to apply for individual permits for lethal take of

cormorants where they are impacting resources. This latest action is not controversial. If-asked talking points will be planned for outreach.

In January, FWS will publish a final rule in the *Federal Register* on special methods of hunting migratory game birds by tribal members on ceded lands in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota for the 2017-18 season. This rule prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands and ceded lands. This rule responds to tribal requests for FWS recognition of their authority to regulate hunting under established guidelines. This rule allows the establishment of season bag limits and, thus, harvest at levels compatible with populations and habitat conditions. This new final rule replaces the August 31, 2017, interim final rule. Outreach will include talking points, emails and phone calls to tribes, states, Congressional offices and stakeholders.

In January, FWS will publish a proposed rule in the *Federal Register* for migratory bird subsistence harvest regulations in Alaska for the 2018 season. These regulations allow for the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving FWS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Alaska Native representatives. The rulemaking is necessary because the regulations governing the subsistence harvest of migratory birds in Alaska are subject to annual review. This rulemaking proposes region-specific regulations that go into effect on April 2, 2018. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications and a news release.

In January, FWS will release a draft environmental assessment in response to a request by Ocotillo Express LLC for a five-year programmatic take permit for golden eagles at its Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility in Imperial County, California. Golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Ocotillo is requesting a permit to cover unintentional of eagles from their ongoing activities. With their permit application, Ocotillo has submitted an eagle conservation plan that proposes proactive conservation measures to minimize impacts to golden eagles in the region to offset unavoidable harm. Outreach is planned in the form of a news release. This is not controversial.

WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR/National Park Service
January 24, 2018

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

There are no scheduled events for the NPS executive management team for the week ahead.

Week Ahead Announcements and Actions

The week of January 22, a surnaming package will be presented to DOI for approval and conveyance to the Hill for a 90 day Congressional review as required. The Sitka Tribe of Alaska, under section Title IV of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, submitted a request to compact the interpretation and resource management programs at Sitka National Historical Park. Formal negotiations on the compact and accompanying annual funding have been on-going since July 2017. The tribe's proposal has completed the final stages of refinement in scope and in budget. A tentative agreement was reached between both parties on January 18, 2018 for the second half of fiscal year 2018. The scope of the tentative agreement is limited to portions of the interpretation program only for 2018. Timing review is necessary to execute the agreement and allow for hiring of employees for the upcoming visitor season (before the first cruise ships begin arriving in May).

From January 8 through March 31, 2018, Cuyahoga Valley National Park in Ohio is implementing the third year of its four-year White-Tailed Deer Management Plan. Management activities will be conducted in partnership with United States Department of Agriculture sharpshooters on weekday evenings from dusk till midnight. Park closures will be in effect during the time and in the areas where management activities are taking place. The park has notified immediate neighbors and municipalities and a hotline has been established for the public.

In mid-January, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park plans to announce a Finding of No Significant Impact for a new submerged Potomac River water supply intake, which will be operated by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). The project also involves constructing a boat ramp, a parking area, permanent water filtration plant facilities in the park, and a permanent access road. In exchange for a perpetual easement for the existing and proposed intake facilities, a land exchange between the NPS and WSSC will occur prior to construction. WSSC does not plan to begin construction for two years.

On January 22, the 30-day no action period required under the National Environmental Policy Act for the Fire Island National Seashore Wilderness Breach Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) will end. The NPS will then submit a Record of Decision for the Northeast Regional Director’s signature and review/concurrence of the Office of the Deputy Secretary. The Final Breach Plan/EIS identifies "No Human Intervention Unless Established Criteria are Exceeded" (Alternative 3 in the plan), as the NPS preferred alternative for managing the breach that formed within the Otis Pike Fire Island High Dune Wilderness during Hurricane Sandy in 2012. The Final Breach Plan/EIS evaluates the impacts of all alternatives considered in the plan, and responds to public and agency comments received on the Draft Breach Plan/EIS during the 45-day comment period which began in October 2016. The

FEIS for the plan was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency on December 15, 2017, with a Notice of Availability published in the Federal Register on December 22.

In late January, the NPS will close escrow on the acquisition of 223 acres of unimproved land at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. The land is being purchased from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) for $350,000 using Land & Water Conservation Fund appropriations. TNC acquired this last remnant of the 117,000 acre Kahuku Ranch in 2013. The NPS completed the purchase of the main body of the Kahuku Ranch from TNC in 2010.

In late January, the NPS anticipates concluding a $20,600 purchase of a water line easement at Muir Woods National Monument using Land & Water Conservation Fund appropriations. The acquisition was necessitated by a major upgrade to the potable water system serving the park.

In late January, Point Reyes National Seashore will release an Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared by Salmon Protection and Watershed Network-SPAWN for a project to enhance riparian and floodplain habitat at two sites in the park. The proposed actions will benefit federally listed coho salmon and steelhead, and are part of a decades-long restoration program involving watershed stakeholders and landowners within the Lagunitas Creek watershed. The proposed actions are not controversial and have strong local and regional support.

On January 26, the draft air tour management agreement for Glen Canyon / Rainbow Bridge will close after a 45-day public review. The agreement and FAQs are available through the park's PEPC page. The park has sent letters to congressional offices and the air tour operators and has issued a press release. The NPS, the Federal Aviation Administration, and seven commercial air tour operators intend to sign the agreement, once complete, to manage air tours over Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and Rainbow Bridge National Monument to ensure protection of resources and visitor use and enjoyment without compromising aviation safety.

On January 26, Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA-2) will host a meeting between Point Reyes National Seashore staff and park ranchers to discuss the ongoing General Management Plan Amendment process. The amendment discussion will focus on allowing existing ranch families to continue beef and dairy operations with 20-year lease/permits, and managing tule elk in the Drakes Beach area at a level compatible with authorized ranching. Visitor experience improvements, management strategies to protect park resources, and visitor carrying capacities in the planning area will also be addressed. Rep. Huffman is fully engaged on this issue, and has coordinated similar meetings over the past four years.

On January 26, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will be issuing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Columbia Gas Eastern Panhandle Expansion Project. The proposed project being analyzed includes building an 8-inch gas transmission pipeline that would, in part, cross under Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park and the Potomac River near Hancock, Maryland. To streamline the review process, the NPS is participating in the EA as a Cooperating Agency. The park has received a draft for internal review. The pipeline has attracted much public attention, and the superintendent has received over 550 emails requesting the park deny any right-of-way permit requests for a gas line

crossing. No decision will be made until the EA process is complete. The 90-day Federal Authorization Deadline is April 26.

On January 26, National Capital Regional staff will meet with Maryland State Senator Thomas Middleton and a small group of community members at Charles County, Maryland, historic site La Grange. The meeting, requested by Senator Middleton, is a first step to help the NPS learn more about LaGrange, its future needs/opportunities, any existing or potential community support organizations, and possible ways the NPS may be able to provide technical assistance. La Grange is on the National Register of Historic Places. This is not a public meeting and the media is not expected to cover the site visit.

On January 29, the NPS will be issue a prospectus asking groups to submit proposals to provide marina services at James Creek Marina in Washington, D.C. for the next 10 years. These services include wet slip rentals, fuel service, marine sanitation, parking lot operations, and retail and vending sales. Contract offers must be received by April 13, 2018.

On January 29, a team from Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, the regional office, and the DOI Solicitor's Office will meet with Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts (Foundation) about renewing and extending the park's partnership agreements. The current cooperative agreement with the Foundation, signed in 1998, expires October 1, 2018. The goal is to have new agreements in place by late summer 2018.

New date (Embargoed until public announcement) On or after January 29, Golden Gate National Recreation Area will publicly release the signed Record of Decision (ROD) for the Alcatraz Ferry Embarkation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The selected alternative will rehabilitate historic structures for visitor use and ferry operations at Pier 31½ in San Francisco, supporting a commercial services concession that will begin in 2019.

New date (Embargoed until public announcement) On or after January 29, National Park Service, Pacific West Region will announce the business opportunity to provide ferry passenger service to Alcatraz and other associated visitor services within Golden Gate National recreation Area. A one-day site visit will be offered to interested parties.

On January 29, Big Bend National Park plans to release its Exotic Animal Management Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA), which is designed to guide management decisions for exotic aoudad (Barbary sheep) and feral hogs. The EA analyzes a no action and a proposed action alternative. Feral hogs are currently limited to the northern portion of the park, but are expected to enter from existing populations outside the park both upstream and downstream along the Rio Grande. Aoudad are presently located in drier, sparsely vegetated mountains park wide. The no action alternative would allow continued and increasing impacts from these exotic species on natural and cultural resources within the park. The proposed alternative includes programmatic and site-specific analyses for implementing aerial (helicopter) shooting of aoudad; and aerial shooting, ground-based shooting, and live-trapping of feral hogs, to be coordinated by the State of Texas. The EA examines impacts to: federally-listed species, vegetation, wildlife, wilderness values, archeological resources and historic structures. Previous agency, tribal and public scoping included scoping newsletters, press releases, and public meetings. The park is working

with the regional office to develop a communications plan to effectively discuss the EA with the public and park stakeholders.

On or about January 30, Mesa Verde National Park will forward the Livestock Removal Plan/Environmental Assessment (EA) for Intermountain Regional Office approval. The EA calls for the removal of approximately 80 horses and 20 cattle that are presently inside the park. The park does not have the legal authority to allow livestock use within the park. When the park was established in 1906, there was no boundary fencing to exclude livestock from entering the park and by 1908 large numbers of livestock had entered the park, particularly during the summer grazing season. As a result, the Secretary of the Interior issued the first regulations in 1908 specifically for Mesa Verde to prohibit livestock use within the park. Previous fence designs along the park's boundary and topography make fence maintenance a challenge and livestock continue to migrate in and out of the park from adjacent land through gaps in the boundary fence. Until the mid to late 1990s, the park actively maintained the boundary fences and removed most trespass livestock in the park. Livestock is now primarily in the southwest canyons of the park. Once the plan is approved by the NPS, it will release it for a 30-day public comment period in advance of a final determination (Finding of no Significant Impact). There has been significant public and moderate media interest. The park is working with and consulting animal advocacy groups on how to humanely remove livestock from the park and identify potential homes for captured, unclaimed livestock. Initial public scoping began in 2015, and resulted in more than 9,000 comments, most of which were form letters.

In late January, Glacier National Park will issue a press release updating the public about the following two topics: (1) the park will announce that the Going-to-the-Sun Road Corridor Management Plan will be released as an Environmental Assessment in the fall, and (2) the park will announce a likely two-week construction related closure along the Going-to-the-Sun Road in mid-September due to routine pavement preservation.

In late January, following DOI approval, the NPS expects to release the final plan/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to address the presence of wolves at Isle Royale National Park. The publication of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency NOA of this final plan/EIS in the Federal Register will initiate a 30-day wait period before the Regional Director of the Midwest Region will sign the Record of Decision. The NPS preferred alternative would introduce between 20-30 wolves to the island over a 3-year time period. A decision is needed because the potential absence of wolves raises concerns about possible effects to the current Isle Royale ecosystem, including effects to both the moose population and forest/vegetation communities. Over the past five years, the wolf population has declined steeply and at this time, natural recovery of the population is unlikely.

In late January, Arches National Park anticipates submitting a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) following the release of the Salt Wash Rehabilitation Project Environmental Assessment (EA) in mid-October 2017. The park is currently preparing the FONSI for Regional Director review. The proposed action will provide for a safer and better visitor experience and improve natural processes by reducing the flooding, sediment deposition, and closure of the Wolfe Ranch/Delicate Arch Viewpoint road, and improve the conveyance of water and sediment in three washes. The FONSI will assess impacts to hydrologic and geomorphologic processes,

vegetation, visitor experience, and wilderness character and will determine if there will be significant impacts to these resources from the proposed action. During the public comment period, the park received nine public comment letters calling on the NPS to consider additional alternatives and suggested mitigation measures to manage impacts to wetlands, native vegetation and wildlife. The comments are addressed in the Errata Sheets attached to the FONSI, and resulted in minor changes to the EA. Additionally, the park consulted affiliated Tribes, the public, potential interested parties, and the State Historic Preservation Office during the planning process. Regional office anticipates signing before the end of February.

In January or February, pending DOI approval, the NPS anticipates publishing an NOA in the Federal Register for the Draft Management Plan and Draft EIS for Saline Valley Warm Springs (plan/DEIS) in Death Valley National Park. The NOA will initiate a 60-day public comment period on the document during which public meetings will be held in the vicinity of the park. The plan/DEIS analyzes five alternatives for the management of the Saline Valley Warm Springs area, and is intended to provide a framework for natural and cultural resource management, administration and operations, and managing visitor access.

On February 1, Joshua Tree National Park will be expanding its current online campground reservation system to include Jumbo Rocks and Cottonwood campgrounds. Currently the park offers approximately 200 sites for reservation, and the inclusion of Jumbo Rocks and Cottonwood campgrounds will double the number of reservable sites. Park management is moving towards expanding the number of reservable sites following an extensive public comment period and a series of public meetings on how better to serve the camping community at the park. Sites can be reserved at Recreation.gov; first come, first serve campers will still have access to four other campgrounds.

On February 1, Joshua Tree National Park will implement a pilot transportation program with a fleet of shuttle buses operating throughout the northern portion of the park during the peak season. The shuttle, supported through fee dollars, will be a free option for visitors, and will travel the 30 miles between Twentynine Palms, California and the village of Joshua Tree, providing access to all of the major campgrounds and hiking trails. After a two-year test period, the park will reevaluate the system to determine if it should be further expanded or made permanent.

On February 1 and 2, Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL-5), Rep. Carol Shea-Porter (D-NH-1), Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA-11), Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL-23), Caucus Executive Director Maria Laverdiere, and Rep. Matthew Cartwright's (D-PA-17) Deputy Chief of Staff, with accompanying staffers and participants, are planning to visit coastal areas of Everglades National Park and sites in Northeastern and Central Florida Bay. Topics during the visit will include water resource management, Hurricane Irma effects, and Everglades Restoration and Ecosystem Sustainability programs. Local and national media have been invited to join.

During the week of February 5, Grand Canyon National Park expects to begin a 30-day public scoping period for a plan to address improvements at Desert View settlement on the South Rim of the canyon, and support development of an Inter-Tribal Cultural Heritage Site. The park partnered with Grand Canyon's Inter-tribal Advisory Council (ItAC) for the project, which

includes representatives from the park's 11 associated tribes, and Grand Canyon Association, the park's non-profit partner. Potential changes in the Desert View settlement include adaptive reuse of facilities to support cultural heritage interpretation and cultural demonstrations, tribally-directed exhibits, way finding, and infrastructure improvements. Implementation could begin in 2019, coinciding with the park's centennial year. The NPS will hold public meetings at the South Rim on February 20, in Flagstaff, Arizona, on February 21, as well as a webinar.

During the week of February 5, Lassen Volcanic National Park anticipates opening a 30-day public comment period for its draft Environmental Assessment (EA) regarding the Bumpass Hell Trail Visitor Use Improvements project. The two-year project will improve the primary trail to the park's largest hydrothermal area, which is one of the most popular trails in the park. The preferred alternative proposes to re-establish a previous trail into the thermal basin, rehabilitate the trail tread, and replace boardwalk areas with a more sustainable design.

In early February, the final rule to allow bicycle use on a portion of the East Shore Trail at Rocky Mountain National Park is expected to be published in the *Federal Register*. The East Shore Trail is an existing hiking and equestrian trail that runs north/south along the east shore of Shadow Mountain Lake near the town of Grand Lake, Colorado. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was signed in February, 2015, that approved bicycle use on a two-mile segment of the trail. Rerouting trails along the East Shore to safely accommodate bike use triggered the rulemaking process per the NPS Bicycle Rule policy. The proposed rule was published in the *Federal Register* in December 2015. Substantive comments received during the proposed rule public comment period were addressed.

In early February, a proposed rule managing Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) use at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area is anticipated to be published. The rule would authorize ORV use, designate routes and areas, and establish criteria for operations of ORVs. This rule is required by the terms of a 2008 court-approved settlement agreement between the NPS and environmental groups. If this rule is not issued, the plaintiffs could re-litigate their claims and a court could require the NPS to stop all ORV use at the recreation area.

From February 5 - 9, the NPS will be conducting site visits throughout the State of Mississippi as part of the initiation of a Special Resource Study (SRS) looking at significant civil rights sites in Mississippi. The team will be visiting five different sites scattered across the state that were identified in the legislation requiring the SRS and meet with local stakeholders and property owners. The study will evaluate the potential for inclusion of each site in the national park system based on whether it meets congressionally established criteria for significance, suitability, feasibility, and need for NPS management. Representatives from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History will be participating in the site visits. The planning will include the start of preparations for formal public scoping and community engagement meetings, expected to be held in the spring of 2018.

On February 7, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore will host a Quarter Launch & Coin Exchange at Mather Elementary School in Munising, Michigan, commemorating the release of the park’s quarter, the 41st coin to be released in the United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarter Program. As a prelude to the event, the United States Mint will host a coin forum the evening

before, February 6, at Munising Township Office in Wetmore, Michigan. The WASO Office of Communications is in contact with the United States Mint who will draft a press release for coordination by the WASO Solicitor's Office.

On or about February 9, the City of San Francisco will certify a California state-level environmental compliance document for the Alcatraz Ferry Embarkation Plan. This will be subsequent to Golden Gate National Recreation Area completion of the Record of Decision for the Alcatraz Ferry Embarkation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement. The selected alternative will rehabilitate historic structures for visitor use and ferry operations at Pier 31½ in San Francisco, supporting a commercial services concession that will begin in 2019.

By February 12, the NPS will submit to the DOI regional environmental officer their comments on a proposal by the Federal Highway Administration for an EA and Section 4(f) Evaluation for review through the Environmental Review Tracking System (ERTS) for the Cairo Bridge Replacement Project. The project proposes to construct a new bridge in the existing location on WV 31 over the North Fork Hughes River in Cairo, West Virginia. The North Fork Hughes River is listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory, so there is potential for NPS interest in the project. The document has been forwarded to the NER Rivers Program for review and comment. Comments are due to the NER External Review Program Coordinator by February 5, 2018.

On or about February 15, the NPS State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants Division anticipates announcing 60 African American Civil Rights Grant awards, totaling almost $13 million. Grants will be used to fund planning, education, research, pre-development, and physical preservation projects focusing on the struggle for African American equality in the 20th Century. Eligible applicants include States, Federally recognized Tribes, local governments, and nonprofits. The grants are anticipated to receive press coverage and legislative attention upon announcement; the NPS will coordinate with DOI on the outreach.

From February 17 to 18, Frederick Douglass National Historic Site will celebrate the bicentennial of Frederick Douglass' birth. There will be community lectures, dramatic historical performances, kid activities, and musical performances. Douglass descendants and award-winning historian David Blight, are among the guest speakers. A news release announcing the event will be distributed February 7. All events are open press. An invitation has been extended to the Secretary.

On February 19, President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter will speak at the Plains High School in Plains, Georgia, a part of Jimmy Carter National Historic Site, during the annual Presidents Day celebration. The Congressional delegation, state and local officials will be invited to attend.

30 to 60 Day Look Ahead

In February, Phase 2 will begin on the waterline project to upgrade and replace the aging system in and around the National Mall and Memorial Parks. This phase is expected to take approximately one year. Work area will include West Potomac Park, the Washington Monument (WAMO) grounds, Lincoln Memorial, Ash Woods Road, the area between Constitution Gardens and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the recreation fields near the Martin Luther King, Jr.

Memorial. A majority of the work will be horizontal drilling, with pits every 500 feet to pull the line; however, there will be open trenching around WAMO.

In February, Death Valley National Park and the Ridgecrest Bureau of Land Management (BLM) office anticipate opening a public comment period on the Keystone Mine Plan of Operations Amendment and accompanying Environmental Assessment. The mine is on BLM land near the park's western border, and the mining plan includes the use of water rights from within the park.

In February, Olympic National Park anticipates initiating a two-week public scoping period for the Olympic Hot Springs Road Environmental Assessment. A news release will be issued. No public meetings are planned.

In February, the Deputy Director, Operations, will be issuing a Policy Memorandum that includes updated guidance on the NPS uniform program. These changes are based on the results from the Online Uniform Wear Survey conducted in 2015, and from organizational changes within NPS that moved the uniform program to a different directorate. This guidance will be included when the Director's Order is updated in the future.

The week of February 5, Grand Canyon National Park expects to begin a 30-day public scoping period for a plan to address improvements at Desert View, and support development of an Inter-Tribal Cultural Heritage Site. The park partnered with Grand Canyon's Inter-tribal Advisory Council (ItAC) for the project, which includes representatives from the park's 11 associated tribes, and Grand Canyon Association, the park's non-profit partner. Potential changes in the Desert View area include adaptive reuse of facilities to support cultural heritage interpretation and cultural demonstrations, tribally-directed exhibits, and restroom, way finding and infrastructure improvements. Implementation could begin in 2019, coinciding with the park's centennial year. The NPS will hold public meetings as well as a webinar.

From February 9- 26, Yosemite National Park expects high visitation for Horsetail Fall in the late afternoons. The popular annual event occurs when the sun reflects off of a waterfall on El Capitan and the water looks like fire. The park will pilot a free shuttle bus to bring visitors to the viewing area.

On or after February 19, Death Valley National Park anticipates releasing the final Bonnie Clare Road Reconstruction Environmental Assessment and FONSI. Reconstruction work is scheduled to start in August 2018 and be completed by May 2019. This will allow the reopening of the northeast entrance to the park and restore public access to Scotty's Castle.

In mid to late February, Yosemite National Park will be releasing an Environmental Assessment (EA) about the Bridalveil Fall Rehabilitation Project. The project is slated to improve visitor services at the popular location by improving trails and viewing platforms, improving accessibility, constructing new restrooms, and addressing deferred maintenance issues. The project is in partnership with Yosemite Conservancy, the park's philanthropic partner, and construction is anticipated to start in the fall.

On February 20, Glen Canyon National Recreation area managers will meet with the Navajo Nation Department of Justice to discuss updating the 1970 Quadrilateral Agreement, the 1994 Memorandum of Understanding, and 2003 Bridge Agreement - all of which expire in 2020. The Quadrilateral Agreement was signed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Reclamation, NPS, Secretary of the Interior, and Navajo Nation in 1970. The agreement provides a mechanism to plan development for commercial and recreational facilities along the shared park/Navajo Nation boundary. The 1994 MOU is signed by the NPS, BIA, and Navajo Nation to address the Development Concept Plan for Antelope Point and is tiered from the 1970 Quadrilateral Agreement. The 2003 Bridge Agreement is between the Navajo Nation and the NPS and details the administration of the Antelope Point area. This agreement also tiers off the 1970 Quadrilateral Agreement and 1994 MOU.

February 21 is the application deadline for Save America's Treasures Grants. The notice of availability of grants was posted on Grants.gov on December 20, 2017. These grants fund the preservation and conservation of nationally significant properties and collections. $5 million is available for grants to State, Tribes, local governments, nonprofits and Federal agencies excluding the National Park Service. There is significant interest in the program with calls and emails received daily.

The deadline to submit proposals for the 250th non-profit has been extended until February 28. A press release regarding this extension was sent by the team on December 21, 2017.

In late February, Golden Gate National Recreation Area is expected to release a Request for Qualifications for a competitive business opportunity to establish a waterfront community center at the Fort Baker Historic Boat Shop and Marina as an affordable recreational and gathering place.

In late February, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area plans to release a Request for Proposals for a new interim, three-year temporary concessions contract for the Hite location in the park, to avoid interruption of visitor services. The interim contract is needed to address increased land-based recreational use and will help inform and allow time to develop a typical 10-year concessions contract.

In February or March, Cape Hatteras National Seashore plans to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to lease Oregon Inlet Marina. The marina is operated under a concession contract, which has been extended on an annual basis since 2000. A lease has been determined to be the appropriate method for managing the property in order to provide for facility maintenance and continued public use of this locally-important and internationally-known charter fishing marina. The RFP is expected to garner attention from multiple interested parties, including the current operator, the local media, and elected officials.

In February or March, (pending Departmental approval) Olympic National Park anticipates issuing a news release announcing that a Notice of Availability NOA is to be published in the Federal Register for its Mountain Goat Management Plan/Final EIS.

On or about March 1, the FY 2017 annual report on the 20-percent Historic Tax Credit (HTC) is planned to be issued. The HTC was retained as part of the tax reform legislation signed by the President into law on December 22, 2017. The eight-page annual report summarizes information about the program to include total number of projects reviewed broken down by state, rehabilitation cost, new use, etc., and also includes photos and short descriptions of some representative projects.

(Embargoed until public announcement) On or before March 15, Channel Islands National Park will initiate the process to transfer human remains that have been undergoing Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) review to the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians (a federally recognized tribe) under 43 C.F.R. §10.7 (Disposition of unclaimed human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony). The park is required to submit a list of the items to the Manager, National NAGPRA Program, and publish a notice of proposed transfer in a newspaper of general circulation.

In March, the nonprofit Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue will begin rounding up and removing feral burros from Death Valley National Park and Mojave National Preserve. The organization anticipates removing up to 2,500 burros over the next 5 years to test burros for disease and domesticate the animals for adoption. Burros that cannot be tamed will be kept in sanctuaries by the organization. Compliance for burro removal was conducted as part of both parks' 2002 General Management Plans. This is anticipated to generate public interest and has already triggered a FOIA request.

In March, the State, Tribal, and Local Plans and Grants Division anticipates announcement of a grant funding opportunity on grants.gov for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities grants which fund the preservation of National Register listed properties on HBCU campuses. $4 million in FY2017 funding is available to eligible HBCU applicants. There is already interest in the program with weekly inquiries.

Through March, the NPS will conduct annual deer management actions at Catoctin Mountain Park, Antietam National Battlefield, Monocacy National Battlefield, and Rock Creek Park. This will be Catoctin's ninth season of deer management operations, Rock Creek Park's fifth season, and the second season for Antietam and Monocacy National Battlefields. Park staff members are conducted deer population density surveys in October and November 2017 to determine the number of animals to remove, as determined through their deer management plans. Sharpshooters from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will remove deer from closed park areas during the daytime in some parks and from park roads after dusk in all parks. Venison will be donated to local food banks

On March 20-21, Manhattan Project National Historical Park will conduct an internal workshop with its Department of Energy partners in Lakewood, Colorado, to develop a Visitor Access Plan. Many of the facilities listed in the park's enabling legislation are currently inaccessible to the public. This plan will analyze the feasibility of visitor access to these facilities over the next 15 years.

In March, Mojave National Preserve expects to begin the public comment period on a Management Plan for Developed Water Sources and Environmental Assessment (PDWS/EA). The plan will provide a comprehensive strategy and water management techniques to ensure the preservation of wildlife, historic, wilderness, and recreation values in the management of developed and undeveloped water resources in the park (wildlife guzzlers and developed springs). The process is being closely watched by local hunting and conservation groups concerned about how the park will manage wildlife guzzlers, which are viewed by some as necessary for maintaining a healthy bighorn sheep population.

In March or April, Yosemite Hospitality, Inc. (YH), the park's primary concessioner, will open a Starbucks licensed store in the Yosemite Valley Lodge food court area, called “Basecamp Cafe.” The new operation is a component of YH’s larger renovation of food service options at the Yosemite Valley Lodge.

By March 30, the NPS will provide any comments to the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) which recently proposed regulations addressing natural gas development, which includes a ban on high-volume hydraulic fracturing in the Basin. The NPS has filed comments on the various iterations of proposed regulations over the last eight years; a multi-disciplinary team is preparing a comment memo to be filed to the federal representative, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The memo will be routed for NPS and ASFWP leadership review prior to submission.

By April 1, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is seeking approval for a right-of-way permit from Natchez Trace Parkway to begin construction of an aerial 161-kV transmission line across the Parkway at milepost 159.1 as part of a 43-mile upgrade of electrical service. The NPS and the State Historical Preservation Office determined the transmission line will adversely affect the cultural landscape and scenic vista of the Parkway, under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. TVA proposed to transfer funds to the NPS to cover the cost to underground non-TVA transmission lines crossing the Parkway to mitigate the adverse effect. The Parkway is drafting two general agreements to manage the funds, which will undergo complete DOI legal review of mitigation framework and agreements.

Early this year, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is expected to begin conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Morehead City Port channel project, located next to Cape Lookout National Seashore in Carteret County, North Carolina. Recently, the county and Rep. Walter Jones Jr. (R-NC-3) formally requested that the Corps prepare a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a mitigated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) before moving ahead with the project. They expressed concerns that the Corps' alternatives will have negative impacts to nearby eastern Bogue Banks that were not evaluated, and that the draft EA would not comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. The county believes that the Corps should include the installation of a terminal groin (rock jetty) on the western tip of Shackleford Banks, an island within park boundaries that is designated as proposed wilderness.

This summer, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) estimates the release of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline, with a prior review by cooperating agencies expected to begin in February. The proposed action remains outside of Denali National Park and Preserve (DENA), and a right-of-way application

has not been submitted to the NPS. The applicant considers the route through DENA to be infeasible because of the procedural requirements of Title XI in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. However, proposed legislative changes to preclude the procedural requirements of Title XI are pending in Congress. The applicant could change their proposed route because of changes in legislation or with the Final Supplemental EIS. The Corps could direct the applicant to the route through DENA as the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA) because of fewer impacts to wetlands. If the route would encumber DENA lands, the applicant would submit a right-of-way application to the NPS.

Heads-up/reminders

On January 16 the National Park Service initiated a criminal investigation on at Yellowstone National Park to investigate a trespass and tampering incident at the Stephens Creek facility. Bison being held at the facility for possible quarantine are no longer in the pens. This act will delay the ongoing quarantine discussions between the Interagency Bison Management Plan partners and delay bison going to tribal lands.

The week of January 16, the NPS released the Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), on a proposed exchange of easements between the National Park Service and the City of North Las Vegas at Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument. The land exchange is proposed to provide access and utilities to a part of a planned community that is surrounded by NPS-managed land. It also includes a trailhead and trail, to encourage visitors to access the monument in a manner that will protect park resources.

From February 11 to 15, the 20th Annual Hike the Hill event will be held at the Washington Plaza Hotel, Washington, D.C. This event, sponsored by the Partnership for the National Trails System and American Hiking Society, draws partners and federal employees from national trails and trail related organizations for work sessions, networking and meetings on Capitol Hill. With the 50th anniversary of the National Trails and Wild & Scenic Rivers Systems this year, several events will include partners and staff from river organizations as well. A schedule with a full list of activities for this event can be found at: http://pnts.org/new/our-work/hike-the-hill/.

Columbia Gas Corporation currently operates two 18-inch underground natural gas pipelines that traverse 6,328 ft. of Petersburg National Battlefield in a 50 ft. wide maintained corridor. The presence of the gas line through the park has been authorized through a Special Use Permit (SUP) which expired on November 1, 2017. To ensure compliance with DO-53, the park is seeking to set up a long term Right of Way (10 year.) permit. Since this could not be completed by the expiration date of the SUP due to communication issues with Columbia Gas and compliance needs, the park is working on a temporary 6 month -1 year permit so the proper compliance can be completed.

Rock Creek Park is working with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to improve safety and security near a historic trestle at the southern end of Glover Archbold Park in Washington, DC. The WMATA-owned trestle is at risk of imminent collapse. NPS crews have installed updated signage and temporary chain-link fencing north and south of the trestle.

The NPS has prepared a transportation plan and draft environmental impact statement for Acadia National Park to determine ways to improve safety, reduce congestion and crowding, avoid impacts to park resources, and provide visitors with a high-quality experience through a variety of mechanisms such as visitor management strategies, enhancements to alternative transportation services, restrictions on vehicle size, and expanded access to parking. A Federal Register Notice of Availability of the draft transportation plan and environmental impact statement is currently awaiting the Regional Director's approval. Once signed, the Notice of Availability will be submitted for WASO and DOI clearance to publish in the Federal Register. A briefing on the plan and draft EIS is pending with the AS-FWP hallway.

Acadia National Park is requesting a no-cost transfer of the Bass Harbor Head Light Station (2.5-acres) from the U.S. Coast Guard, which is proposing to excess the property and retain a right of way to operate the automated aid to navigation. The NPS is pursuing options to reuse the light station through a public-private partnership that would generate revenue to support its maintenance and preservation, and increase opportunities for visitor access and education. The property contains five buildings (2,700 square feet) and is located entirely within the legislated boundary of the park. The light station was constructed in 1858 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.

From:	Foster, Maureen
To:	Jason Larrabee; Aurelia Skipwith; Blanchard, Mary Josie; Estenoz Shannon; Marshall Critchfield; Wendy Fink; Tasha Robbins; Thomas Garcia; Greg Sheehan; Paul (Dan) Smith
Subject:	FY 2018-2022 DOI Strategic Plan
Date:	Monday, March 5, 2018 10:28:49 AM
Attachments:	FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan (3-5-2018).pdf

Attached is the Departments FY2018-2022 Strategic Plan which has been signed by the Secretary.

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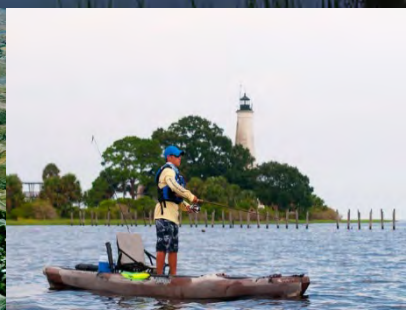
STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018 – 2022



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LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY

The Department of the Interior's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2018-2022 is our bold vision for the future under President Donald J. Trump. As the chief stewards of our public lands, it is our job to ensure that these lands continue to be used "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people," as the words engraved into the Roosevelt Arch at Yellowstone National Park so proudly proclaim.

We will restore the American conservation ethic that built our nation. Among the American traditions that made our country great was a philosophy of multiple-use on our public lands. I am an admirer of President Theodore Roosevelt – he had it right. As President Roosevelt once remarked, "It is not what we have that will make us a great nation; it is the way in which we use it."

Our public lands are our greatest treasures, and all Americans should be able to experience these treasures. One of my top priorities as Secretary of the Interior is public access to public land. Recognizing that hunting and fishing is an integral part of the American heritage, we must do more to ensure that all Americans can enjoy these sports – not just the wealthy elite. Americans should also be proud of their public lands, which is why investing in American infrastructure and addressing the maintenance backlog at our National Parks is critically important.

While "benefit and enjoyment" includes recreation, it also includes traditional uses like grazing and timber harvesting. Our mandate is multiple-use of public lands, and multiple-use also includes the development of natural resources as we seek to leverage American energy for American strength. Americans should have the right to make a living off the land, and one of our most critical responsibilities at Interior is upholding this right.

If we are going to preserve our heritage, we must bolster our standing in the world. It is in the economic and national security interest of the United States to pursue a policy of American energy dominance. An America-First energy policy is one which maximizes the use of American resources while freeing us from dependence on foreign oil.

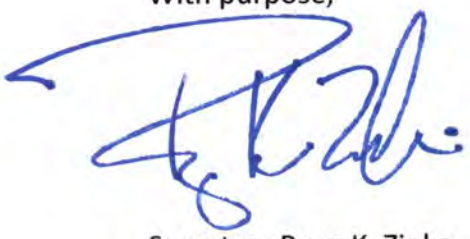
American energy dominance requires aggressive regulatory reform. With our strategic plan, the Interior Department has a unique opportunity to cut the burdensome, unnecessary regulations that have suppressed job creation and wealth generation. Regulatory reform also includes reduced permitting times. The Trump Administration will not deregulate or streamline at the expense of environmental standards or worker safety, but we will strike a balance and strive toward regulatory certainty going forward when creating a bureaucratic framework.

Along with our conservation stewardship responsibilities, we must also be the greatest champion of our tribal nations. Native Americans and Alaska Natives are proud people with a rich history. Sovereignty has to have meaning, and the days of empty promises to our tribal communities are over. Our priorities in Indian Country will be self-determination, government-to-government interaction, and empowerment.

To accomplish our goals, a reorganization of the Department is necessary. We will chart a path forward for the next 100 years at Interior, as Teddy Roosevelt did over a century ago. As a former Navy SEAL, I have long believed that a healthy front line makes for a healthy operation – it is in this spirit that the reorganization plan will focus on our front lines and how we can better engage those on the ground.

Our strategic plan will restore trust in local communities. The federal government has a long way to go when it comes to being a good neighbor, but I am confident we can get there. With a renewed focus on conservation and a bold approach to energy, the Department of the Interior can lead the way in making America great again. This is our desired outcome.

With purpose,



Secretary Ryan K. Zinke
United States Department of the Interior

MISSION AND ORGANIZATION

Mission

The Department of the Interior (DOI) conserves and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, provides scientific and other information about natural resources and natural hazards to address societal challenges and create opportunities for the American people, and honors the Nation's trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities to help them prosper.

Vision

The Department of the Interior strives to fulfill a vision to:

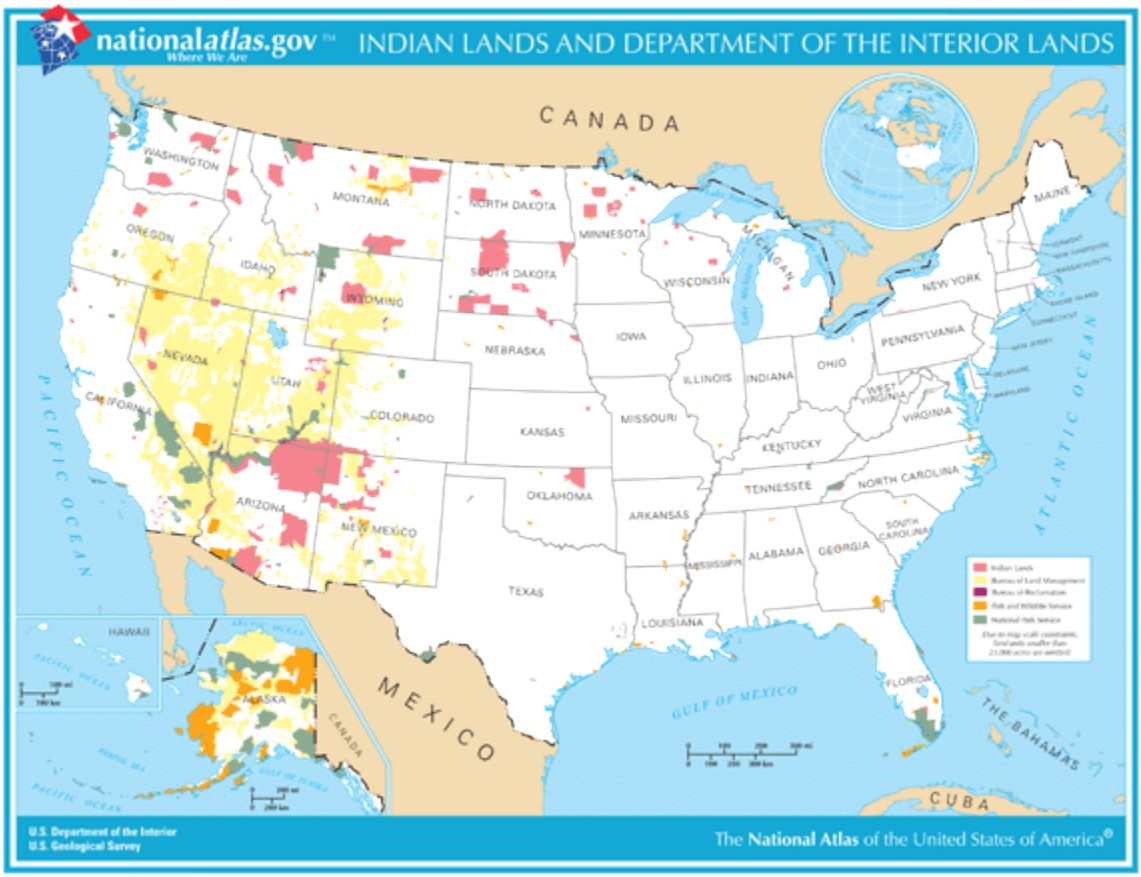
- *Promote energy dominance and critical minerals development* to create jobs for Americans, insulate our nation from volatile political developments overseas, provide additional energy security to allies via surplus domestic supply, and generate revenue for all levels of government so they in turn have the resources to better serve the American people.
- *Increase access to outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans* so that our people can be healthier, more fully enjoy the wonderful features of their federal lands, and take advantage of hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation pursuits that are the roots of the conservation movement.
- *Enhance conservation stewardship* whereby all levels of government and private landowners work cooperatively together in an atmosphere of mutual respect to achieve shared natural resource management goals across landscapes.
- *Improve management of species and their habitats* by focusing our financial and staff resources on improving the status of our nation's fish and wildlife and the healthy habitats that support them, and by streamlining bureaucracy to help us spend relatively more of our funding productively on the ground to better meet societal needs and our own natural resource management responsibilities.
- *Uphold trust and related responsibilities*, recognizing the importance of government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, and insular areas, and respecting self-determination and sovereignty.

History

The Department of the Interior (DOI) was established in 1849. The DOI was charged with managing a wide variety of programs, which included overseeing Indian Affairs, exploring the western wilderness, directing the District of Columbia jail, constructing the National Capital's water system, managing hospitals and universities, improving historic western emigrant routes, marking boundaries, issuing patents, conducting the census, and researching the geological resources of the United States. As the country matured during the last half of the 19th Century, so did the DOI and its mission began to evolve as some of these functions moved to other agencies at the same time the DOI acquired new responsibilities.

With information from Robert Utley and Barry Mackintosh, *The Department of Everything Else: Highlights of Interior History*, 1988, pp. 1-2.

Surface Lands Managed by the Department of the Interior



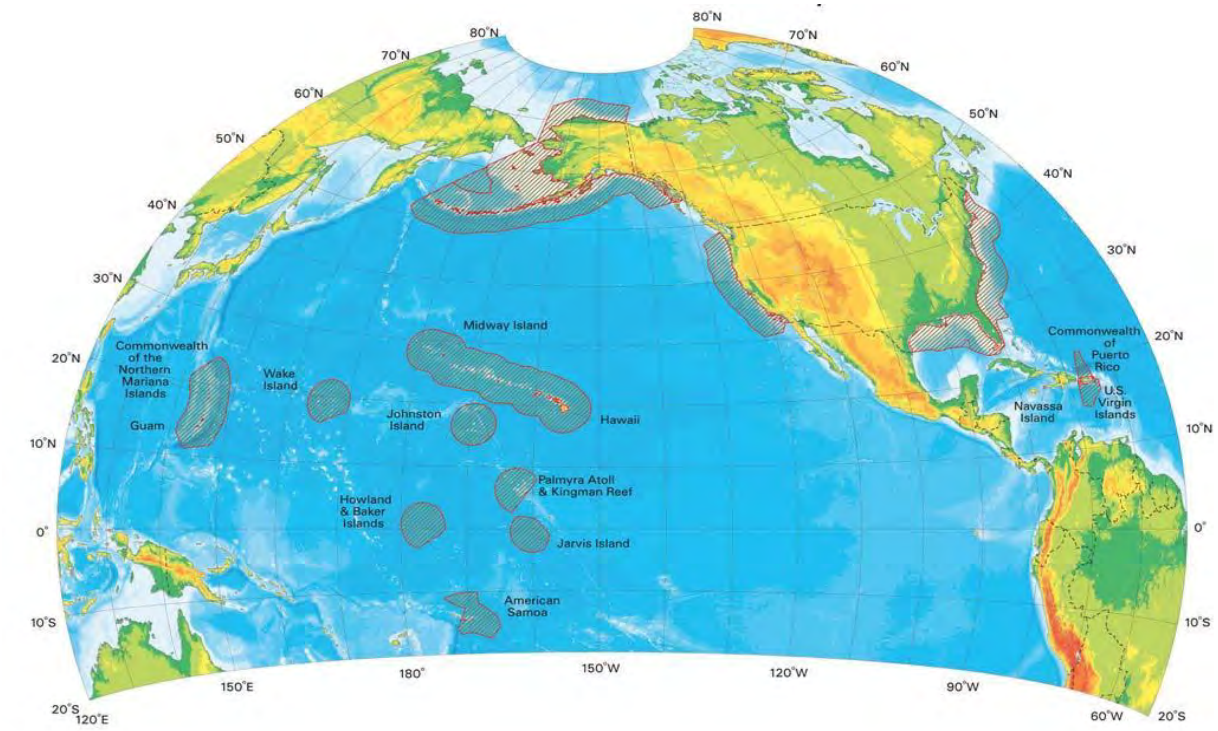
USGS Map, Oct 2014 (except for US Territories that are identified on next graphic)

Following Theodore Roosevelt's conservation summit and the awakening of the conservation movement at the beginning of the 20th Century, there was an increasing urgency and expanding congressional mandate to protect and more effectively manage the nation's natural resources. In 1905, management of the federal forests changed from the Department of the Interior to the United States Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture. Its Chief, Gifford Pinchot, introduced better forestry methods. Pinchot sought to turn public land policy from one that disposed of resources to private parties, to one that maintained federal ownership and management of public land. Pinchot argued that scientific management of forests and natural resources was profitable. He generally opposed preservation for the sake of preservation. During the 1960's and 1970's the DOI's authorizing statutes shifted to put more emphasis on the preservation, management, and use of public lands and natural and cultural resources.

Today, the DOI manages the Nation's public lands and minerals, including providing access to more than 480 million acres of public lands, 700 million acres of subsurface minerals, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf. The DOI is the steward of 20 percent of the Nation's lands, including national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other public lands; manages resources that supply 30 percent of the Nation's energy; supplies and manages water in the 17 Western States and supplies 15 percent of the Nation's hydropower energy; and upholds Federal trust responsibilities to 573 federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages. The DOI is responsible for migratory bird and wildlife conservation, historic preservation, endangered species conservation, surface-mined lands protection and restoration, mapping, geological, hydrological, and biological science

for the Nation, and financial and technical assistance for the insular areas (many of which are depicted in the following graphic).

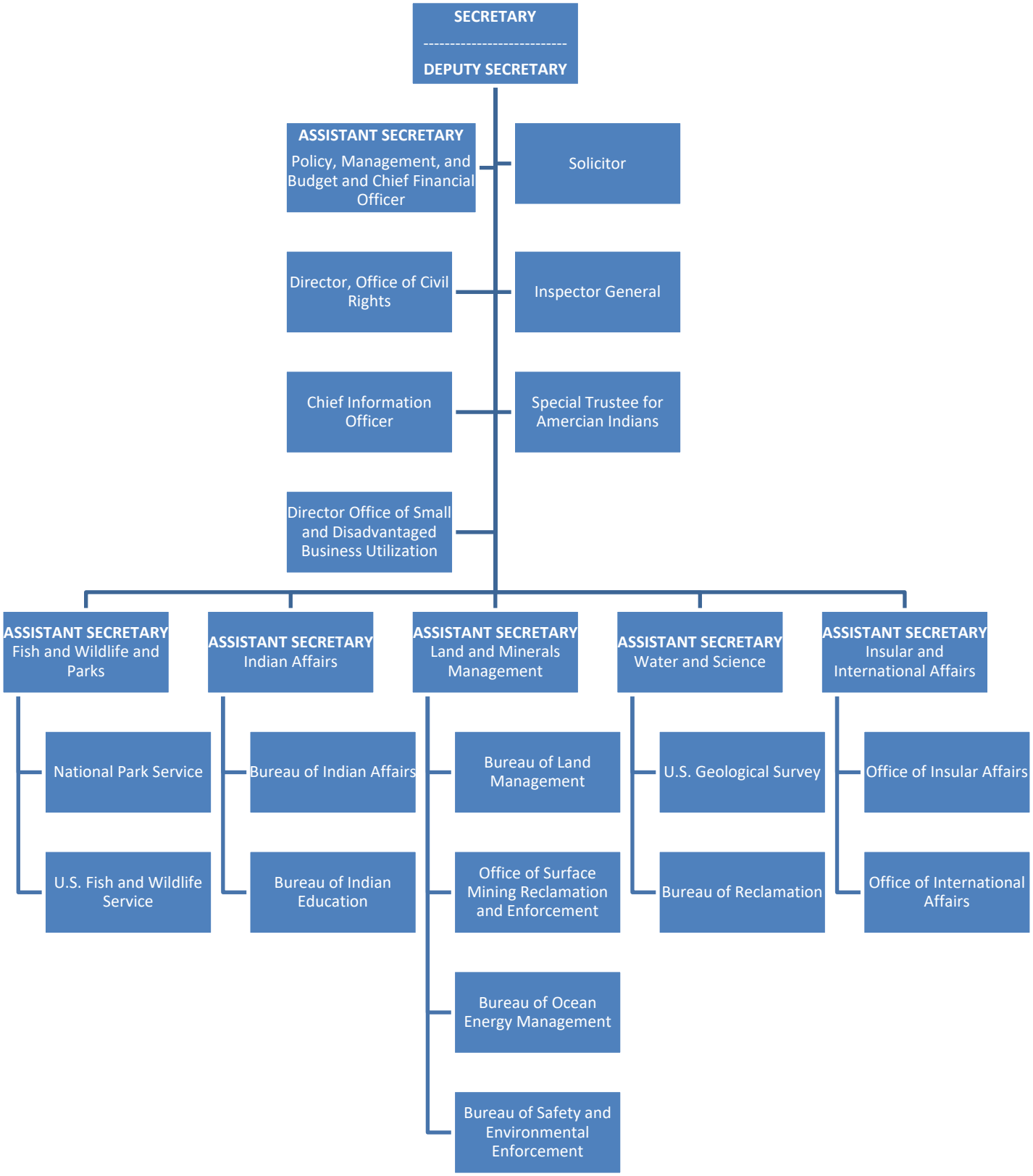
United States Continental Shelf Boundary Areas



National Geophysical Data Center, Sep 2001

The DOI's programs encompassed in this Strategic Plan cover a broad spectrum of activities that are performed by 10 bureaus and multiple offices and are captured in the following presentation of each entity's unique mission and set of responsibilities. The Strategic Plan's six mission areas capture the vitality, inventiveness, and potential of the bureaus and offices and the DOI's 70,000 dedicated and skilled employees. Along with our hardworking and skilled employees, over 350,000 much appreciated volunteers annually contribute their time in support of bureau and office missions, bringing unique local knowledge to park operations, assisting in recovery from natural disasters, and participating in environmental education, among other activities. We cannot effectively address all our responsibilities alone, so it is critical to strengthen partnerships with our sister federal agencies with related missions. In the federal family, we share forest, minerals, rangeland, and wildland fire management responsibilities with the US Department of Agriculture's Forest Service. We share water resource management and hydroelectric power generation responsibilities with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and we share fishery and endangered species management responsibilities with the Department of Commerce's National Marine Fisheries Service. In some ways, our relationships with state, tribal, and local government are even more important. We operate within the bounds of state water law, and respect state authority over resident wildlife. We deal with tribal governments on a government to government basis, respecting each other's authority and jurisdiction. We share land use planning responsibilities with local government, so we must make our own land management plans in a way that is mindful of the goals and plans of those local government neighbors.

US Department of the Interior Organization Chart



Bureau and Office Summaries

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- Manages public lands for the benefit of all Americans under the dual framework of multiple use and sustained yield on nearly 250 million surface acres, as well as 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate. Priorities include:
  - Making full use of the Nation's domestic energy and mineral sources, including conventional and renewable energy sources;
  - Serving American families by providing outdoor recreation opportunities that are key to the Nation's heritage and its economy; and
  - Managing working landscapes to support sustainable livestock grazing operations; and timber and biomass production.
  - Developing and maintaining strong partnerships with State, local, and private stakeholders in shared conservation stewardship.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE)

- Protects the environment during coal mining through Federal programs, grants to states and Tribes, and oversight activities.
- Ensures the land is reclaimed afterwards.
- Mitigates the effects of past mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned coal mine lands.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- Manages access to renewable and conventional energy resources of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS);
- Administers nearly 3,000 active fluid mineral leases on over 16 million OCS acres;
- Oversees 4 percent of the natural gas and 18 percent of the oil produced domestically; and
- Oversees lease and grant issuance for off shore renewable energy projects.
- Manages leasing for marine mineral resources such as sand to facilitate beach replenishment and coastal nourishment projects.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

- Produces information to increase understanding of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and landslides.
- Conducts research and delivers assessments on oil, gas, and alternative energy potential, production, consumption, and environmental effects.
- Conducts reliable scientific research in land resources, mineral assessments, and water resources to inform effective decision making and planning.
- Provides science information that supports natural resource decisions.
- Produces topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic data and maps.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- Fosters secure and reliable energy production from the 1.7 billion acre U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) for America's energy future.
- Conducts inspections, permitting, incident and equipment failure analysis, oil spill preparedness and enforcement programs aimed at promoting a culture of safety and reducing risk to those who work offshore.
- Supports the technical expertise to engage opportunities and to meet challenges to tap the full potential of OCS energy resources.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

- Manages, develops, and protects water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.
- Largest wholesale supplier of water in the Nation
- Manages 492 dams and 338 reservoirs.
- Delivers water to 1 in every 5 western farmers and more than 31 million people.
- America's second largest producer of hydroelectric power.

Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

- Manages the lands and waters of the 855 million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, primarily for the benefit of fish and wildlife.
- Manages 73 fish hatcheries and other related facilities for endangered species recovery and to restore native fisheries.
- Protects and conserves:
  - Migratory birds;
  - Threatened and endangered species; and
  - Certain marine mammals.
- Hosts about 48 million visitors annually at more than 560 refuges located in all 50 states and 38 wetland management districts.

Indian Affairs (IA)

- Fulfills Indian trust responsibilities.
- Promotes self-determination on behalf of 573 federally recognized Indian Tribes.
- Funds self-governance compacts and self-determination contracts to support all Federal programs including education, law enforcement, and social service programs that are delivered by Tribal Nations.
- Supports 183 elementary and secondary schools and dormitories, providing educational services to approximately 48,000 students in 23 states.
- Supports 32 community colleges, universities, post-secondary schools, and technical colleges.

Note: IA includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)

National Park Service (NPS)

- Maintains and manages a system of 417 natural, cultural, and recreational sites for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people.
- Manages and protects over 27,000 historic and prehistoric structures, nearly 44 million acres of designated wilderness, and a wide range of museum collections and cultural and natural landscapes.
- Provides outdoor recreation to nearly 324 million visitors at national park units.
- Provides technical assistance and support to state, tribal and local natural and cultural resource sites and programs, and fulfills responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Insular and International Affairs

- Coordinates federal policy for the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Oversees the Department's involvement with oceans policy
- Manages the Department's involvement in international affairs
- Responsible for administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association, as well as providing technical and financial assistance to all the Insular Areas.

Note: Includes Office of Insular Affairs and Office of International Affairs

Departmental Offices

- Immediate Office of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Assistant Secretaries
- Office of the Solicitor
- Policy, Management and Budget provides leadership and support for the following:
  - Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition;
  - Public Safety, Resource Protection, and Emergency Services;
  - Natural Resources Revenue Management;
  - Human Capital and Diversity;
  - Technology, Information and Business Services;
  - Policy and Environmental Management
- Office of Inspector General
- Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

CROSS-CUTTING PRINCIPLES

As the Department of the Interior (DOI) advances through FY 2018-2022, the following principles guide our leadership, management, and workforce.

Effective and Accountable Leadership - The DOI is committed to being an outstanding steward of approximately 500 million acres of public lands, 700 million onshore subsurface acres, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) including magnificent vistas, valuable energy and mineral resources, unique ecosystems, range, and treasured natural, cultural, and heritage assets. The management and oversight of these resources require a dedicated cadre of employees, the contributions of volunteers, and the input of stakeholders to inform decision-making. The challenges of managing for a diverse constituency while meeting national goals for energy development and sustaining high levels of recreation and access require technical expertise, the best available science, and an understanding of the balance of development and conservation.

A critical role for DOI's senior executives is providing the necessary leadership to guide the efforts of DOI's offices, bureaus, and field locations in effectively achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals especially through:

- Ensuring cost effective operations and quality customer-centric service to the public;
- Facilitating cooperation and collaboration across organizations within the DOI and its federal and nonfederal partners;
- Ensuring a workplace environment that is safe, fair, and conducive to employee productivity; resolving conflicts as needed; and
- Holding individuals at all levels accountable for their actions.

Empowering the Field - Accomplishing the multi-faceted missions of the DOI involves the skills of 10 bureaus and spans 2,400 locations across the U.S. These locations are often remote and present managers with unique challenges. Managers and experts in the field organization must be allowed to exercise informed judgement and discretion, and must have a skilled workforce to address the issues and manage their operations. The DOI's agency reform plan, developed in response to the President's Executive Order "Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch," provides a strategy for better enabling our managers and workforce in the field through regional realignment and executive empowerment, increased colocation, and shifting workforce resources closer to the DOI's field locations.

Engaging the Nation in Cooperative Stewardship - In managing such a broad range of resources for the benefit of the public, the DOI works closely with other federal agencies, state, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and the public. The DOI's reform plan calls for increased coordination across agency lines and levels of government to achieve common goals and resolve differences without expensive and time-consuming litigation. DOI is working to increase its collaborations and partnerships across all levels of government.

Improving Infrastructure - The DOI manages an infrastructure asset portfolio with a replacement value exceeding $300 billion. Most well-known are the DOI's iconic and unique national treasures, which have priceless historical significance. More broadly, the DOI owns approximately 43,000 buildings, 100,000 miles of roads, and 80,000 structures; including dams, laboratories, employee housing, Indian schools, visitor facilities, historic structures and hydropower infrastructure. The related deferred maintenance backlog has grown to over $15 billion in 2016, of which over $11 billion belongs to the National Park Service. DOI is committed to determining how to best address

this backlog and maintain its facilities for the safety and productivity of its workforce, and the continued high quality experience and enjoyment by the American public.

Striking a Regulatory Balance – In accordance with the Executive Order on Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda, the DOI will identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. The DOI will continue to protect human health and the environment in a responsible, cost-effective manner but in a way that avoids imposing an undue process or economic burden on the public.

Generating Revenue, Jobs, and Economic Activity - The DOI grants access to public lands and offshore areas for all forms of energy development—representing roughly a quarter of the Nation's domestic supplies of oil and natural gas—while ensuring safety, environmental protection and revenue generation for the American public. It is important to the Nation's future that these natural resources are managed wisely and – as appropriate -- made accessible for public use to help generate revenues, enhance national security, create jobs, and grow the U.S. economy.

Restoring Trust - It is critical that the DOI can be trusted to operate in the best interest of the American public. Key to maintaining public trust and confidence in the integrity of government is the adherence to high ethical standards and ensuring that government business is conducted with impartiality, transparency, accountability, and integrity. While many of our employees have important law enforcement responsibilities as part of their jobs, more generally we want the public to primarily view our employees as helpful and friendly technical experts, not as law enforcement. When we do need to perform our law enforcement responsibilities, our preference is to achieve compliance through education and demonstrating a sincere desire to create win-win situations with the public we serve. The DOI embodies this principle, follows the law and holds people accountable. Decisions are based on sound science and the best interest of the public.

The DOI is committed to effective and efficient financial operations and accountability characterized by high quality and timely reporting, robust internal controls, clean audits, and effective follow-up on audit and internal control findings. The DOI utilizes the enterprise Financial and Business Management System for the integration of business functions including budget execution, finance, acquisition, improved internal controls, a secure information technology environment, and a community of business innovation, efficiency, and transparency.

Respect for Tribal Sovereignty – As a steward of tribal trust assets, the DOI plays a critical role for the United States in fulfilling the trust responsibility to Indian tribes. The DOI is committed to effectively meeting that responsibility by assisting tribes and Indian individual land owners to create greater economic opportunities, build safer and healthier communities, and effectively consulting with tribal governments.

OVERVIEW OF THE FY 2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

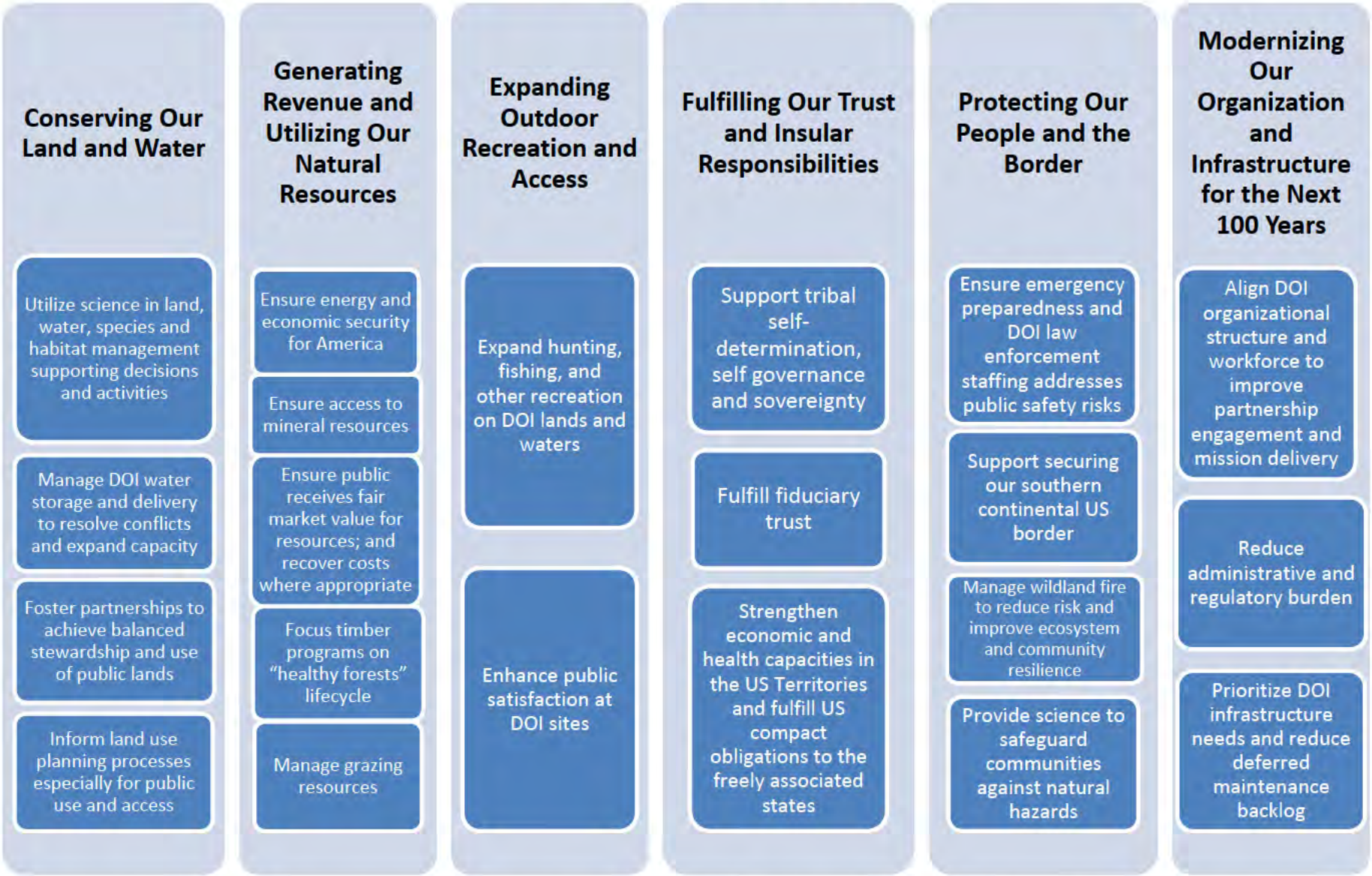
The DOI's FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan provides the framework for the programs and activities that are performed by 10 bureaus and multiple offices, and take place at approximately 2,400 locations throughout the Nation.

The Strategic Plan facilitates the integration of programs, the allocation and alignment of resources, and collaboration and coordination with stakeholders to achieve key goals. A set of six mission areas, 21 goals, 34 strategies, and approximately 120 performance measures will guide the DOI's activities for the next five years. These mission areas reflect the Secretary of the Interior's priorities, while the goals and strategies describe the means by which those priorities will be achieved.

The mission areas, goals, and strategies that constitute the Strategic Plan are displayed in the Strategic Plan Framework, followed by a description of the mission areas, goals, strategic objectives, and performance measures. An FY 2022 goal is provided for each performance measure that reflects a desirable annual level of achievement that DOI aspires to assuming the availability of a reasonable level of resources. The anticipated level of performance for these measures on an annual basis in consideration of actual resource levels will be reported in the DOI's Annual Performance Plan and Report that is released with the FY 2019 President's budget and available at www.doi.gov/bpp.

There is some continuity of performance measures from the FY 2014-2018 Strategic Plan because the core of our statutory mission remains the same regardless of shifts in policy emphasis resulting from a change in Administrations. Trends in performance related to funding and programmatic plans are available in the DOI's FY 2019 Annual Performance Plan and Report available at www.doi.gov/bpp.

STRATEGIC PLAN FRAMEWORK



Crosscutting principles: Senior executives provide leadership in achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals and are expected to: ensure cost-effective operations and quality service to the public; facilitate organizational cooperation and conflict resolution; ensure workplace environment conducive to employee productivity and safety; and hold individuals accountable for their actions.

DESCRIPTION OF MISSION AREAS

(With Supporting Goals, Strategies, and Performance Measures)

MISSION AREA 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

The DOI ensures that America's natural endowment – the lands and waters of the United States – is conserved for the benefit, use, and enjoyment of current and future generations. The DOI's bureaus use the best available science, modern natural resource management techniques, technology and engineering, efficient decision-making processes, robust partnerships, and improved land use planning to ensure balanced stewardship and use of the public lands and its resources, including wildlife and fish species.

GOAL #1: Utilize science in land, water, species and habitat management supporting decisions and activities

The DOI will ensure that it delivers data, tools, techniques, and analyses that advance understanding of natural resources, the forces that shape them, and the interactions of plants, animals, and people that live within them. Research, monitoring, and remote sensing are necessary to understand and detect changes that affect land resources and processes that are essential to the Nation's economic growth, well-being, and ecological health. These efforts support the DOI in its role as the largest manager of the Nation's land and water resources.

The DOI's land and water management bureaus are stewards of the lands and waters managed by the DOI. These bureaus will utilize the best available scientific data, tools, techniques, and analyses provided by our researchers, our nonfederal government partners, or others to maintain and restore lands and waters and ensure that habitats support healthy fish and wildlife populations.

STRATEGY #1: Apply science to land, water, and species management

The USGS seeks to understand the Nation's environmental, natural resource, and economic challenges with scientific monitoring and research to support the development of management strategies that address the impacts of land use on the availability and sustainability of land and water resources. The USGS helps management agencies by providing them the measures designed to prevent or control invasive species and wildlife disease outbreaks; and apply decision science to actions.

The USGS conducts monitoring, assessments, and research in order to understand and predict changes in the quality and quantity of water resources in response to land-use and management scenarios. Through advanced understanding and integrated modeling of processes that determine water availability, the USGS informs the balanced management of water resources for multiple purposes, including energy production, human and crop consumption, the sustainability of fish and other aquatic communities valued by society, and public enjoyment. The USGS works with land and water resources managers in applying its data and research results to help them make informed decisions for effectively managing the resources with which they are entrusted.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent completion of targeted land and water management research actions	100%
USGS	Millions of people living in targeted watersheds covered by completed water quality models	306.7
USGS	Percent completion of planned water quality sampling and studies for the Nation's groundwater, streams and rivers	100%
USGS	Percent completion of the USGS National Water Census baseline	100%
USGS	Percent completion of U.S. aquifer groundwater availability baseline studies	43%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted species management research actions	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted biological threats research actions	100%
USGS	Percent completion of collaborative research projects on factors affecting fish and wildlife habitat	100%

STRATEGY #2: Provide stewardship of land, surface water, streams and shorelines

The Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation manage, maintain and restore uplands, wetlands, lakes, streams and some marine areas through efforts that include controlling invasive plants and animals, restoring land or waters to a condition that is self-sustaining, and ensuring that habitats support healthy fish and wildlife populations. The DOI's Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration program works with the bureaus to assess the impacts of oil spills and hazardous waste sites and coordinates restoration efforts. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement works with states and tribes to ensure that coal mining is conducted in a manner that protects citizens and the environment during mining, restores the land to beneficial use following mining, and mitigates the effects of historic mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned mine lands. The DOI aims to balance the conservation of special places with resource development while also providing visitors with opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Bureaus administer their resource management and conservation programs on more than 400 million acres of upland, wetland, and aquatic lands within their jurisdiction. Many of these lands have special status as national parks, seashores, monuments, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, national conservation lands or wild and scenic rivers. Land managers utilize earth and natural science, social science, partnerships with other DOI bureau, federal, state, local and tribal entities, and other tools and resources (including its front-line managers) in managing these lands and waters.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of DOI acres that have achieved desired conditions	88.9%
BLM, FWS	Percent of DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles that have achieved desired conditions	89.2%
BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS	Percent of acres infested with invasive plant species that are under control	0.2%
FWS, NPS	Percent of invasive animal species populations that are under control	8.7%
OSMRE	Percent completion of abandoned mine lands restored by eliminating health, safety, and environmental concerns	57%
OSMRE	Percent of active coal mining sites that are free of off-site impacts	88%
OSMRE	Percent of coal mine acreage reclaimed to beneficial post-mining land use	44%

STRATEGY #3: Provide stewardship of wildlife, bird, fish, and plant species

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is tasked with the conservation and protection of certain populations of fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. The FWS works first to prevent species from becoming listed as threatened or endangered by using the best available science to make land management decisions that might affect species viability. The FWS conducts, consults or coordinates many species management activities in partnership with others including NPS, BLM, Reclamation, and other federal, state, local and tribal agencies and private organizations. The strategy to sustain species focuses on identifying and implementing corrective actions that will lead to species recovery.

Congress passed the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973, to protect and recover imperiled species from becoming extinct and to conserve the habitats upon which they depend. The FWS and the Commerce Department's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) administer the ESA. The FWS has primary responsibility for terrestrial and freshwater organisms, while the responsibilities of NMFS are mainly marine wildlife such as whales and anadromous fish such as salmon.

FWS works with many partners using a range of conservation tools to recover listed species (threatened and endangered) to ensure that they are able to survive on their own in the wild. These tools can include acquiring and restoring habitat, removing invasive species, conducting surveys, monitoring individual populations, and breeding species in captivity to release them into their historic range.

The DOI uses a number of datasets and metrics to track its progress on species listings, downlistings, delistings, critical habitat, scientific findings, and Species Status Assessments (SSA). The SSA is the scientific foundation supporting listing, delisting, and downlisting decisions and recovery plans and includes biological and threats information and analyses that help FWS and its partners better understand the species status. Recovery criteria, describing the conditions of the species when the protections of the act are no longer necessary, address both the biological status in terms of the 3 R's (resiliency, representation and redundancy) and the mitigation of threats necessary to achieve that status. The DOI is working to include more information on critical habitat,

estimated costs of recovery and economic impact of its threatened and endangered species listings and recovery action plans, to provide a more complete perspective to states and the public of the actions being planned for attempting to save each species.

In its Policy Regarding the Role of State Agencies in ESA Activities, FWS coordinates, collaborates, and uses the expertise of state agencies in developing the scientific foundation upon which FWS bases its determinations for listing actions. By September 30, 2018, all FWS decisions on whether to list a species under the ESA will be informed by input from state fish and wildlife agencies, subject to the affected states' willingness to participate (some state fish and wildlife agencies have declined participation due to lack of authority for some species under ESA review). This input should include (but is not limited to) a solicitation of state data and state personnel involvement in the development of SSAs.

Per Section 4(c)(1) of the ESA, FWS is required to review the status of each listed species at least once every 5 years and determine whether it should be: (1) removed from the List (delisted), (2) reclassified from endangered to threatened (downlisted), or (3) reclassified from threatened to endangered (uplisted). By September 30, 2019, for 100% of all species with 5-year reviews recommending downlisting or delisting FWS will have proposed downlisting or delisting rules acted on by the Director, or a new status review initiated if new information indicates the need for an updated assessment prior to initiating rulemaking, within 2 years of the 5-year review recommendation.

The DOI's responsibility to protect fish, wildlife, and native plants transcends jurisdictional boundaries, and includes efforts that affect almost 1,500 species with special status under the Endangered Species Act and more than 1,000 migratory birds that receive Federal protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The DOI works to combat domestic and international wildlife trafficking by improving enforcement of domestic laws, strengthening international cooperation and global enforcement, promoting legal trade and hunting, and helping to reduce demand for illegal wildlife products. Under Executive Order 13771 of January 30, 2017, i.e. Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, the DOI is reviewing its regulations and administrative processes to determine what cost savings, to the government and to private constituents, are possible by repealing regulations for which the perceived benefits might not be justified relative to their implementation costs, and which administrative processes could be streamlined or made more efficient. This activity is described further in the second goal under the sixth Mission Area on reducing administrative and regulatory burden.

Agency Priority Performance Goals:

- ***By September 30, 2018, 100% of proposed species listings will be based on best available information that includes state input and/or data provided through participation in Species Status Assessments (SSA).***
- ***By September 30, 2019, 100% of all Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plans will have quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species.***

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
FWS	Percent of Threatened or Endangered species listed for 2.5 years or more with a final recovery plan	75%
FWS	Percent of five-year Threatened or Endangered species five-year status review recommendations to downlist or delist acted on within five years *(prior to next status review)*	60%
FWS	Percent of listed species with current five-year reviews *(completed in the last five years)*	90%
FWS	Percent of rules and findings completed based on Threatened or Endangered Species Status Assessments	100%
FWS	Percent of threatened and endangered species listings with proposed critical habitat	100%
FWS	Percent of migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels	72%
FWS	Percent of fish species of management concern that are managed to self-sustaining levels	23%

GOAL #2 Manage DOI water storage and delivery to resolve conflicts and expand capacity

The Western U.S. is one of the fastest growing regions of the country, and urbanization has created significant demands for water use and service. The DOI strives to keep its water storage facilities in good condition to ensure safe and reliable water supply. Stretching existing water supplies for multiple uses are among the many significant challenges facing Reclamation. The Bureau of Reclamation is the nation's largest wholesale water supplier and manages water in 17 western states. Reclamation's projects and programs are an important driver of economic growth bringing water to more than 31 million people and providing one of five western farmers (140,000) with irrigation water for 10 million acres of farmland that produce 60 percent of the nation's vegetables and 25 percent of its fruits and nuts. Reclamation's facilities also provide substantial flood control, hydropower, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits.

The DOI is the lead agency in defining and protecting water rights for Indian tribes and individual Indian land owners. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is responsible for maintaining 137 dams on tribal lands. The BIA also provides irrigation water to over 780,000 acres through 17 congressionally authorized irrigation projects.

STRATEGY #1 Manage water resources and delivery

Changes in water supplies, water demands, and the increased duration and frequency of droughts have the potential to affect Reclamation's ability to fulfill its mission. Many rural communities face significant challenges in financing the cost of replacing or upgrading aging and obsolete facilities and systems. Water conservation programs increase the available water supply and contribute to DOI's broader objective of achieving a more sustainable, secure water supply. Protecting and extending the life of aging infrastructure are significant challenges facing Reclamation, and maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement will become more costly over time. Reclamation

prioritizes infrastructure assets based on detailed design criteria: engineering need, consequence of failure, financial considerations, efficiency opportunities, scheduling, and others.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) water management functions are implemented through three complementary programs. The Water Rights Negotiation/Litigation Program defines and protects Indian water rights and settles claims through negotiations if possible, or alternatively, through litigation. The Water Management Program assists tribes in managing, conserving, and utilizing trust water resources. The BIA Irrigation, Power and Safety of Dams program operates and manages irrigation, power, and dam infrastructure. The program sets high standards for maintenance, collaboration with stakeholders, and effective water and power distribution. The BIA manages facilities to ensure they do not present an unacceptable risk to downstream lives and property; and are managed in an economically, technically, environmentally, and culturally sound manner.

Agency Priority Performance Goal: By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Reclamation will facilitate water conservation capacity of 53,800 acre-feet to help reduce the impact of drought.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BOR	Percent of water infrastructure in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating (FRR) [high- and significant-hazard dams]	74%
BOR	Amount of acre feet of water conservation capacity enabled to help address drought	1,392,000
BIA	Percent of projects completed in support of water management, planning, and pre-development.	77%

GOAL #3: Foster partnerships to achieve balanced stewardship and use of our public lands

The DOI will assess, utilize and enhance the most promising of partnership practices and explore the potential for furthering these types of opportunities to work jointly with other individuals and organizations for the benefit of the nation's public lands, waters, and historic and cultural sites and the fish and wildlife species.

STRATEGY #1: Build and maintain partnership programs

Public and private partnerships provide opportunities for greater engagement of people and organizations in caring for and managing the natural, historical, cultural and physical resources across the DOI's 500 million acres. This can be especially beneficial for our national park units, National Wildlife Refuges, wildlife management areas, and national conservation public lands. Support can come from other federal or state agencies, tribal nations, volunteers, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, corporations or foundations through sponsorship or philanthropy. DOI bureaus should endeavor to partner with non-traditional stakeholders to increase our relevance to the American public, rather than just relying on traditional constituencies.

The National Park Service already has the authority from Congress to accept monetary and in-kind gifts, including those collected through the National Park Foundation. Similarly, the Fish and Wildlife Service has authority to accept gifts from some entities, including some non-profits organizations and the federally chartered non-profit National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The Bureau of Land Management has Congressional authority to accept monetary and other types of donations, along with Congressional authorization to create a Bureau of Land Management Foundation. The BLM works with local, state, federal, and private partners on nearly all of the activities undertaken on public lands, from identifying important fish and wildlife habitat with the state game and fish agencies, working with local rangeland fire protection associations, to providing hunting and fishing opportunities for sports men groups. As permitted under current law, the DOI hopes to develop further philanthropic and sponsorship opportunities, and promote other partnering best practices.

The DOI utilizes migratory bird joint ventures as collaborative, regional partnerships of government agencies, non-profit organizations, corporations, tribes, and individuals that conserve habitat for the benefit of priority bird species, other wildlife, and people. Joint ventures bring these diverse partners together under the guidance of national and international bird conservation plans to design and implement landscape-scale conservation efforts in support of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the other bird management plans. These joint ventures use state-of-the-art science to ensure that diverse habitat is available to sustain migratory bird populations for the benefit of those species, other wildlife, and the public. These partnerships have a three-decade record of success, they use non-regulatory solutions and economically sound business approaches, promote working lands conservation, sporting, and outdoor traditions, and support resilient urban and rural communities.

The Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture working near each other in the field continue to pool resources, conduct joint projects and share services under Service First agreements. Service First authority promotes collaborating across bureau and agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and integrate responses to federal land management issues and opportunities. Bureaus of the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperate in jointly managing some areas. For example, the National Trail, and Wild and Scenic River Systems span every state of our nation and exceed the length of the interstate highway system. Federal land management agencies, as well as state and local jurisdictions and partners enhance recreational access, conserve the Nation's heritage, and leverage the federal investment to manage these nationally recognized resources cooperatively.

Building new partnerships for infrastructure improvement is a priority at the DOI. There are also numerous volunteer opportunities, where individuals or associations provide service in caring for natural resources and cultural and historic assets on our public lands (see www.volunteer.gov). The DOI will also empower managers in the field to directly engage in further collaboration within the units they manage, identify best practices for collaboration and partnering, provide training and technical support, and encourage field managers to find or create and execute partnerships on a local basis.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Number of estimated work hours in a national park unit, National Wildlife Refuge, or Bureau of Land Management site that are performed or sponsored by a private citizen, National Service participant or non-federal entity	9,870,000
BOR, FWS, CUPCA	Number of non-DOI acres restored, including through partnerships	593,876
FWS	Number of non-DOI acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres restored through partnerships	602,654
FWS, CUPCA	Number of non-DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles restored, including through partnerships	255

GOAL #4: Inform land use planning processes especially for public use and access

The DOI will review and improve its land planning processes to enable expanded access and use of the public lands while restoring a balance between conservation and utilization of the lands, energy and mineral resources, waters, fish and wildlife, and other natural and cultural resources. The DOI will employ the latest available science, land-imaging and other technology tools and datasets to inform land use planning to maximize the societal value of land planning. The DOI land use planning will take into account the land use plans of affected local and state governments.

STRATEGY #1: Assess land use planning processes for public access and use of DOI lands

DOI land use and management plans ensure that the public lands are managed in accordance with the intent of Congress as stated in several authorities including, but not limited to: the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act, the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration and Improvement Acts, the Organic Act of 1916 (National Park Service), the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

Land use planning efforts vary across bureaus based on enabling legislation. The National Park Service creates management plans to execute its mission. The National Wildlife Refuge system creates Comprehensive Conservation Plans for each refuge as part of their mission. The BLM's mission states that its duty is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the multiple use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

A common thread through all three bureaus' mission is the need to accommodate and benefit the use and enjoyment of these public lands for both present and future generations. Some lands are made available for multiple use and sustained yield, other lands for conservation and preservation values.

The DOI is undertaking the challenge to review and improve its planning processes in ways that can best meet the sometimes-conflicting uses for public lands. The DOI will strive to enhance public participation and input to the planning processes, engage our state, local, and tribal government partners, provide open and understandable decision-making, expedite the decision-making process

so that implementation is not delayed, and ensure that public access and use is appropriately built into every land use plan.

STRATEGY #2: Inform land use planning with mapping and land imaging

The USGS is the lead civilian mapping agency for the Nation and supports the conduct of detailed surveys and the resulting distribution of high-quality and highly-accurate topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic maps and data. Remote sensing satellites and aircraft monitor the Earth providing information that is broad, precise, impartial, and easily available. For more than 45 years, Landsat satellites have collected data over the planet's land surface to support global research studies. These data constitute the longest continuous record of the Earth's land surface as seen from space.

High-resolution information results in geologic maps and geospatial products that enable precise planning of civil engineering and transportation infrastructure, versatile urban planning, improved flood projection, timely and accurate emergency response, effective hazard identification and mitigation, and detailed environmental analyses. This information is also used by DOI bureau land managers in exercising their responsibilities to help plan for public land use and access.

In the next decade, the USGS will continue to improve spatial and temporal resolution through research and development of products such as full four-dimensional geologic maps, showing how the complex geologic structure of the Earth has changed through time. Mapping accuracy through cutting-edge technology allows for precise planning for energy development, transportation and pipeline infrastructure projects, urban planning, flood prediction, emergency response, and hazard mitigation.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent of land-area coverage available to the public over the internet through the National Geologic Mapping Database	55.5%
USGS	Percent of foundational topographic information services updated quarterly to support on-demand mapping	100%
USGS	Percent completion of research efforts related to land resource management	100%
USGS	Number of terabytes of remotely-sensed data managed	20,140
USGS	Percent increase of scientific research enhanced with Advanced Research Computation	100%

MISSION AREA 2 Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

The DOI provides access to and manages energy and other resources including oil, gas, coal, timber, grazing, and non-energy minerals on public lands and oil and gas on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The DOI is committed to achieve and maintain American energy dominance through responsible productivity of the public lands for the multiple use and economic benefit of present and future generations.

GOAL #1 Ensure energy and economic security for America

The DOI is the steward and manager of much of America's natural resources which include oil, gas, coal, minerals, and renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, geothermal, and hydropower. There are vast amounts of untapped domestic energy reserves on public lands. DOI is also reinitiating the National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program development process, which is a key component of the America First Energy Plan and the Executive Order on Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy, to bring jobs and prosperity to millions of Americans. Our nation will use the revenues from energy production to rebuild our roads, schools, bridges and public infrastructure. The Department's "all-of-the-above" strategy facilitates development of all energy resources and makes our nation stronger by decreasing dependency on other nations, creating jobs, and helping drive economic growth.

STRATEGY #1: Promote safe and robust oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy resource development

Oil, gas, coal and renewable energy form the cornerstones of our nation's energy base, and the DOI will continue to expand production of both offshore and onshore conventional and renewable U.S. energy resources while ensuring safety and reliability through efficient permitting, appropriate standards, assessment and oversight. As demand for energy resources grows, agencies within the DOI, such as BIA, BLM, BOEM, BSEE, OSMRE, and USGS conduct work that is increasingly critical to understand the exploration, development, quality, supply, and use of our energy resources. This work enables the DOI to advance new sources of efficient energy generation, facilitate the construction of new or upgraded infrastructure including transmission networks, develop resources responsibly, and ensure that the American public receives a fair return on that development.

Agency Priority Performance Goals:

- ***By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Land Management will eliminate its backlog of fluid mineral Applications for Permits to Drill (APD's) that have been pending for 3 years or more.***
- ***By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Land Management will process 80% of parcels created for leasing public lands for oil, gas, or other mineral extraction within 180 days.***

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of pending fluid minerals Applications for Permits to Drill (APDs) which are processed	75%
BLM	Percent of high priority fluid mineral cases that have completed inspection during the year	100%

BLM	Percent of coal lease applications processed	15%
BLM	Number of acres of public lands made available for oil and natural gas leasing	25,000,000
BLM, BOEM	Number of megawatts of approved capacity authorized (that year) on public land and the OCS for renewable energy development while ensuring compliant environmental review	2,020
BOEM	Percentage of Exploration and Development Plan reviews completed within statutory timelines	100%
BOEM	Percent of offshore lease sale processes completed, pursuant to the Secretary's approved National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted energy resource assessments and research	100%
BSEE	Amount of operational offshore oil spilled (in barrels) per million barrels produced	3.1
BSEE	Percent of high risk production facilities and operations inspected	95%
BSEE	Number of recordable injuries per 200,000 offshore man hours worked	.390
BSEE	Percentage of high risk well operation (e.g., drilling) inspections completed	95%

STRATEGY #2: Provide hydropower

The DOI facilitates the development and use of renewable energy that employs hydropower energy to strengthen US energy security, economic vitality, and quality of life. The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) is the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the U.S., operating and maintaining 53 hydroelectric power facilities, comprising over 14,700 megawatts of capacity. On average, Reclamation generates 40 million megawatt-hours of electricity each year – the equivalent demand of over 3.5 million U.S. homes, returning over one billion dollars in federal revenue through power sales. Sustainable, low cost hydropower generated by Reclamation projects has provided significant value to the nation, spurring the development of the western U.S. – through the provision of firm electric power to rural communities as well as ancillary service to support western interconnect grid reliability. Reclamation works to promote domestic energy production by enabling new energy generation from hydropower, a renewable source, and facilitating the construction of new or upgraded transmission networks, helping to create new industries and supply chains, driving economic growth and job creation, and helping provide more energy from domestic sources.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BOR	Amount of hydropower capability, in megawatts (MW), installed from 2018 through 2022	50
BOR	Percent of hydropower facilities in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating	73%

BOR	Percent of time that Bureau of Reclamation hydroelectric generating units are available to the interconnected Western electrical system during daily peak demand periods	80%

GOAL #2: Ensure access to mineral resources

The DOI recognizes that public lands are an important source of the Nation's non-energy mineral resources, some of which are critical and strategic. The DOI is committed to ensuring appropriate access to public lands, for orderly and efficient development of these resources under principles of multiple use management.

STRATEGY #1: Manage non-energy mineral development

DOI promotes energy security, environmental protection, and economic development through responsible, science-informed management of mineral resources. The BLM conducts environmental analysis of complex issues necessary to authorize use on BLM public lands and meet the increasing demand for non-energy solid leasable minerals, especially potash and phosphate. BOEM's Marine Minerals Program provides sand and gravel resources to protect and improve coastal infrastructure and the environment locally, regionally and nationally. Additionally, the in-depth science provided by the USGS Mineral Resources Program (http://minerals.usgs.gov) facilitates resource discovery and provides essential information and analyses for strategic, evidence-based economic and geopolitical decisions.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of non-energy mineral exploration and development requests processed	30%
BOEM	Number of sand and gravel requests processed for coastal restoration projects	8
USGS	Percent completion of targeted non-fuel mineral resource assessments and research	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted Critical Mineral Early Warning System (CMEWS) analyses and evaluations	100%

GOAL #3: Ensure public receives fair market value for resources; and recover costs where appropriate

Rents, royalties, and bonuses are collected from issuing leases on public lands, and offshore on the OCS, and for the amount of the resource extracted. These resources include oil, gas, coal, forage for grazing, and access to renewable energy resources such as solar, wind, and geothermal. It is important that these financial transactions include appropriate accountability and fair return to the American public. The associated regulations and practices for these fees and collections must also be rational and transparent to ensure businesses that extract and process these resources can function efficiently and profitably in order to support the economic growth and security of the nation.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure accurate and timely accounting and collection of energy revenues

The Department collects, disburses and verifies natural resource revenue generated from issuing leases on public lands, and offshore on the OCS. This revenue is then shared with states and localities according to specific statutory obligations, allocated to various Federal programs, or deposited in the General Fund of the Treasury, thus serving to reduce the deficit. The DOI is committed to managing these transactions accurately, responsibly, and in a timely manner. The Royalty Policy Committee has been reinstated by the Secretary to elicit robust advice and recommendations regarding policies related to royalties from these resources and their benefit to the American public.

The BSEE helps ensure the accuracy of metering from higher risk hydrocarbon sites that experience high volumes of throughput and/or have a past history of noncompliance to help ensure the appropriate financial benefit is obtained for the American people. Additionally, data driven procedures enable the BOEM and the BLM to ensure bid adequacy through a two phased review system for onshore and offshore leasing, and also allow for timely collection and disbursement of mineral and renewable energy revenues by the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR). ONRR's distributions benefit the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Historic Preservation Fund, and the Reclamation Fund, helping to ensure America's natural resources and rich history are available to be enjoyed by current and future generations. Distributions to states are used to fund capital projects such as schools, roads, and public buildings. Revenues collected from leases on Indian lands directly benefit members of the Indian community.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
ONRR	Percent of federal and Indian oil and gas revenues disbursed on a timely basis per statute ($ Billions)	98%
BSEE	Percent of oil royalty meters, identified as high-risk using a risk based methodology, where meter provings will be observed	10%

STRATEGY #2: Ensure effective collection and application of recreation fees

The nation's public lands offer many excellent locations for public recreation in the outdoors at national parks and monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, BLM public lands and other locations, in historic sites and buildings and at national treasures such as the Statue of Liberty. Facilities (roads, visitor centers, bathrooms, historic buildings, museums, etc.) that enable visitors to enjoy their public lands and sites are expensive to maintain. All of the major land management bureaus have large backlogs of deferred maintenance at these facilities. The DOI will continuously review its fee structure to determine how best to accommodate visitors enjoyment while collecting fees that help to offset some of the maintenance costs required to keep visitor-facing infrastructure in good shape for visitors. All such reviews of fees and changes will remain consistent with Congressional direction that has been provided through a series of laws including the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

The National Park Service established fee structure guidelines in 2006 to standardize rates across the country. The resulting tier system assigns each park unit to a tier and associated entrance fee schedule based on the type of site and the amenities provided for the public. During 2017, the National Park Service initiated a comprehensive review to evaluate and consider bringing entrance fees at all park units into compliance with their assigned tier through a process of public engagement by January 1, 2018. Even with proposed increases, entrance fees remain affordable at $15-$30 per vehicle, which is normally good for several days. The America the Beautiful Pass Annual Pass remains at the price of $80 for one year for unlimited entrance fees for almost all national parks, Fish and Wildlife and BLM sites where fees are required. Congress raised the one-time cost of the America the Beautiful Lifetime Senior Pass for those age 62 or older from the previous fee of $10 to $80 effective in August 2017.

Reviews of other amenity fees (such as for campgrounds and special use permits) will also strive to set fair and equitable fees for activities that visitors enjoy after they enter the park, refuge, or recreation area. The bureaus will seek public comment during any process to review and modify fee amounts to ensure that the public has an opportunity to raise questions and provide comments regarding any fee changes. The bureaus will also identify ways to modernize and enhance fee collection mechanisms that speed access to facilities and/or reduce the cost to the federal government for fee collection.

GOAL #4: Focus timber programs on "healthy forests" lifecycle

The BLM manages forests or woodlands for the benefit of the American public. The BLM maintains a permanent source of timber supply, which supports the production of lumber, plywood, and paper, while also protecting watersheds, regulating stream flow, contributing to the economic stability of local communities and industries, and providing recreational opportunities. Responsible management that reduces fire fuels improves the health and resilience of our forests and helps to prevent forest fires.

The BIA manages forests as a trust asset of Indian tribes. Tribally owned forest assets contribute substantially to national sources of timber supply. Many tribes now actively participate in management of their forest assets through self-governance and self-determination programs.

STRATEGY #1: Manage sales of timber and forest product resources

Forest management programs within the DOI generate economic benefits through timber harvests on public and Indian trust lands, and restoring forest health. The benefits of healthy forests include typical forest products such as timber and biomass but also include opportunities for recreation and maintenance of watershed health.

The BLM has two focus areas for forest management, the Oregon and California grant lands and the public domain lands. For Oregon and California lands, generating revenue for counties is the primary driver of forest management treatments, while for public domain lands, fire management is the primary driver for forest management. The BLM is currently reviewing its management plans to determine prospects for offering additional timber for sale in the future.

The BIA manages forests as a trust asset of Indian tribes. Tribally owned forest assets contribute substantially to the national sources of timber supply. Many tribes now actively participate in management of their forest assets through the self-governance and self-determination programs.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of allowable sale quantity (ASQ) timber offered for sale consistent with applicable resource management plans (O&C--Oregon and California--only)	100%
BLM	Volume (mmbf) of wood products offered consistent with applicable management plans	285
BIA	Percent of Annual Allowable Cut prepared and offered for sale or free use	48%

GOAL #5: Manage grazing resources

The BLM manages livestock grazing on over half of its public lands; approximately 18,000 permits and leases are held by ranchers that graze their livestock on over 21,000 grazing allotments throughout BLM managed lands. The BLM's overall objective is to ensure the long-term health and productivity of these lands. BLM uses a variety of methods to accomplish this objective – periodic rest or deferment of grazing in pastures in specific allotments during critical growth periods; vegetation treatments; and projects such as water developments and fences. The terms and conditions for grazing on BLM-managed lands such as stipulations on forage use and season of use are set forth in the permits and leases issued by the Bureau to public land ranchers.

STRATEGY #1: Provide for sustainable forage and grazing

Livestock grazing contributes to food production and adds to local economic stability, and it can be used in certain areas to maintain and improve land health by reducing hazardous fuels and minimizing the likelihood and impact of catastrophic wildfires. The BLM partners with local communities and state and local governments to develop rangeland improvement projects, stewardship contracting, and good neighbor authority in its rangeland management. In recent years, the number of grazing permits and leases processed has decreased due to dramatic increases in litigation and drought. The BLM continues to look for opportunities to streamline the grazing permit process and provide livestock operators greater flexibility in grazing their livestock on public lands.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of grazing permits and leases processed as planned consistent with applicable resource management plans	16%
BIA	Percent of tribal range units assessed during the reporting year for level of utilization	15%

MISSION AREA 3 Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Outdoor recreation is integral to a healthy lifestyle for millions of Americans. Visitors to the DOI's public lands and waters take advantage of the physical, mental, and social benefits that outdoor recreational experiences provide. Americans have the opportunity to hunt and fish on public lands managed by the DOI as part of its multiple-use policy that also includes hiking, camping, climbing, boating, wildlife viewing, and other outdoor pursuits.

GOAL #1: Expand hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands and waters

Hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities contributed $156 billion in economic activity across the United States according to the FWS National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. More than 101 million Americans, or 40 percent of the United States' population 16 and older, pursue wildlife-related recreation, which supports 480,000 American jobs.

Following two initial Secretarial Orders issued on his first day, Secretary Zinke issued Secretarial Order 3356 in September, 2017, to further expand public access to lands and waters administered by the DOI, for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other forms of outdoor recreation. In addition, this Order gave greater priority to recruiting and retaining sportsmen and women conservationists, with an emphasis on engaging youth, veterans, minorities, and underserved communities that traditionally have low participation in outdoor recreation activities.

STRATEGY #1: Promote hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands and waters

There are 372 National Wildlife Refuges and wetland management districts open to hunting and 308 refuges and wetland management districts open to fishing. As practiced on refuges, hunting and fishing do not pose a threat to wildlife populations, and in some instances, are actually necessary for sound wildlife management. For example, deer populations will often grow too large for the refuge habitat to support. If some of the deer are not harvested, they destroy habitat for themselves and other animals and die from starvation or disease. The harvesting of wildlife on refuges is carefully regulated to ensure an appropriate balance between population levels and wildlife habitat. The FWS National Fish Hatcheries continue to be a valuable tool in managing fisheries providing recreation opportunities to America's 36 million anglers who spend $46 billion annually in pursuit of their favored pastime.

There are 76 areas managed by the National Park Service that permit hunting. A total of 51,097,000 acres managed by the NPS are open to hunting at various times during the year, representing approximately 60% of the total acreage of the NPS system. The Bureau of Land Management estimates that over 95 percent of the nearly 250 million acres of BLM-managed public lands are open to hunting.

The recreation areas developed as a result of Bureau of Reclamation water projects are among the Nation's most popular for water-based outdoor recreation. There are 289 Reclamation project areas that have developed recreation facilities and opportunities available for public use. Reclamation has approximately 6.5 million acres of land and water, most of which is available for public outdoor recreation. The 187 developed recreation areas managed by Reclamation or a non-Federal recreation partner draw over 24 million visits annually. The 187 developed recreation areas provide 549 campgrounds, 454 boat launch ramps, and more than 5,500 miles of shoreline.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
FWS	Number of National Wildlife Refuge acres newly opened to hunting and fishing	250,000
BLM	Number of legal public access transactions completed that facilitate open access to recreation opportunities	20
BLM	Number of newly installed campsites, restrooms, and other facilities that promote public access to BLM-managed public lands	30
BLM, BOR, FWS	Number of individuals participating in outdoor recreation activities at special events	5,420,000

GOAL #2: Enhance public satisfaction at DOI sites

Visitor satisfaction with the quality of experiences on public lands remains very high. Collectively, satisfaction is above 90 percent for the bureaus providing recreation services, e.g., interpretive programs, visitor centers, camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, boating, off-highway vehicle driving, wildlife viewing, photography, and climbing. Satisfaction with recreation services provided through facilitated programs remains very high – also above 90 percent.

STRATEGY #1: Enhance the enjoyment and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage

Survey results show that a sizeable percentage of visitors are satisfied with their experiences at parks, refuges and other public lands. Competition from other forms of entertainment pose challenges to the DOI in its quest to ensure that all Americans understand, appreciate and enjoy the special places protected by the national parks, wildlife refuges and BLM lands.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of visitors satisfied with the quality of the experience	95%
BLM, NPS	Percent of visitors satisfied with facilitated programs	94%

MISSION AREA 4 Fulfilling Our Trust and Insular Responsibilities

The DOI upholds the Federal government's unique trust responsibilities by fostering the government-to-government relationships between the Federal government and federally recognized Tribes, and by providing services to individual American Indians, and Alaskan Natives. The U.S. also has important relationships with the affiliated insular areas including the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The DOI administers and oversees Federal Assistance to the three Freely Associated States: The Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

GOAL #1: Support tribal self-determination, self-governance, and sovereignty

The DOI is strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship between the Federal Government and tribal nations because self-determination, sovereignty, self-government, and self-reliance are the tools that will enable tribal nations to shape their own destiny. Tribes have also assumed an expanded role in the operation of Indian programs through Public Law 93-638 contracting. Tribes contract with the Federal Government to operate programs serving their tribal members and other eligible persons.

STRATEGY #1: Support self-governance and self-determination

Self-Governance: Under a self-governance compact, a tribe takes over most or all operations affecting that tribe. The Indian Affairs' Office of Self-Governance (OSG) implements the Tribal Self Governance Act of 1994 by developing and implementing regulations, policies, and guidance in support of self-governance initiatives. Indian Affairs advocates for the transfer of Federal programmatic authorities and resources to tribal governments and supports tribal sovereignty and an expanded role in the operation of Indian programs. The program work includes negotiating annual funding agreements with eligible tribes and consortia, and resolving issues identified in financial and program audits of self-governance operations.

Self-Determination: Under a self-determination contract, a tribe contracts with BIA to take over operation of a program formerly delivered by BIA employees. The funds BIA previously used to run the program transfer to the tribe. Self-determination typically is a program-by-program decision. The Indian Self-Determination Program within BIA works to further American Indian tribes' exercise of self-determination and conducts oversight of self-determination contracts and grants.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
AS-IA	Percent of Self-Governance Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audits are made within 6 months	99%
BIA	Percent of Self-Determination Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audits are made within 6 months	91%
AS-IA	Percent of P.L. 93-638 contracts with clean audits	90%

GOAL #2: Fulfill fiduciary trust

The DOI has ongoing responsibilities to ensure that trust and restricted Federal Indian-owned lands are managed effectively and to accurately account for revenues and disbursements in a timely and efficient manner. The Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians and the Bureau of Indian Affairs oversee fiduciary trust activities. The DOI assists American Indian and Alaska Native communities in developing capabilities needed to strengthen their communities and maintain economic self-sufficiency. Efforts such as reducing fractionation of Indian lands and developing conservation and resource management plans help tribes maximize economic benefits of their lands. Securing unsubsidized employment reduces dependency on Federal subsidized programs such as childcare assistance, food stamps, and welfare.

Trust assets are crucial to the financial well-being of individual Indian beneficiaries and key components in the economies of tribes. As such, these assets must be managed with great care, paying attention that all financial transactions are completed accurately and as quickly as possible. Since passage of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform of 1994, the trust accounts managed by OST are balanced to the penny on a daily basis. OST has also incorporated industry-standard practices, such as a lockbox facility, to shorten the time between the payment of a lease and deposit of those funds into a trust account. For Fiscal Years (FY) 2013 through 2017, OST has received a "clean" audit opinion for Individual Indian Monies (IIM) accounts, attesting to its professionalism in managing these assets. Despite this proven record of success, OST retains a commitment to continual reform, looking for more ways to improve its service to individual Indians and tribes.

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) helps provide quality education opportunities starting in early childhood in accordance with tribally identified strategies and needs that contribute to the social well-being of the community and sustain Indian cultures. Tribes directly operate 150 of the 183 BIE funded schools through self-determination contracts and Tribally Controlled Schools Act grants.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure accurate and timely management of fiduciary trust assets

In its effort to promote the fulfillment of fiduciary trust processes, the DOI assists Indian tribes in developing capacity and infrastructure needed to attain economic self-sufficiency on reservations to enhance their quality of life. One critical path is economic development and job creation. The BIA coordinates development of comprehensive tribal programs with the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services. The DOI offers programs and financial services that encourage start-ups and help position Indian businesses and individuals to compete in today's economy.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BIA	Total average gain in earnings of participants that obtain unsubsidized employment through Job Placement Training programs for tribes submitting P.L. 102-477 related reports	$10.82
BIA	Percent of active, supervised Individual Indian Monies (IIM) case records reviewed in accordance with regulations	98%

BIA	Increase in the percentage of submitted land-into-trust applications with determinations (Fee to Trust)	40%
OST	Percent of financial information initially processed accurately in trust beneficiaries' accounts.	99%
OST	Percent of oil and gas revenue transmitted by ONRR recorded in the Trust Funds Accounting System within 24 hours of receipt.	99%
OST	Percent of timeliness of financial account information provided to trust beneficiaries.	100%

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen Indian Education

Improving performance in BIE schools is a challenge the DOI is addressing through initiatives aimed at increasing student achievement. Students at BIE-funded schools receive a culturally relevant, high-quality education that prepares them with the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to flourish in the opportunities of tomorrow, become healthy and successful individuals, and lead their communities and sovereign nations to a thriving future that preserves their unique cultural identities.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BIE	Percent of students attending BIE-funded schools completing high school with a regular diploma within four years of their 9th grade entry date	69%

GOAL #3: Strengthen economic and health capacities in the US Territories, and fulfill US compact obligations to the freely associated states

The DOI supports the U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States (FAS) through the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) under the Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs. The U.S.-affiliated insular areas are: the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Residents of these U.S. territories are U.S. citizens or nationals. The DOI also administers and oversees Federal assistance provided to the three Freely Associated States: the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. The Assistant Secretary Insular and International Affairs and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out these responsibilities on behalf of the Secretary.

STRATEGY #1: Bolster Healthcare Capacity

The Territories and FAS experience significant healthcare challenges. The DOI along with other partners, such as the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will work with insular area partners to improve the quality of healthcare across the insular areas. The DOI will make investments to implement corrective action plans which address chronic operational and facility shortcomings at territorial hospitals, which serve their U.S. citizens and nationals, with a focus on those identified by the HHS/Centers for Medicare/Medicaid (CMS) and local elected officials. Additional investments will be made to combat non-communicable and communicable diseases impacting the Pacific and Caribbean islands such as obesity, diabetes, and tuberculosis.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Percent of Community Water Systems (CWS) that receive health based violations notices from the US Environmental Protection Agency	9%
OIA	Number of new and relapse tuberculosis cases occurring during the calendar year on the islands (per 1,000 people in the population)	1
OIA	Percent of patients with newly diagnosed tuberculosis disease for whom 12 months or less of treatment is indicated, who complete treatment within 12 months	95%
OIA	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (number of deaths to infants from birth through 1 year of age per number of live births)	6

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen Island Economies

Strong local economies provide employment and a viable tax base for citizens in the Insular Areas. The DOI will assist the insular areas to strengthen their economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, public services and technical assistance which will attract and retain private sector investment. The DOI will promote policies and improve Federal coordination on issues impacting insular economies.

Capital investments will be made in basic utilities, hospitals, schools, ports, tourist areas, telecommunications and roads as they create the backbone for increased economic activity. Pursuing renewable energy strategies lessens dependence on oil imports and provides more reliable and affordable energy.

Stable economies and fiscally prudent insular governments foster a more hospitable climate for investment in the islands. Technical assistance will be provided to equip the insular areas with the statistical and management information necessary for informed leadership decision making, expert consultants to effectively improve insular government financial policies and procedures, and strong financial management systems along with technical planning abilities.

The DOI will help create economic opportunity by forging partnerships that bolster tourism and attract industry by promoting the unique island cultures, natural resources, and by preparing the next generation of business leaders. Key indicators of OIA's effectiveness include the following:

Average per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP): In the four U.S. Territories (Guam, US Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)) for which it is measured, GDP remains a fraction of that for other U.S. citizens in the states. OIA provides technical assistance to the insular areas to assist with economic development planning and execution and supports local planning and education activities related to tourism, agriculture, and aquaculture. In addition, OIA funds infrastructure projects related to economic development, such as fiber optic connectivity, port improvements and renovations to tourist districts.

Cost of electricity: Without indigenous fossil fuels, insular areas face great challenges in achieving reliable, affordable, and secure energy, which can have severe economic effects on the island communities. These areas depend almost entirely on imported petroleum products for energy. The residential cost per kilowatt hour for power in the territories directly impacts the quality of life in

the insular areas and remains over three times higher than the national average. To try to address high electricity costs, the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) contracts with the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to engage territories and provide energy efficiency and renewable energy assessments, help develop strategic energy plans, and provide technical assistance in reviewing and implementing alternative energy projects. The OIA, through its Empowering Insular Communities grant program, continues to provide funding for the highest priority projects identified in the energy plans including photovoltaic, wind and geothermal development projects, as well as assuring traditional energy plants continue operating.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Difference in the mean GDP per capita in the 4 US territories compared to the mean GDP per capita in the US	60%
OIA	Difference in the residential cost per kilowatt hour for power from the national average	2X

STRATEGY #3: Fulfill US Compact Obligations

In coordination with the State Department, the DOI will implement compact obligations with three U.S.-affiliated Freely Associated States (FAS): the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the Republic of Palau (Palau). The DOI will make direct grants to the FSM and RMI under their amended Compacts to provide assistance in six sectors: education, health care, infrastructure, public sector capacity building, private sector development, and environment. The DOI will also continue to support U.S. compact obligations to Palau.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Ratio of FAS private sector jobs versus total FAS employment	55%
OIA	Ratio of FAS public sector jobs versus total FAS Employment	45%
OIA	Percent of FAS employment attributable to OIA Grants and Programs	30%
OIA	Percent of FAS employee compensation attributable to OIA grants and programs	25%
OIA	Average FAS private sector wage rate as a percentage of average FAS central government wage rate	45%

MISSION AREA 5 Protecting Our People and the Border

Inherent in DOI's management responsibilities of the public lands is the requirement to protect employees and visitors. Ensuring employee and public safety is complex and requires the resources of multiple bureaus and offices covering four disciplines – law enforcement, emergency management, wildland fire, and natural hazards science. The DOI's Law Enforcement Program has the third largest contingent of Federal law enforcement officers in the Executive Branch. Depending on the season, approximately 3,500-4,000 law enforcement officers, rangers, and other employees patrol vast acres of public lands, national parks, wildlife refuges, and Indian communities and protect people, as well as natural, cultural, and heritage resources from illegal activities. Wildland fires potentially endanger lives and property. The Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) coordinates among the DOI's land management bureaus and the US Forest Service to safely, efficiently, and effectively prevent, respond to, and manage the impacts of wildfires. The USGS also protects lives by monitoring and warning of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides, and environmental health hazards.

The DOI has land on both the Canadian and Mexican borders, and a presence in the Pacific that exposes Americans to risks from Asia. The Administration is presently emphasizing securing our southern border with Mexico to better protect our country. The DOI has a considerable amount of land that borders Mexico. As such, the DOI's law enforcement officers work in partnership with the US Customs and Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Agency, and tribal, state and local governments to address the flow of illegal immigration, gun and drug trafficking, and to mitigate the impacts associated with these activities, which affect DOI lands and our community partners. In addition, OWF shares wildfire management responsibilities with Mexico along the southern border.

GOAL 1: Ensure emergency preparedness & DOI law enforcement staffing addresses public safety risks

The DOI places a high priority on safety, security, and preparedness, and will uphold its responsibilities for protecting lives, resources, and property through a wide variety of program areas, including law enforcement, health and safety, security, and emergency management. The DOI's preference is to achieve public and visitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations by using techniques that are not confrontational and are designed to elicit voluntary as opposed to coerced compliance.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure public safety on our lands

The Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES) provides program direction and oversight on law enforcement policy, border security, drug enforcement, training at the national academy, internal affairs, victims assistance, program compliance, and inspections as well as emergency deployment of DOI law enforcement resources. The Office coordinates with other Federal, state and local agencies (including the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Central Intelligence Agency) on law enforcement and security issues, including infrastructure on the Outer Continental Shelf, the Trans-Alaska pipeline, and gas transmission lines.

To help ensure effective protection of people on DOI lands, each bureau will determine the effective level and distribution of law enforcement staffing for each of its programs on a unit-by-unit basis. The effective level and distribution of staffing needs is dependent on the differing

conditions, levels of risk, and populations served in each unit, captured through a staffing model developed and monitored by each bureau. The DOI's bureaus will engage in developing these staffing models, to determine on a program basis the effective levels of law enforcement staffing that are needed across its units, evaluate the actual level of law enforcement staffing that presently exists, and develop recommendations for better ensuring the effective level of staffing for protecting the people in each unit.

The DOI will strengthen law enforcement in Indian Country by putting more officers on the streets, bolstering tribal courts, and helping fight violent crime and drug abuse. Tribal justice systems are an essential part of tribal governments, which interface with BIA and tribal law enforcement activities. Congress and the Federal courts have repeatedly recognized tribal justice systems as the appropriate forums for adjudicating disputes and minor criminal activity within Indian Country. It is important that the BIA and tribal law enforcement activities complement the operations of the tribal courts to ensure that justice in the tribal forums is administered effectively.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OLES	Percent of DOI law enforcement agencies with a current law enforcement staffing plan	100%
BIA	Percent of criminal offenses solved by arrest (Part 1 Offense Clearance Rate)	44%

Strategy 2: Prepare DOI to respond to and recover from emergencies and incidents

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) promotes all-hazard preparedness and response; ensures continuity of the DOI to perform essential functions during catastrophic events; and assists communities during imminent threats. Collectively, the DOI supports the five National Planning Frameworks (Protection, Prevention, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery) and their related five Federal Interagency Operational Plans, the National Incident Management System, and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan while continuing the DOI's mission to protect natural and cultural resources. The DOI's All-Hazards Baseline Operational Plan provides the baseline guidance for how the Department prepares for and responds to emergencies, regardless of type or cause. The OEM leads coordination and information sharing for emergency management regarding communications, public health, environmental health, wildlife health, integrated pest management, invasive species, and occupational safety and health across the DOI's bureaus and offices.

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PEM	Average Interior Readiness (I-READ) Index score for emergency preparedness across DOI Bureaus/Offices	91.0%

GOAL 2: Support securing our southern continental US border

The DOI manages 41% of the southwest border of the continental United States. The DOI's managers in the field are daily faced with tough decisions on how to best utilize their law

enforcement assets. An integrated government approach is essential to effectively securing the border and supporting the construction of a physical barrier where needed. Through partnering, federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies working in proximity to each other have been able to address critical issues like illegal immigration and marijuana smuggling.

STRATEGY #1: Support securing our southern continental US border

The DOI's goal is to increase collaboration among the agencies operating along the border to better understand each other's mission, share resources, and coordinate efforts. This is accomplished by routine interagency coordination, participating in local Border Management Task Force (BMTF) meetings, interagency training, an annual interagency border forum, and law enforcement specific operations.

The US Border Patrol is the main federal agency responsible for patrolling DOI lands adjacent to the US/Mexican Border. The DOI's goal is to work with US Border Patrol to decrease illegal immigration on DOI managed public lands through collaborative efforts with partnering agencies.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
PMB/OLES	Number of apprehensions on DOI-managed lands	Reduced Annually

GOAL #3: Manage wildland fire to reduce risk and improve ecosystem and community resilience

The DOI, working with the Department of Agriculture, will improve the way that both agencies manage wildland fire by ensuring that fire management assets are used in the most efficient way possible. The DOI will work with state, local, tribal, and other partners to ensure a coordinated approach to wildland fire management that enables protection responsibilities to be exchanged and resources shared to improve operational efficiency and reduce management duplication. The DOI will continue to integrate science and technology into informing and supporting the firefighters with the appropriate training tools, resources and program support to enable them to work safely and effectively.

The DOI is developing new wildland fire management performance measures to better articulate and determine the efficacy of Department and Administration resources in achieving desired resource conditions that reduce the intensity, severity or negative effects of wildfire. As part of this effort, the Department has established a working group among the four DOI wildland fire bureaus, as well as the U.S. Forest Service, which will explore the feasibility of concepts and principles in wildfire risk mitigation, and examine the value of the strategic placement of fuels treatments as informed by a risk assessment and mitigation plan. This group will develop recommendations for a) establishing outcome-based targets, and b) annually evaluating the performance of the program in meeting the desired objectives of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. When

completed, the DOI will incorporate the new performance measures into its strategic plan implementation.

STRATEGY #1: Integrate fire ecology, risk management, and collaboration to mitigate wildfire impacts

The Department's Office of Wildland Fire coordinates programs and funding across four bureaus (BLM, FWS, NPS, and BIA) that manage wildland fire programs to implement the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, a science-based collaborative approach to mitigating wildfire risk. The DOI, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, is committed to the inclusive principles of providing safe and effective response to wildfires, promoting fire-adapted communities, and creating fire-resilient landscapes. The DOI strives to achieve a science-based and technically effective wildland fire management program that is integrated with natural resources programs.

Successful management in fire-adapted communities and landscapes depends on implementation of a broad-based, intergovernmental, collaborative, and national cohesive strategy to address the mounting challenges of escalating fire behavior, increased risk to responders, greater natural and cultural resource losses, and increased threats and losses to communities. The DOI is a lead agency in this collaborative approach with the Forest Service and other Federal, state, tribal, and local governments and stakeholders.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OWF	Percent of DOI-managed landscape acres that are in desired condition as a result of fire management	36%
OWF	Percent of DOI-managed treatments that reduce risk to communities that have a wildland fire mitigation plan	94%
OWF	Percent of wildfires on DOI-managed landscapes where the initial strategies fully succeeded during the initial response phase	97%

GOAL #4: Provide science to safeguard communities from natural hazards

The USGS helps protect public safety, public health, and property by effectively delivering natural hazards and environmental health science. The Nation's emergency managers and public officials use USGS science to inform citizens of the potential risks these hazards pose to natural systems and the built environment, improve preparation and response activities, and protect the health of the public, which reduce the loss of life and property.

STRATEGY #1: Monitor and assess natural hazards risk and response planning

Responsibilities in natural hazards include the issuing of warnings and advisories for earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, and coastal erosion; informing warnings issued by other agencies for floods, tsunamis, and wildfires; providing timely information to emergency managers and response officials, the media, and the public to inform and educate communities during and between crises.

The USGS supports these activities by implementing 24x7 operations for seismic, volcanic, and geomagnetic monitoring efforts; maintaining an extensive national network of streamgages measuring rainfall, streamflow, stream height or lake levels; and developing the next generation of tools for rapid evaluation of hazards.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent completion of targeted natural hazards assessments of very high and high-threat regions of the Nation (Index)	4%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted landslide hazard research	8%
USGS	Percent completion of coastal and marine hazards and subsidence research (Index)	87%
USGS	Percent progress towards optimal monitoring capability for natural hazards situational awareness (Index)	52%
USGS	Percent of the National Streamflow Network (NSN) streamgages that are fully operational	88%

MISSION AREA 6 Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

The DOI is looking to better ensure effective operations and service delivery through coordinated organizational alignments in the field across bureaus and with other federal and nonfederal partners, and through putting a relatively larger fraction of our employees into the field to serve the public. Expediting environmental analysis and compliance, reducing the cost of space, collocating offices for more convenient public service and improved interagency coordination, and common regional boundaries are all being explored to help improve the DOI's infrastructure and related effectiveness.

GOAL #1: Align DOI organizational structure and workforce to improve partnership engagement and mission delivery

The DOI is reevaluating its organizational model to determine how to best achieve its mission of serving the American public, honoring our tribal and fiduciary trust responsibilities, and managing and protecting our land, water and natural resources for the next 100 years.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure effective alignment of DOI organizational structure in the field and with partners

The DOI intends to establish unified regional boundaries for its bureaus in 2018 and to further develop this approach in 2019. The goal is to improve overall operations, internal communications, customer service, and stakeholder engagement. Aligning geographic areas across the DOI will enhance coordination of resource decisions and policies and will simplify how citizens engage with the DOI.

Organizing bureaus with common geographic areas will allow for more integrated and better coordinated decision making across bureaus. Currently, the DOI's bureaus have more than 40 distinct regions, each with its own geographic boundaries. This complicates coordination and hampers the DOI's ability to get things done expeditiously. Having unified regions will help streamline operations and in doing so, provide better service to the American people. Bureaus within a region will focus on common issues, taking a comprehensive approach versus a bureau-centric approach. This culture shift will help us work better together to accomplish one vision. The new regional boundaries currently under discussion – and subject to modification – are expected to have minimal budgetary impact.

To improve customer service and reduce operational costs, sharing functions at field locations has already begun. For a number of years, the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture's US Forest Service (USFS) have pooled resources, conducted joint projects, and shared services under Service First agreements where field locations are in close proximity to each other. Service First authority promotes partnering across agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and to address federal land management issues in an integrated way.

STRATEGY #2: Improve strategic hiring, placement and retention efforts to ensure mission-critical service delivery through data driven processes and increased employee engagement efforts

The DOI is committed to managing America's vast natural and cultural resources with a 70,000-strong and 350 occupation-plus workforce that exemplifies high performance, customer service and

accountability. Historically, it has been difficult to attract certain DOI employees or recruits in certain occupations to positions in headquarters, or even to regional offices, because many of our employees enjoy living in relatively rural areas and because the cost of living is so much higher in large cities. Moving a larger fraction of our staff of some bureaus to relatively more rural and considerably less expensive areas in the West might therefore both reduce payroll cost because fewer employees would receive locality pay, and improve employee retention.

To facilitate strategic human capital planning, the Department has put in place hiring controls to emphasize new hiring for field-related positions rather than administrative and support positions in the Washington, D.C., and Denver, Colorado metropolitan areas.

The DOI will leverage automation to improve employee performance and training opportunities, and examine additional data to determine if operational efficiencies can be gained while minimizing redundancies under the current organizational design.

Data to be analyzed include:

- Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (*e.g.*, employee engagement)
- Geographic Representation of Bureau Mission Critical Occupations
- Geographic Representation of Administrative and Support Services
- Customer Service data
- Benchmarking cost allocations for administrative and support functions
- DOI Human Capital Framework Evaluations
- Accountability drivers on performance, labor management, EEO, etc.
- Bureau plans in response to the Department-wide Workplace Environment Survey

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PHR	Employee engagement index for DOI in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey	75%
PHR	DOI's ranking among large agencies in the Partnership for Public Services' Best Places to Work report	1

GOAL #2: Reduce administrative and regulatory burden

Executive Order 13771, Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, directed agencies to "manage the costs associated with the governmental imposition of private expenditures required to comply with Federal regulations." The DOI is reviewing its regulations and administrative processes to determine what cost savings, to the government and to the public, are possible by repealing regulations for which the perceived benefits might not be justified relative to their implementation costs, and which administrative processes could be streamlined or made more efficient.

STRATEGY #1: Evaluate and improve the net benefits of regulatory reform initiatives and policies, and identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification

On February 24, 2017, President Trump signed Executive Order 13777 entitled, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda" to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens placed on the American people. The Executive Order established a Regulatory Reform Officer (RRO) for each agency and a Regulatory Reform Task Force. The efforts of the RRO and the task force will help identify

regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. The costs of the regulatory and deregulatory actions are measured as the opportunity costs or cost savings to society, as defined in OMB Circular A-4 (i.e. the values reported are the cumulative net savings from deregulatory actions and costs of newly required regulatory actions over multiple years starting in FY 2017). In 2017, the DOI achieved cumulative net savings of $1.15B (net present value) from its deregulatory actions. Goals for subsequent years will be established as the DOI completes its review of target regulations.

Office	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
DOI	Total incremental cost of all EO 13771 regulatory actions and EO 13771 deregulatory actions (including costs or cost savings carried over from previous fiscal years)	TBD
DOI	Number of EO 13771 regulatory actions issued.	TBD
DOI	Number of EO 13771 deregulatory actions issued.	TBD

STRATEGY #2: Improve transparency and timeliness of the infrastructure permitting process

As outlined in the President's Executive Order "Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure," and the corresponding Secretarial Order 3355, a significant opportunity exists for agencies to streamline and collaborate on National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) compliance efforts. The DOI believes this can best be achieved through a unified regional structure adopted across the DOI which focuses on the intersecting issues within the same geographical boundaries.

The DOI is also establishing an Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting (ECEP) to expedite the responsible leasing and permitting of energy and mineral production. More specifically, this involves, but is not limited to, the processing of Applications for Permit to Drill (APD), Expressions of Interest (EOI), coal leasing actions, Right-of-Way (ROW) applications, and harmonization of appurtenant environmental reviews.

Office	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
DOI	*Cross-Agency Priority Goal metric on improving infrastructure permitting to be added*	
BLM	Average amount of time (in days) to process and administratively complete Applications for Permit to Drill	90 days
BLM	Average amount of time (in months) to issue a decision on major right-of-way applications	48 months
BLM	Average amount of time (in days) to process and administratively complete a grazing permit	390 days
FWS	Percent of formal Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultations addressed in a timely manner	100%

GOAL #3: Prioritize DOI infrastructure needs and reduce deferred maintenance backlog

Real property assets are integral to the success of Interior's mission. DOI's real property inventory includes approximately 43,000 buildings and 80,000 structures across six major land-holding bureaus, with a replacement value of approximately $300 billion. DOI manages the full life-cycle requirements of nearly every type of constructed asset found, including visitor centers, dams, schools, health clinics, power generating facilities, housing, hotels, fire stations, campgrounds, roads, water and wastewater treatment plants, offices, and more. Many of these assets have historic or cultural significance that not only support the DOI's mission, but are important to our Nation's heritage.

STRATEGY #1: Maintain critical DOI infrastructure and facilities to ensure effective operations and service delivery

The DOI's goal is to balance mission delivery demands with adequate investments in operations and maintenance to sustain the portfolio in an appropriate condition befitting of our role as America's stewards. Appropriately maintained assets enable the DOI to accomplish habitat and resource management, provide outdoor recreation activities, deliver water, fulfill trust and treaty responsibilities, and provide critical economic inputs and job creation for local communities. Adequately constructed and maintained Federal real property supports healthy habitats and populations, availability of safe and reliable public use opportunities, and robust local economies.

A significant factor impacting a sustainable portfolio of constructed assets is DOI's aging infrastructure. Many assets already exceed original design life, and this trend of aging infrastructure continues to threaten mission delivery. Prioritizing repairs on a portfolio scale will ensure the assets condition is maintained at an acceptable level. Effective management of deferred maintenance is a Departmental priority to ensure completion of needed repairs and prevent further deterioration and unsafe conditions. The DOI prioritizes addressing deferred maintenance/repair needs for mission critical activities. Furthermore, proactive maintenance, replacement of components and colocation of programs and staff in owned facilities will help to reduce future costs.

The DOI conserves the Nation's cultural and heritage sites that reflect a rich and diverse history. The DOI safeguards our heritage for the generations that follow, to better understand our country and learn from our past. Many challenges exist in protecting and maintaining historic and archeological sites, especially with the impacts of weather on fragile sites and structures. Sites are exposed to changing weather conditions that cause damage and deterioration of the structures and sites and some locations are vandalized or accidentally damaged by visitors to federal lands.

The Road Construction Program maintains and operates the 29,000 miles of BIA-owned roads and bridges. These roads and bridges serve as the primary access points to tribal communities, without which critical resources and services would not reach tribal members.

The DOI will continue to improve and provide safe, functional, energy efficient, and universally accessible BIA facilities. The DOI is allocating funds to improve its Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded schools, and improve the learning environment of BIE students.

Agency Priority Performance Goal: By September 30, 2019, the Department of the Interior will improve the condition of its priority real property assets such that 82% are in the desired state of acceptable condition.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
PAM	Percent of priority assets in acceptable condition (i.e. meet investment objective)	84%
PAM	Amount of priority deferred maintenance (repair) needs/activities addressed (i.e. completed for that year)	$1.2 billion
NPS	Value of NPS deferred maintenance work orders closed ($000)	TBD
BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of historic structures on DOI inventory in good condition	57%
BIA, BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS	Percent of museum collections on DOI inventory in good condition	59%
BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of archaeological sites on DOI inventory in good condition	67%
BOR	Maintain a completion rate of 95% for Safety of Dam recommendations	95%
BIA	Percent of miles of BIA road in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	14%
BIA	Percent of BIA bridges in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	69%
BIE	Percent of students in BIE school facilities that are in acceptable condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index	67%

STRATEGY #2: Provide dependable and efficient information technology

Information Management and Technology (IMT) provides modern and secure technology solutions to advance the DOI's ability to deliver programs and services to the public and our customers. To do so, the DOI must protect its critical information assets from cyber exploitation and attack to ensure that employees and the public can rely on the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the DOI's data and information systems. The DOI is implementing advanced technologies that will increase visibility into its IMT environment, improve protections around our high-value information assets, and empower its workforce to better detect, respond, and recover from cyber-attacks and breaches. With a more secure computing environment in place, its employees can more easily obtain the tools and data they need to perform the mission securely efficiently and effectively, anywhere and anytime.

The DOI will continue to deploy and mature Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) capabilities that help to fortify its networks and systems. These capabilities provide the DOI with tools necessary to better identify cybersecurity risks on an ongoing basis, prioritize these risks based upon potential impacts, and enable cybersecurity personnel to mitigate the most significant

problems first. Achieving the performance objectives will enable the DOI to meet the requirements of Presidential Executive Order 13800, "Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure." The DOI has adopted the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework and will work towards implementing and maturing the set of activities known to be effective in managing cybersecurity risks and that are necessary to achieve key cybersecurity outcomes that support the following functions: Identify, Protect, Detect, Respond and Recover.

The DOI is working collaboratively with its user community to understand operational needs better in the field, resulting in expanding network capabilities to improve connectivity in remote areas so employees can be as productive as possible. To improve collaboration, the DOI will enhance its Geospatial Platform capabilities, which is an internet-based tool for sharing trusted geospatial data with the public, government agencies, and partners to meet their mission needs. The DOI will also seek to deliver improved services at a lower cost by consolidating and standardizing IT services and systems, including consolidating and optimizing its data center and network operations and standardizing security, customer support, and administrative functions.

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PIO	Percent of unclassified network hardware and software assets appropriately authorized and managed	95%
PIO	Percent completion of DOI's Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Implementation Plan	100%

APPENDIX A – ACRONYMS

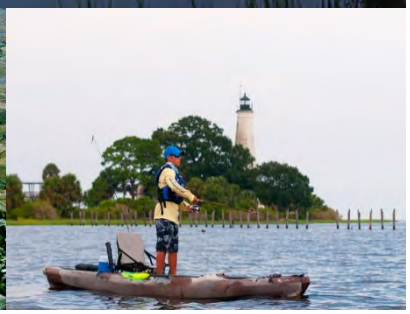
APD	Application for Permit to Drill	I-READ	Interior Readiness (index)
APIPA	Association of Pacific Island Public Auditors	LHP	Landslide Hazard Program
APP	Annual Performance Plan	LIDAR	Light Detection And Ranging
APP&R	Annual Performance Plan and Report	LTRO	Land Title and Records Office
APR	Annual Performance Report	MMBF	Million Board Feet
ARPA	Archeological Resources Protection Act	MR&R	Major Rehabilitations and Replacements
AS-IA	Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs	MRP	Mineral Resource Program
AS-IN	Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs	MTS	Mineral Tracking System
AS-PMB	Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and	NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and
	Budget		Repatriation Act
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs	NAWQA	National Water Quality Assessment Program
BIE	Bureau of Indian Education	NCGMP	National Geologic Map Database
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	NFHS	National Fish Hatchery System
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
BSEE	Bureau of Safety and Environmental	NIBRS	National Incident Based Reporting System
	Enforcement	NIMS	National Incident Management System
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	NLCD	National Land Cover Database
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
CFS	Cubic Foot per Second	NPS	National Park Service
CNMI	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	NWRS	National Wildlife Refuge System
CWS	Community Water Systems	O&C	Oregon and California
DOI	Department of the Interior	O&M	Operations and Maintenance
EHP	Earthquake Hazard Program	OCS	Outer Continental Shelf
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	OEPC	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
ERP	Energy Resource Program	OIA	Office of Insular Affairs
FASS-CMS	Financial Assistance and Social Services – Case Management System	OIG	Office of the Inspector General
FCI	Facilities Condition Index	OJS	Office of Justice Services
FRPP	Federal Real Property Profile	OLES	Office of Law Enforcement and Security
FRR	Facility Reliability Rating	OMB	Office of Management and Budget
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service	OSG	Office of Self-Governance
GAO	Government Accountability Office	OSMRE	Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	OST	Office of Special Trustee
GIS	Geographic Information System	ONRR	Office of Natural Resources Revenue
GPRA	Government Performance Results Act	OPM	Office of Personnel Management
GPS	Geospatial Positioning System	OWF	Office of Wildland Fire
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services	PAM	Office of Acquisitions and Property
HMA	Herd Management Area		Management
HPPG	High Priority Performance Goal	PEM	Office of Emergency Management
ICWA	Indian Child Welfare Act	PEP	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
IGFOA	Island Government Finance Officers'	PFM	Office of Financial Management
	Association	PHR	Office of Human Resources
IIM	Individual Indian Money	PIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
ILCO	Indian Land Consolidation Office	ROW	Right of Way
ILCP	Indian Land Consolidation Program	SMART	Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow

IMARS	Incident Management Analysis Reporting System		
SMCRA	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977		
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and		
	Mathematics		
T&E	Threatened and Endangered		
TFAS	Trust Financial Accounting System		
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture		
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey		
VHP	Volcano Hazard Program		
WUI	Wildland-Urban Interface		

From:	Cameron, Scott
To:	Timothy Petty; Joseph Balash; Jason Larrabee; John Tahsuda; Daniel Jorjani; Domenech, Douglas; Brenda Burman; Brian Steed; Scott Angelle; Paul (Dan) Smith; Gregory Sheehan
Subject:	Fwd: Distributing strat plan
Date:	Tuesday, March 6, 2018 12:21:45 PM
Attachments:	FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan (3-5-2018).pdf

All,
Attached is the new DOI GPRA strategic plan. This, along with the Secretary's Top 10 list, ought to be reflected in the 2018 SES performance standards for your direct reports. With FY 18 already half over, I'd urge you to get FY18 performance plans in place for your SESers ASAP, if you haven't done so already, so they can understand your goals for them and have as much time as possible to accomplish those goals.
Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018 – 2022



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LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY

The Department of the Interior's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2018-2022 is our bold vision for the future under President Donald J. Trump. As the chief stewards of our public lands, it is our job to ensure that these lands continue to be used "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people," as the words engraved into the Roosevelt Arch at Yellowstone National Park so proudly proclaim.

We will restore the American conservation ethic that built our nation. Among the American traditions that made our country great was a philosophy of multiple-use on our public lands. I am an admirer of President Theodore Roosevelt – he had it right. As President Roosevelt once remarked, "It is not what we have that will make us a great nation; it is the way in which we use it."

Our public lands are our greatest treasures, and all Americans should be able to experience these treasures. One of my top priorities as Secretary of the Interior is public access to public land. Recognizing that hunting and fishing is an integral part of the American heritage, we must do more to ensure that all Americans can enjoy these sports – not just the wealthy elite. Americans should also be proud of their public lands, which is why investing in American infrastructure and addressing the maintenance backlog at our National Parks is critically important.

While "benefit and enjoyment" includes recreation, it also includes traditional uses like grazing and timber harvesting. Our mandate is multiple-use of public lands, and multiple-use also includes the development of natural resources as we seek to leverage American energy for American strength. Americans should have the right to make a living off the land, and one of our most critical responsibilities at Interior is upholding this right.

If we are going to preserve our heritage, we must bolster our standing in the world. It is in the economic and national security interest of the United States to pursue a policy of American energy dominance. An America-First energy policy is one which maximizes the use of American resources while freeing us from dependence on foreign oil.

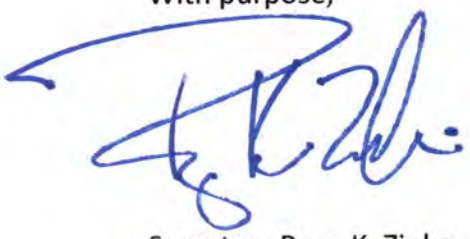
American energy dominance requires aggressive regulatory reform. With our strategic plan, the Interior Department has a unique opportunity to cut the burdensome, unnecessary regulations that have suppressed job creation and wealth generation. Regulatory reform also includes reduced permitting times. The Trump Administration will not deregulate or streamline at the expense of environmental standards or worker safety, but we will strike a balance and strive toward regulatory certainty going forward when creating a bureaucratic framework.

Along with our conservation stewardship responsibilities, we must also be the greatest champion of our tribal nations. Native Americans and Alaska Natives are proud people with a rich history. Sovereignty has to have meaning, and the days of empty promises to our tribal communities are over. Our priorities in Indian Country will be self-determination, government-to-government interaction, and empowerment.

To accomplish our goals, a reorganization of the Department is necessary. We will chart a path forward for the next 100 years at Interior, as Teddy Roosevelt did over a century ago. As a former Navy SEAL, I have long believed that a healthy front line makes for a healthy operation – it is in this spirit that the reorganization plan will focus on our front lines and how we can better engage those on the ground.

Our strategic plan will restore trust in local communities. The federal government has a long way to go when it comes to being a good neighbor, but I am confident we can get there. With a renewed focus on conservation and a bold approach to energy, the Department of the Interior can lead the way in making America great again. This is our desired outcome.

With purpose,



Secretary Ryan K. Zinke
United States Department of the Interior

MISSION AND ORGANIZATION

Mission

The Department of the Interior (DOI) conserves and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, provides scientific and other information about natural resources and natural hazards to address societal challenges and create opportunities for the American people, and honors the Nation's trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities to help them prosper.

Vision

The Department of the Interior strives to fulfill a vision to:

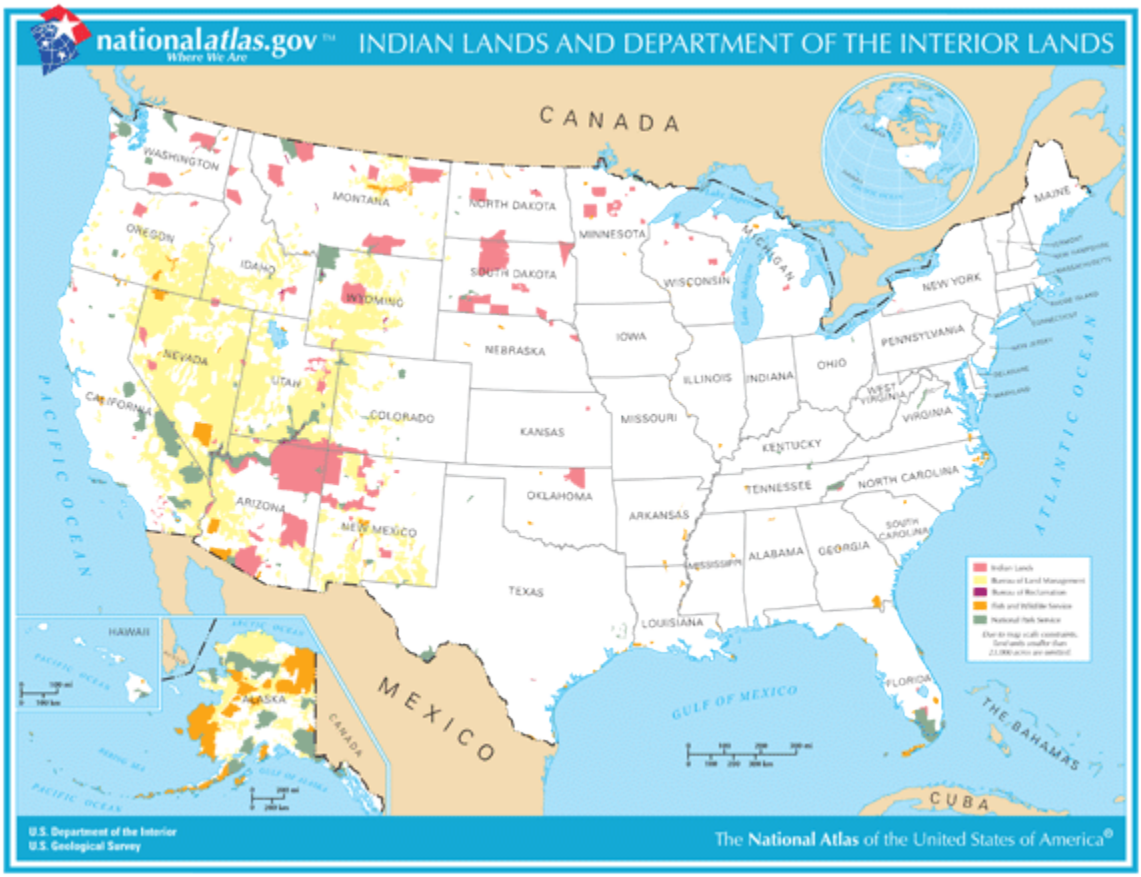
- *Promote energy dominance and critical minerals development* to create jobs for Americans, insulate our nation from volatile political developments overseas, provide additional energy security to allies via surplus domestic supply, and generate revenue for all levels of government so they in turn have the resources to better serve the American people.
- *Increase access to outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans* so that our people can be healthier, more fully enjoy the wonderful features of their federal lands, and take advantage of hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation pursuits that are the roots of the conservation movement.
- *Enhance conservation stewardship* whereby all levels of government and private landowners work cooperatively together in an atmosphere of mutual respect to achieve shared natural resource management goals across landscapes.
- *Improve management of species and their habitats* by focusing our financial and staff resources on improving the status of our nation's fish and wildlife and the healthy habitats that support them, and by streamlining bureaucracy to help us spend relatively more of our funding productively on the ground to better meet societal needs and our own natural resource management responsibilities.
- *Uphold trust and related responsibilities*, recognizing the importance of government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, and insular areas, and respecting self-determination and sovereignty.

History

The Department of the Interior (DOI) was established in 1849. The DOI was charged with managing a wide variety of programs, which included overseeing Indian Affairs, exploring the western wilderness, directing the District of Columbia jail, constructing the National Capital's water system, managing hospitals and universities, improving historic western emigrant routes, marking boundaries, issuing patents, conducting the census, and researching the geological resources of the United States. As the country matured during the last half of the 19th Century, so did the DOI and its mission began to evolve as some of these functions moved to other agencies at the same time the DOI acquired new responsibilities.

With information from Robert Utley and Barry Mackintosh, *The Department of Everything Else: Highlights of Interior History*, 1988, pp. 1-2.

Surface Lands Managed by the Department of the Interior



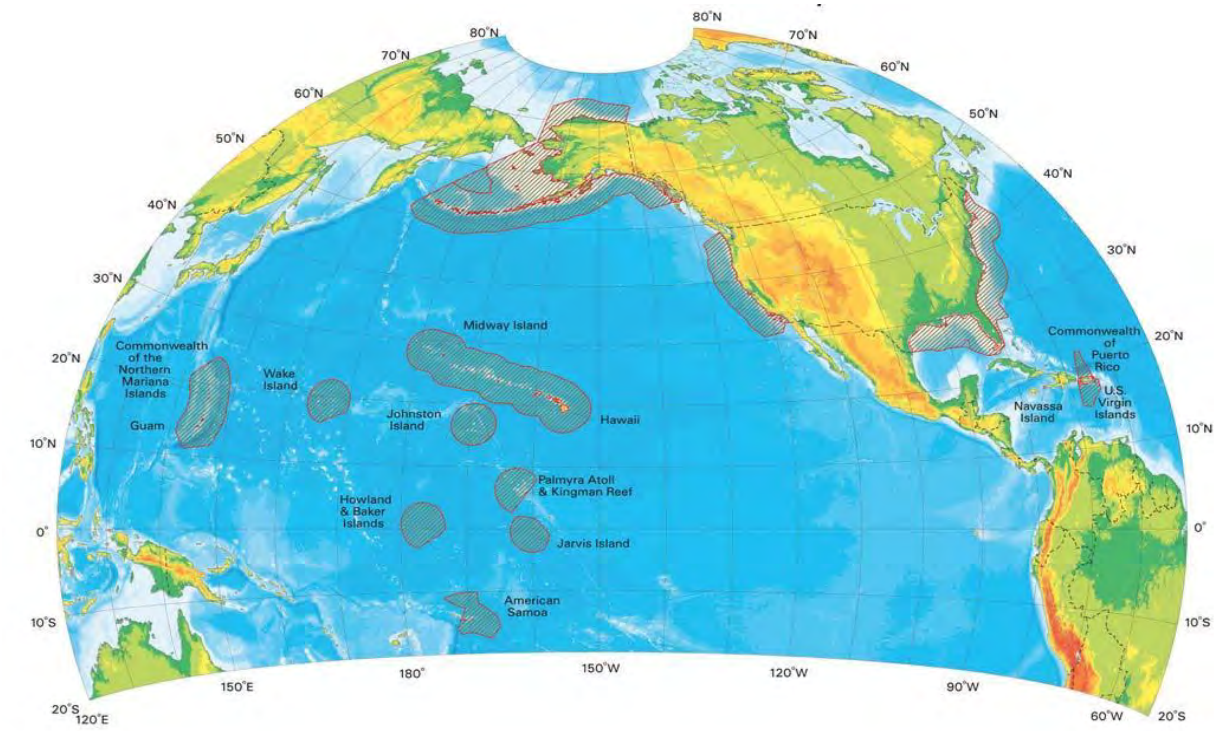
USGS Map, Oct 2014 (except for US Territories that are identified on next graphic)

Following Theodore Roosevelt's conservation summit and the awakening of the conservation movement at the beginning of the 20th Century, there was an increasing urgency and expanding congressional mandate to protect and more effectively manage the nation's natural resources. In 1905, management of the federal forests changed from the Department of the Interior to the United States Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture. Its Chief, Gifford Pinchot, introduced better forestry methods. Pinchot sought to turn public land policy from one that disposed of resources to private parties, to one that maintained federal ownership and management of public land. Pinchot argued that scientific management of forests and natural resources was profitable. He generally opposed preservation for the sake of preservation. During the 1960's and 1970's the DOI's authorizing statutes shifted to put more emphasis on the preservation, management, and use of public lands and natural and cultural resources.

Today, the DOI manages the Nation's public lands and minerals, including providing access to more than 480 million acres of public lands, 700 million acres of subsurface minerals, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf. The DOI is the steward of 20 percent of the Nation's lands, including national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other public lands; manages resources that supply 30 percent of the Nation's energy; supplies and manages water in the 17 Western States and supplies 15 percent of the Nation's hydropower energy; and upholds Federal trust responsibilities to 573 federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages. The DOI is responsible for migratory bird and wildlife conservation, historic preservation, endangered species conservation, surface-mined lands protection and restoration, mapping, geological, hydrological, and biological science

for the Nation, and financial and technical assistance for the insular areas (many of which are depicted in the following graphic).

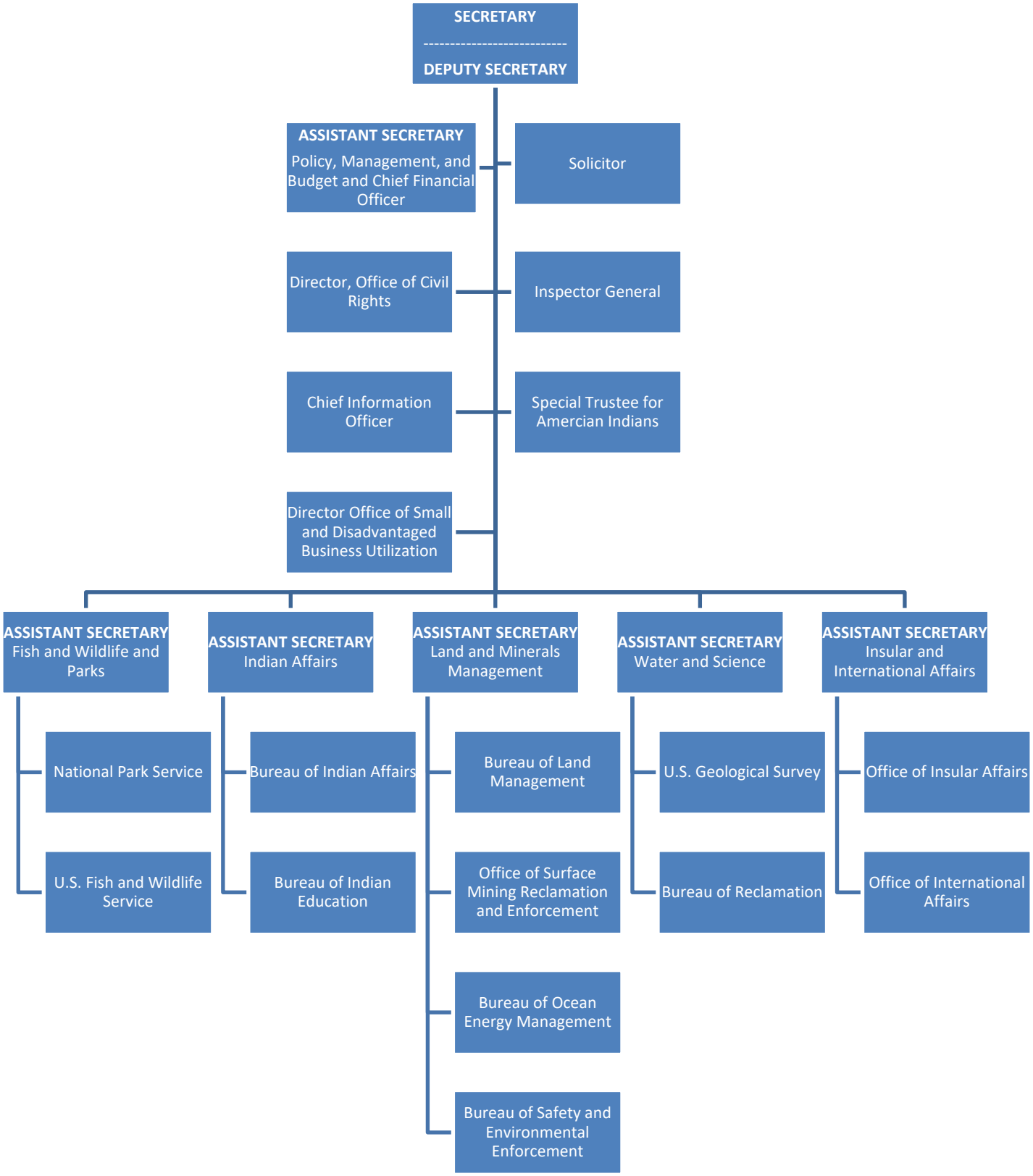
United States Continental Shelf Boundary Areas



National Geophysical Data Center, Sep 2001

The DOI's programs encompassed in this Strategic Plan cover a broad spectrum of activities that are performed by 10 bureaus and multiple offices and are captured in the following presentation of each entity's unique mission and set of responsibilities. The Strategic Plan's six mission areas capture the vitality, inventiveness, and potential of the bureaus and offices and the DOI's 70,000 dedicated and skilled employees. Along with our hardworking and skilled employees, over 350,000 much appreciated volunteers annually contribute their time in support of bureau and office missions, bringing unique local knowledge to park operations, assisting in recovery from natural disasters, and participating in environmental education, among other activities. We cannot effectively address all our responsibilities alone, so it is critical to strengthen partnerships with our sister federal agencies with related missions. In the federal family, we share forest, minerals, rangeland, and wildland fire management responsibilities with the US Department of Agriculture's Forest Service. We share water resource management and hydroelectric power generation responsibilities with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and we share fishery and endangered species management responsibilities with the Department of Commerce's National Marine Fisheries Service. In some ways, our relationships with state, tribal, and local government are even more important. We operate within the bounds of state water law, and respect state authority over resident wildlife. We deal with tribal governments on a government to government basis, respecting each other's authority and jurisdiction. We share land use planning responsibilities with local government, so we must make our own land management plans in a way that is mindful of the goals and plans of those local government neighbors.

US Department of the Interior Organization Chart



Bureau and Office Summaries

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- Manages public lands for the benefit of all Americans under the dual framework of multiple use and sustained yield on nearly 250 million surface acres, as well as 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate. Priorities include:
  - Making full use of the Nation's domestic energy and mineral sources, including conventional and renewable energy sources;
  - Serving American families by providing outdoor recreation opportunities that are key to the Nation's heritage and its economy; and
  - Managing working landscapes to support sustainable livestock grazing operations; and timber and biomass production.
  - Developing and maintaining strong partnerships with State, local, and private stakeholders in shared conservation stewardship.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE)

- Protects the environment during coal mining through Federal programs, grants to states and Tribes, and oversight activities.
- Ensures the land is reclaimed afterwards.
- Mitigates the effects of past mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned coal mine lands.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- Manages access to renewable and conventional energy resources of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS);
- Administers nearly 3,000 active fluid mineral leases on over 16 million OCS acres;
- Oversees 4 percent of the natural gas and 18 percent of the oil produced domestically; and
- Oversees lease and grant issuance for off shore renewable energy projects.
- Manages leasing for marine mineral resources such as sand to facilitate beach replenishment and coastal nourishment projects.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

- Produces information to increase understanding of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and landslides.
- Conducts research and delivers assessments on oil, gas, and alternative energy potential, production, consumption, and environmental effects.
- Conducts reliable scientific research in land resources, mineral assessments, and water resources to inform effective decision making and planning.
- Provides science information that supports natural resource decisions.
- Produces topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic data and maps.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- Fosters secure and reliable energy production from the 1.7 billion acre U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) for America's energy future.
- Conducts inspections, permitting, incident and equipment failure analysis, oil spill preparedness and enforcement programs aimed at promoting a culture of safety and reducing risk to those who work offshore.
- Supports the technical expertise to engage opportunities and to meet challenges to tap the full potential of OCS energy resources.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

- Manages, develops, and protects water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.
- Largest wholesale supplier of water in the Nation
- Manages 492 dams and 338 reservoirs.
- Delivers water to 1 in every 5 western farmers and more than 31 million people.
- America's second largest producer of hydroelectric power.

Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

- Manages the lands and waters of the 855 million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, primarily for the benefit of fish and wildlife.
- Manages 73 fish hatcheries and other related facilities for endangered species recovery and to restore native fisheries.
- Protects and conserves:
  - Migratory birds;
  - Threatened and endangered species; and
  - Certain marine mammals.
- Hosts about 48 million visitors annually at more than 560 refuges located in all 50 states and 38 wetland management districts.

Indian Affairs (IA)

- Fulfills Indian trust responsibilities.
- Promotes self-determination on behalf of 573 federally recognized Indian Tribes.
- Funds self-governance compacts and self-determination contracts to support all Federal programs including education, law enforcement, and social service programs that are delivered by Tribal Nations.
- Supports 183 elementary and secondary schools and dormitories, providing educational services to approximately 48,000 students in 23 states.
- Supports 32 community colleges, universities, post-secondary schools, and technical colleges.

Note: IA includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)

National Park Service (NPS)

- Maintains and manages a system of 417 natural, cultural, and recreational sites for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people.
- Manages and protects over 27,000 historic and prehistoric structures, nearly 44 million acres of designated wilderness, and a wide range of museum collections and cultural and natural landscapes.
- Provides outdoor recreation to nearly 324 million visitors at national park units.
- Provides technical assistance and support to state, tribal and local natural and cultural resource sites and programs, and fulfills responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Insular and International Affairs

- Coordinates federal policy for the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Oversees the Department's involvement with oceans policy
- Manages the Department's involvement in international affairs
- Responsible for administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association, as well as providing technical and financial assistance to all the Insular Areas.

Note: Includes Office of Insular Affairs and Office of International Affairs

Departmental Offices

- Immediate Office of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Assistant Secretaries
- Office of the Solicitor
- Policy, Management and Budget provides leadership and support for the following:
  - Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition;
  - Public Safety, Resource Protection, and Emergency Services;
  - Natural Resources Revenue Management;
  - Human Capital and Diversity;
  - Technology, Information and Business Services;
  - Policy and Environmental Management
- Office of Inspector General
- Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

CROSS-CUTTING PRINCIPLES

As the Department of the Interior (DOI) advances through FY 2018-2022, the following principles guide our leadership, management, and workforce.

Effective and Accountable Leadership - The DOI is committed to being an outstanding steward of approximately 500 million acres of public lands, 700 million onshore subsurface acres, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) including magnificent vistas, valuable energy and mineral resources, unique ecosystems, range, and treasured natural, cultural, and heritage assets. The management and oversight of these resources require a dedicated cadre of employees, the contributions of volunteers, and the input of stakeholders to inform decision-making. The challenges of managing for a diverse constituency while meeting national goals for energy development and sustaining high levels of recreation and access require technical expertise, the best available science, and an understanding of the balance of development and conservation.

A critical role for DOI's senior executives is providing the necessary leadership to guide the efforts of DOI's offices, bureaus, and field locations in effectively achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals especially through:

- Ensuring cost effective operations and quality customer-centric service to the public;
- Facilitating cooperation and collaboration across organizations within the DOI and its federal and nonfederal partners;
- Ensuring a workplace environment that is safe, fair, and conducive to employee productivity; resolving conflicts as needed; and
- Holding individuals at all levels accountable for their actions.

Empowering the Field - Accomplishing the multi-faceted missions of the DOI involves the skills of 10 bureaus and spans 2,400 locations across the U.S. These locations are often remote and present managers with unique challenges. Managers and experts in the field organization must be allowed to exercise informed judgement and discretion, and must have a skilled workforce to address the issues and manage their operations. The DOI's agency reform plan, developed in response to the President's Executive Order "Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch," provides a strategy for better enabling our managers and workforce in the field through regional realignment and executive empowerment, increased colocation, and shifting workforce resources closer to the DOI's field locations.

Engaging the Nation in Cooperative Stewardship - In managing such a broad range of resources for the benefit of the public, the DOI works closely with other federal agencies, state, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and the public. The DOI's reform plan calls for increased coordination across agency lines and levels of government to achieve common goals and resolve differences without expensive and time-consuming litigation. DOI is working to increase its collaborations and partnerships across all levels of government.

Improving Infrastructure - The DOI manages an infrastructure asset portfolio with a replacement value exceeding $300 billion. Most well-known are the DOI's iconic and unique national treasures, which have priceless historical significance. More broadly, the DOI owns approximately 43,000 buildings, 100,000 miles of roads, and 80,000 structures; including dams, laboratories, employee housing, Indian schools, visitor facilities, historic structures and hydropower infrastructure. The related deferred maintenance backlog has grown to over $15 billion in 2016, of which over $11 billion belongs to the National Park Service. DOI is committed to determining how to best address

this backlog and maintain its facilities for the safety and productivity of its workforce, and the continued high quality experience and enjoyment by the American public.

Striking a Regulatory Balance – In accordance with the Executive Order on Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda, the DOI will identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. The DOI will continue to protect human health and the environment in a responsible, cost-effective manner but in a way that avoids imposing an undue process or economic burden on the public.

Generating Revenue, Jobs, and Economic Activity - The DOI grants access to public lands and offshore areas for all forms of energy development—representing roughly a quarter of the Nation's domestic supplies of oil and natural gas—while ensuring safety, environmental protection and revenue generation for the American public. It is important to the Nation's future that these natural resources are managed wisely and – as appropriate -- made accessible for public use to help generate revenues, enhance national security, create jobs, and grow the U.S. economy.

Restoring Trust - It is critical that the DOI can be trusted to operate in the best interest of the American public. Key to maintaining public trust and confidence in the integrity of government is the adherence to high ethical standards and ensuring that government business is conducted with impartiality, transparency, accountability, and integrity. While many of our employees have important law enforcement responsibilities as part of their jobs, more generally we want the public to primarily view our employees as helpful and friendly technical experts, not as law enforcement. When we do need to perform our law enforcement responsibilities, our preference is to achieve compliance through education and demonstrating a sincere desire to create win-win situations with the public we serve. The DOI embodies this principle, follows the law and holds people accountable. Decisions are based on sound science and the best interest of the public.

The DOI is committed to effective and efficient financial operations and accountability characterized by high quality and timely reporting, robust internal controls, clean audits, and effective follow-up on audit and internal control findings. The DOI utilizes the enterprise Financial and Business Management System for the integration of business functions including budget execution, finance, acquisition, improved internal controls, a secure information technology environment, and a community of business innovation, efficiency, and transparency.

Respect for Tribal Sovereignty – As a steward of tribal trust assets, the DOI plays a critical role for the United States in fulfilling the trust responsibility to Indian tribes. The DOI is committed to effectively meeting that responsibility by assisting tribes and Indian individual land owners to create greater economic opportunities, build safer and healthier communities, and effectively consulting with tribal governments.

OVERVIEW OF THE FY 2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

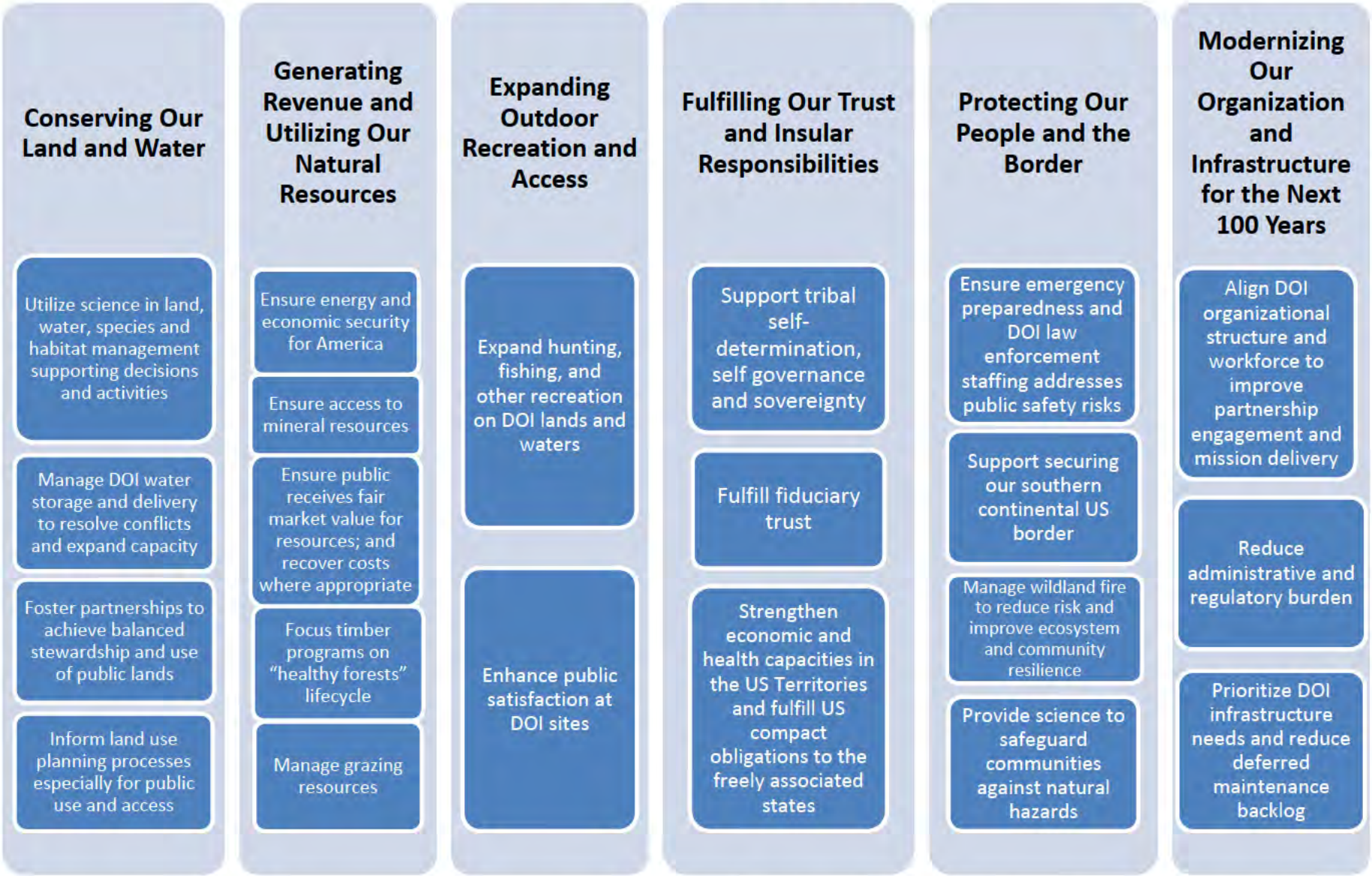
The DOI's FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan provides the framework for the programs and activities that are performed by 10 bureaus and multiple offices, and take place at approximately 2,400 locations throughout the Nation.

The Strategic Plan facilitates the integration of programs, the allocation and alignment of resources, and collaboration and coordination with stakeholders to achieve key goals. A set of six mission areas, 21 goals, 34 strategies, and approximately 120 performance measures will guide the DOI's activities for the next five years. These mission areas reflect the Secretary of the Interior's priorities, while the goals and strategies describe the means by which those priorities will be achieved.

The mission areas, goals, and strategies that constitute the Strategic Plan are displayed in the Strategic Plan Framework, followed by a description of the mission areas, goals, strategic objectives, and performance measures. An FY 2022 goal is provided for each performance measure that reflects a desirable annual level of achievement that DOI aspires to assuming the availability of a reasonable level of resources. The anticipated level of performance for these measures on an annual basis in consideration of actual resource levels will be reported in the DOI's Annual Performance Plan and Report that is released with the FY 2019 President's budget and available at www.doi.gov/bpp.

There is some continuity of performance measures from the FY 2014-2018 Strategic Plan because the core of our statutory mission remains the same regardless of shifts in policy emphasis resulting from a change in Administrations. Trends in performance related to funding and programmatic plans are available in the DOI's FY 2019 Annual Performance Plan and Report available at www.doi.gov/bpp.

STRATEGIC PLAN FRAMEWORK



Crosscutting principles: Senior executives provide leadership in achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals and are expected to: ensure cost-effective operations and quality service to the public; facilitate organizational cooperation and conflict resolution; ensure workplace environment conducive to employee productivity and safety; and hold individuals accountable for their actions.

DESCRIPTION OF MISSION AREAS

(With Supporting Goals, Strategies, and Performance Measures)

MISSION AREA 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

The DOI ensures that America's natural endowment – the lands and waters of the United States – is conserved for the benefit, use, and enjoyment of current and future generations. The DOI's bureaus use the best available science, modern natural resource management techniques, technology and engineering, efficient decision-making processes, robust partnerships, and improved land use planning to ensure balanced stewardship and use of the public lands and its resources, including wildlife and fish species.

GOAL #1: Utilize science in land, water, species and habitat management supporting decisions and activities

The DOI will ensure that it delivers data, tools, techniques, and analyses that advance understanding of natural resources, the forces that shape them, and the interactions of plants, animals, and people that live within them. Research, monitoring, and remote sensing are necessary to understand and detect changes that affect land resources and processes that are essential to the Nation's economic growth, well-being, and ecological health. These efforts support the DOI in its role as the largest manager of the Nation's land and water resources.

The DOI's land and water management bureaus are stewards of the lands and waters managed by the DOI. These bureaus will utilize the best available scientific data, tools, techniques, and analyses provided by our researchers, our nonfederal government partners, or others to maintain and restore lands and waters and ensure that habitats support healthy fish and wildlife populations.

STRATEGY #1: Apply science to land, water, and species management

The USGS seeks to understand the Nation's environmental, natural resource, and economic challenges with scientific monitoring and research to support the development of management strategies that address the impacts of land use on the availability and sustainability of land and water resources. The USGS helps management agencies by providing them the measures designed to prevent or control invasive species and wildlife disease outbreaks; and apply decision science to actions.

The USGS conducts monitoring, assessments, and research in order to understand and predict changes in the quality and quantity of water resources in response to land-use and management scenarios. Through advanced understanding and integrated modeling of processes that determine water availability, the USGS informs the balanced management of water resources for multiple purposes, including energy production, human and crop consumption, the sustainability of fish and other aquatic communities valued by society, and public enjoyment. The USGS works with land and water resources managers in applying its data and research results to help them make informed decisions for effectively managing the resources with which they are entrusted.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent completion of targeted land and water management research actions	100%
USGS	Millions of people living in targeted watersheds covered by completed water quality models	306.7
USGS	Percent completion of planned water quality sampling and studies for the Nation's groundwater, streams and rivers	100%
USGS	Percent completion of the USGS National Water Census baseline	100%
USGS	Percent completion of U.S. aquifer groundwater availability baseline studies	43%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted species management research actions	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted biological threats research actions	100%
USGS	Percent completion of collaborative research projects on factors affecting fish and wildlife habitat	100%

STRATEGY #2: Provide stewardship of land, surface water, streams and shorelines

The Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation manage, maintain and restore uplands, wetlands, lakes, streams and some marine areas through efforts that include controlling invasive plants and animals, restoring land or waters to a condition that is self-sustaining, and ensuring that habitats support healthy fish and wildlife populations. The DOI's Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration program works with the bureaus to assess the impacts of oil spills and hazardous waste sites and coordinates restoration efforts. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement works with states and tribes to ensure that coal mining is conducted in a manner that protects citizens and the environment during mining, restores the land to beneficial use following mining, and mitigates the effects of historic mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned mine lands. The DOI aims to balance the conservation of special places with resource development while also providing visitors with opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Bureaus administer their resource management and conservation programs on more than 400 million acres of upland, wetland, and aquatic lands within their jurisdiction. Many of these lands have special status as national parks, seashores, monuments, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, national conservation lands or wild and scenic rivers. Land managers utilize earth and natural science, social science, partnerships with other DOI bureau, federal, state, local and tribal entities, and other tools and resources (including its front-line managers) in managing these lands and waters.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of DOI acres that have achieved desired conditions	88.9%
BLM, FWS	Percent of DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles that have achieved desired conditions	89.2%
BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS	Percent of acres infested with invasive plant species that are under control	0.2%
FWS, NPS	Percent of invasive animal species populations that are under control	8.7%
OSMRE	Percent completion of abandoned mine lands restored by eliminating health, safety, and environmental concerns	57%
OSMRE	Percent of active coal mining sites that are free of off-site impacts	88%
OSMRE	Percent of coal mine acreage reclaimed to beneficial post-mining land use	44%

STRATEGY #3: Provide stewardship of wildlife, bird, fish, and plant species

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is tasked with the conservation and protection of certain populations of fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. The FWS works first to prevent species from becoming listed as threatened or endangered by using the best available science to make land management decisions that might affect species viability. The FWS conducts, consults or coordinates many species management activities in partnership with others including NPS, BLM, Reclamation, and other federal, state, local and tribal agencies and private organizations. The strategy to sustain species focuses on identifying and implementing corrective actions that will lead to species recovery.

Congress passed the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973, to protect and recover imperiled species from becoming extinct and to conserve the habitats upon which they depend. The FWS and the Commerce Department's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) administer the ESA. The FWS has primary responsibility for terrestrial and freshwater organisms, while the responsibilities of NMFS are mainly marine wildlife such as whales and anadromous fish such as salmon.

FWS works with many partners using a range of conservation tools to recover listed species (threatened and endangered) to ensure that they are able to survive on their own in the wild. These tools can include acquiring and restoring habitat, removing invasive species, conducting surveys, monitoring individual populations, and breeding species in captivity to release them into their historic range.

The DOI uses a number of datasets and metrics to track its progress on species listings, downlistings, delistings, critical habitat, scientific findings, and Species Status Assessments (SSA). The SSA is the scientific foundation supporting listing, delisting, and downlisting decisions and recovery plans and includes biological and threats information and analyses that help FWS and its partners better understand the species status. Recovery criteria, describing the conditions of the species when the protections of the act are no longer necessary, address both the biological status in terms of the 3 R's (resiliency, representation and redundancy) and the mitigation of threats necessary to achieve that status. The DOI is working to include more information on critical habitat,

estimated costs of recovery and economic impact of its threatened and endangered species listings and recovery action plans, to provide a more complete perspective to states and the public of the actions being planned for attempting to save each species.

In its Policy Regarding the Role of State Agencies in ESA Activities, FWS coordinates, collaborates, and uses the expertise of state agencies in developing the scientific foundation upon which FWS bases its determinations for listing actions. By September 30, 2018, all FWS decisions on whether to list a species under the ESA will be informed by input from state fish and wildlife agencies, subject to the affected states' willingness to participate (some state fish and wildlife agencies have declined participation due to lack of authority for some species under ESA review). This input should include (but is not limited to) a solicitation of state data and state personnel involvement in the development of SSAs.

Per Section 4(c)(1) of the ESA, FWS is required to review the status of each listed species at least once every 5 years and determine whether it should be: (1) removed from the List (delisted), (2) reclassified from endangered to threatened (downlisted), or (3) reclassified from threatened to endangered (uplisted). By September 30, 2019, for 100% of all species with 5-year reviews recommending downlisting or delisting FWS will have proposed downlisting or delisting rules acted on by the Director, or a new status review initiated if new information indicates the need for an updated assessment prior to initiating rulemaking, within 2 years of the 5-year review recommendation.

The DOI's responsibility to protect fish, wildlife, and native plants transcends jurisdictional boundaries, and includes efforts that affect almost 1,500 species with special status under the Endangered Species Act and more than 1,000 migratory birds that receive Federal protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The DOI works to combat domestic and international wildlife trafficking by improving enforcement of domestic laws, strengthening international cooperation and global enforcement, promoting legal trade and hunting, and helping to reduce demand for illegal wildlife products. Under Executive Order 13771 of January 30, 2017, i.e. Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, the DOI is reviewing its regulations and administrative processes to determine what cost savings, to the government and to private constituents, are possible by repealing regulations for which the perceived benefits might not be justified relative to their implementation costs, and which administrative processes could be streamlined or made more efficient. This activity is described further in the second goal under the sixth Mission Area on reducing administrative and regulatory burden.

Agency Priority Performance Goals:

- ***By September 30, 2018, 100% of proposed species listings will be based on best available information that includes state input and/or data provided through participation in Species Status Assessments (SSA).***
- ***By September 30, 2019, 100% of all Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plans will have quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species.***

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
FWS	Percent of Threatened or Endangered species listed for 2.5 years or more with a final recovery plan	75%
FWS	Percent of five-year Threatened or Endangered species five-year status review recommendations to downlist or delist acted on within five years *(prior to next status review)*	60%
FWS	Percent of listed species with current five-year reviews *(completed in the last five years)*	90%
FWS	Percent of rules and findings completed based on Threatened or Endangered Species Status Assessments	100%
FWS	Percent of threatened and endangered species listings with proposed critical habitat	100%
FWS	Percent of migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels	72%
FWS	Percent of fish species of management concern that are managed to self-sustaining levels	23%

GOAL #2 Manage DOI water storage and delivery to resolve conflicts and expand capacity

The Western U.S. is one of the fastest growing regions of the country, and urbanization has created significant demands for water use and service. The DOI strives to keep its water storage facilities in good condition to ensure safe and reliable water supply. Stretching existing water supplies for multiple uses are among the many significant challenges facing Reclamation. The Bureau of Reclamation is the nation's largest wholesale water supplier and manages water in 17 western states. Reclamation's projects and programs are an important driver of economic growth bringing water to more than 31 million people and providing one of five western farmers (140,000) with irrigation water for 10 million acres of farmland that produce 60 percent of the nation's vegetables and 25 percent of its fruits and nuts. Reclamation's facilities also provide substantial flood control, hydropower, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits.

The DOI is the lead agency in defining and protecting water rights for Indian tribes and individual Indian land owners. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is responsible for maintaining 137 dams on tribal lands. The BIA also provides irrigation water to over 780,000 acres through 17 congressionally authorized irrigation projects.

STRATEGY #1 Manage water resources and delivery

Changes in water supplies, water demands, and the increased duration and frequency of droughts have the potential to affect Reclamation's ability to fulfill its mission. Many rural communities face significant challenges in financing the cost of replacing or upgrading aging and obsolete facilities and systems. Water conservation programs increase the available water supply and contribute to DOI's broader objective of achieving a more sustainable, secure water supply. Protecting and extending the life of aging infrastructure are significant challenges facing Reclamation, and maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement will become more costly over time. Reclamation

prioritizes infrastructure assets based on detailed design criteria: engineering need, consequence of failure, financial considerations, efficiency opportunities, scheduling, and others.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) water management functions are implemented through three complementary programs. The Water Rights Negotiation/Litigation Program defines and protects Indian water rights and settles claims through negotiations if possible, or alternatively, through litigation. The Water Management Program assists tribes in managing, conserving, and utilizing trust water resources. The BIA Irrigation, Power and Safety of Dams program operates and manages irrigation, power, and dam infrastructure. The program sets high standards for maintenance, collaboration with stakeholders, and effective water and power distribution. The BIA manages facilities to ensure they do not present an unacceptable risk to downstream lives and property; and are managed in an economically, technically, environmentally, and culturally sound manner.

Agency Priority Performance Goal: By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Reclamation will facilitate water conservation capacity of 53,800 acre-feet to help reduce the impact of drought.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BOR	Percent of water infrastructure in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating (FRR) [high- and significant-hazard dams]	74%
BOR	Amount of acre feet of water conservation capacity enabled to help address drought	1,392,000
BIA	Percent of projects completed in support of water management, planning, and pre-development.	77%

GOAL #3: Foster partnerships to achieve balanced stewardship and use of our public lands

The DOI will assess, utilize and enhance the most promising of partnership practices and explore the potential for furthering these types of opportunities to work jointly with other individuals and organizations for the benefit of the nation's public lands, waters, and historic and cultural sites and the fish and wildlife species.

STRATEGY #1: Build and maintain partnership programs

Public and private partnerships provide opportunities for greater engagement of people and organizations in caring for and managing the natural, historical, cultural and physical resources across the DOI's 500 million acres. This can be especially beneficial for our national park units, National Wildlife Refuges, wildlife management areas, and national conservation public lands. Support can come from other federal or state agencies, tribal nations, volunteers, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, corporations or foundations through sponsorship or philanthropy. DOI bureaus should endeavor to partner with non-traditional stakeholders to increase our relevance to the American public, rather than just relying on traditional constituencies.

The National Park Service already has the authority from Congress to accept monetary and in-kind gifts, including those collected through the National Park Foundation. Similarly, the Fish and Wildlife Service has authority to accept gifts from some entities, including some non-profits organizations and the federally chartered non-profit National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The Bureau of Land Management has Congressional authority to accept monetary and other types of donations, along with Congressional authorization to create a Bureau of Land Management Foundation. The BLM works with local, state, federal, and private partners on nearly all of the activities undertaken on public lands, from identifying important fish and wildlife habitat with the state game and fish agencies, working with local rangeland fire protection associations, to providing hunting and fishing opportunities for sports men groups. As permitted under current law, the DOI hopes to develop further philanthropic and sponsorship opportunities, and promote other partnering best practices.

The DOI utilizes migratory bird joint ventures as collaborative, regional partnerships of government agencies, non-profit organizations, corporations, tribes, and individuals that conserve habitat for the benefit of priority bird species, other wildlife, and people. Joint ventures bring these diverse partners together under the guidance of national and international bird conservation plans to design and implement landscape-scale conservation efforts in support of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the other bird management plans. These joint ventures use state-of-the-art science to ensure that diverse habitat is available to sustain migratory bird populations for the benefit of those species, other wildlife, and the public. These partnerships have a three-decade record of success, they use non-regulatory solutions and economically sound business approaches, promote working lands conservation, sporting, and outdoor traditions, and support resilient urban and rural communities.

The Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture working near each other in the field continue to pool resources, conduct joint projects and share services under Service First agreements. Service First authority promotes collaborating across bureau and agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and integrate responses to federal land management issues and opportunities. Bureaus of the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperate in jointly managing some areas. For example, the National Trail, and Wild and Scenic River Systems span every state of our nation and exceed the length of the interstate highway system. Federal land management agencies, as well as state and local jurisdictions and partners enhance recreational access, conserve the Nation's heritage, and leverage the federal investment to manage these nationally recognized resources cooperatively.

Building new partnerships for infrastructure improvement is a priority at the DOI. There are also numerous volunteer opportunities, where individuals or associations provide service in caring for natural resources and cultural and historic assets on our public lands (see www.volunteer.gov). The DOI will also empower managers in the field to directly engage in further collaboration within the units they manage, identify best practices for collaboration and partnering, provide training and technical support, and encourage field managers to find or create and execute partnerships on a local basis.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Number of estimated work hours in a national park unit, National Wildlife Refuge, or Bureau of Land Management site that are performed or sponsored by a private citizen, National Service participant or non-federal entity	9,870,000
BOR, FWS, CUPCA	Number of non-DOI acres restored, including through partnerships	593,876
FWS	Number of non-DOI acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres restored through partnerships	602,654
FWS, CUPCA	Number of non-DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles restored, including through partnerships	255

GOAL #4: Inform land use planning processes especially for public use and access

The DOI will review and improve its land planning processes to enable expanded access and use of the public lands while restoring a balance between conservation and utilization of the lands, energy and mineral resources, waters, fish and wildlife, and other natural and cultural resources. The DOI will employ the latest available science, land-imaging and other technology tools and datasets to inform land use planning to maximize the societal value of land planning. The DOI land use planning will take into account the land use plans of affected local and state governments.

STRATEGY #1: Assess land use planning processes for public access and use of DOI lands

DOI land use and management plans ensure that the public lands are managed in accordance with the intent of Congress as stated in several authorities including, but not limited to: the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act, the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration and Improvement Acts, the Organic Act of 1916 (National Park Service), the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

Land use planning efforts vary across bureaus based on enabling legislation. The National Park Service creates management plans to execute its mission. The National Wildlife Refuge system creates Comprehensive Conservation Plans for each refuge as part of their mission. The BLM's mission states that its duty is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the multiple use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

A common thread through all three bureaus' mission is the need to accommodate and benefit the use and enjoyment of these public lands for both present and future generations. Some lands are made available for multiple use and sustained yield, other lands for conservation and preservation values.

The DOI is undertaking the challenge to review and improve its planning processes in ways that can best meet the sometimes-conflicting uses for public lands. The DOI will strive to enhance public participation and input to the planning processes, engage our state, local, and tribal government partners, provide open and understandable decision-making, expedite the decision-making process

so that implementation is not delayed, and ensure that public access and use is appropriately built into every land use plan.

STRATEGY #2: Inform land use planning with mapping and land imaging

The USGS is the lead civilian mapping agency for the Nation and supports the conduct of detailed surveys and the resulting distribution of high-quality and highly-accurate topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic maps and data. Remote sensing satellites and aircraft monitor the Earth providing information that is broad, precise, impartial, and easily available. For more than 45 years, Landsat satellites have collected data over the planet's land surface to support global research studies. These data constitute the longest continuous record of the Earth's land surface as seen from space.

High-resolution information results in geologic maps and geospatial products that enable precise planning of civil engineering and transportation infrastructure, versatile urban planning, improved flood projection, timely and accurate emergency response, effective hazard identification and mitigation, and detailed environmental analyses. This information is also used by DOI bureau land managers in exercising their responsibilities to help plan for public land use and access.

In the next decade, the USGS will continue to improve spatial and temporal resolution through research and development of products such as full four-dimensional geologic maps, showing how the complex geologic structure of the Earth has changed through time. Mapping accuracy through cutting-edge technology allows for precise planning for energy development, transportation and pipeline infrastructure projects, urban planning, flood prediction, emergency response, and hazard mitigation.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent of land-area coverage available to the public over the internet through the National Geologic Mapping Database	55.5%
USGS	Percent of foundational topographic information services updated quarterly to support on-demand mapping	100%
USGS	Percent completion of research efforts related to land resource management	100%
USGS	Number of terabytes of remotely-sensed data managed	20,140
USGS	Percent increase of scientific research enhanced with Advanced Research Computation	100%

MISSION AREA 2 Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

The DOI provides access to and manages energy and other resources including oil, gas, coal, timber, grazing, and non-energy minerals on public lands and oil and gas on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The DOI is committed to achieve and maintain American energy dominance through responsible productivity of the public lands for the multiple use and economic benefit of present and future generations.

GOAL #1 Ensure energy and economic security for America

The DOI is the steward and manager of much of America's natural resources which include oil, gas, coal, minerals, and renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, geothermal, and hydropower. There are vast amounts of untapped domestic energy reserves on public lands. DOI is also reinitiating the National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program development process, which is a key component of the America First Energy Plan and the Executive Order on Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy, to bring jobs and prosperity to millions of Americans. Our nation will use the revenues from energy production to rebuild our roads, schools, bridges and public infrastructure. The Department's "all-of-the-above" strategy facilitates development of all energy resources and makes our nation stronger by decreasing dependency on other nations, creating jobs, and helping drive economic growth.

STRATEGY #1: Promote safe and robust oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy resource development

Oil, gas, coal and renewable energy form the cornerstones of our nation's energy base, and the DOI will continue to expand production of both offshore and onshore conventional and renewable U.S. energy resources while ensuring safety and reliability through efficient permitting, appropriate standards, assessment and oversight. As demand for energy resources grows, agencies within the DOI, such as BIA, BLM, BOEM, BSEE, OSMRE, and USGS conduct work that is increasingly critical to understand the exploration, development, quality, supply, and use of our energy resources. This work enables the DOI to advance new sources of efficient energy generation, facilitate the construction of new or upgraded infrastructure including transmission networks, develop resources responsibly, and ensure that the American public receives a fair return on that development.

Agency Priority Performance Goals:

- ***By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Land Management will eliminate its backlog of fluid mineral Applications for Permits to Drill (APD's) that have been pending for 3 years or more.***
- ***By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Land Management will process 80% of parcels created for leasing public lands for oil, gas, or other mineral extraction within 180 days.***

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of pending fluid minerals Applications for Permits to Drill (APDs) which are processed	75%
BLM	Percent of high priority fluid mineral cases that have completed inspection during the year	100%

BLM	Percent of coal lease applications processed	15%
BLM	Number of acres of public lands made available for oil and natural gas leasing	25,000,000
BLM, BOEM	Number of megawatts of approved capacity authorized (that year) on public land and the OCS for renewable energy development while ensuring compliant environmental review	2,020
BOEM	Percentage of Exploration and Development Plan reviews completed within statutory timelines	100%
BOEM	Percent of offshore lease sale processes completed, pursuant to the Secretary's approved National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted energy resource assessments and research	100%
BSEE	Amount of operational offshore oil spilled (in barrels) per million barrels produced	3.1
BSEE	Percent of high risk production facilities and operations inspected	95%
BSEE	Number of recordable injuries per 200,000 offshore man hours worked	.390
BSEE	Percentage of high risk well operation (e.g., drilling) inspections completed	95%

STRATEGY #2: Provide hydropower

The DOI facilitates the development and use of renewable energy that employs hydropower energy to strengthen US energy security, economic vitality, and quality of life. The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) is the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the U.S., operating and maintaining 53 hydroelectric power facilities, comprising over 14,700 megawatts of capacity. On average, Reclamation generates 40 million megawatt-hours of electricity each year – the equivalent demand of over 3.5 million U.S. homes, returning over one billion dollars in federal revenue through power sales. Sustainable, low cost hydropower generated by Reclamation projects has provided significant value to the nation, spurring the development of the western U.S. – through the provision of firm electric power to rural communities as well as ancillary service to support western interconnect grid reliability. Reclamation works to promote domestic energy production by enabling new energy generation from hydropower, a renewable source, and facilitating the construction of new or upgraded transmission networks, helping to create new industries and supply chains, driving economic growth and job creation, and helping provide more energy from domestic sources.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BOR	Amount of hydropower capability, in megawatts (MW), installed from 2018 through 2022	50
BOR	Percent of hydropower facilities in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating	73%

BOR	Percent of time that Bureau of Reclamation hydroelectric generating units are available to the interconnected Western electrical system during daily peak demand periods	80%

GOAL #2: Ensure access to mineral resources

The DOI recognizes that public lands are an important source of the Nation's non-energy mineral resources, some of which are critical and strategic. The DOI is committed to ensuring appropriate access to public lands, for orderly and efficient development of these resources under principles of multiple use management.

STRATEGY #1: Manage non-energy mineral development

DOI promotes energy security, environmental protection, and economic development through responsible, science-informed management of mineral resources. The BLM conducts environmental analysis of complex issues necessary to authorize use on BLM public lands and meet the increasing demand for non-energy solid leasable minerals, especially potash and phosphate. BOEM's Marine Minerals Program provides sand and gravel resources to protect and improve coastal infrastructure and the environment locally, regionally and nationally. Additionally, the in-depth science provided by the USGS Mineral Resources Program (http://minerals.usgs.gov) facilitates resource discovery and provides essential information and analyses for strategic, evidence-based economic and geopolitical decisions.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of non-energy mineral exploration and development requests processed	30%
BOEM	Number of sand and gravel requests processed for coastal restoration projects	8
USGS	Percent completion of targeted non-fuel mineral resource assessments and research	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted Critical Mineral Early Warning System (CMEWS) analyses and evaluations	100%

GOAL #3: Ensure public receives fair market value for resources; and recover costs where appropriate

Rents, royalties, and bonuses are collected from issuing leases on public lands, and offshore on the OCS, and for the amount of the resource extracted. These resources include oil, gas, coal, forage for grazing, and access to renewable energy resources such as solar, wind, and geothermal. It is important that these financial transactions include appropriate accountability and fair return to the American public. The associated regulations and practices for these fees and collections must also be rational and transparent to ensure businesses that extract and process these resources can function efficiently and profitably in order to support the economic growth and security of the nation.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure accurate and timely accounting and collection of energy revenues

The Department collects, disburses and verifies natural resource revenue generated from issuing leases on public lands, and offshore on the OCS. This revenue is then shared with states and localities according to specific statutory obligations, allocated to various Federal programs, or deposited in the General Fund of the Treasury, thus serving to reduce the deficit. The DOI is committed to managing these transactions accurately, responsibly, and in a timely manner. The Royalty Policy Committee has been reinstated by the Secretary to elicit robust advice and recommendations regarding policies related to royalties from these resources and their benefit to the American public.

The BSEE helps ensure the accuracy of metering from higher risk hydrocarbon sites that experience high volumes of throughput and/or have a past history of noncompliance to help ensure the appropriate financial benefit is obtained for the American people. Additionally, data driven procedures enable the BOEM and the BLM to ensure bid adequacy through a two phased review system for onshore and offshore leasing, and also allow for timely collection and disbursement of mineral and renewable energy revenues by the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR). ONRR's distributions benefit the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Historic Preservation Fund, and the Reclamation Fund, helping to ensure America's natural resources and rich history are available to be enjoyed by current and future generations. Distributions to states are used to fund capital projects such as schools, roads, and public buildings. Revenues collected from leases on Indian lands directly benefit members of the Indian community.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
ONRR	Percent of federal and Indian oil and gas revenues disbursed on a timely basis per statute ($ Billions)	98%
BSEE	Percent of oil royalty meters, identified as high-risk using a risk based methodology, where meter provings will be observed	10%

STRATEGY #2: Ensure effective collection and application of recreation fees

The nation's public lands offer many excellent locations for public recreation in the outdoors at national parks and monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, BLM public lands and other locations, in historic sites and buildings and at national treasures such as the Statue of Liberty. Facilities (roads, visitor centers, bathrooms, historic buildings, museums, etc.) that enable visitors to enjoy their public lands and sites are expensive to maintain. All of the major land management bureaus have large backlogs of deferred maintenance at these facilities. The DOI will continuously review its fee structure to determine how best to accommodate visitors enjoyment while collecting fees that help to offset some of the maintenance costs required to keep visitor-facing infrastructure in good shape for visitors. All such reviews of fees and changes will remain consistent with Congressional direction that has been provided through a series of laws including the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

The National Park Service established fee structure guidelines in 2006 to standardize rates across the country. The resulting tier system assigns each park unit to a tier and associated entrance fee schedule based on the type of site and the amenities provided for the public. During 2017, the National Park Service initiated a comprehensive review to evaluate and consider bringing entrance fees at all park units into compliance with their assigned tier through a process of public engagement by January 1, 2018. Even with proposed increases, entrance fees remain affordable at $15-$30 per vehicle, which is normally good for several days. The America the Beautiful Pass Annual Pass remains at the price of $80 for one year for unlimited entrance fees for almost all national parks, Fish and Wildlife and BLM sites where fees are required. Congress raised the one-time cost of the America the Beautiful Lifetime Senior Pass for those age 62 or older from the previous fee of $10 to $80 effective in August 2017.

Reviews of other amenity fees (such as for campgrounds and special use permits) will also strive to set fair and equitable fees for activities that visitors enjoy after they enter the park, refuge, or recreation area. The bureaus will seek public comment during any process to review and modify fee amounts to ensure that the public has an opportunity to raise questions and provide comments regarding any fee changes. The bureaus will also identify ways to modernize and enhance fee collection mechanisms that speed access to facilities and/or reduce the cost to the federal government for fee collection.

GOAL #4: Focus timber programs on "healthy forests" lifecycle

The BLM manages forests or woodlands for the benefit of the American public. The BLM maintains a permanent source of timber supply, which supports the production of lumber, plywood, and paper, while also protecting watersheds, regulating stream flow, contributing to the economic stability of local communities and industries, and providing recreational opportunities. Responsible management that reduces fire fuels improves the health and resilience of our forests and helps to prevent forest fires.

The BIA manages forests as a trust asset of Indian tribes. Tribally owned forest assets contribute substantially to national sources of timber supply. Many tribes now actively participate in management of their forest assets through self-governance and self-determination programs.

STRATEGY #1: Manage sales of timber and forest product resources

Forest management programs within the DOI generate economic benefits through timber harvests on public and Indian trust lands, and restoring forest health. The benefits of healthy forests include typical forest products such as timber and biomass but also include opportunities for recreation and maintenance of watershed health.

The BLM has two focus areas for forest management, the Oregon and California grant lands and the public domain lands. For Oregon and California lands, generating revenue for counties is the primary driver of forest management treatments, while for public domain lands, fire management is the primary driver for forest management. The BLM is currently reviewing its management plans to determine prospects for offering additional timber for sale in the future.

The BIA manages forests as a trust asset of Indian tribes. Tribally owned forest assets contribute substantially to the national sources of timber supply. Many tribes now actively participate in management of their forest assets through the self-governance and self-determination programs.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of allowable sale quantity (ASQ) timber offered for sale consistent with applicable resource management plans (O&C--Oregon and California--only)	100%
BLM	Volume (mmbf) of wood products offered consistent with applicable management plans	285
BIA	Percent of Annual Allowable Cut prepared and offered for sale or free use	48%

GOAL #5: Manage grazing resources

The BLM manages livestock grazing on over half of its public lands; approximately 18,000 permits and leases are held by ranchers that graze their livestock on over 21,000 grazing allotments throughout BLM managed lands. The BLM's overall objective is to ensure the long-term health and productivity of these lands. BLM uses a variety of methods to accomplish this objective – periodic rest or deferment of grazing in pastures in specific allotments during critical growth periods; vegetation treatments; and projects such as water developments and fences. The terms and conditions for grazing on BLM-managed lands such as stipulations on forage use and season of use are set forth in the permits and leases issued by the Bureau to public land ranchers.

STRATEGY #1: Provide for sustainable forage and grazing

Livestock grazing contributes to food production and adds to local economic stability, and it can be used in certain areas to maintain and improve land health by reducing hazardous fuels and minimizing the likelihood and impact of catastrophic wildfires. The BLM partners with local communities and state and local governments to develop rangeland improvement projects, stewardship contracting, and good neighbor authority in its rangeland management. In recent years, the number of grazing permits and leases processed has decreased due to dramatic increases in litigation and drought. The BLM continues to look for opportunities to streamline the grazing permit process and provide livestock operators greater flexibility in grazing their livestock on public lands.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of grazing permits and leases processed as planned consistent with applicable resource management plans	16%
BIA	Percent of tribal range units assessed during the reporting year for level of utilization	15%

MISSION AREA 3 Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Outdoor recreation is integral to a healthy lifestyle for millions of Americans. Visitors to the DOI's public lands and waters take advantage of the physical, mental, and social benefits that outdoor recreational experiences provide. Americans have the opportunity to hunt and fish on public lands managed by the DOI as part of its multiple-use policy that also includes hiking, camping, climbing, boating, wildlife viewing, and other outdoor pursuits.

GOAL #1: Expand hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands and waters

Hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities contributed $156 billion in economic activity across the United States according to the FWS National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. More than 101 million Americans, or 40 percent of the United States' population 16 and older, pursue wildlife-related recreation, which supports 480,000 American jobs.

Following two initial Secretarial Orders issued on his first day, Secretary Zinke issued Secretarial Order 3356 in September, 2017, to further expand public access to lands and waters administered by the DOI, for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other forms of outdoor recreation. In addition, this Order gave greater priority to recruiting and retaining sportsmen and women conservationists, with an emphasis on engaging youth, veterans, minorities, and underserved communities that traditionally have low participation in outdoor recreation activities.

STRATEGY #1: Promote hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands and waters

There are 372 National Wildlife Refuges and wetland management districts open to hunting and 308 refuges and wetland management districts open to fishing. As practiced on refuges, hunting and fishing do not pose a threat to wildlife populations, and in some instances, are actually necessary for sound wildlife management. For example, deer populations will often grow too large for the refuge habitat to support. If some of the deer are not harvested, they destroy habitat for themselves and other animals and die from starvation or disease. The harvesting of wildlife on refuges is carefully regulated to ensure an appropriate balance between population levels and wildlife habitat. The FWS National Fish Hatcheries continue to be a valuable tool in managing fisheries providing recreation opportunities to America's 36 million anglers who spend $46 billion annually in pursuit of their favored pastime.

There are 76 areas managed by the National Park Service that permit hunting. A total of 51,097,000 acres managed by the NPS are open to hunting at various times during the year, representing approximately 60% of the total acreage of the NPS system. The Bureau of Land Management estimates that over 95 percent of the nearly 250 million acres of BLM-managed public lands are open to hunting.

The recreation areas developed as a result of Bureau of Reclamation water projects are among the Nation's most popular for water-based outdoor recreation. There are 289 Reclamation project areas that have developed recreation facilities and opportunities available for public use. Reclamation has approximately 6.5 million acres of land and water, most of which is available for public outdoor recreation. The 187 developed recreation areas managed by Reclamation or a non-Federal recreation partner draw over 24 million visits annually. The 187 developed recreation areas provide 549 campgrounds, 454 boat launch ramps, and more than 5,500 miles of shoreline.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
FWS	Number of National Wildlife Refuge acres newly opened to hunting and fishing	250,000
BLM	Number of legal public access transactions completed that facilitate open access to recreation opportunities	20
BLM	Number of newly installed campsites, restrooms, and other facilities that promote public access to BLM-managed public lands	30
BLM, BOR, FWS	Number of individuals participating in outdoor recreation activities at special events	5,420,000

GOAL #2: Enhance public satisfaction at DOI sites

Visitor satisfaction with the quality of experiences on public lands remains very high. Collectively, satisfaction is above 90 percent for the bureaus providing recreation services, e.g., interpretive programs, visitor centers, camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, boating, off-highway vehicle driving, wildlife viewing, photography, and climbing. Satisfaction with recreation services provided through facilitated programs remains very high – also above 90 percent.

STRATEGY #1: Enhance the enjoyment and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage

Survey results show that a sizeable percentage of visitors are satisfied with their experiences at parks, refuges and other public lands. Competition from other forms of entertainment pose challenges to the DOI in its quest to ensure that all Americans understand, appreciate and enjoy the special places protected by the national parks, wildlife refuges and BLM lands.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of visitors satisfied with the quality of the experience	95%
BLM, NPS	Percent of visitors satisfied with facilitated programs	94%

MISSION AREA 4 Fulfilling Our Trust and Insular Responsibilities

The DOI upholds the Federal government's unique trust responsibilities by fostering the government-to-government relationships between the Federal government and federally recognized Tribes, and by providing services to individual American Indians, and Alaskan Natives. The U.S. also has important relationships with the affiliated insular areas including the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The DOI administers and oversees Federal Assistance to the three Freely Associated States: The Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

GOAL #1: Support tribal self-determination, self-governance, and sovereignty

The DOI is strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship between the Federal Government and tribal nations because self-determination, sovereignty, self-government, and self-reliance are the tools that will enable tribal nations to shape their own destiny. Tribes have also assumed an expanded role in the operation of Indian programs through Public Law 93-638 contracting. Tribes contract with the Federal Government to operate programs serving their tribal members and other eligible persons.

STRATEGY #1: Support self-governance and self-determination

Self-Governance: Under a self-governance compact, a tribe takes over most or all operations affecting that tribe. The Indian Affairs' Office of Self-Governance (OSG) implements the Tribal Self Governance Act of 1994 by developing and implementing regulations, policies, and guidance in support of self-governance initiatives. Indian Affairs advocates for the transfer of Federal programmatic authorities and resources to tribal governments and supports tribal sovereignty and an expanded role in the operation of Indian programs. The program work includes negotiating annual funding agreements with eligible tribes and consortia, and resolving issues identified in financial and program audits of self-governance operations.

Self-Determination: Under a self-determination contract, a tribe contracts with BIA to take over operation of a program formerly delivered by BIA employees. The funds BIA previously used to run the program transfer to the tribe. Self-determination typically is a program-by-program decision. The Indian Self-Determination Program within BIA works to further American Indian tribes' exercise of self-determination and conducts oversight of self-determination contracts and grants.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
AS-IA	Percent of Self-Governance Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audits are made within 6 months	99%
BIA	Percent of Self-Determination Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audits are made within 6 months	91%
AS-IA	Percent of P.L. 93-638 contracts with clean audits	90%

GOAL #2: Fulfill fiduciary trust

The DOI has ongoing responsibilities to ensure that trust and restricted Federal Indian-owned lands are managed effectively and to accurately account for revenues and disbursements in a timely and efficient manner. The Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians and the Bureau of Indian Affairs oversee fiduciary trust activities. The DOI assists American Indian and Alaska Native communities in developing capabilities needed to strengthen their communities and maintain economic self-sufficiency. Efforts such as reducing fractionation of Indian lands and developing conservation and resource management plans help tribes maximize economic benefits of their lands. Securing unsubsidized employment reduces dependency on Federal subsidized programs such as childcare assistance, food stamps, and welfare.

Trust assets are crucial to the financial well-being of individual Indian beneficiaries and key components in the economies of tribes. As such, these assets must be managed with great care, paying attention that all financial transactions are completed accurately and as quickly as possible. Since passage of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform of 1994, the trust accounts managed by OST are balanced to the penny on a daily basis. OST has also incorporated industry-standard practices, such as a lockbox facility, to shorten the time between the payment of a lease and deposit of those funds into a trust account. For Fiscal Years (FY) 2013 through 2017, OST has received a "clean" audit opinion for Individual Indian Monies (IIM) accounts, attesting to its professionalism in managing these assets. Despite this proven record of success, OST retains a commitment to continual reform, looking for more ways to improve its service to individual Indians and tribes.

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) helps provide quality education opportunities starting in early childhood in accordance with tribally identified strategies and needs that contribute to the social well-being of the community and sustain Indian cultures. Tribes directly operate 150 of the 183 BIE funded schools through self-determination contracts and Tribally Controlled Schools Act grants.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure accurate and timely management of fiduciary trust assets

In its effort to promote the fulfillment of fiduciary trust processes, the DOI assists Indian tribes in developing capacity and infrastructure needed to attain economic self-sufficiency on reservations to enhance their quality of life. One critical path is economic development and job creation. The BIA coordinates development of comprehensive tribal programs with the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services. The DOI offers programs and financial services that encourage start-ups and help position Indian businesses and individuals to compete in today's economy.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BIA	Total average gain in earnings of participants that obtain unsubsidized employment through Job Placement Training programs for tribes submitting P.L. 102-477 related reports	$10.82
BIA	Percent of active, supervised Individual Indian Monies (IIM) case records reviewed in accordance with regulations	98%

BIA	Increase in the percentage of submitted land-into-trust applications with determinations (Fee to Trust)	40%
OST	Percent of financial information initially processed accurately in trust beneficiaries' accounts.	99%
OST	Percent of oil and gas revenue transmitted by ONRR recorded in the Trust Funds Accounting System within 24 hours of receipt.	99%
OST	Percent of timeliness of financial account information provided to trust beneficiaries.	100%

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen Indian Education

Improving performance in BIE schools is a challenge the DOI is addressing through initiatives aimed at increasing student achievement. Students at BIE-funded schools receive a culturally relevant, high-quality education that prepares them with the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to flourish in the opportunities of tomorrow, become healthy and successful individuals, and lead their communities and sovereign nations to a thriving future that preserves their unique cultural identities.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BIE	Percent of students attending BIE-funded schools completing high school with a regular diploma within four years of their 9th grade entry date	69%

GOAL #3: Strengthen economic and health capacities in the US Territories, and fulfill US compact obligations to the freely associated states

The DOI supports the U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States (FAS) through the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) under the Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs. The U.S.-affiliated insular areas are: the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Residents of these U.S. territories are U.S. citizens or nationals. The DOI also administers and oversees Federal assistance provided to the three Freely Associated States: the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. The Assistant Secretary Insular and International Affairs and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out these responsibilities on behalf of the Secretary.

STRATEGY #1: Bolster Healthcare Capacity

The Territories and FAS experience significant healthcare challenges. The DOI along with other partners, such as the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will work with insular area partners to improve the quality of healthcare across the insular areas. The DOI will make investments to implement corrective action plans which address chronic operational and facility shortcomings at territorial hospitals, which serve their U.S. citizens and nationals, with a focus on those identified by the HHS/Centers for Medicare/Medicaid (CMS) and local elected officials. Additional investments will be made to combat non-communicable and communicable diseases impacting the Pacific and Caribbean islands such as obesity, diabetes, and tuberculosis.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Percent of Community Water Systems (CWS) that receive health based violations notices from the US Environmental Protection Agency	9%
OIA	Number of new and relapse tuberculosis cases occurring during the calendar year on the islands (per 1,000 people in the population)	1
OIA	Percent of patients with newly diagnosed tuberculosis disease for whom 12 months or less of treatment is indicated, who complete treatment within 12 months	95%
OIA	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (number of deaths to infants from birth through 1 year of age per number of live births)	6

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen Island Economies

Strong local economies provide employment and a viable tax base for citizens in the Insular Areas. The DOI will assist the insular areas to strengthen their economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, public services and technical assistance which will attract and retain private sector investment. The DOI will promote policies and improve Federal coordination on issues impacting insular economies.

Capital investments will be made in basic utilities, hospitals, schools, ports, tourist areas, telecommunications and roads as they create the backbone for increased economic activity. Pursuing renewable energy strategies lessens dependence on oil imports and provides more reliable and affordable energy.

Stable economies and fiscally prudent insular governments foster a more hospitable climate for investment in the islands. Technical assistance will be provided to equip the insular areas with the statistical and management information necessary for informed leadership decision making, expert consultants to effectively improve insular government financial policies and procedures, and strong financial management systems along with technical planning abilities.

The DOI will help create economic opportunity by forging partnerships that bolster tourism and attract industry by promoting the unique island cultures, natural resources, and by preparing the next generation of business leaders. Key indicators of OIA's effectiveness include the following:

Average per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP): In the four U.S. Territories (Guam, US Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)) for which it is measured, GDP remains a fraction of that for other U.S. citizens in the states. OIA provides technical assistance to the insular areas to assist with economic development planning and execution and supports local planning and education activities related to tourism, agriculture, and aquaculture. In addition, OIA funds infrastructure projects related to economic development, such as fiber optic connectivity, port improvements and renovations to tourist districts.

Cost of electricity: Without indigenous fossil fuels, insular areas face great challenges in achieving reliable, affordable, and secure energy, which can have severe economic effects on the island communities. These areas depend almost entirely on imported petroleum products for energy. The residential cost per kilowatt hour for power in the territories directly impacts the quality of life in

the insular areas and remains over three times higher than the national average. To try to address high electricity costs, the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) contracts with the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to engage territories and provide energy efficiency and renewable energy assessments, help develop strategic energy plans, and provide technical assistance in reviewing and implementing alternative energy projects. The OIA, through its Empowering Insular Communities grant program, continues to provide funding for the highest priority projects identified in the energy plans including photovoltaic, wind and geothermal development projects, as well as assuring traditional energy plants continue operating.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Difference in the mean GDP per capita in the 4 US territories compared to the mean GDP per capita in the US	60%
OIA	Difference in the residential cost per kilowatt hour for power from the national average	2X

STRATEGY #3: Fulfill US Compact Obligations

In coordination with the State Department, the DOI will implement compact obligations with three U.S.-affiliated Freely Associated States (FAS): the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the Republic of Palau (Palau). The DOI will make direct grants to the FSM and RMI under their amended Compacts to provide assistance in six sectors: education, health care, infrastructure, public sector capacity building, private sector development, and environment. The DOI will also continue to support U.S. compact obligations to Palau.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Ratio of FAS private sector jobs versus total FAS employment	55%
OIA	Ratio of FAS public sector jobs versus total FAS Employment	45%
OIA	Percent of FAS employment attributable to OIA Grants and Programs	30%
OIA	Percent of FAS employee compensation attributable to OIA grants and programs	25%
OIA	Average FAS private sector wage rate as a percentage of average FAS central government wage rate	45%

MISSION AREA 5 Protecting Our People and the Border

Inherent in DOI's management responsibilities of the public lands is the requirement to protect employees and visitors. Ensuring employee and public safety is complex and requires the resources of multiple bureaus and offices covering four disciplines – law enforcement, emergency management, wildland fire, and natural hazards science. The DOI's Law Enforcement Program has the third largest contingent of Federal law enforcement officers in the Executive Branch. Depending on the season, approximately 3,500-4,000 law enforcement officers, rangers, and other employees patrol vast acres of public lands, national parks, wildlife refuges, and Indian communities and protect people, as well as natural, cultural, and heritage resources from illegal activities. Wildland fires potentially endanger lives and property. The Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) coordinates among the DOI's land management bureaus and the US Forest Service to safely, efficiently, and effectively prevent, respond to, and manage the impacts of wildfires. The USGS also protects lives by monitoring and warning of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides, and environmental health hazards.

The DOI has land on both the Canadian and Mexican borders, and a presence in the Pacific that exposes Americans to risks from Asia. The Administration is presently emphasizing securing our southern border with Mexico to better protect our country. The DOI has a considerable amount of land that borders Mexico. As such, the DOI's law enforcement officers work in partnership with the US Customs and Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Agency, and tribal, state and local governments to address the flow of illegal immigration, gun and drug trafficking, and to mitigate the impacts associated with these activities, which affect DOI lands and our community partners. In addition, OWF shares wildfire management responsibilities with Mexico along the southern border.

GOAL 1: Ensure emergency preparedness & DOI law enforcement staffing addresses public safety risks

The DOI places a high priority on safety, security, and preparedness, and will uphold its responsibilities for protecting lives, resources, and property through a wide variety of program areas, including law enforcement, health and safety, security, and emergency management. The DOI's preference is to achieve public and visitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations by using techniques that are not confrontational and are designed to elicit voluntary as opposed to coerced compliance.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure public safety on our lands

The Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES) provides program direction and oversight on law enforcement policy, border security, drug enforcement, training at the national academy, internal affairs, victims assistance, program compliance, and inspections as well as emergency deployment of DOI law enforcement resources. The Office coordinates with other Federal, state and local agencies (including the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Central Intelligence Agency) on law enforcement and security issues, including infrastructure on the Outer Continental Shelf, the Trans-Alaska pipeline, and gas transmission lines.

To help ensure effective protection of people on DOI lands, each bureau will determine the effective level and distribution of law enforcement staffing for each of its programs on a unit-by-unit basis. The effective level and distribution of staffing needs is dependent on the differing

conditions, levels of risk, and populations served in each unit, captured through a staffing model developed and monitored by each bureau. The DOI's bureaus will engage in developing these staffing models, to determine on a program basis the effective levels of law enforcement staffing that are needed across its units, evaluate the actual level of law enforcement staffing that presently exists, and develop recommendations for better ensuring the effective level of staffing for protecting the people in each unit.

The DOI will strengthen law enforcement in Indian Country by putting more officers on the streets, bolstering tribal courts, and helping fight violent crime and drug abuse. Tribal justice systems are an essential part of tribal governments, which interface with BIA and tribal law enforcement activities. Congress and the Federal courts have repeatedly recognized tribal justice systems as the appropriate forums for adjudicating disputes and minor criminal activity within Indian Country. It is important that the BIA and tribal law enforcement activities complement the operations of the tribal courts to ensure that justice in the tribal forums is administered effectively.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OLES	Percent of DOI law enforcement agencies with a current law enforcement staffing plan	100%
BIA	Percent of criminal offenses solved by arrest (Part 1 Offense Clearance Rate)	44%

Strategy 2: Prepare DOI to respond to and recover from emergencies and incidents

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) promotes all-hazard preparedness and response; ensures continuity of the DOI to perform essential functions during catastrophic events; and assists communities during imminent threats. Collectively, the DOI supports the five National Planning Frameworks (Protection, Prevention, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery) and their related five Federal Interagency Operational Plans, the National Incident Management System, and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan while continuing the DOI's mission to protect natural and cultural resources. The DOI's All-Hazards Baseline Operational Plan provides the baseline guidance for how the Department prepares for and responds to emergencies, regardless of type or cause. The OEM leads coordination and information sharing for emergency management regarding communications, public health, environmental health, wildlife health, integrated pest management, invasive species, and occupational safety and health across the DOI's bureaus and offices.

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PEM	Average Interior Readiness (I-READ) Index score for emergency preparedness across DOI Bureaus/Offices	91.0%

GOAL 2: Support securing our southern continental US border

The DOI manages 41% of the southwest border of the continental United States. The DOI's managers in the field are daily faced with tough decisions on how to best utilize their law

enforcement assets. An integrated government approach is essential to effectively securing the border and supporting the construction of a physical barrier where needed. Through partnering, federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies working in proximity to each other have been able to address critical issues like illegal immigration and marijuana smuggling.

STRATEGY #1: Support securing our southern continental US border

The DOI's goal is to increase collaboration among the agencies operating along the border to better understand each other's mission, share resources, and coordinate efforts. This is accomplished by routine interagency coordination, participating in local Border Management Task Force (BMTF) meetings, interagency training, an annual interagency border forum, and law enforcement specific operations.

The US Border Patrol is the main federal agency responsible for patrolling DOI lands adjacent to the US/Mexican Border. The DOI's goal is to work with US Border Patrol to decrease illegal immigration on DOI managed public lands through collaborative efforts with partnering agencies.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
PMB/OLES	Number of apprehensions on DOI-managed lands	Reduced Annually

GOAL #3: Manage wildland fire to reduce risk and improve ecosystem and community resilience

The DOI, working with the Department of Agriculture, will improve the way that both agencies manage wildland fire by ensuring that fire management assets are used in the most efficient way possible. The DOI will work with state, local, tribal, and other partners to ensure a coordinated approach to wildland fire management that enables protection responsibilities to be exchanged and resources shared to improve operational efficiency and reduce management duplication. The DOI will continue to integrate science and technology into informing and supporting the firefighters with the appropriate training tools, resources and program support to enable them to work safely and effectively.

The DOI is developing new wildland fire management performance measures to better articulate and determine the efficacy of Department and Administration resources in achieving desired resource conditions that reduce the intensity, severity or negative effects of wildfire. As part of this effort, the Department has established a working group among the four DOI wildland fire bureaus, as well as the U.S. Forest Service, which will explore the feasibility of concepts and principles in wildfire risk mitigation, and examine the value of the strategic placement of fuels treatments as informed by a risk assessment and mitigation plan. This group will develop recommendations for a) establishing outcome-based targets, and b) annually evaluating the performance of the program in meeting the desired objectives of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. When

completed, the DOI will incorporate the new performance measures into its strategic plan implementation.

STRATEGY #1: Integrate fire ecology, risk management, and collaboration to mitigate wildfire impacts

The Department's Office of Wildland Fire coordinates programs and funding across four bureaus (BLM, FWS, NPS, and BIA) that manage wildland fire programs to implement the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, a science-based collaborative approach to mitigating wildfire risk. The DOI, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, is committed to the inclusive principles of providing safe and effective response to wildfires, promoting fire-adapted communities, and creating fire-resilient landscapes. The DOI strives to achieve a science-based and technically effective wildland fire management program that is integrated with natural resources programs.

Successful management in fire-adapted communities and landscapes depends on implementation of a broad-based, intergovernmental, collaborative, and national cohesive strategy to address the mounting challenges of escalating fire behavior, increased risk to responders, greater natural and cultural resource losses, and increased threats and losses to communities. The DOI is a lead agency in this collaborative approach with the Forest Service and other Federal, state, tribal, and local governments and stakeholders.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OWF	Percent of DOI-managed landscape acres that are in desired condition as a result of fire management	36%
OWF	Percent of DOI-managed treatments that reduce risk to communities that have a wildland fire mitigation plan	94%
OWF	Percent of wildfires on DOI-managed landscapes where the initial strategies fully succeeded during the initial response phase	97%

GOAL #4: Provide science to safeguard communities from natural hazards

The USGS helps protect public safety, public health, and property by effectively delivering natural hazards and environmental health science. The Nation's emergency managers and public officials use USGS science to inform citizens of the potential risks these hazards pose to natural systems and the built environment, improve preparation and response activities, and protect the health of the public, which reduce the loss of life and property.

STRATEGY #1: Monitor and assess natural hazards risk and response planning

Responsibilities in natural hazards include the issuing of warnings and advisories for earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, and coastal erosion; informing warnings issued by other agencies for floods, tsunamis, and wildfires; providing timely information to emergency managers and response officials, the media, and the public to inform and educate communities during and between crises.

The USGS supports these activities by implementing 24x7 operations for seismic, volcanic, and geomagnetic monitoring efforts; maintaining an extensive national network of streamgages measuring rainfall, streamflow, stream height or lake levels; and developing the next generation of tools for rapid evaluation of hazards.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent completion of targeted natural hazards assessments of very high and high-threat regions of the Nation (Index)	4%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted landslide hazard research	8%
USGS	Percent completion of coastal and marine hazards and subsidence research (Index)	87%
USGS	Percent progress towards optimal monitoring capability for natural hazards situational awareness (Index)	52%
USGS	Percent of the National Streamflow Network (NSN) streamgages that are fully operational	88%

MISSION AREA 6 Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

The DOI is looking to better ensure effective operations and service delivery through coordinated organizational alignments in the field across bureaus and with other federal and nonfederal partners, and through putting a relatively larger fraction of our employees into the field to serve the public. Expediting environmental analysis and compliance, reducing the cost of space, collocating offices for more convenient public service and improved interagency coordination, and common regional boundaries are all being explored to help improve the DOI's infrastructure and related effectiveness.

GOAL #1: Align DOI organizational structure and workforce to improve partnership engagement and mission delivery

The DOI is reevaluating its organizational model to determine how to best achieve its mission of serving the American public, honoring our tribal and fiduciary trust responsibilities, and managing and protecting our land, water and natural resources for the next 100 years.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure effective alignment of DOI organizational structure in the field and with partners

The DOI intends to establish unified regional boundaries for its bureaus in 2018 and to further develop this approach in 2019. The goal is to improve overall operations, internal communications, customer service, and stakeholder engagement. Aligning geographic areas across the DOI will enhance coordination of resource decisions and policies and will simplify how citizens engage with the DOI.

Organizing bureaus with common geographic areas will allow for more integrated and better coordinated decision making across bureaus. Currently, the DOI's bureaus have more than 40 distinct regions, each with its own geographic boundaries. This complicates coordination and hampers the DOI's ability to get things done expeditiously. Having unified regions will help streamline operations and in doing so, provide better service to the American people. Bureaus within a region will focus on common issues, taking a comprehensive approach versus a bureau-centric approach. This culture shift will help us work better together to accomplish one vision. The new regional boundaries currently under discussion – and subject to modification – are expected to have minimal budgetary impact.

To improve customer service and reduce operational costs, sharing functions at field locations has already begun. For a number of years, the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture's US Forest Service (USFS) have pooled resources, conducted joint projects, and shared services under Service First agreements where field locations are in close proximity to each other. Service First authority promotes partnering across agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and to address federal land management issues in an integrated way.

STRATEGY #2: Improve strategic hiring, placement and retention efforts to ensure mission-critical service delivery through data driven processes and increased employee engagement efforts

The DOI is committed to managing America's vast natural and cultural resources with a 70,000-strong and 350 occupation-plus workforce that exemplifies high performance, customer service and

accountability. Historically, it has been difficult to attract certain DOI employees or recruits in certain occupations to positions in headquarters, or even to regional offices, because many of our employees enjoy living in relatively rural areas and because the cost of living is so much higher in large cities. Moving a larger fraction of our staff of some bureaus to relatively more rural and considerably less expensive areas in the West might therefore both reduce payroll cost because fewer employees would receive locality pay, and improve employee retention.

To facilitate strategic human capital planning, the Department has put in place hiring controls to emphasize new hiring for field-related positions rather than administrative and support positions in the Washington, D.C., and Denver, Colorado metropolitan areas.

The DOI will leverage automation to improve employee performance and training opportunities, and examine additional data to determine if operational efficiencies can be gained while minimizing redundancies under the current organizational design.

Data to be analyzed include:

- Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (*e.g.*, employee engagement)
- Geographic Representation of Bureau Mission Critical Occupations
- Geographic Representation of Administrative and Support Services
- Customer Service data
- Benchmarking cost allocations for administrative and support functions
- DOI Human Capital Framework Evaluations
- Accountability drivers on performance, labor management, EEO, etc.
- Bureau plans in response to the Department-wide Workplace Environment Survey

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PHR	Employee engagement index for DOI in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey	75%
PHR	DOI's ranking among large agencies in the Partnership for Public Services' Best Places to Work report	1

GOAL #2: Reduce administrative and regulatory burden

Executive Order 13771, Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, directed agencies to "manage the costs associated with the governmental imposition of private expenditures required to comply with Federal regulations." The DOI is reviewing its regulations and administrative processes to determine what cost savings, to the government and to the public, are possible by repealing regulations for which the perceived benefits might not be justified relative to their implementation costs, and which administrative processes could be streamlined or made more efficient.

STRATEGY #1: Evaluate and improve the net benefits of regulatory reform initiatives and policies, and identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification

On February 24, 2017, President Trump signed Executive Order 13777 entitled, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda" to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens placed on the American people. The Executive Order established a Regulatory Reform Officer (RRO) for each agency and a Regulatory Reform Task Force. The efforts of the RRO and the task force will help identify

regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. The costs of the regulatory and deregulatory actions are measured as the opportunity costs or cost savings to society, as defined in OMB Circular A-4 (i.e. the values reported are the cumulative net savings from deregulatory actions and costs of newly required regulatory actions over multiple years starting in FY 2017). In 2017, the DOI achieved cumulative net savings of $1.15B (net present value) from its deregulatory actions. Goals for subsequent years will be established as the DOI completes its review of target regulations.

Office	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
DOI	Total incremental cost of all EO 13771 regulatory actions and EO 13771 deregulatory actions (including costs or cost savings carried over from previous fiscal years)	TBD
DOI	Number of EO 13771 regulatory actions issued.	TBD
DOI	Number of EO 13771 deregulatory actions issued.	TBD

STRATEGY #2: Improve transparency and timeliness of the infrastructure permitting process

As outlined in the President's Executive Order "Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure," and the corresponding Secretarial Order 3355, a significant opportunity exists for agencies to streamline and collaborate on National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) compliance efforts. The DOI believes this can best be achieved through a unified regional structure adopted across the DOI which focuses on the intersecting issues within the same geographical boundaries.

The DOI is also establishing an Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting (ECEP) to expedite the responsible leasing and permitting of energy and mineral production. More specifically, this involves, but is not limited to, the processing of Applications for Permit to Drill (APD), Expressions of Interest (EOI), coal leasing actions, Right-of-Way (ROW) applications, and harmonization of appurtenant environmental reviews.

Office	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
DOI	*Cross-Agency Priority Goal metric on improving infrastructure permitting to be added*	
BLM	Average amount of time (in days) to process and administratively complete Applications for Permit to Drill	90 days
BLM	Average amount of time (in months) to issue a decision on major right-of-way applications	48 months
BLM	Average amount of time (in days) to process and administratively complete a grazing permit	390 days
FWS	Percent of formal Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultations addressed in a timely manner	100%

GOAL #3: Prioritize DOI infrastructure needs and reduce deferred maintenance backlog

Real property assets are integral to the success of Interior's mission. DOI's real property inventory includes approximately 43,000 buildings and 80,000 structures across six major land-holding bureaus, with a replacement value of approximately $300 billion. DOI manages the full life-cycle requirements of nearly every type of constructed asset found, including visitor centers, dams, schools, health clinics, power generating facilities, housing, hotels, fire stations, campgrounds, roads, water and wastewater treatment plants, offices, and more. Many of these assets have historic or cultural significance that not only support the DOI's mission, but are important to our Nation's heritage.

STRATEGY #1: Maintain critical DOI infrastructure and facilities to ensure effective operations and service delivery

The DOI's goal is to balance mission delivery demands with adequate investments in operations and maintenance to sustain the portfolio in an appropriate condition befitting of our role as America's stewards. Appropriately maintained assets enable the DOI to accomplish habitat and resource management, provide outdoor recreation activities, deliver water, fulfill trust and treaty responsibilities, and provide critical economic inputs and job creation for local communities. Adequately constructed and maintained Federal real property supports healthy habitats and populations, availability of safe and reliable public use opportunities, and robust local economies.

A significant factor impacting a sustainable portfolio of constructed assets is DOI's aging infrastructure. Many assets already exceed original design life, and this trend of aging infrastructure continues to threaten mission delivery. Prioritizing repairs on a portfolio scale will ensure the assets condition is maintained at an acceptable level. Effective management of deferred maintenance is a Departmental priority to ensure completion of needed repairs and prevent further deterioration and unsafe conditions. The DOI prioritizes addressing deferred maintenance/repair needs for mission critical activities. Furthermore, proactive maintenance, replacement of components and colocation of programs and staff in owned facilities will help to reduce future costs.

The DOI conserves the Nation's cultural and heritage sites that reflect a rich and diverse history. The DOI safeguards our heritage for the generations that follow, to better understand our country and learn from our past. Many challenges exist in protecting and maintaining historic and archeological sites, especially with the impacts of weather on fragile sites and structures. Sites are exposed to changing weather conditions that cause damage and deterioration of the structures and sites and some locations are vandalized or accidentally damaged by visitors to federal lands.

The Road Construction Program maintains and operates the 29,000 miles of BIA-owned roads and bridges. These roads and bridges serve as the primary access points to tribal communities, without which critical resources and services would not reach tribal members.

The DOI will continue to improve and provide safe, functional, energy efficient, and universally accessible BIA facilities. The DOI is allocating funds to improve its Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded schools, and improve the learning environment of BIE students.

Agency Priority Performance Goal: By September 30, 2019, the Department of the Interior will improve the condition of its priority real property assets such that 82% are in the desired state of acceptable condition.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
PAM	Percent of priority assets in acceptable condition (i.e. meet investment objective)	84%
PAM	Amount of priority deferred maintenance (repair) needs/activities addressed (i.e. completed for that year)	$1.2 billion
NPS	Value of NPS deferred maintenance work orders closed ($000)	TBD
BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of historic structures on DOI inventory in good condition	57%
BIA, BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS	Percent of museum collections on DOI inventory in good condition	59%
BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of archaeological sites on DOI inventory in good condition	67%
BOR	Maintain a completion rate of 95% for Safety of Dam recommendations	95%
BIA	Percent of miles of BIA road in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	14%
BIA	Percent of BIA bridges in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	69%
BIE	Percent of students in BIE school facilities that are in acceptable condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index	67%

STRATEGY #2: Provide dependable and efficient information technology

Information Management and Technology (IMT) provides modern and secure technology solutions to advance the DOI's ability to deliver programs and services to the public and our customers. To do so, the DOI must protect its critical information assets from cyber exploitation and attack to ensure that employees and the public can rely on the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the DOI's data and information systems. The DOI is implementing advanced technologies that will increase visibility into its IMT environment, improve protections around our high-value information assets, and empower its workforce to better detect, respond, and recover from cyber-attacks and breaches. With a more secure computing environment in place, its employees can more easily obtain the tools and data they need to perform the mission securely efficiently and effectively, anywhere and anytime.

The DOI will continue to deploy and mature Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) capabilities that help to fortify its networks and systems. These capabilities provide the DOI with tools necessary to better identify cybersecurity risks on an ongoing basis, prioritize these risks based upon potential impacts, and enable cybersecurity personnel to mitigate the most significant

problems first. Achieving the performance objectives will enable the DOI to meet the requirements of Presidential Executive Order 13800, "Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure." The DOI has adopted the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework and will work towards implementing and maturing the set of activities known to be effective in managing cybersecurity risks and that are necessary to achieve key cybersecurity outcomes that support the following functions: Identify, Protect, Detect, Respond and Recover.

The DOI is working collaboratively with its user community to understand operational needs better in the field, resulting in expanding network capabilities to improve connectivity in remote areas so employees can be as productive as possible. To improve collaboration, the DOI will enhance its Geospatial Platform capabilities, which is an internet-based tool for sharing trusted geospatial data with the public, government agencies, and partners to meet their mission needs. The DOI will also seek to deliver improved services at a lower cost by consolidating and standardizing IT services and systems, including consolidating and optimizing its data center and network operations and standardizing security, customer support, and administrative functions.

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PIO	Percent of unclassified network hardware and software assets appropriately authorized and managed	95%
PIO	Percent completion of DOI's Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Implementation Plan	100%

APPENDIX A – ACRONYMS

APD	Application for Permit to Drill	I-READ	Interior Readiness (index)
APIPA	Association of Pacific Island Public Auditors	LHP	Landslide Hazard Program
APP	Annual Performance Plan	LIDAR	Light Detection And Ranging
APP&R	Annual Performance Plan and Report	LTRO	Land Title and Records Office
APR	Annual Performance Report	MMBF	Million Board Feet
ARPA	Archeological Resources Protection Act	MR&R	Major Rehabilitations and Replacements
AS-IA	Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs	MRP	Mineral Resource Program
AS-IN	Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs	MTS	Mineral Tracking System
AS-PMB	Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and	NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and
	Budget		Repatriation Act
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs	NAWQA	National Water Quality Assessment Program
BIE	Bureau of Indian Education	NCGMP	National Geologic Map Database
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	NFHS	National Fish Hatchery System
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
BSEE	Bureau of Safety and Environmental	NIBRS	National Incident Based Reporting System
	Enforcement	NIMS	National Incident Management System
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	NLCD	National Land Cover Database
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
CFS	Cubic Foot per Second	NPS	National Park Service
CNMI	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	NWRS	National Wildlife Refuge System
CWS	Community Water Systems	O&C	Oregon and California
DOI	Department of the Interior	O&M	Operations and Maintenance
EHP	Earthquake Hazard Program	OCS	Outer Continental Shelf
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	OEPC	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
ERP	Energy Resource Program	OIA	Office of Insular Affairs
FASS-CMS	Financial Assistance and Social Services – Case Management System	OIG	Office of the Inspector General
FCI	Facilities Condition Index	OJS	Office of Justice Services
FRPP	Federal Real Property Profile	OLES	Office of Law Enforcement and Security
FRR	Facility Reliability Rating	OMB	Office of Management and Budget
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service	OSG	Office of Self-Governance
GAO	Government Accountability Office	OSMRE	Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	OST	Office of Special Trustee
GIS	Geographic Information System	ONRR	Office of Natural Resources Revenue
GPRA	Government Performance Results Act	OPM	Office of Personnel Management
GPS	Geospatial Positioning System	OWF	Office of Wildland Fire
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services	PAM	Office of Acquisitions and Property
HMA	Herd Management Area		Management
HPPG	High Priority Performance Goal	PEM	Office of Emergency Management
ICWA	Indian Child Welfare Act	PEP	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
IGFOA	Island Government Finance Officers'	PFM	Office of Financial Management
	Association	PHR	Office of Human Resources
IIM	Individual Indian Money	PIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
ILCO	Indian Land Consolidation Office	ROW	Right of Way
ILCP	Indian Land Consolidation Program	SMART	Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow

IMARS	Incident Management Analysis Reporting System		
SMCRA	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977		
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and		
	Mathematics		
T&E	Threatened and Endangered		
TFAS	Trust Financial Accounting System		
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture		
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey		
VHP	Volcano Hazard Program		
WUI	Wildland-Urban Interface		

From:	Sheehan, Gregory
To:	Stephen Guertin
Subject:	Fwd: Distributing strat plan
Date:	Saturday, March 10, 2018 1:32:46 PM
Attachments:	FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan (3-5-2018).pdf

Steve,

We need to discuss next steps on this strategic plan on Tuesday morning when I return.

Thanks
Greg

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Cameron, Scott** <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Mar 6, 2018 at 3:20 PM
Subject: Fwd: Distributing strat plan
To: Timothy Petty <timothy_petty@ios.doi.gov>, Joseph Balash <joseph_balash@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Larrabee <jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov>, John Tahsuda <john.tahsuda@bia.gov>, Daniel Jorjani <daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov>, "Domenech, Douglas" <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>, Brenda Burman <bburman@usbr.gov>, Brian Steed <bsteed@blm.gov>, Scott Angelle <scott.angelle@bsee.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>

All,
Attached is the new DOI GPRA strategic plan. This, along with the Secretary's Top 10 list, ought to be reflected in the 2018 SES performance standards for your direct reports. With FY 18 already half over, I'd urge you to get FY18 performance plans in place for your SESers ASAP, if you haven't done so already, so they can understand your goals for them and have as much time as possible to accomplish those goals.
Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

--
Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street NW, Room 3358
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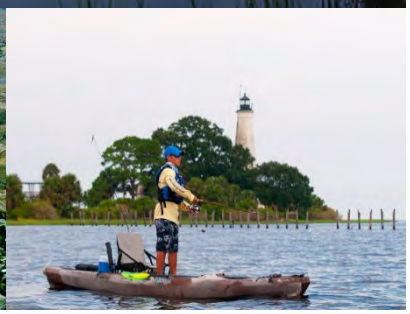
202-208-4545

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018 – 2022



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LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY

The Department of the Interior's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2018-2022 is our bold vision for the future under President Donald J. Trump. As the chief stewards of our public lands, it is our job to ensure that these lands continue to be used "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people," as the words engraved into the Roosevelt Arch at Yellowstone National Park so proudly proclaim.

We will restore the American conservation ethic that built our nation. Among the American traditions that made our country great was a philosophy of multiple-use on our public lands. I am an admirer of President Theodore Roosevelt – he had it right. As President Roosevelt once remarked, "It is not what we have that will make us a great nation; it is the way in which we use it."

Our public lands are our greatest treasures, and all Americans should be able to experience these treasures. One of my top priorities as Secretary of the Interior is public access to public land. Recognizing that hunting and fishing is an integral part of the American heritage, we must do more to ensure that all Americans can enjoy these sports – not just the wealthy elite. Americans should also be proud of their public lands, which is why investing in American infrastructure and addressing the maintenance backlog at our National Parks is critically important.

While "benefit and enjoyment" includes recreation, it also includes traditional uses like grazing and timber harvesting. Our mandate is multiple-use of public lands, and multiple-use also includes the development of natural resources as we seek to leverage American energy for American strength. Americans should have the right to make a living off the land, and one of our most critical responsibilities at Interior is upholding this right.

If we are going to preserve our heritage, we must bolster our standing in the world. It is in the economic and national security interest of the United States to pursue a policy of American energy dominance. An America-First energy policy is one which maximizes the use of American resources while freeing us from dependence on foreign oil.

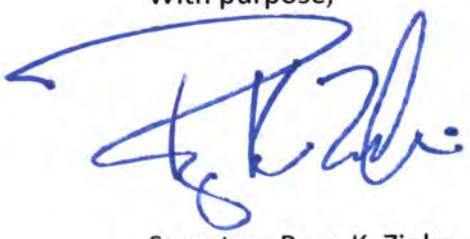
American energy dominance requires aggressive regulatory reform. With our strategic plan, the Interior Department has a unique opportunity to cut the burdensome, unnecessary regulations that have suppressed job creation and wealth generation. Regulatory reform also includes reduced permitting times. The Trump Administration will not deregulate or streamline at the expense of environmental standards or worker safety, but we will strike a balance and strive toward regulatory certainty going forward when creating a bureaucratic framework.

Along with our conservation stewardship responsibilities, we must also be the greatest champion of our tribal nations. Native Americans and Alaska Natives are proud people with a rich history. Sovereignty has to have meaning, and the days of empty promises to our tribal communities are over. Our priorities in Indian Country will be self-determination, government-to-government interaction, and empowerment.

To accomplish our goals, a reorganization of the Department is necessary. We will chart a path forward for the next 100 years at Interior, as Teddy Roosevelt did over a century ago. As a former Navy SEAL, I have long believed that a healthy front line makes for a healthy operation – it is in this spirit that the reorganization plan will focus on our front lines and how we can better engage those on the ground.

Our strategic plan will restore trust in local communities. The federal government has a long way to go when it comes to being a good neighbor, but I am confident we can get there. With a renewed focus on conservation and a bold approach to energy, the Department of the Interior can lead the way in making America great again. This is our desired outcome.

With purpose,



Secretary Ryan K. Zinke
United States Department of the Interior

MISSION AND ORGANIZATION

Mission

The Department of the Interior (DOI) conserves and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, provides scientific and other information about natural resources and natural hazards to address societal challenges and create opportunities for the American people, and honors the Nation's trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities to help them prosper.

Vision

The Department of the Interior strives to fulfill a vision to:

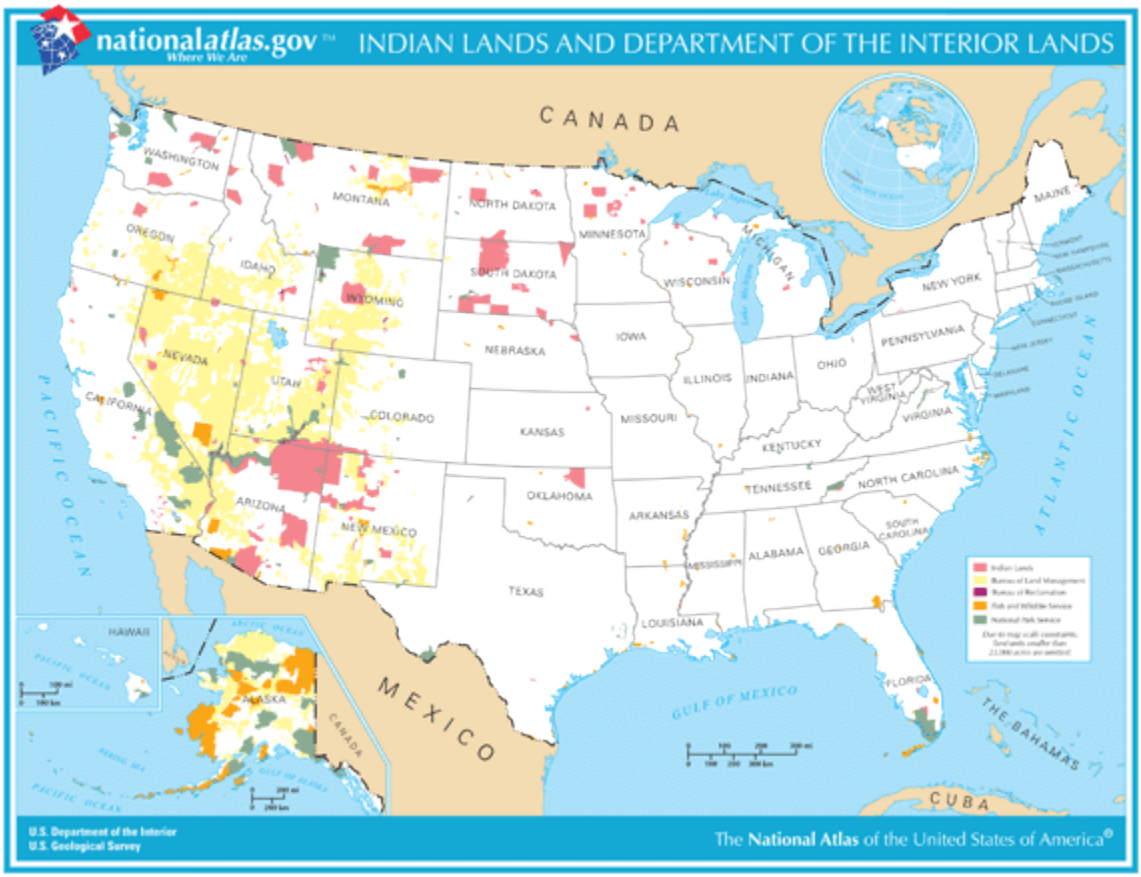
- *Promote energy dominance and critical minerals development* to create jobs for Americans, insulate our nation from volatile political developments overseas, provide additional energy security to allies via surplus domestic supply, and generate revenue for all levels of government so they in turn have the resources to better serve the American people.
- *Increase access to outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans* so that our people can be healthier, more fully enjoy the wonderful features of their federal lands, and take advantage of hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation pursuits that are the roots of the conservation movement.
- *Enhance conservation stewardship* whereby all levels of government and private landowners work cooperatively together in an atmosphere of mutual respect to achieve shared natural resource management goals across landscapes.
- *Improve management of species and their habitats* by focusing our financial and staff resources on improving the status of our nation's fish and wildlife and the healthy habitats that support them, and by streamlining bureaucracy to help us spend relatively more of our funding productively on the ground to better meet societal needs and our own natural resource management responsibilities.
- *Uphold trust and related responsibilities*, recognizing the importance of government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, and insular areas, and respecting self-determination and sovereignty.

History

The Department of the Interior (DOI) was established in 1849. The DOI was charged with managing a wide variety of programs, which included overseeing Indian Affairs, exploring the western wilderness, directing the District of Columbia jail, constructing the National Capital's water system, managing hospitals and universities, improving historic western emigrant routes, marking boundaries, issuing patents, conducting the census, and researching the geological resources of the United States. As the country matured during the last half of the 19th Century, so did the DOI and its mission began to evolve as some of these functions moved to other agencies at the same time the DOI acquired new responsibilities.

With information from Robert Utley and Barry Mackintosh, *The Department of Everything Else: Highlights of Interior History*, 1988, pp. 1-2.

Surface Lands Managed by the Department of the Interior



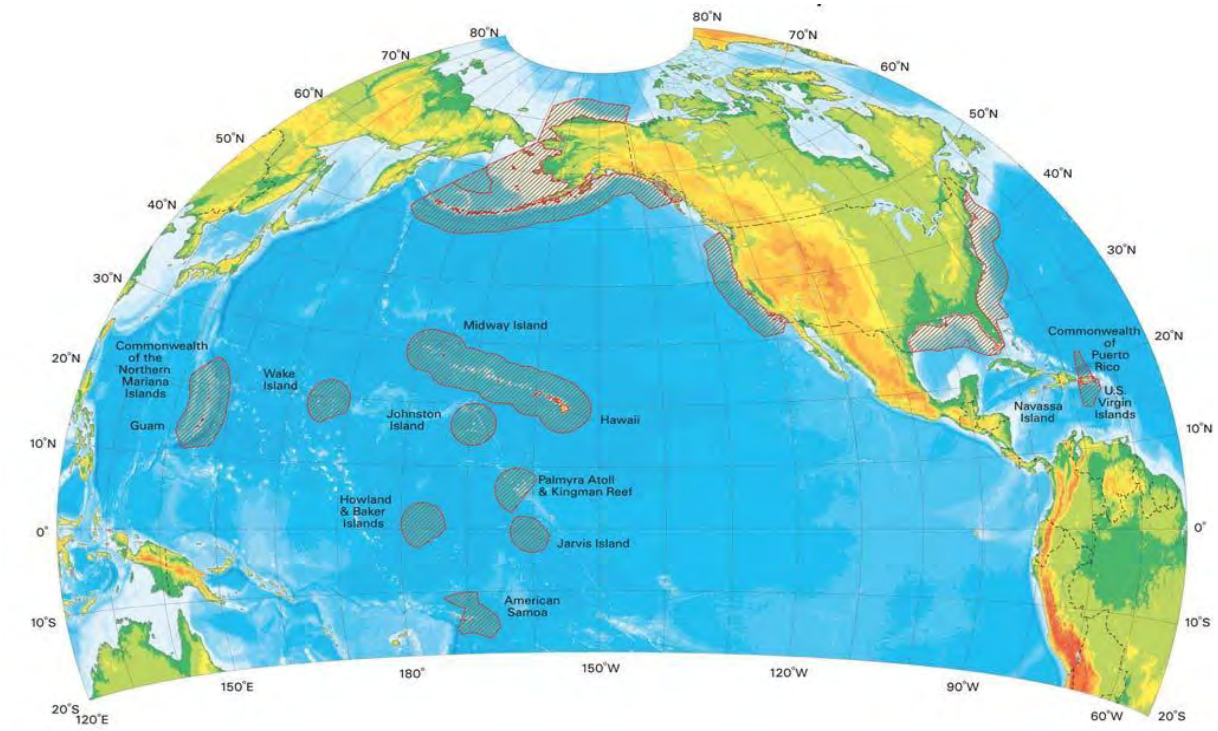
USGS Map, Oct 2014 (except for US Territories that are identified on next graphic)

Following Theodore Roosevelt's conservation summit and the awakening of the conservation movement at the beginning of the 20th Century, there was an increasing urgency and expanding congressional mandate to protect and more effectively manage the nation's natural resources. In 1905, management of the federal forests changed from the Department of the Interior to the United States Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture. Its Chief, Gifford Pinchot, introduced better forestry methods. Pinchot sought to turn public land policy from one that disposed of resources to private parties, to one that maintained federal ownership and management of public land. Pinchot argued that scientific management of forests and natural resources was profitable. He generally opposed preservation for the sake of preservation. During the 1960's and 1970's the DOI's authorizing statutes shifted to put more emphasis on the preservation, management, and use of public lands and natural and cultural resources.

Today, the DOI manages the Nation's public lands and minerals, including providing access to more than 480 million acres of public lands, 700 million acres of subsurface minerals, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf. The DOI is the steward of 20 percent of the Nation's lands, including national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other public lands; manages resources that supply 30 percent of the Nation's energy; supplies and manages water in the 17 Western States and supplies 15 percent of the Nation's hydropower energy; and upholds Federal trust responsibilities to 573 federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages. The DOI is responsible for migratory bird and wildlife conservation, historic preservation, endangered species conservation, surface-mined lands protection and restoration, mapping, geological, hydrological, and biological science

for the Nation, and financial and technical assistance for the insular areas (many of which are depicted in the following graphic).

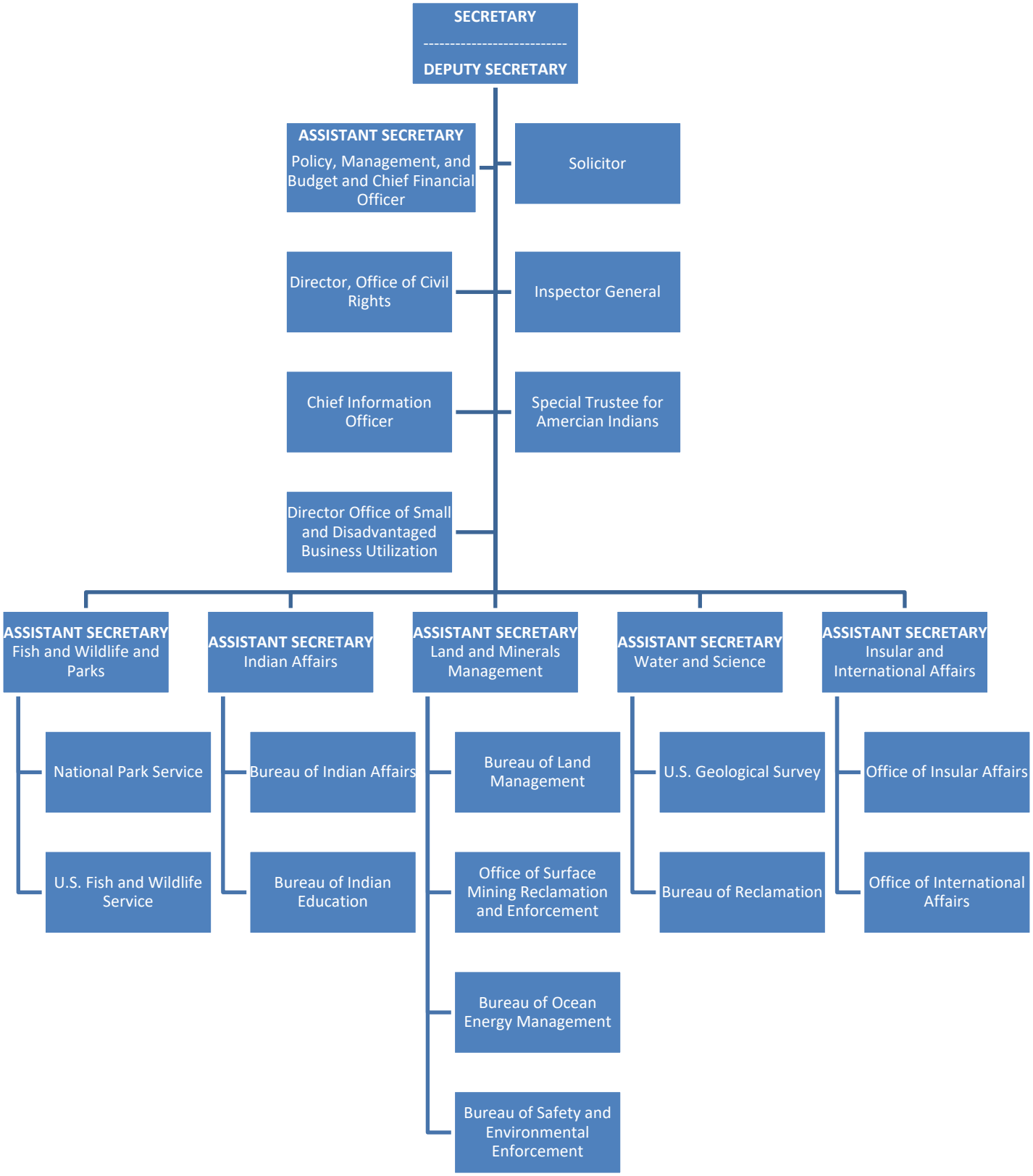
United States Continental Shelf Boundary Areas



National Geophysical Data Center, Sep 2001

The DOI's programs encompassed in this Strategic Plan cover a broad spectrum of activities that are performed by 10 bureaus and multiple offices and are captured in the following presentation of each entity's unique mission and set of responsibilities. The Strategic Plan's six mission areas capture the vitality, inventiveness, and potential of the bureaus and offices and the DOI's 70,000 dedicated and skilled employees. Along with our hardworking and skilled employees, over 350,000 much appreciated volunteers annually contribute their time in support of bureau and office missions, bringing unique local knowledge to park operations, assisting in recovery from natural disasters, and participating in environmental education, among other activities. We cannot effectively address all our responsibilities alone, so it is critical to strengthen partnerships with our sister federal agencies with related missions. In the federal family, we share forest, minerals, rangeland, and wildland fire management responsibilities with the US Department of Agriculture's Forest Service. We share water resource management and hydroelectric power generation responsibilities with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and we share fishery and endangered species management responsibilities with the Department of Commerce's National Marine Fisheries Service. In some ways, our relationships with state, tribal, and local government are even more important. We operate within the bounds of state water law, and respect state authority over resident wildlife. We deal with tribal governments on a government to government basis, respecting each other's authority and jurisdiction. We share land use planning responsibilities with local government, so we must make our own land management plans in a way that is mindful of the goals and plans of those local government neighbors.

US Department of the Interior Organization Chart



Bureau and Office Summaries

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- Manages public lands for the benefit of all Americans under the dual framework of multiple use and sustained yield on nearly 250 million surface acres, as well as 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate. Priorities include:
  - Making full use of the Nation's domestic energy and mineral sources, including conventional and renewable energy sources;
  - Serving American families by providing outdoor recreation opportunities that are key to the Nation's heritage and its economy; and
  - Managing working landscapes to support sustainable livestock grazing operations; and timber and biomass production.
  - Developing and maintaining strong partnerships with State, local, and private stakeholders in shared conservation stewardship.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE)

- Protects the environment during coal mining through Federal programs, grants to states and Tribes, and oversight activities.
- Ensures the land is reclaimed afterwards.
- Mitigates the effects of past mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned coal mine lands.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- Manages access to renewable and conventional energy resources of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS);
- Administers nearly 3,000 active fluid mineral leases on over 16 million OCS acres;
- Oversees 4 percent of the natural gas and 18 percent of the oil produced domestically; and
- Oversees lease and grant issuance for off shore renewable energy projects.
- Manages leasing for marine mineral resources such as sand to facilitate beach replenishment and coastal nourishment projects.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

- Produces information to increase understanding of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and landslides.
- Conducts research and delivers assessments on oil, gas, and alternative energy potential, production, consumption, and environmental effects.
- Conducts reliable scientific research in land resources, mineral assessments, and water resources to inform effective decision making and planning.
- Provides science information that supports natural resource decisions.
- Produces topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic data and maps.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- Fosters secure and reliable energy production from the 1.7 billion acre U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) for America's energy future.
- Conducts inspections, permitting, incident and equipment failure analysis, oil spill preparedness and enforcement programs aimed at promoting a culture of safety and reducing risk to those who work offshore.
- Supports the technical expertise to engage opportunities and to meet challenges to tap the full potential of OCS energy resources.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

- Manages, develops, and protects water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.
- Largest wholesale supplier of water in the Nation
- Manages 492 dams and 338 reservoirs.
- Delivers water to 1 in every 5 western farmers and more than 31 million people.
- America's second largest producer of hydroelectric power.

Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

- Manages the lands and waters of the 855 million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, primarily for the benefit of fish and wildlife.
- Manages 73 fish hatcheries and other related facilities for endangered species recovery and to restore native fisheries.
- Protects and conserves:
  - Migratory birds;
  - Threatened and endangered species; and
  - Certain marine mammals.
- Hosts about 48 million visitors annually at more than 560 refuges located in all 50 states and 38 wetland management districts.

Indian Affairs (IA)

- Fulfills Indian trust responsibilities.
- Promotes self-determination on behalf of 573 federally recognized Indian Tribes.
- Funds self-governance compacts and self-determination contracts to support all Federal programs including education, law enforcement, and social service programs that are delivered by Tribal Nations.
- Supports 183 elementary and secondary schools and dormitories, providing educational services to approximately 48,000 students in 23 states.
- Supports 32 community colleges, universities, post-secondary schools, and technical colleges.

Note: IA includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)

National Park Service (NPS)

- Maintains and manages a system of 417 natural, cultural, and recreational sites for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people.
- Manages and protects over 27,000 historic and prehistoric structures, nearly 44 million acres of designated wilderness, and a wide range of museum collections and cultural and natural landscapes.
- Provides outdoor recreation to nearly 324 million visitors at national park units.
- Provides technical assistance and support to state, tribal and local natural and cultural resource sites and programs, and fulfills responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Insular and International Affairs

- Coordinates federal policy for the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Oversees the Department's involvement with oceans policy
- Manages the Department's involvement in international affairs
- Responsible for administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association, as well as providing technical and financial assistance to all the Insular Areas.

Note: Includes Office of Insular Affairs and Office of International Affairs

Departmental Offices

- Immediate Office of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Assistant Secretaries
- Office of the Solicitor
- Policy, Management and Budget provides leadership and support for the following:
  - Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition;
  - Public Safety, Resource Protection, and Emergency Services;
  - Natural Resources Revenue Management;
  - Human Capital and Diversity;
  - Technology, Information and Business Services;
  - Policy and Environmental Management
- Office of Inspector General
- Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

CROSS-CUTTING PRINCIPLES

As the Department of the Interior (DOI) advances through FY 2018-2022, the following principles guide our leadership, management, and workforce.

Effective and Accountable Leadership - The DOI is committed to being an outstanding steward of approximately 500 million acres of public lands, 700 million onshore subsurface acres, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) including magnificent vistas, valuable energy and mineral resources, unique ecosystems, range, and treasured natural, cultural, and heritage assets. The management and oversight of these resources require a dedicated cadre of employees, the contributions of volunteers, and the input of stakeholders to inform decision-making. The challenges of managing for a diverse constituency while meeting national goals for energy development and sustaining high levels of recreation and access require technical expertise, the best available science, and an understanding of the balance of development and conservation.

A critical role for DOI's senior executives is providing the necessary leadership to guide the efforts of DOI's offices, bureaus, and field locations in effectively achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals especially through:

- Ensuring cost effective operations and quality customer-centric service to the public;
- Facilitating cooperation and collaboration across organizations within the DOI and its federal and nonfederal partners;
- Ensuring a workplace environment that is safe, fair, and conducive to employee productivity; resolving conflicts as needed; and
- Holding individuals at all levels accountable for their actions.

Empowering the Field - Accomplishing the multi-faceted missions of the DOI involves the skills of 10 bureaus and spans 2,400 locations across the U.S. These locations are often remote and present managers with unique challenges. Managers and experts in the field organization must be allowed to exercise informed judgement and discretion, and must have a skilled workforce to address the issues and manage their operations. The DOI's agency reform plan, developed in response to the President's Executive Order "Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch," provides a strategy for better enabling our managers and workforce in the field through regional realignment and executive empowerment, increased colocation, and shifting workforce resources closer to the DOI's field locations.

Engaging the Nation in Cooperative Stewardship - In managing such a broad range of resources for the benefit of the public, the DOI works closely with other federal agencies, state, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and the public. The DOI's reform plan calls for increased coordination across agency lines and levels of government to achieve common goals and resolve differences without expensive and time-consuming litigation. DOI is working to increase its collaborations and partnerships across all levels of government.

Improving Infrastructure - The DOI manages an infrastructure asset portfolio with a replacement value exceeding $300 billion. Most well-known are the DOI's iconic and unique national treasures, which have priceless historical significance. More broadly, the DOI owns approximately 43,000 buildings, 100,000 miles of roads, and 80,000 structures; including dams, laboratories, employee housing, Indian schools, visitor facilities, historic structures and hydropower infrastructure. The related deferred maintenance backlog has grown to over $15 billion in 2016, of which over $11 billion belongs to the National Park Service. DOI is committed to determining how to best address

this backlog and maintain its facilities for the safety and productivity of its workforce, and the continued high quality experience and enjoyment by the American public.

Striking a Regulatory Balance – In accordance with the Executive Order on Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda, the DOI will identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. The DOI will continue to protect human health and the environment in a responsible, cost-effective manner but in a way that avoids imposing an undue process or economic burden on the public.

Generating Revenue, Jobs, and Economic Activity - The DOI grants access to public lands and offshore areas for all forms of energy development—representing roughly a quarter of the Nation's domestic supplies of oil and natural gas—while ensuring safety, environmental protection and revenue generation for the American public. It is important to the Nation's future that these natural resources are managed wisely and – as appropriate -- made accessible for public use to help generate revenues, enhance national security, create jobs, and grow the U.S. economy.

Restoring Trust - It is critical that the DOI can be trusted to operate in the best interest of the American public. Key to maintaining public trust and confidence in the integrity of government is the adherence to high ethical standards and ensuring that government business is conducted with impartiality, transparency, accountability, and integrity. While many of our employees have important law enforcement responsibilities as part of their jobs, more generally we want the public to primarily view our employees as helpful and friendly technical experts, not as law enforcement. When we do need to perform our law enforcement responsibilities, our preference is to achieve compliance through education and demonstrating a sincere desire to create win-win situations with the public we serve. The DOI embodies this principle, follows the law and holds people accountable. Decisions are based on sound science and the best interest of the public.

The DOI is committed to effective and efficient financial operations and accountability characterized by high quality and timely reporting, robust internal controls, clean audits, and effective follow-up on audit and internal control findings. The DOI utilizes the enterprise Financial and Business Management System for the integration of business functions including budget execution, finance, acquisition, improved internal controls, a secure information technology environment, and a community of business innovation, efficiency, and transparency.

Respect for Tribal Sovereignty – As a steward of tribal trust assets, the DOI plays a critical role for the United States in fulfilling the trust responsibility to Indian tribes. The DOI is committed to effectively meeting that responsibility by assisting tribes and Indian individual land owners to create greater economic opportunities, build safer and healthier communities, and effectively consulting with tribal governments.

OVERVIEW OF THE FY 2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

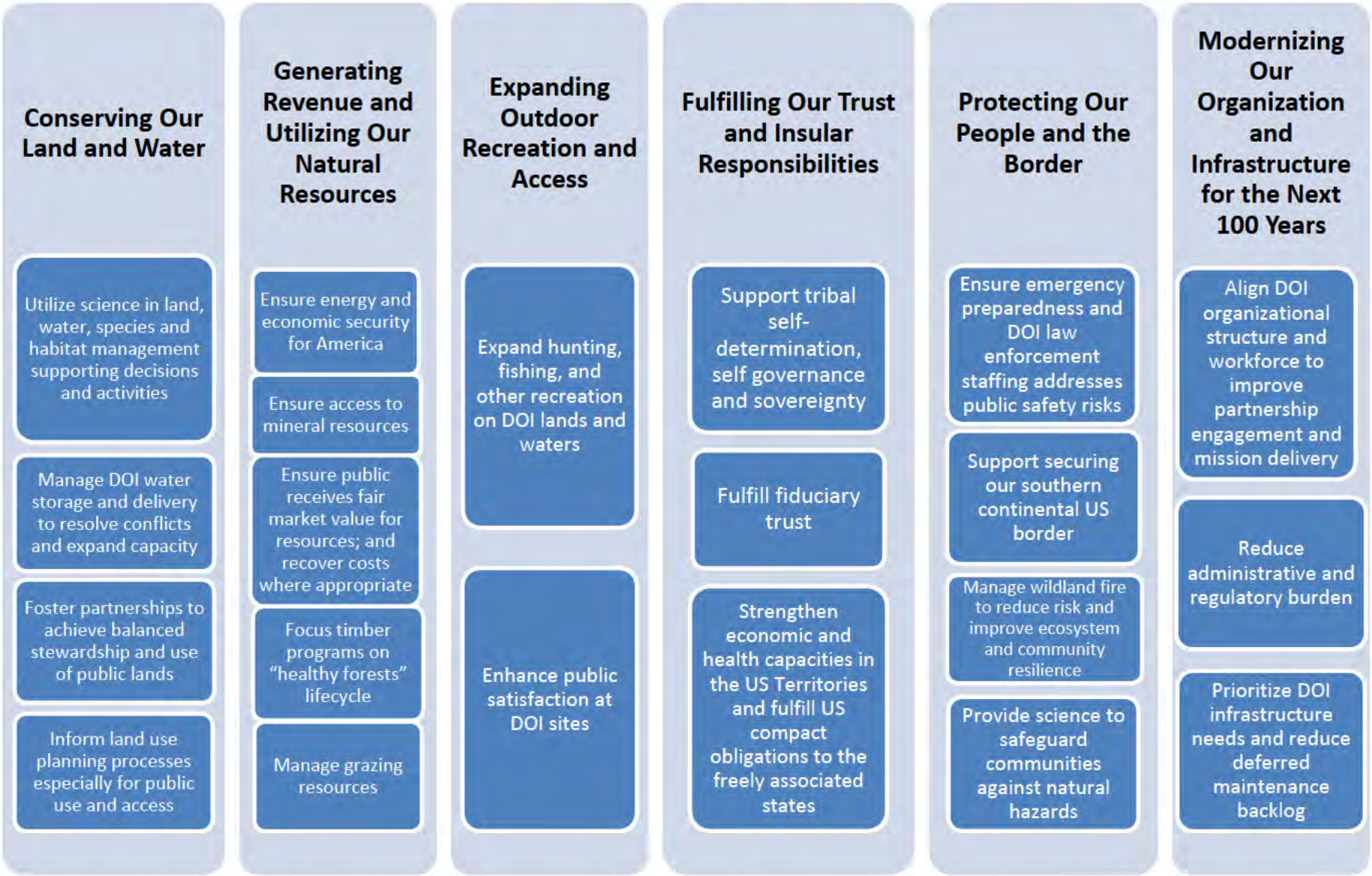
The DOI's FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan provides the framework for the programs and activities that are performed by 10 bureaus and multiple offices, and take place at approximately 2,400 locations throughout the Nation.

The Strategic Plan facilitates the integration of programs, the allocation and alignment of resources, and collaboration and coordination with stakeholders to achieve key goals. A set of six mission areas, 21 goals, 34 strategies, and approximately 120 performance measures will guide the DOI's activities for the next five years. These mission areas reflect the Secretary of the Interior's priorities, while the goals and strategies describe the means by which those priorities will be achieved.

The mission areas, goals, and strategies that constitute the Strategic Plan are displayed in the Strategic Plan Framework, followed by a description of the mission areas, goals, strategic objectives, and performance measures. An FY 2022 goal is provided for each performance measure that reflects a desirable annual level of achievement that DOI aspires to assuming the availability of a reasonable level of resources. The anticipated level of performance for these measures on an annual basis in consideration of actual resource levels will be reported in the DOI's Annual Performance Plan and Report that is released with the FY 2019 President's budget and available at www.doi.gov/bpp.

There is some continuity of performance measures from the FY 2014-2018 Strategic Plan because the core of our statutory mission remains the same regardless of shifts in policy emphasis resulting from a change in Administrations. Trends in performance related to funding and programmatic plans are available in the DOI's FY 2019 Annual Performance Plan and Report available at www.doi.gov/bpp.

STRATEGIC PLAN FRAMEWORK



Crosscutting principles: Senior executives provide leadership in achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals and are expected to: ensure cost-effective operations and quality service to the public; facilitate organizational cooperation and conflict resolution; ensure workplace environment conducive to employee productivity and safety; and hold individuals accountable for their actions.

DESCRIPTION OF MISSION AREAS

(With Supporting Goals, Strategies, and Performance Measures)

MISSION AREA 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

The DOI ensures that America's natural endowment – the lands and waters of the United States – is conserved for the benefit, use, and enjoyment of current and future generations. The DOI's bureaus use the best available science, modern natural resource management techniques, technology and engineering, efficient decision-making processes, robust partnerships, and improved land use planning to ensure balanced stewardship and use of the public lands and its resources, including wildlife and fish species.

GOAL #1: Utilize science in land, water, species and habitat management supporting decisions and activities

The DOI will ensure that it delivers data, tools, techniques, and analyses that advance understanding of natural resources, the forces that shape them, and the interactions of plants, animals, and people that live within them. Research, monitoring, and remote sensing are necessary to understand and detect changes that affect land resources and processes that are essential to the Nation's economic growth, well-being, and ecological health. These efforts support the DOI in its role as the largest manager of the Nation's land and water resources.

The DOI's land and water management bureaus are stewards of the lands and waters managed by the DOI. These bureaus will utilize the best available scientific data, tools, techniques, and analyses provided by our researchers, our nonfederal government partners, or others to maintain and restore lands and waters and ensure that habitats support healthy fish and wildlife populations.

STRATEGY #1: Apply science to land, water, and species management

The USGS seeks to understand the Nation's environmental, natural resource, and economic challenges with scientific monitoring and research to support the development of management strategies that address the impacts of land use on the availability and sustainability of land and water resources. The USGS helps management agencies by providing them the measures designed to prevent or control invasive species and wildlife disease outbreaks; and apply decision science to actions.

The USGS conducts monitoring, assessments, and research in order to understand and predict changes in the quality and quantity of water resources in response to land-use and management scenarios. Through advanced understanding and integrated modeling of processes that determine water availability, the USGS informs the balanced management of water resources for multiple purposes, including energy production, human and crop consumption, the sustainability of fish and other aquatic communities valued by society, and public enjoyment. The USGS works with land and water resources managers in applying its data and research results to help them make informed decisions for effectively managing the resources with which they are entrusted.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent completion of targeted land and water management research actions	100%
USGS	Millions of people living in targeted watersheds covered by completed water quality models	306.7
USGS	Percent completion of planned water quality sampling and studies for the Nation's groundwater, streams and rivers	100%
USGS	Percent completion of the USGS National Water Census baseline	100%
USGS	Percent completion of U.S. aquifer groundwater availability baseline studies	43%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted species management research actions	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted biological threats research actions	100%
USGS	Percent completion of collaborative research projects on factors affecting fish and wildlife habitat	100%

STRATEGY #2: Provide stewardship of land, surface water, streams and shorelines

The Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation manage, maintain and restore uplands, wetlands, lakes, streams and some marine areas through efforts that include controlling invasive plants and animals, restoring land or waters to a condition that is self-sustaining, and ensuring that habitats support healthy fish and wildlife populations. The DOI's Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration program works with the bureaus to assess the impacts of oil spills and hazardous waste sites and coordinates restoration efforts. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement works with states and tribes to ensure that coal mining is conducted in a manner that protects citizens and the environment during mining, restores the land to beneficial use following mining, and mitigates the effects of historic mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned mine lands. The DOI aims to balance the conservation of special places with resource development while also providing visitors with opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Bureaus administer their resource management and conservation programs on more than 400 million acres of upland, wetland, and aquatic lands within their jurisdiction. Many of these lands have special status as national parks, seashores, monuments, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, national conservation lands or wild and scenic rivers. Land managers utilize earth and natural science, social science, partnerships with other DOI bureau, federal, state, local and tribal entities, and other tools and resources (including its front-line managers) in managing these lands and waters.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of DOI acres that have achieved desired conditions	88.9%
BLM, FWS	Percent of DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles that have achieved desired conditions	89.2%
BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS	Percent of acres infested with invasive plant species that are under control	0.2%
FWS, NPS	Percent of invasive animal species populations that are under control	8.7%
OSMRE	Percent completion of abandoned mine lands restored by eliminating health, safety, and environmental concerns	57%
OSMRE	Percent of active coal mining sites that are free of off-site impacts	88%
OSMRE	Percent of coal mine acreage reclaimed to beneficial post-mining land use	44%

STRATEGY #3: Provide stewardship of wildlife, bird, fish, and plant species

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is tasked with the conservation and protection of certain populations of fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. The FWS works first to prevent species from becoming listed as threatened or endangered by using the best available science to make land management decisions that might affect species viability. The FWS conducts, consults or coordinates many species management activities in partnership with others including NPS, BLM, Reclamation, and other federal, state, local and tribal agencies and private organizations. The strategy to sustain species focuses on identifying and implementing corrective actions that will lead to species recovery.

Congress passed the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973, to protect and recover imperiled species from becoming extinct and to conserve the habitats upon which they depend. The FWS and the Commerce Department's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) administer the ESA. The FWS has primary responsibility for terrestrial and freshwater organisms, while the responsibilities of NMFS are mainly marine wildlife such as whales and anadromous fish such as salmon.

FWS works with many partners using a range of conservation tools to recover listed species (threatened and endangered) to ensure that they are able to survive on their own in the wild. These tools can include acquiring and restoring habitat, removing invasive species, conducting surveys, monitoring individual populations, and breeding species in captivity to release them into their historic range.

The DOI uses a number of datasets and metrics to track its progress on species listings, downlistings, delistings, critical habitat, scientific findings, and Species Status Assessments (SSA). The SSA is the scientific foundation supporting listing, delisting, and downlisting decisions and recovery plans and includes biological and threats information and analyses that help FWS and its partners better understand the species status. Recovery criteria, describing the conditions of the species when the protections of the act are no longer necessary, address both the biological status in terms of the 3 R's (resiliency, representation and redundancy) and the mitigation of threats necessary to achieve that status. The DOI is working to include more information on critical habitat,

estimated costs of recovery and economic impact of its threatened and endangered species listings and recovery action plans, to provide a more complete perspective to states and the public of the actions being planned for attempting to save each species.

In its Policy Regarding the Role of State Agencies in ESA Activities, FWS coordinates, collaborates, and uses the expertise of state agencies in developing the scientific foundation upon which FWS bases its determinations for listing actions. By September 30, 2018, all FWS decisions on whether to list a species under the ESA will be informed by input from state fish and wildlife agencies, subject to the affected states' willingness to participate (some state fish and wildlife agencies have declined participation due to lack of authority for some species under ESA review). This input should include (but is not limited to) a solicitation of state data and state personnel involvement in the development of SSAs.

Per Section 4(c)(1) of the ESA, FWS is required to review the status of each listed species at least once every 5 years and determine whether it should be: (1) removed from the List (delisted), (2) reclassified from endangered to threatened (downlisted), or (3) reclassified from threatened to endangered (uplisted). By September 30, 2019, for 100% of all species with 5-year reviews recommending downlisting or delisting FWS will have proposed downlisting or delisting rules acted on by the Director, or a new status review initiated if new information indicates the need for an updated assessment prior to initiating rulemaking, within 2 years of the 5-year review recommendation.

The DOI's responsibility to protect fish, wildlife, and native plants transcends jurisdictional boundaries, and includes efforts that affect almost 1,500 species with special status under the Endangered Species Act and more than 1,000 migratory birds that receive Federal protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The DOI works to combat domestic and international wildlife trafficking by improving enforcement of domestic laws, strengthening international cooperation and global enforcement, promoting legal trade and hunting, and helping to reduce demand for illegal wildlife products. Under Executive Order 13771 of January 30, 2017, i.e. Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, the DOI is reviewing its regulations and administrative processes to determine what cost savings, to the government and to private constituents, are possible by repealing regulations for which the perceived benefits might not be justified relative to their implementation costs, and which administrative processes could be streamlined or made more efficient. This activity is described further in the second goal under the sixth Mission Area on reducing administrative and regulatory burden.

Agency Priority Performance Goals:

- ***By September 30, 2018, 100% of proposed species listings will be based on best available information that includes state input and/or data provided through participation in Species Status Assessments (SSA).***
- ***By September 30, 2019, 100% of all Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plans will have quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species.***

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
FWS	Percent of Threatened or Endangered species listed for 2.5 years or more with a final recovery plan	75%
FWS	Percent of five-year Threatened or Endangered species five-year status review recommendations to downlist or delist acted on within five years *(prior to next status review)*	60%
FWS	Percent of listed species with current five-year reviews *(completed in the last five years)*	90%
FWS	Percent of rules and findings completed based on Threatened or Endangered Species Status Assessments	100%
FWS	Percent of threatened and endangered species listings with proposed critical habitat	100%
FWS	Percent of migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels	72%
FWS	Percent of fish species of management concern that are managed to self-sustaining levels	23%

GOAL #2 Manage DOI water storage and delivery to resolve conflicts and expand capacity

The Western U.S. is one of the fastest growing regions of the country, and urbanization has created significant demands for water use and service. The DOI strives to keep its water storage facilities in good condition to ensure safe and reliable water supply. Stretching existing water supplies for multiple uses are among the many significant challenges facing Reclamation. The Bureau of Reclamation is the nation's largest wholesale water supplier and manages water in 17 western states. Reclamation's projects and programs are an important driver of economic growth bringing water to more than 31 million people and providing one of five western farmers (140,000) with irrigation water for 10 million acres of farmland that produce 60 percent of the nation's vegetables and 25 percent of its fruits and nuts. Reclamation's facilities also provide substantial flood control, hydropower, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits.

The DOI is the lead agency in defining and protecting water rights for Indian tribes and individual Indian land owners. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is responsible for maintaining 137 dams on tribal lands. The BIA also provides irrigation water to over 780,000 acres through 17 congressionally authorized irrigation projects.

STRATEGY #1 Manage water resources and delivery

Changes in water supplies, water demands, and the increased duration and frequency of droughts have the potential to affect Reclamation's ability to fulfill its mission. Many rural communities face significant challenges in financing the cost of replacing or upgrading aging and obsolete facilities and systems. Water conservation programs increase the available water supply and contribute to DOI's broader objective of achieving a more sustainable, secure water supply. Protecting and extending the life of aging infrastructure are significant challenges facing Reclamation, and maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement will become more costly over time. Reclamation

prioritizes infrastructure assets based on detailed design criteria: engineering need, consequence of failure, financial considerations, efficiency opportunities, scheduling, and others.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) water management functions are implemented through three complementary programs. The Water Rights Negotiation/Litigation Program defines and protects Indian water rights and settles claims through negotiations if possible, or alternatively, through litigation. The Water Management Program assists tribes in managing, conserving, and utilizing trust water resources. The BIA Irrigation, Power and Safety of Dams program operates and manages irrigation, power, and dam infrastructure. The program sets high standards for maintenance, collaboration with stakeholders, and effective water and power distribution. The BIA manages facilities to ensure they do not present an unacceptable risk to downstream lives and property; and are managed in an economically, technically, environmentally, and culturally sound manner.

Agency Priority Performance Goal: By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Reclamation will facilitate water conservation capacity of 53,800 acre-feet to help reduce the impact of drought.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BOR	Percent of water infrastructure in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating (FRR) [high- and significant-hazard dams]	74%
BOR	Amount of acre feet of water conservation capacity enabled to help address drought	1,392,000
BIA	Percent of projects completed in support of water management, planning, and pre-development.	77%

GOAL #3: Foster partnerships to achieve balanced stewardship and use of our public lands

The DOI will assess, utilize and enhance the most promising of partnership practices and explore the potential for furthering these types of opportunities to work jointly with other individuals and organizations for the benefit of the nation's public lands, waters, and historic and cultural sites and the fish and wildlife species.

STRATEGY #1: Build and maintain partnership programs

Public and private partnerships provide opportunities for greater engagement of people and organizations in caring for and managing the natural, historical, cultural and physical resources across the DOI's 500 million acres. This can be especially beneficial for our national park units, National Wildlife Refuges, wildlife management areas, and national conservation public lands. Support can come from other federal or state agencies, tribal nations, volunteers, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, corporations or foundations through sponsorship or philanthropy. DOI bureaus should endeavor to partner with non-traditional stakeholders to increase our relevance to the American public, rather than just relying on traditional constituencies.

The National Park Service already has the authority from Congress to accept monetary and in-kind gifts, including those collected through the National Park Foundation. Similarly, the Fish and Wildlife Service has authority to accept gifts from some entities, including some non-profits organizations and the federally chartered non-profit National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The Bureau of Land Management has Congressional authority to accept monetary and other types of donations, along with Congressional authorization to create a Bureau of Land Management Foundation. The BLM works with local, state, federal, and private partners on nearly all of the activities undertaken on public lands, from identifying important fish and wildlife habitat with the state game and fish agencies, working with local rangeland fire protection associations, to providing hunting and fishing opportunities for sports men groups. As permitted under current law, the DOI hopes to develop further philanthropic and sponsorship opportunities, and promote other partnering best practices.

The DOI utilizes migratory bird joint ventures as collaborative, regional partnerships of government agencies, non-profit organizations, corporations, tribes, and individuals that conserve habitat for the benefit of priority bird species, other wildlife, and people. Joint ventures bring these diverse partners together under the guidance of national and international bird conservation plans to design and implement landscape-scale conservation efforts in support of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the other bird management plans. These joint ventures use state-of-the-art science to ensure that diverse habitat is available to sustain migratory bird populations for the benefit of those species, other wildlife, and the public. These partnerships have a three-decade record of success, they use non-regulatory solutions and economically sound business approaches, promote working lands conservation, sporting, and outdoor traditions, and support resilient urban and rural communities.

The Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture working near each other in the field continue to pool resources, conduct joint projects and share services under Service First agreements. Service First authority promotes collaborating across bureau and agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and integrate responses to federal land management issues and opportunities. Bureaus of the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperate in jointly managing some areas. For example, the National Trail, and Wild and Scenic River Systems span every state of our nation and exceed the length of the interstate highway system. Federal land management agencies, as well as state and local jurisdictions and partners enhance recreational access, conserve the Nation's heritage, and leverage the federal investment to manage these nationally recognized resources cooperatively.

Building new partnerships for infrastructure improvement is a priority at the DOI. There are also numerous volunteer opportunities, where individuals or associations provide service in caring for natural resources and cultural and historic assets on our public lands (see www.volunteer.gov). The DOI will also empower managers in the field to directly engage in further collaboration within the units they manage, identify best practices for collaboration and partnering, provide training and technical support, and encourage field managers to find or create and execute partnerships on a local basis.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Number of estimated work hours in a national park unit, National Wildlife Refuge, or Bureau of Land Management site that are performed or sponsored by a private citizen, National Service participant or non-federal entity	9,870,000
BOR, FWS, CUPCA	Number of non-DOI acres restored, including through partnerships	593,876
FWS	Number of non-DOI acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres restored through partnerships	602,654
FWS, CUPCA	Number of non-DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles restored, including through partnerships	255

GOAL #4: Inform land use planning processes especially for public use and access

The DOI will review and improve its land planning processes to enable expanded access and use of the public lands while restoring a balance between conservation and utilization of the lands, energy and mineral resources, waters, fish and wildlife, and other natural and cultural resources. The DOI will employ the latest available science, land-imaging and other technology tools and datasets to inform land use planning to maximize the societal value of land planning. The DOI land use planning will take into account the land use plans of affected local and state governments.

STRATEGY #1: Assess land use planning processes for public access and use of DOI lands

DOI land use and management plans ensure that the public lands are managed in accordance with the intent of Congress as stated in several authorities including, but not limited to: the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act, the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration and Improvement Acts, the Organic Act of 1916 (National Park Service), the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

Land use planning efforts vary across bureaus based on enabling legislation. The National Park Service creates management plans to execute its mission. The National Wildlife Refuge system creates Comprehensive Conservation Plans for each refuge as part of their mission. The BLM's mission states that its duty is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the multiple use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

A common thread through all three bureaus' mission is the need to accommodate and benefit the use and enjoyment of these public lands for both present and future generations. Some lands are made available for multiple use and sustained yield, other lands for conservation and preservation values.

The DOI is undertaking the challenge to review and improve its planning processes in ways that can best meet the sometimes-conflicting uses for public lands. The DOI will strive to enhance public participation and input to the planning processes, engage our state, local, and tribal government partners, provide open and understandable decision-making, expedite the decision-making process

so that implementation is not delayed, and ensure that public access and use is appropriately built into every land use plan.

STRATEGY #2: Inform land use planning with mapping and land imaging

The USGS is the lead civilian mapping agency for the Nation and supports the conduct of detailed surveys and the resulting distribution of high-quality and highly-accurate topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic maps and data. Remote sensing satellites and aircraft monitor the Earth providing information that is broad, precise, impartial, and easily available. For more than 45 years, Landsat satellites have collected data over the planet's land surface to support global research studies. These data constitute the longest continuous record of the Earth's land surface as seen from space.

High-resolution information results in geologic maps and geospatial products that enable precise planning of civil engineering and transportation infrastructure, versatile urban planning, improved flood projection, timely and accurate emergency response, effective hazard identification and mitigation, and detailed environmental analyses. This information is also used by DOI bureau land managers in exercising their responsibilities to help plan for public land use and access.

In the next decade, the USGS will continue to improve spatial and temporal resolution through research and development of products such as full four-dimensional geologic maps, showing how the complex geologic structure of the Earth has changed through time. Mapping accuracy through cutting-edge technology allows for precise planning for energy development, transportation and pipeline infrastructure projects, urban planning, flood prediction, emergency response, and hazard mitigation.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent of land-area coverage available to the public over the internet through the National Geologic Mapping Database	55.5%
USGS	Percent of foundational topographic information services updated quarterly to support on-demand mapping	100%
USGS	Percent completion of research efforts related to land resource management	100%
USGS	Number of terabytes of remotely-sensed data managed	20,140
USGS	Percent increase of scientific research enhanced with Advanced Research Computation	100%

MISSION AREA 2 Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

The DOI provides access to and manages energy and other resources including oil, gas, coal, timber, grazing, and non-energy minerals on public lands and oil and gas on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The DOI is committed to achieve and maintain American energy dominance through responsible productivity of the public lands for the multiple use and economic benefit of present and future generations.

GOAL #1 Ensure energy and economic security for America

The DOI is the steward and manager of much of America's natural resources which include oil, gas, coal, minerals, and renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, geothermal, and hydropower. There are vast amounts of untapped domestic energy reserves on public lands. DOI is also reinitiating the National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program development process, which is a key component of the America First Energy Plan and the Executive Order on Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy, to bring jobs and prosperity to millions of Americans. Our nation will use the revenues from energy production to rebuild our roads, schools, bridges and public infrastructure. The Department's "all-of-the-above" strategy facilitates development of all energy resources and makes our nation stronger by decreasing dependency on other nations, creating jobs, and helping drive economic growth.

STRATEGY #1: Promote safe and robust oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy resource development

Oil, gas, coal and renewable energy form the cornerstones of our nation's energy base, and the DOI will continue to expand production of both offshore and onshore conventional and renewable U.S. energy resources while ensuring safety and reliability through efficient permitting, appropriate standards, assessment and oversight. As demand for energy resources grows, agencies within the DOI, such as BIA, BLM, BOEM, BSEE, OSMRE, and USGS conduct work that is increasingly critical to understand the exploration, development, quality, supply, and use of our energy resources. This work enables the DOI to advance new sources of efficient energy generation, facilitate the construction of new or upgraded infrastructure including transmission networks, develop resources responsibly, and ensure that the American public receives a fair return on that development.

Agency Priority Performance Goals:

- ***By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Land Management will eliminate its backlog of fluid mineral Applications for Permits to Drill (APD's) that have been pending for 3 years or more.***
- ***By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Land Management will process 80% of parcels created for leasing public lands for oil, gas, or other mineral extraction within 180 days.***

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of pending fluid minerals Applications for Permits to Drill (APDs) which are processed	75%
BLM	Percent of high priority fluid mineral cases that have completed inspection during the year	100%

BLM	Percent of coal lease applications processed	15%
BLM	Number of acres of public lands made available for oil and natural gas leasing	25,000,000
BLM, BOEM	Number of megawatts of approved capacity authorized (that year) on public land and the OCS for renewable energy development while ensuring compliant environmental review	2,020
BOEM	Percentage of Exploration and Development Plan reviews completed within statutory timelines	100%
BOEM	Percent of offshore lease sale processes completed, pursuant to the Secretary's approved National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted energy resource assessments and research	100%
BSEE	Amount of operational offshore oil spilled (in barrels) per million barrels produced	3.1
BSEE	Percent of high risk production facilities and operations inspected	95%
BSEE	Number of recordable injuries per 200,000 offshore man hours worked	.390
BSEE	Percentage of high risk well operation (e.g., drilling) inspections completed	95%

STRATEGY #2: Provide hydropower

The DOI facilitates the development and use of renewable energy that employs hydropower energy to strengthen US energy security, economic vitality, and quality of life. The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) is the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the U.S., operating and maintaining 53 hydroelectric power facilities, comprising over 14,700 megawatts of capacity. On average, Reclamation generates 40 million megawatt-hours of electricity each year – the equivalent demand of over 3.5 million U.S. homes, returning over one billion dollars in federal revenue through power sales. Sustainable, low cost hydropower generated by Reclamation projects has provided significant value to the nation, spurring the development of the western U.S. – through the provision of firm electric power to rural communities as well as ancillary service to support western interconnect grid reliability. Reclamation works to promote domestic energy production by enabling new energy generation from hydropower, a renewable source, and facilitating the construction of new or upgraded transmission networks, helping to create new industries and supply chains, driving economic growth and job creation, and helping provide more energy from domestic sources.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BOR	Amount of hydropower capability, in megawatts (MW), installed from 2018 through 2022	50
BOR	Percent of hydropower facilities in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating	73%

BOR	Percent of time that Bureau of Reclamation hydroelectric generating units are available to the interconnected Western electrical system during daily peak demand periods	80%

GOAL #2: Ensure access to mineral resources

The DOI recognizes that public lands are an important source of the Nation's non-energy mineral resources, some of which are critical and strategic. The DOI is committed to ensuring appropriate access to public lands, for orderly and efficient development of these resources under principles of multiple use management.

STRATEGY #1: Manage non-energy mineral development

DOI promotes energy security, environmental protection, and economic development through responsible, science-informed management of mineral resources. The BLM conducts environmental analysis of complex issues necessary to authorize use on BLM public lands and meet the increasing demand for non-energy solid leasable minerals, especially potash and phosphate. BOEM's Marine Minerals Program provides sand and gravel resources to protect and improve coastal infrastructure and the environment locally, regionally and nationally. Additionally, the in-depth science provided by the USGS Mineral Resources Program (http://minerals.usgs.gov) facilitates resource discovery and provides essential information and analyses for strategic, evidence-based economic and geopolitical decisions.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of non-energy mineral exploration and development requests processed	30%
BOEM	Number of sand and gravel requests processed for coastal restoration projects	8
USGS	Percent completion of targeted non-fuel mineral resource assessments and research	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted Critical Mineral Early Warning System (CMEWS) analyses and evaluations	100%

GOAL #3: Ensure public receives fair market value for resources; and recover costs where appropriate

Rents, royalties, and bonuses are collected from issuing leases on public lands, and offshore on the OCS, and for the amount of the resource extracted. These resources include oil, gas, coal, forage for grazing, and access to renewable energy resources such as solar, wind, and geothermal. It is important that these financial transactions include appropriate accountability and fair return to the American public. The associated regulations and practices for these fees and collections must also be rational and transparent to ensure businesses that extract and process these resources can function efficiently and profitably in order to support the economic growth and security of the nation.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure accurate and timely accounting and collection of energy revenues

The Department collects, disburses and verifies natural resource revenue generated from issuing leases on public lands, and offshore on the OCS. This revenue is then shared with states and localities according to specific statutory obligations, allocated to various Federal programs, or deposited in the General Fund of the Treasury, thus serving to reduce the deficit. The DOI is committed to managing these transactions accurately, responsibly, and in a timely manner. The Royalty Policy Committee has been reinstated by the Secretary to elicit robust advice and recommendations regarding policies related to royalties from these resources and their benefit to the American public.

The BSEE helps ensure the accuracy of metering from higher risk hydrocarbon sites that experience high volumes of throughput and/or have a past history of noncompliance to help ensure the appropriate financial benefit is obtained for the American people. Additionally, data driven procedures enable the BOEM and the BLM to ensure bid adequacy through a two phased review system for onshore and offshore leasing, and also allow for timely collection and disbursement of mineral and renewable energy revenues by the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR). ONRR's distributions benefit the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Historic Preservation Fund, and the Reclamation Fund, helping to ensure America's natural resources and rich history are available to be enjoyed by current and future generations. Distributions to states are used to fund capital projects such as schools, roads, and public buildings. Revenues collected from leases on Indian lands directly benefit members of the Indian community.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
ONRR	Percent of federal and Indian oil and gas revenues disbursed on a timely basis per statute ($ Billions)	98%
BSEE	Percent of oil royalty meters, identified as high-risk using a risk based methodology, where meter provings will be observed	10%

STRATEGY #2: Ensure effective collection and application of recreation fees

The nation's public lands offer many excellent locations for public recreation in the outdoors at national parks and monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, BLM public lands and other locations, in historic sites and buildings and at national treasures such as the Statue of Liberty. Facilities (roads, visitor centers, bathrooms, historic buildings, museums, etc.) that enable visitors to enjoy their public lands and sites are expensive to maintain. All of the major land management bureaus have large backlogs of deferred maintenance at these facilities. The DOI will continuously review its fee structure to determine how best to accommodate visitors enjoyment while collecting fees that help to offset some of the maintenance costs required to keep visitor-facing infrastructure in good shape for visitors. All such reviews of fees and changes will remain consistent with Congressional direction that has been provided through a series of laws including the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

The National Park Service established fee structure guidelines in 2006 to standardize rates across the country. The resulting tier system assigns each park unit to a tier and associated entrance fee schedule based on the type of site and the amenities provided for the public. During 2017, the National Park Service initiated a comprehensive review to evaluate and consider bringing entrance fees at all park units into compliance with their assigned tier through a process of public engagement by January 1, 2018. Even with proposed increases, entrance fees remain affordable at $15-$30 per vehicle, which is normally good for several days. The America the Beautiful Pass Annual Pass remains at the price of $80 for one year for unlimited entrance fees for almost all national parks, Fish and Wildlife and BLM sites where fees are required. Congress raised the one-time cost of the America the Beautiful Lifetime Senior Pass for those age 62 or older from the previous fee of $10 to $80 effective in August 2017.

Reviews of other amenity fees (such as for campgrounds and special use permits) will also strive to set fair and equitable fees for activities that visitors enjoy after they enter the park, refuge, or recreation area. The bureaus will seek public comment during any process to review and modify fee amounts to ensure that the public has an opportunity to raise questions and provide comments regarding any fee changes. The bureaus will also identify ways to modernize and enhance fee collection mechanisms that speed access to facilities and/or reduce the cost to the federal government for fee collection.

GOAL #4: Focus timber programs on "healthy forests" lifecycle

The BLM manages forests or woodlands for the benefit of the American public. The BLM maintains a permanent source of timber supply, which supports the production of lumber, plywood, and paper, while also protecting watersheds, regulating stream flow, contributing to the economic stability of local communities and industries, and providing recreational opportunities. Responsible management that reduces fire fuels improves the health and resilience of our forests and helps to prevent forest fires.

The BIA manages forests as a trust asset of Indian tribes. Tribally owned forest assets contribute substantially to national sources of timber supply. Many tribes now actively participate in management of their forest assets through self-governance and self-determination programs.

STRATEGY #1: Manage sales of timber and forest product resources

Forest management programs within the DOI generate economic benefits through timber harvests on public and Indian trust lands, and restoring forest health. The benefits of healthy forests include typical forest products such as timber and biomass but also include opportunities for recreation and maintenance of watershed health.

The BLM has two focus areas for forest management, the Oregon and California grant lands and the public domain lands. For Oregon and California lands, generating revenue for counties is the primary driver of forest management treatments, while for public domain lands, fire management is the primary driver for forest management. The BLM is currently reviewing its management plans to determine prospects for offering additional timber for sale in the future.

The BIA manages forests as a trust asset of Indian tribes. Tribally owned forest assets contribute substantially to the national sources of timber supply. Many tribes now actively participate in management of their forest assets through the self-governance and self-determination programs.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of allowable sale quantity (ASQ) timber offered for sale consistent with applicable resource management plans (O&C--Oregon and California--only)	100%
BLM	Volume (mmbf) of wood products offered consistent with applicable management plans	285
BIA	Percent of Annual Allowable Cut prepared and offered for sale or free use	48%

GOAL #5: Manage grazing resources

The BLM manages livestock grazing on over half of its public lands; approximately 18,000 permits and leases are held by ranchers that graze their livestock on over 21,000 grazing allotments throughout BLM managed lands. The BLM's overall objective is to ensure the long-term health and productivity of these lands. BLM uses a variety of methods to accomplish this objective – periodic rest or deferment of grazing in pastures in specific allotments during critical growth periods; vegetation treatments; and projects such as water developments and fences. The terms and conditions for grazing on BLM-managed lands such as stipulations on forage use and season of use are set forth in the permits and leases issued by the Bureau to public land ranchers.

STRATEGY #1: Provide for sustainable forage and grazing

Livestock grazing contributes to food production and adds to local economic stability, and it can be used in certain areas to maintain and improve land health by reducing hazardous fuels and minimizing the likelihood and impact of catastrophic wildfires. The BLM partners with local communities and state and local governments to develop rangeland improvement projects, stewardship contracting, and good neighbor authority in its rangeland management. In recent years, the number of grazing permits and leases processed has decreased due to dramatic increases in litigation and drought. The BLM continues to look for opportunities to streamline the grazing permit process and provide livestock operators greater flexibility in grazing their livestock on public lands.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of grazing permits and leases processed as planned consistent with applicable resource management plans	16%
BIA	Percent of tribal range units assessed during the reporting year for level of utilization	15%

MISSION AREA 3 Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Outdoor recreation is integral to a healthy lifestyle for millions of Americans. Visitors to the DOI's public lands and waters take advantage of the physical, mental, and social benefits that outdoor recreational experiences provide. Americans have the opportunity to hunt and fish on public lands managed by the DOI as part of its multiple-use policy that also includes hiking, camping, climbing, boating, wildlife viewing, and other outdoor pursuits.

GOAL #1: Expand hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands and waters

Hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities contributed $156 billion in economic activity across the United States according to the FWS National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. More than 101 million Americans, or 40 percent of the United States' population 16 and older, pursue wildlife-related recreation, which supports 480,000 American jobs.

Following two initial Secretarial Orders issued on his first day, Secretary Zinke issued Secretarial Order 3356 in September, 2017, to further expand public access to lands and waters administered by the DOI, for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other forms of outdoor recreation. In addition, this Order gave greater priority to recruiting and retaining sportsmen and women conservationists, with an emphasis on engaging youth, veterans, minorities, and underserved communities that traditionally have low participation in outdoor recreation activities.

STRATEGY #1: Promote hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands and waters

There are 372 National Wildlife Refuges and wetland management districts open to hunting and 308 refuges and wetland management districts open to fishing. As practiced on refuges, hunting and fishing do not pose a threat to wildlife populations, and in some instances, are actually necessary for sound wildlife management. For example, deer populations will often grow too large for the refuge habitat to support. If some of the deer are not harvested, they destroy habitat for themselves and other animals and die from starvation or disease. The harvesting of wildlife on refuges is carefully regulated to ensure an appropriate balance between population levels and wildlife habitat. The FWS National Fish Hatcheries continue to be a valuable tool in managing fisheries providing recreation opportunities to America's 36 million anglers who spend $46 billion annually in pursuit of their favored pastime.

There are 76 areas managed by the National Park Service that permit hunting. A total of 51,097,000 acres managed by the NPS are open to hunting at various times during the year, representing approximately 60% of the total acreage of the NPS system. The Bureau of Land Management estimates that over 95 percent of the nearly 250 million acres of BLM-managed public lands are open to hunting.

The recreation areas developed as a result of Bureau of Reclamation water projects are among the Nation's most popular for water-based outdoor recreation. There are 289 Reclamation project areas that have developed recreation facilities and opportunities available for public use. Reclamation has approximately 6.5 million acres of land and water, most of which is available for public outdoor recreation. The 187 developed recreation areas managed by Reclamation or a non-Federal recreation partner draw over 24 million visits annually. The 187 developed recreation areas provide 549 campgrounds, 454 boat launch ramps, and more than 5,500 miles of shoreline.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
FWS	Number of National Wildlife Refuge acres newly opened to hunting and fishing	250,000
BLM	Number of legal public access transactions completed that facilitate open access to recreation opportunities	20
BLM	Number of newly installed campsites, restrooms, and other facilities that promote public access to BLM-managed public lands	30
BLM, BOR, FWS	Number of individuals participating in outdoor recreation activities at special events	5,420,000

GOAL #2: Enhance public satisfaction at DOI sites

Visitor satisfaction with the quality of experiences on public lands remains very high. Collectively, satisfaction is above 90 percent for the bureaus providing recreation services, e.g., interpretive programs, visitor centers, camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, boating, off-highway vehicle driving, wildlife viewing, photography, and climbing. Satisfaction with recreation services provided through facilitated programs remains very high – also above 90 percent.

STRATEGY #1: Enhance the enjoyment and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage

Survey results show that a sizeable percentage of visitors are satisfied with their experiences at parks, refuges and other public lands. Competition from other forms of entertainment pose challenges to the DOI in its quest to ensure that all Americans understand, appreciate and enjoy the special places protected by the national parks, wildlife refuges and BLM lands.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of visitors satisfied with the quality of the experience	95%
BLM, NPS	Percent of visitors satisfied with facilitated programs	94%

MISSION AREA 4 Fulfilling Our Trust and Insular Responsibilities

The DOI upholds the Federal government's unique trust responsibilities by fostering the government-to-government relationships between the Federal government and federally recognized Tribes, and by providing services to individual American Indians, and Alaskan Natives. The U.S. also has important relationships with the affiliated insular areas including the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The DOI administers and oversees Federal Assistance to the three Freely Associated States: The Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

GOAL #1: Support tribal self-determination, self-governance, and sovereignty

The DOI is strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship between the Federal Government and tribal nations because self-determination, sovereignty, self-government, and self-reliance are the tools that will enable tribal nations to shape their own destiny. Tribes have also assumed an expanded role in the operation of Indian programs through Public Law 93-638 contracting. Tribes contract with the Federal Government to operate programs serving their tribal members and other eligible persons.

STRATEGY #1: Support self-governance and self-determination

Self-Governance: Under a self-governance compact, a tribe takes over most or all operations affecting that tribe. The Indian Affairs' Office of Self-Governance (OSG) implements the Tribal Self Governance Act of 1994 by developing and implementing regulations, policies, and guidance in support of self-governance initiatives. Indian Affairs advocates for the transfer of Federal programmatic authorities and resources to tribal governments and supports tribal sovereignty and an expanded role in the operation of Indian programs. The program work includes negotiating annual funding agreements with eligible tribes and consortia, and resolving issues identified in financial and program audits of self-governance operations.

Self-Determination: Under a self-determination contract, a tribe contracts with BIA to take over operation of a program formerly delivered by BIA employees. The funds BIA previously used to run the program transfer to the tribe. Self-determination typically is a program-by-program decision. The Indian Self-Determination Program within BIA works to further American Indian tribes' exercise of self-determination and conducts oversight of self-determination contracts and grants.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
AS-IA	Percent of Self-Governance Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audits are made within 6 months	99%
BIA	Percent of Self-Determination Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audits are made within 6 months	91%
AS-IA	Percent of P.L. 93-638 contracts with clean audits	90%

GOAL #2: Fulfill fiduciary trust

The DOI has ongoing responsibilities to ensure that trust and restricted Federal Indian-owned lands are managed effectively and to accurately account for revenues and disbursements in a timely and efficient manner. The Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians and the Bureau of Indian Affairs oversee fiduciary trust activities. The DOI assists American Indian and Alaska Native communities in developing capabilities needed to strengthen their communities and maintain economic self-sufficiency. Efforts such as reducing fractionation of Indian lands and developing conservation and resource management plans help tribes maximize economic benefits of their lands. Securing unsubsidized employment reduces dependency on Federal subsidized programs such as childcare assistance, food stamps, and welfare.

Trust assets are crucial to the financial well-being of individual Indian beneficiaries and key components in the economies of tribes. As such, these assets must be managed with great care, paying attention that all financial transactions are completed accurately and as quickly as possible. Since passage of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform of 1994, the trust accounts managed by OST are balanced to the penny on a daily basis. OST has also incorporated industry-standard practices, such as a lockbox facility, to shorten the time between the payment of a lease and deposit of those funds into a trust account. For Fiscal Years (FY) 2013 through 2017, OST has received a "clean" audit opinion for Individual Indian Monies (IIM) accounts, attesting to its professionalism in managing these assets. Despite this proven record of success, OST retains a commitment to continual reform, looking for more ways to improve its service to individual Indians and tribes.

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) helps provide quality education opportunities starting in early childhood in accordance with tribally identified strategies and needs that contribute to the social well-being of the community and sustain Indian cultures. Tribes directly operate 150 of the 183 BIE funded schools through self-determination contracts and Tribally Controlled Schools Act grants.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure accurate and timely management of fiduciary trust assets

In its effort to promote the fulfillment of fiduciary trust processes, the DOI assists Indian tribes in developing capacity and infrastructure needed to attain economic self-sufficiency on reservations to enhance their quality of life. One critical path is economic development and job creation. The BIA coordinates development of comprehensive tribal programs with the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services. The DOI offers programs and financial services that encourage start-ups and help position Indian businesses and individuals to compete in today's economy.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BIA	Total average gain in earnings of participants that obtain unsubsidized employment through Job Placement Training programs for tribes submitting P.L. 102-477 related reports	$10.82
BIA	Percent of active, supervised Individual Indian Monies (IIM) case records reviewed in accordance with regulations	98%

BIA	Increase in the percentage of submitted land-into-trust applications with determinations (Fee to Trust)	40%
OST	Percent of financial information initially processed accurately in trust beneficiaries' accounts.	99%
OST	Percent of oil and gas revenue transmitted by ONRR recorded in the Trust Funds Accounting System within 24 hours of receipt.	99%
OST	Percent of timeliness of financial account information provided to trust beneficiaries.	100%

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen Indian Education

Improving performance in BIE schools is a challenge the DOI is addressing through initiatives aimed at increasing student achievement. Students at BIE-funded schools receive a culturally relevant, high-quality education that prepares them with the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to flourish in the opportunities of tomorrow, become healthy and successful individuals, and lead their communities and sovereign nations to a thriving future that preserves their unique cultural identities.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BIE	Percent of students attending BIE-funded schools completing high school with a regular diploma within four years of their 9th grade entry date	69%

GOAL #3: Strengthen economic and health capacities in the US Territories, and fulfill US compact obligations to the freely associated states

The DOI supports the U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States (FAS) through the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) under the Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs. The U.S.-affiliated insular areas are: the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Residents of these U.S. territories are U.S. citizens or nationals. The DOI also administers and oversees Federal assistance provided to the three Freely Associated States: the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. The Assistant Secretary Insular and International Affairs and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out these responsibilities on behalf of the Secretary.

STRATEGY #1: Bolster Healthcare Capacity

The Territories and FAS experience significant healthcare challenges. The DOI along with other partners, such as the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will work with insular area partners to improve the quality of healthcare across the insular areas. The DOI will make investments to implement corrective action plans which address chronic operational and facility shortcomings at territorial hospitals, which serve their U.S. citizens and nationals, with a focus on those identified by the HHS/Centers for Medicare/Medicaid (CMS) and local elected officials. Additional investments will be made to combat non-communicable and communicable diseases impacting the Pacific and Caribbean islands such as obesity, diabetes, and tuberculosis.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Percent of Community Water Systems (CWS) that receive health based violations notices from the US Environmental Protection Agency	9%
OIA	Number of new and relapse tuberculosis cases occurring during the calendar year on the islands (per 1,000 people in the population)	1
OIA	Percent of patients with newly diagnosed tuberculosis disease for whom 12 months or less of treatment is indicated, who complete treatment within 12 months	95%
OIA	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (number of deaths to infants from birth through 1 year of age per number of live births)	6

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen Island Economies

Strong local economies provide employment and a viable tax base for citizens in the Insular Areas. The DOI will assist the insular areas to strengthen their economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, public services and technical assistance which will attract and retain private sector investment. The DOI will promote policies and improve Federal coordination on issues impacting insular economies.

Capital investments will be made in basic utilities, hospitals, schools, ports, tourist areas, telecommunications and roads as they create the backbone for increased economic activity. Pursuing renewable energy strategies lessens dependence on oil imports and provides more reliable and affordable energy.

Stable economies and fiscally prudent insular governments foster a more hospitable climate for investment in the islands. Technical assistance will be provided to equip the insular areas with the statistical and management information necessary for informed leadership decision making, expert consultants to effectively improve insular government financial policies and procedures, and strong financial management systems along with technical planning abilities.

The DOI will help create economic opportunity by forging partnerships that bolster tourism and attract industry by promoting the unique island cultures, natural resources, and by preparing the next generation of business leaders. Key indicators of OIA's effectiveness include the following:

Average per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP): In the four U.S. Territories (Guam, US Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)) for which it is measured, GDP remains a fraction of that for other U.S. citizens in the states. OIA provides technical assistance to the insular areas to assist with economic development planning and execution and supports local planning and education activities related to tourism, agriculture, and aquaculture. In addition, OIA funds infrastructure projects related to economic development, such as fiber optic connectivity, port improvements and renovations to tourist districts.

Cost of electricity: Without indigenous fossil fuels, insular areas face great challenges in achieving reliable, affordable, and secure energy, which can have severe economic effects on the island communities. These areas depend almost entirely on imported petroleum products for energy. The residential cost per kilowatt hour for power in the territories directly impacts the quality of life in

the insular areas and remains over three times higher than the national average. To try to address high electricity costs, the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) contracts with the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to engage territories and provide energy efficiency and renewable energy assessments, help develop strategic energy plans, and provide technical assistance in reviewing and implementing alternative energy projects. The OIA, through its Empowering Insular Communities grant program, continues to provide funding for the highest priority projects identified in the energy plans including photovoltaic, wind and geothermal development projects, as well as assuring traditional energy plants continue operating.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Difference in the mean GDP per capita in the 4 US territories compared to the mean GDP per capita in the US	60%
OIA	Difference in the residential cost per kilowatt hour for power from the national average	2X

STRATEGY #3: Fulfill US Compact Obligations

In coordination with the State Department, the DOI will implement compact obligations with three U.S.-affiliated Freely Associated States (FAS): the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the Republic of Palau (Palau). The DOI will make direct grants to the FSM and RMI under their amended Compacts to provide assistance in six sectors: education, health care, infrastructure, public sector capacity building, private sector development, and environment. The DOI will also continue to support U.S. compact obligations to Palau.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Ratio of FAS private sector jobs versus total FAS employment	55%
OIA	Ratio of FAS public sector jobs versus total FAS Employment	45%
OIA	Percent of FAS employment attributable to OIA Grants and Programs	30%
OIA	Percent of FAS employee compensation attributable to OIA grants and programs	25%
OIA	Average FAS private sector wage rate as a percentage of average FAS central government wage rate	45%

MISSION AREA 5 Protecting Our People and the Border

Inherent in DOI's management responsibilities of the public lands is the requirement to protect employees and visitors. Ensuring employee and public safety is complex and requires the resources of multiple bureaus and offices covering four disciplines – law enforcement, emergency management, wildland fire, and natural hazards science. The DOI's Law Enforcement Program has the third largest contingent of Federal law enforcement officers in the Executive Branch. Depending on the season, approximately 3,500-4,000 law enforcement officers, rangers, and other employees patrol vast acres of public lands, national parks, wildlife refuges, and Indian communities and protect people, as well as natural, cultural, and heritage resources from illegal activities. Wildland fires potentially endanger lives and property. The Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) coordinates among the DOI's land management bureaus and the US Forest Service to safely, efficiently, and effectively prevent, respond to, and manage the impacts of wildfires. The USGS also protects lives by monitoring and warning of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides, and environmental health hazards.

The DOI has land on both the Canadian and Mexican borders, and a presence in the Pacific that exposes Americans to risks from Asia. The Administration is presently emphasizing securing our southern border with Mexico to better protect our country. The DOI has a considerable amount of land that borders Mexico. As such, the DOI's law enforcement officers work in partnership with the US Customs and Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Agency, and tribal, state and local governments to address the flow of illegal immigration, gun and drug trafficking, and to mitigate the impacts associated with these activities, which affect DOI lands and our community partners. In addition, OWF shares wildfire management responsibilities with Mexico along the southern border.

GOAL 1: Ensure emergency preparedness & DOI law enforcement staffing addresses public safety risks

The DOI places a high priority on safety, security, and preparedness, and will uphold its responsibilities for protecting lives, resources, and property through a wide variety of program areas, including law enforcement, health and safety, security, and emergency management. The DOI's preference is to achieve public and visitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations by using techniques that are not confrontational and are designed to elicit voluntary as opposed to coerced compliance.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure public safety on our lands

The Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES) provides program direction and oversight on law enforcement policy, border security, drug enforcement, training at the national academy, internal affairs, victims assistance, program compliance, and inspections as well as emergency deployment of DOI law enforcement resources. The Office coordinates with other Federal, state and local agencies (including the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Central Intelligence Agency) on law enforcement and security issues, including infrastructure on the Outer Continental Shelf, the Trans-Alaska pipeline, and gas transmission lines.

To help ensure effective protection of people on DOI lands, each bureau will determine the effective level and distribution of law enforcement staffing for each of its programs on a unit-by-unit basis. The effective level and distribution of staffing needs is dependent on the differing

conditions, levels of risk, and populations served in each unit, captured through a staffing model developed and monitored by each bureau. The DOI's bureaus will engage in developing these staffing models, to determine on a program basis the effective levels of law enforcement staffing that are needed across its units, evaluate the actual level of law enforcement staffing that presently exists, and develop recommendations for better ensuring the effective level of staffing for protecting the people in each unit.

The DOI will strengthen law enforcement in Indian Country by putting more officers on the streets, bolstering tribal courts, and helping fight violent crime and drug abuse. Tribal justice systems are an essential part of tribal governments, which interface with BIA and tribal law enforcement activities. Congress and the Federal courts have repeatedly recognized tribal justice systems as the appropriate forums for adjudicating disputes and minor criminal activity within Indian Country. It is important that the BIA and tribal law enforcement activities complement the operations of the tribal courts to ensure that justice in the tribal forums is administered effectively.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OLES	Percent of DOI law enforcement agencies with a current law enforcement staffing plan	100%
BIA	Percent of criminal offenses solved by arrest (Part 1 Offense Clearance Rate)	44%

Strategy 2: Prepare DOI to respond to and recover from emergencies and incidents

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) promotes all-hazard preparedness and response; ensures continuity of the DOI to perform essential functions during catastrophic events; and assists communities during imminent threats. Collectively, the DOI supports the five National Planning Frameworks (Protection, Prevention, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery) and their related five Federal Interagency Operational Plans, the National Incident Management System, and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan while continuing the DOI's mission to protect natural and cultural resources. The DOI's All-Hazards Baseline Operational Plan provides the baseline guidance for how the Department prepares for and responds to emergencies, regardless of type or cause. The OEM leads coordination and information sharing for emergency management regarding communications, public health, environmental health, wildlife health, integrated pest management, invasive species, and occupational safety and health across the DOI's bureaus and offices.

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PEM	Average Interior Readiness (I-READ) Index score for emergency preparedness across DOI Bureaus/Offices	91.0%

GOAL 2: Support securing our southern continental US border

The DOI manages 41% of the southwest border of the continental United States. The DOI's managers in the field are daily faced with tough decisions on how to best utilize their law

enforcement assets. An integrated government approach is essential to effectively securing the border and supporting the construction of a physical barrier where needed. Through partnering, federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies working in proximity to each other have been able to address critical issues like illegal immigration and marijuana smuggling.

STRATEGY #1: Support securing our southern continental US border

The DOI's goal is to increase collaboration among the agencies operating along the border to better understand each other's mission, share resources, and coordinate efforts. This is accomplished by routine interagency coordination, participating in local Border Management Task Force (BMTF) meetings, interagency training, an annual interagency border forum, and law enforcement specific operations.

The US Border Patrol is the main federal agency responsible for patrolling DOI lands adjacent to the US/Mexican Border. The DOI's goal is to work with US Border Patrol to decrease illegal immigration on DOI managed public lands through collaborative efforts with partnering agencies.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
PMB/OLES	Number of apprehensions on DOI-managed lands	Reduced Annually

GOAL #3: Manage wildland fire to reduce risk and improve ecosystem and community resilience

The DOI, working with the Department of Agriculture, will improve the way that both agencies manage wildland fire by ensuring that fire management assets are used in the most efficient way possible. The DOI will work with state, local, tribal, and other partners to ensure a coordinated approach to wildland fire management that enables protection responsibilities to be exchanged and resources shared to improve operational efficiency and reduce management duplication. The DOI will continue to integrate science and technology into informing and supporting the firefighters with the appropriate training tools, resources and program support to enable them to work safely and effectively.

The DOI is developing new wildland fire management performance measures to better articulate and determine the efficacy of Department and Administration resources in achieving desired resource conditions that reduce the intensity, severity or negative effects of wildfire. As part of this effort, the Department has established a working group among the four DOI wildland fire bureaus, as well as the U.S. Forest Service, which will explore the feasibility of concepts and principles in wildfire risk mitigation, and examine the value of the strategic placement of fuels treatments as informed by a risk assessment and mitigation plan. This group will develop recommendations for a) establishing outcome-based targets, and b) annually evaluating the performance of the program in meeting the desired objectives of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. When

completed, the DOI will incorporate the new performance measures into its strategic plan implementation.

STRATEGY #1: Integrate fire ecology, risk management, and collaboration to mitigate wildfire impacts

The Department's Office of Wildland Fire coordinates programs and funding across four bureaus (BLM, FWS, NPS, and BIA) that manage wildland fire programs to implement the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, a science-based collaborative approach to mitigating wildfire risk. The DOI, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, is committed to the inclusive principles of providing safe and effective response to wildfires, promoting fire-adapted communities, and creating fire-resilient landscapes. The DOI strives to achieve a science-based and technically effective wildland fire management program that is integrated with natural resources programs.

Successful management in fire-adapted communities and landscapes depends on implementation of a broad-based, intergovernmental, collaborative, and national cohesive strategy to address the mounting challenges of escalating fire behavior, increased risk to responders, greater natural and cultural resource losses, and increased threats and losses to communities. The DOI is a lead agency in this collaborative approach with the Forest Service and other Federal, state, tribal, and local governments and stakeholders.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OWF	Percent of DOI-managed landscape acres that are in desired condition as a result of fire management	36%
OWF	Percent of DOI-managed treatments that reduce risk to communities that have a wildland fire mitigation plan	94%
OWF	Percent of wildfires on DOI-managed landscapes where the initial strategies fully succeeded during the initial response phase	97%

GOAL #4: Provide science to safeguard communities from natural hazards

The USGS helps protect public safety, public health, and property by effectively delivering natural hazards and environmental health science. The Nation's emergency managers and public officials use USGS science to inform citizens of the potential risks these hazards pose to natural systems and the built environment, improve preparation and response activities, and protect the health of the public, which reduce the loss of life and property.

STRATEGY #1: Monitor and assess natural hazards risk and response planning

Responsibilities in natural hazards include the issuing of warnings and advisories for earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, and coastal erosion; informing warnings issued by other agencies for floods, tsunamis, and wildfires; providing timely information to emergency managers and response officials, the media, and the public to inform and educate communities during and between crises.

The USGS supports these activities by implementing 24x7 operations for seismic, volcanic, and geomagnetic monitoring efforts; maintaining an extensive national network of streamgages measuring rainfall, streamflow, stream height or lake levels; and developing the next generation of tools for rapid evaluation of hazards.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent completion of targeted natural hazards assessments of very high and high-threat regions of the Nation (Index)	4%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted landslide hazard research	8%
USGS	Percent completion of coastal and marine hazards and subsidence research (Index)	87%
USGS	Percent progress towards optimal monitoring capability for natural hazards situational awareness (Index)	52%
USGS	Percent of the National Streamflow Network (NSN) streamgages that are fully operational	88%

MISSION AREA 6 Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

The DOI is looking to better ensure effective operations and service delivery through coordinated organizational alignments in the field across bureaus and with other federal and nonfederal partners, and through putting a relatively larger fraction of our employees into the field to serve the public. Expediting environmental analysis and compliance, reducing the cost of space, collocating offices for more convenient public service and improved interagency coordination, and common regional boundaries are all being explored to help improve the DOI's infrastructure and related effectiveness.

GOAL #1: Align DOI organizational structure and workforce to improve partnership engagement and mission delivery

The DOI is reevaluating its organizational model to determine how to best achieve its mission of serving the American public, honoring our tribal and fiduciary trust responsibilities, and managing and protecting our land, water and natural resources for the next 100 years.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure effective alignment of DOI organizational structure in the field and with partners

The DOI intends to establish unified regional boundaries for its bureaus in 2018 and to further develop this approach in 2019. The goal is to improve overall operations, internal communications, customer service, and stakeholder engagement. Aligning geographic areas across the DOI will enhance coordination of resource decisions and policies and will simplify how citizens engage with the DOI.

Organizing bureaus with common geographic areas will allow for more integrated and better coordinated decision making across bureaus. Currently, the DOI's bureaus have more than 40 distinct regions, each with its own geographic boundaries. This complicates coordination and hampers the DOI's ability to get things done expeditiously. Having unified regions will help streamline operations and in doing so, provide better service to the American people. Bureaus within a region will focus on common issues, taking a comprehensive approach versus a bureau-centric approach. This culture shift will help us work better together to accomplish one vision. The new regional boundaries currently under discussion – and subject to modification – are expected to have minimal budgetary impact.

To improve customer service and reduce operational costs, sharing functions at field locations has already begun. For a number of years, the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture's US Forest Service (USFS) have pooled resources, conducted joint projects, and shared services under Service First agreements where field locations are in close proximity to each other. Service First authority promotes partnering across agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and to address federal land management issues in an integrated way.

STRATEGY #2: Improve strategic hiring, placement and retention efforts to ensure mission-critical service delivery through data driven processes and increased employee engagement efforts

The DOI is committed to managing America's vast natural and cultural resources with a 70,000-strong and 350 occupation-plus workforce that exemplifies high performance, customer service and

accountability. Historically, it has been difficult to attract certain DOI employees or recruits in certain occupations to positions in headquarters, or even to regional offices, because many of our employees enjoy living in relatively rural areas and because the cost of living is so much higher in large cities. Moving a larger fraction of our staff of some bureaus to relatively more rural and considerably less expensive areas in the West might therefore both reduce payroll cost because fewer employees would receive locality pay, and improve employee retention.

To facilitate strategic human capital planning, the Department has put in place hiring controls to emphasize new hiring for field-related positions rather than administrative and support positions in the Washington, D.C., and Denver, Colorado metropolitan areas.

The DOI will leverage automation to improve employee performance and training opportunities, and examine additional data to determine if operational efficiencies can be gained while minimizing redundancies under the current organizational design.

Data to be analyzed include:

- Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (*e.g.*, employee engagement)
- Geographic Representation of Bureau Mission Critical Occupations
- Geographic Representation of Administrative and Support Services
- Customer Service data
- Benchmarking cost allocations for administrative and support functions
- DOI Human Capital Framework Evaluations
- Accountability drivers on performance, labor management, EEO, etc.
- Bureau plans in response to the Department-wide Workplace Environment Survey

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PHR	Employee engagement index for DOI in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey	75%
PHR	DOI's ranking among large agencies in the Partnership for Public Services' Best Places to Work report	1

GOAL #2: Reduce administrative and regulatory burden

Executive Order 13771, Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, directed agencies to "manage the costs associated with the governmental imposition of private expenditures required to comply with Federal regulations." The DOI is reviewing its regulations and administrative processes to determine what cost savings, to the government and to the public, are possible by repealing regulations for which the perceived benefits might not be justified relative to their implementation costs, and which administrative processes could be streamlined or made more efficient.

STRATEGY #1: Evaluate and improve the net benefits of regulatory reform initiatives and policies, and identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification

On February 24, 2017, President Trump signed Executive Order 13777 entitled, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda" to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens placed on the American people. The Executive Order established a Regulatory Reform Officer (RRO) for each agency and a Regulatory Reform Task Force. The efforts of the RRO and the task force will help identify

regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. The costs of the regulatory and deregulatory actions are measured as the opportunity costs or cost savings to society, as defined in OMB Circular A-4 (i.e. the values reported are the cumulative net savings from deregulatory actions and costs of newly required regulatory actions over multiple years starting in FY 2017). In 2017, the DOI achieved cumulative net savings of $1.15B (net present value) from its deregulatory actions. Goals for subsequent years will be established as the DOI completes its review of target regulations.

Office	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
DOI	Total incremental cost of all EO 13771 regulatory actions and EO 13771 deregulatory actions (including costs or cost savings carried over from previous fiscal years)	TBD
DOI	Number of EO 13771 regulatory actions issued.	TBD
DOI	Number of EO 13771 deregulatory actions issued.	TBD

STRATEGY #2: Improve transparency and timeliness of the infrastructure permitting process

As outlined in the President's Executive Order "Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure," and the corresponding Secretarial Order 3355, a significant opportunity exists for agencies to streamline and collaborate on National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) compliance efforts. The DOI believes this can best be achieved through a unified regional structure adopted across the DOI which focuses on the intersecting issues within the same geographical boundaries.

The DOI is also establishing an Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting (ECEP) to expedite the responsible leasing and permitting of energy and mineral production. More specifically, this involves, but is not limited to, the processing of Applications for Permit to Drill (APD), Expressions of Interest (EOI), coal leasing actions, Right-of-Way (ROW) applications, and harmonization of appurtenant environmental reviews.

Office	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
DOI	*Cross-Agency Priority Goal metric on improving infrastructure permitting to be added*	
BLM	Average amount of time (in days) to process and administratively complete Applications for Permit to Drill	90 days
BLM	Average amount of time (in months) to issue a decision on major right-of-way applications	48 months
BLM	Average amount of time (in days) to process and administratively complete a grazing permit	390 days
FWS	Percent of formal Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultations addressed in a timely manner	100%

GOAL #3: Prioritize DOI infrastructure needs and reduce deferred maintenance backlog

Real property assets are integral to the success of Interior's mission. DOI's real property inventory includes approximately 43,000 buildings and 80,000 structures across six major land-holding bureaus, with a replacement value of approximately $300 billion. DOI manages the full life-cycle requirements of nearly every type of constructed asset found, including visitor centers, dams, schools, health clinics, power generating facilities, housing, hotels, fire stations, campgrounds, roads, water and wastewater treatment plants, offices, and more. Many of these assets have historic or cultural significance that not only support the DOI's mission, but are important to our Nation's heritage.

STRATEGY #1: Maintain critical DOI infrastructure and facilities to ensure effective operations and service delivery

The DOI's goal is to balance mission delivery demands with adequate investments in operations and maintenance to sustain the portfolio in an appropriate condition befitting of our role as America's stewards. Appropriately maintained assets enable the DOI to accomplish habitat and resource management, provide outdoor recreation activities, deliver water, fulfill trust and treaty responsibilities, and provide critical economic inputs and job creation for local communities. Adequately constructed and maintained Federal real property supports healthy habitats and populations, availability of safe and reliable public use opportunities, and robust local economies.

A significant factor impacting a sustainable portfolio of constructed assets is DOI's aging infrastructure. Many assets already exceed original design life, and this trend of aging infrastructure continues to threaten mission delivery. Prioritizing repairs on a portfolio scale will ensure the assets condition is maintained at an acceptable level. Effective management of deferred maintenance is a Departmental priority to ensure completion of needed repairs and prevent further deterioration and unsafe conditions. The DOI prioritizes addressing deferred maintenance/repair needs for mission critical activities. Furthermore, proactive maintenance, replacement of components and colocation of programs and staff in owned facilities will help to reduce future costs.

The DOI conserves the Nation's cultural and heritage sites that reflect a rich and diverse history. The DOI safeguards our heritage for the generations that follow, to better understand our country and learn from our past. Many challenges exist in protecting and maintaining historic and archeological sites, especially with the impacts of weather on fragile sites and structures. Sites are exposed to changing weather conditions that cause damage and deterioration of the structures and sites and some locations are vandalized or accidentally damaged by visitors to federal lands.

The Road Construction Program maintains and operates the 29,000 miles of BIA-owned roads and bridges. These roads and bridges serve as the primary access points to tribal communities, without which critical resources and services would not reach tribal members.

The DOI will continue to improve and provide safe, functional, energy efficient, and universally accessible BIA facilities. The DOI is allocating funds to improve its Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded schools, and improve the learning environment of BIE students.

Agency Priority Performance Goal: By September 30, 2019, the Department of the Interior will improve the condition of its priority real property assets such that 82% are in the desired state of acceptable condition.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
PAM	Percent of priority assets in acceptable condition (i.e. meet investment objective)	84%
PAM	Amount of priority deferred maintenance (repair) needs/activities addressed (i.e. completed for that year)	$1.2 billion
NPS	Value of NPS deferred maintenance work orders closed ($000)	TBD
BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of historic structures on DOI inventory in good condition	57%
BIA, BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS	Percent of museum collections on DOI inventory in good condition	59%
BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of archaeological sites on DOI inventory in good condition	67%
BOR	Maintain a completion rate of 95% for Safety of Dam recommendations	95%
BIA	Percent of miles of BIA road in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	14%
BIA	Percent of BIA bridges in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	69%
BIE	Percent of students in BIE school facilities that are in acceptable condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index	67%

STRATEGY #2: Provide dependable and efficient information technology

Information Management and Technology (IMT) provides modern and secure technology solutions to advance the DOI's ability to deliver programs and services to the public and our customers. To do so, the DOI must protect its critical information assets from cyber exploitation and attack to ensure that employees and the public can rely on the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the DOI's data and information systems. The DOI is implementing advanced technologies that will increase visibility into its IMT environment, improve protections around our high-value information assets, and empower its workforce to better detect, respond, and recover from cyber-attacks and breaches. With a more secure computing environment in place, its employees can more easily obtain the tools and data they need to perform the mission securely efficiently and effectively, anywhere and anytime.

The DOI will continue to deploy and mature Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) capabilities that help to fortify its networks and systems. These capabilities provide the DOI with tools necessary to better identify cybersecurity risks on an ongoing basis, prioritize these risks based upon potential impacts, and enable cybersecurity personnel to mitigate the most significant

problems first. Achieving the performance objectives will enable the DOI to meet the requirements of Presidential Executive Order 13800, "Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure." The DOI has adopted the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework and will work towards implementing and maturing the set of activities known to be effective in managing cybersecurity risks and that are necessary to achieve key cybersecurity outcomes that support the following functions: Identify, Protect, Detect, Respond and Recover.

The DOI is working collaboratively with its user community to understand operational needs better in the field, resulting in expanding network capabilities to improve connectivity in remote areas so employees can be as productive as possible. To improve collaboration, the DOI will enhance its Geospatial Platform capabilities, which is an internet-based tool for sharing trusted geospatial data with the public, government agencies, and partners to meet their mission needs. The DOI will also seek to deliver improved services at a lower cost by consolidating and standardizing IT services and systems, including consolidating and optimizing its data center and network operations and standardizing security, customer support, and administrative functions.

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PIO	Percent of unclassified network hardware and software assets appropriately authorized and managed	95%
PIO	Percent completion of DOI's Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Implementation Plan	100%

APPENDIX A – ACRONYMS

APD	Application for Permit to Drill	I-READ	Interior Readiness (index)
APIPA	Association of Pacific Island Public Auditors	LHP	Landslide Hazard Program
APP	Annual Performance Plan	LIDAR	Light Detection And Ranging
APP&R	Annual Performance Plan and Report	LTRO	Land Title and Records Office
APR	Annual Performance Report	MMBF	Million Board Feet
ARPA	Archeological Resources Protection Act	MR&R	Major Rehabilitations and Replacements
AS-IA	Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs	MRP	Mineral Resource Program
AS-IN	Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs	MTS	Mineral Tracking System
AS-PMB	Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and	NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and
	Budget		Repatriation Act
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs	NAWQA	National Water Quality Assessment Program
BIE	Bureau of Indian Education	NCGMP	National Geologic Map Database
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	NFHS	National Fish Hatchery System
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
BSEE	Bureau of Safety and Environmental	NIBRS	National Incident Based Reporting System
	Enforcement	NIMS	National Incident Management System
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	NLCD	National Land Cover Database
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
CFS	Cubic Foot per Second	NPS	National Park Service
CNMI	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	NWRS	National Wildlife Refuge System
CWS	Community Water Systems	O&C	Oregon and California
DOI	Department of the Interior	O&M	Operations and Maintenance
EHP	Earthquake Hazard Program	OCS	Outer Continental Shelf
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	OEPC	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
ERP	Energy Resource Program	OIA	Office of Insular Affairs
FASS-CMS	Financial Assistance and Social Services – Case Management System	OIG	Office of the Inspector General
FCI	Facilities Condition Index	OJS	Office of Justice Services
FRPP	Federal Real Property Profile	OLES	Office of Law Enforcement and Security
FRR	Facility Reliability Rating	OMB	Office of Management and Budget
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service	OSG	Office of Self-Governance
GAO	Government Accountability Office	OSMRE	Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	OST	Office of Special Trustee
GIS	Geographic Information System	ONRR	Office of Natural Resources Revenue
GPRA	Government Performance Results Act	OPM	Office of Personnel Management
GPS	Geospatial Positioning System	OWF	Office of Wildland Fire
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services	PAM	Office of Acquisitions and Property
HMA	Herd Management Area		Management
HPPG	High Priority Performance Goal	PEM	Office of Emergency Management
ICWA	Indian Child Welfare Act	PEP	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
IGFOA	Island Government Finance Officers'	PFM	Office of Financial Management
	Association	PHR	Office of Human Resources
IIM	Individual Indian Money	PIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
ILCO	Indian Land Consolidation Office	ROW	Right of Way
ILCP	Indian Land Consolidation Program	SMART	Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow

IMARS	Incident Management Analysis Reporting System		
SMCRA	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977		
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and		
	Mathematics		
T&E	Threatened and Endangered		
TFAS	Trust Financial Accounting System		
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture		
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey		
VHP	Volcano Hazard Program		
WUI	Wildland-Urban Interface		

From:	Guertin, Stephen
To:	Rebekah Giddings; Jessie Cheek
Cc:	Denise Sheehan
Subject:	Fwd: Distributing strat plan
Date:	Sunday, March 11, 2018 10:27:15 AM
Attachments:	FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan (3-5-2018).pdf

We had written our guidance to have our SESers address the top ten list and SOs. The political leadership team also want our SESers to address the relevant elements of the strategic plan. Did Greg Sheehan sign out the original guidance? If so, we will need to amend it. If not, we can intercept the package and add this additional guidance. Thanks. Steve

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Sheehan, Gregory** <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
Date: Sat, Mar 10, 2018 at 4:32 PM
Subject: Fwd: Distributing strat plan
To: Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>

Steve,

We need to discuss next steps on this strategic plan on Tuesday morning when I return.

Thanks
Greg

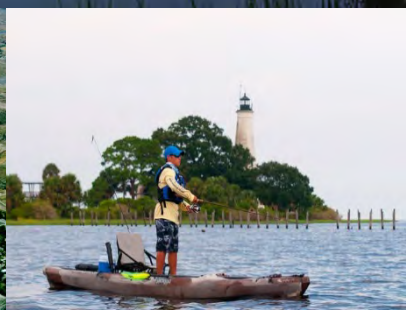
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Cameron, Scott** <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Mar 6, 2018 at 3:20 PM
Subject: Fwd: Distributing strat plan
To: Timothy Petty <timothy_petty@ios.doi.gov>, Joseph Balash <joseph_balash@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Larrabee <jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov>, John Tahsuda <john.tahsuda@bia.gov>, Daniel Jorjani <daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov>, "Domenech, Douglas" <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>, Brenda Burman <bburman@usbr.gov>, Brian Steed <bsteed@blm.gov>, Scott Angelle <scott.angelle@bsee.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>

All,
Attached is the new DOI GPRA strategic plan. This, along with the Secretary's Top 10 list, ought to be reflected in the 2018 SES performance standards for your direct reports. With FY 18 already half over, I'd urge you to get FY18 performance plans in place for your SESers ASAP, if you haven't done so already, so they can understand your goals for them and have as much time as possible to accomplish those goals.
Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242

Cell 202 706 9031

--
Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street NW, Room 3358
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-4545

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018 – 2022



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LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY

The Department of the Interior's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2018-2022 is our bold vision for the future under President Donald J. Trump. As the chief stewards of our public lands, it is our job to ensure that these lands continue to be used "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people," as the words engraved into the Roosevelt Arch at Yellowstone National Park so proudly proclaim.

We will restore the American conservation ethic that built our nation. Among the American traditions that made our country great was a philosophy of multiple-use on our public lands. I am an admirer of President Theodore Roosevelt – he had it right. As President Roosevelt once remarked, "It is not what we have that will make us a great nation; it is the way in which we use it."

Our public lands are our greatest treasures, and all Americans should be able to experience these treasures. One of my top priorities as Secretary of the Interior is public access to public land. Recognizing that hunting and fishing is an integral part of the American heritage, we must do more to ensure that all Americans can enjoy these sports – not just the wealthy elite. Americans should also be proud of their public lands, which is why investing in American infrastructure and addressing the maintenance backlog at our National Parks is critically important.

While "benefit and enjoyment" includes recreation, it also includes traditional uses like grazing and timber harvesting. Our mandate is multiple-use of public lands, and multiple-use also includes the development of natural resources as we seek to leverage American energy for American strength. Americans should have the right to make a living off the land, and one of our most critical responsibilities at Interior is upholding this right.

If we are going to preserve our heritage, we must bolster our standing in the world. It is in the economic and national security interest of the United States to pursue a policy of American energy dominance. An America-First energy policy is one which maximizes the use of American resources while freeing us from dependence on foreign oil.

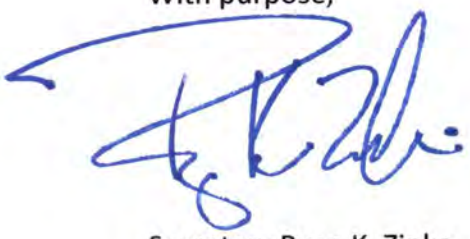
American energy dominance requires aggressive regulatory reform. With our strategic plan, the Interior Department has a unique opportunity to cut the burdensome, unnecessary regulations that have suppressed job creation and wealth generation. Regulatory reform also includes reduced permitting times. The Trump Administration will not deregulate or streamline at the expense of environmental standards or worker safety, but we will strike a balance and strive toward regulatory certainty going forward when creating a bureaucratic framework.

Along with our conservation stewardship responsibilities, we must also be the greatest champion of our tribal nations. Native Americans and Alaska Natives are proud people with a rich history. Sovereignty has to have meaning, and the days of empty promises to our tribal communities are over. Our priorities in Indian Country will be self-determination, government-to-government interaction, and empowerment.

To accomplish our goals, a reorganization of the Department is necessary. We will chart a path forward for the next 100 years at Interior, as Teddy Roosevelt did over a century ago. As a former Navy SEAL, I have long believed that a healthy front line makes for a healthy operation – it is in this spirit that the reorganization plan will focus on our front lines and how we can better engage those on the ground.

Our strategic plan will restore trust in local communities. The federal government has a long way to go when it comes to being a good neighbor, but I am confident we can get there. With a renewed focus on conservation and a bold approach to energy, the Department of the Interior can lead the way in making America great again. This is our desired outcome.

With purpose,



Secretary Ryan K. Zinke
United States Department of the Interior

MISSION AND ORGANIZATION

Mission

The Department of the Interior (DOI) conserves and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, provides scientific and other information about natural resources and natural hazards to address societal challenges and create opportunities for the American people, and honors the Nation's trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities to help them prosper.

Vision

The Department of the Interior strives to fulfill a vision to:

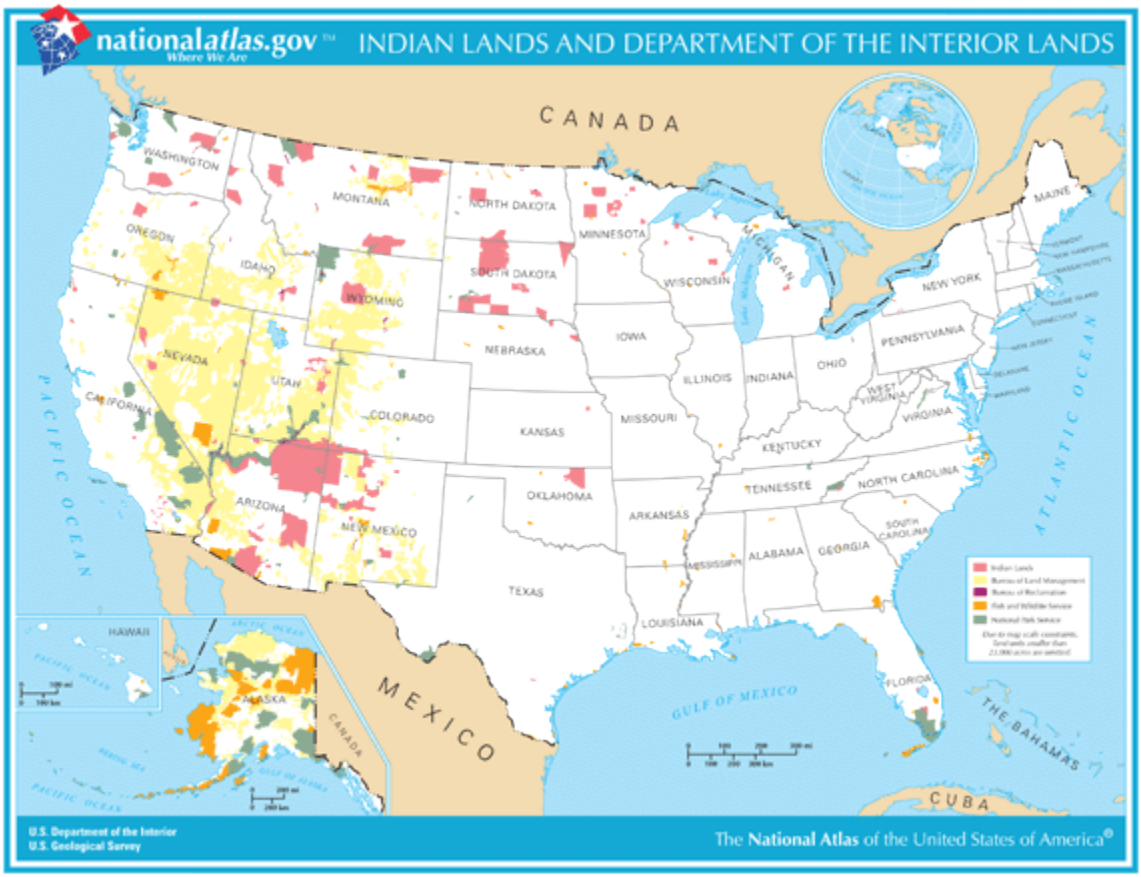
- *Promote energy dominance and critical minerals development* to create jobs for Americans, insulate our nation from volatile political developments overseas, provide additional energy security to allies via surplus domestic supply, and generate revenue for all levels of government so they in turn have the resources to better serve the American people.
- *Increase access to outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans* so that our people can be healthier, more fully enjoy the wonderful features of their federal lands, and take advantage of hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation pursuits that are the roots of the conservation movement.
- *Enhance conservation stewardship* whereby all levels of government and private landowners work cooperatively together in an atmosphere of mutual respect to achieve shared natural resource management goals across landscapes.
- *Improve management of species and their habitats* by focusing our financial and staff resources on improving the status of our nation's fish and wildlife and the healthy habitats that support them, and by streamlining bureaucracy to help us spend relatively more of our funding productively on the ground to better meet societal needs and our own natural resource management responsibilities.
- *Uphold trust and related responsibilities*, recognizing the importance of government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, and insular areas, and respecting self-determination and sovereignty.

History

The Department of the Interior (DOI) was established in 1849. The DOI was charged with managing a wide variety of programs, which included overseeing Indian Affairs, exploring the western wilderness, directing the District of Columbia jail, constructing the National Capital's water system, managing hospitals and universities, improving historic western emigrant routes, marking boundaries, issuing patents, conducting the census, and researching the geological resources of the United States. As the country matured during the last half of the 19th Century, so did the DOI and its mission began to evolve as some of these functions moved to other agencies at the same time the DOI acquired new responsibilities.

With information from Robert Utley and Barry Mackintosh, *The Department of Everything Else: Highlights of Interior History*, 1988, pp. 1-2.

Surface Lands Managed by the Department of the Interior



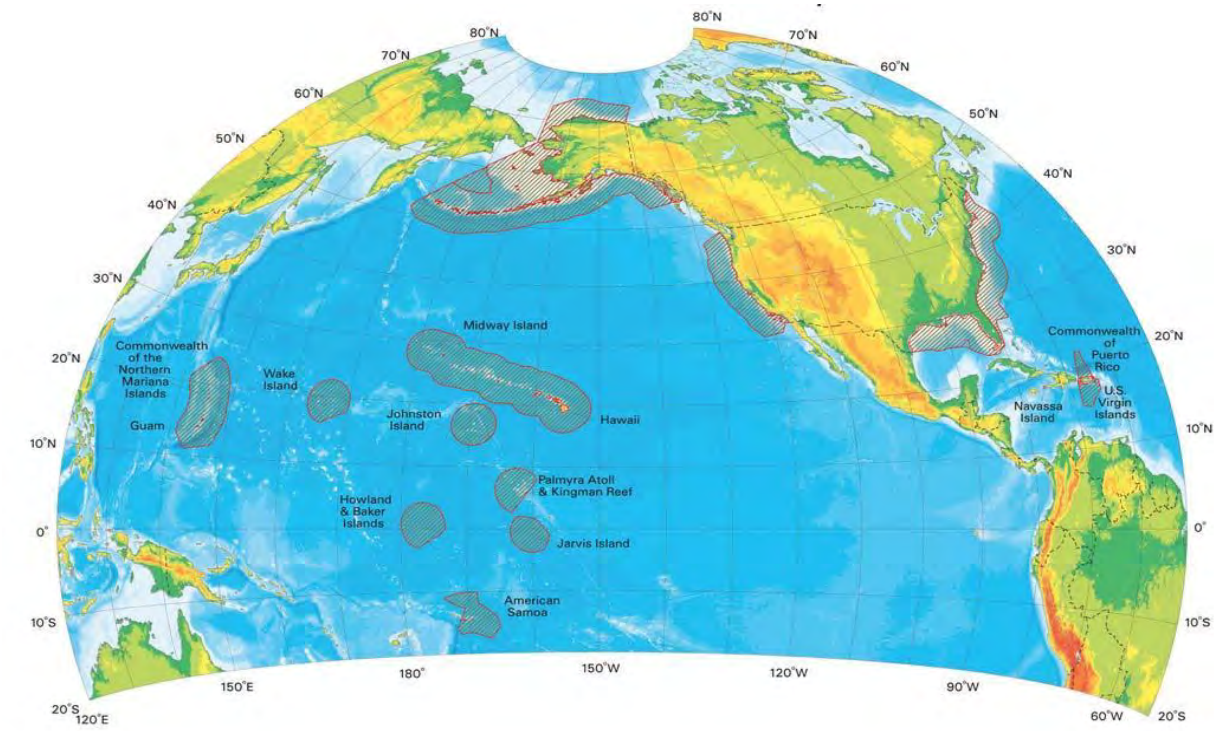
USGS Map, Oct 2014 (except for US Territories that are identified on next graphic)

Following Theodore Roosevelt's conservation summit and the awakening of the conservation movement at the beginning of the 20th Century, there was an increasing urgency and expanding congressional mandate to protect and more effectively manage the nation's natural resources. In 1905, management of the federal forests changed from the Department of the Interior to the United States Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture. Its Chief, Gifford Pinchot, introduced better forestry methods. Pinchot sought to turn public land policy from one that disposed of resources to private parties, to one that maintained federal ownership and management of public land. Pinchot argued that scientific management of forests and natural resources was profitable. He generally opposed preservation for the sake of preservation. During the 1960's and 1970's the DOI's authorizing statutes shifted to put more emphasis on the preservation, management, and use of public lands and natural and cultural resources.

Today, the DOI manages the Nation's public lands and minerals, including providing access to more than 480 million acres of public lands, 700 million acres of subsurface minerals, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf. The DOI is the steward of 20 percent of the Nation's lands, including national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other public lands; manages resources that supply 30 percent of the Nation's energy; supplies and manages water in the 17 Western States and supplies 15 percent of the Nation's hydropower energy; and upholds Federal trust responsibilities to 573 federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages. The DOI is responsible for migratory bird and wildlife conservation, historic preservation, endangered species conservation, surface-mined lands protection and restoration, mapping, geological, hydrological, and biological science

for the Nation, and financial and technical assistance for the insular areas (many of which are depicted in the following graphic).

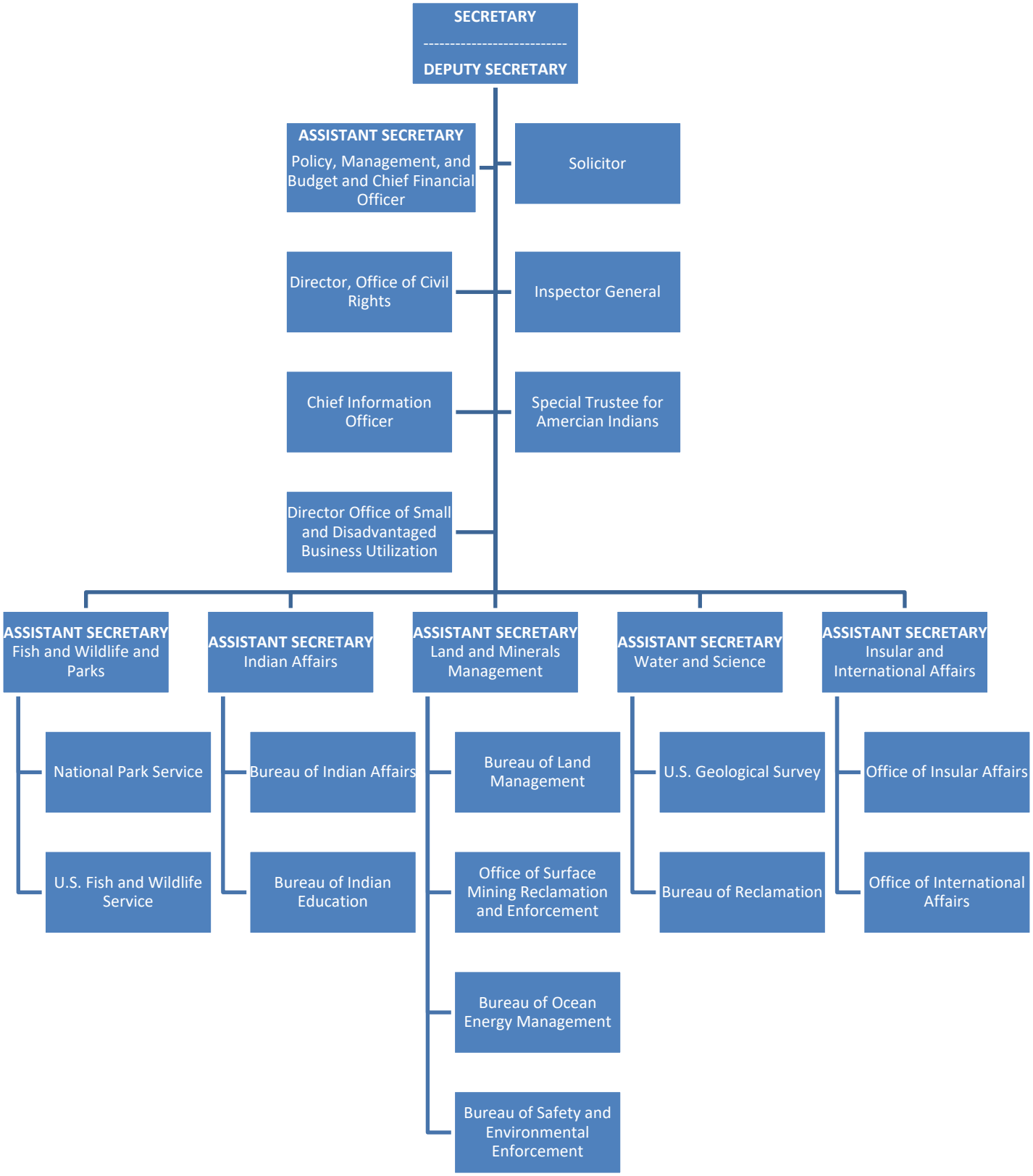
United States Continental Shelf Boundary Areas



National Geophysical Data Center, Sep 2001

The DOI's programs encompassed in this Strategic Plan cover a broad spectrum of activities that are performed by 10 bureaus and multiple offices and are captured in the following presentation of each entity's unique mission and set of responsibilities. The Strategic Plan's six mission areas capture the vitality, inventiveness, and potential of the bureaus and offices and the DOI's 70,000 dedicated and skilled employees. Along with our hardworking and skilled employees, over 350,000 much appreciated volunteers annually contribute their time in support of bureau and office missions, bringing unique local knowledge to park operations, assisting in recovery from natural disasters, and participating in environmental education, among other activities. We cannot effectively address all our responsibilities alone, so it is critical to strengthen partnerships with our sister federal agencies with related missions. In the federal family, we share forest, minerals, rangeland, and wildland fire management responsibilities with the US Department of Agriculture's Forest Service. We share water resource management and hydroelectric power generation responsibilities with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and we share fishery and endangered species management responsibilities with the Department of Commerce's National Marine Fisheries Service. In some ways, our relationships with state, tribal, and local government are even more important. We operate within the bounds of state water law, and respect state authority over resident wildlife. We deal with tribal governments on a government to government basis, respecting each other's authority and jurisdiction. We share land use planning responsibilities with local government, so we must make our own land management plans in a way that is mindful of the goals and plans of those local government neighbors.

US Department of the Interior Organization Chart



Bureau and Office Summaries

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- Manages public lands for the benefit of all Americans under the dual framework of multiple use and sustained yield on nearly 250 million surface acres, as well as 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate. Priorities include:
  - Making full use of the Nation's domestic energy and mineral sources, including conventional and renewable energy sources;
  - Serving American families by providing outdoor recreation opportunities that are key to the Nation's heritage and its economy; and
  - Managing working landscapes to support sustainable livestock grazing operations; and timber and biomass production.
  - Developing and maintaining strong partnerships with State, local, and private stakeholders in shared conservation stewardship.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE)

- Protects the environment during coal mining through Federal programs, grants to states and Tribes, and oversight activities.
- Ensures the land is reclaimed afterwards.
- Mitigates the effects of past mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned coal mine lands.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- Manages access to renewable and conventional energy resources of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS);
- Administers nearly 3,000 active fluid mineral leases on over 16 million OCS acres;
- Oversees 4 percent of the natural gas and 18 percent of the oil produced domestically; and
- Oversees lease and grant issuance for off shore renewable energy projects.
- Manages leasing for marine mineral resources such as sand to facilitate beach replenishment and coastal nourishment projects.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

- Produces information to increase understanding of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and landslides.
- Conducts research and delivers assessments on oil, gas, and alternative energy potential, production, consumption, and environmental effects.
- Conducts reliable scientific research in land resources, mineral assessments, and water resources to inform effective decision making and planning.
- Provides science information that supports natural resource decisions.
- Produces topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic data and maps.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- Fosters secure and reliable energy production from the 1.7 billion acre U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) for America's energy future.
- Conducts inspections, permitting, incident and equipment failure analysis, oil spill preparedness and enforcement programs aimed at promoting a culture of safety and reducing risk to those who work offshore.
- Supports the technical expertise to engage opportunities and to meet challenges to tap the full potential of OCS energy resources.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

- Manages, develops, and protects water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.
- Largest wholesale supplier of water in the Nation
- Manages 492 dams and 338 reservoirs.
- Delivers water to 1 in every 5 western farmers and more than 31 million people.
- America's second largest producer of hydroelectric power.

Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

- Manages the lands and waters of the 855 million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, primarily for the benefit of fish and wildlife.
- Manages 73 fish hatcheries and other related facilities for endangered species recovery and to restore native fisheries.
- Protects and conserves:
  - Migratory birds;
  - Threatened and endangered species; and
  - Certain marine mammals.
- Hosts about 48 million visitors annually at more than 560 refuges located in all 50 states and 38 wetland management districts.

Indian Affairs (IA)

- Fulfills Indian trust responsibilities.
- Promotes self-determination on behalf of 573 federally recognized Indian Tribes.
- Funds self-governance compacts and self-determination contracts to support all Federal programs including education, law enforcement, and social service programs that are delivered by Tribal Nations.
- Supports 183 elementary and secondary schools and dormitories, providing educational services to approximately 48,000 students in 23 states.
- Supports 32 community colleges, universities, post-secondary schools, and technical colleges.

Note: IA includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)

National Park Service (NPS)

- Maintains and manages a system of 417 natural, cultural, and recreational sites for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people.
- Manages and protects over 27,000 historic and prehistoric structures, nearly 44 million acres of designated wilderness, and a wide range of museum collections and cultural and natural landscapes.
- Provides outdoor recreation to nearly 324 million visitors at national park units.
- Provides technical assistance and support to state, tribal and local natural and cultural resource sites and programs, and fulfills responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Insular and International Affairs

- Coordinates federal policy for the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Oversees the Department's involvement with oceans policy
- Manages the Department's involvement in international affairs
- Responsible for administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association, as well as providing technical and financial assistance to all the Insular Areas.

Note: Includes Office of Insular Affairs and Office of International Affairs

Departmental Offices

- Immediate Office of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Assistant Secretaries
- Office of the Solicitor
- Policy, Management and Budget provides leadership and support for the following:
  - Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition;
  - Public Safety, Resource Protection, and Emergency Services;
  - Natural Resources Revenue Management;
  - Human Capital and Diversity;
  - Technology, Information and Business Services;
  - Policy and Environmental Management
- Office of Inspector General
- Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

CROSS-CUTTING PRINCIPLES

As the Department of the Interior (DOI) advances through FY 2018-2022, the following principles guide our leadership, management, and workforce.

Effective and Accountable Leadership - The DOI is committed to being an outstanding steward of approximately 500 million acres of public lands, 700 million onshore subsurface acres, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) including magnificent vistas, valuable energy and mineral resources, unique ecosystems, range, and treasured natural, cultural, and heritage assets. The management and oversight of these resources require a dedicated cadre of employees, the contributions of volunteers, and the input of stakeholders to inform decision-making. The challenges of managing for a diverse constituency while meeting national goals for energy development and sustaining high levels of recreation and access require technical expertise, the best available science, and an understanding of the balance of development and conservation.

A critical role for DOI's senior executives is providing the necessary leadership to guide the efforts of DOI's offices, bureaus, and field locations in effectively achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals especially through:

- Ensuring cost effective operations and quality customer-centric service to the public;
- Facilitating cooperation and collaboration across organizations within the DOI and its federal and nonfederal partners;
- Ensuring a workplace environment that is safe, fair, and conducive to employee productivity; resolving conflicts as needed; and
- Holding individuals at all levels accountable for their actions.

Empowering the Field - Accomplishing the multi-faceted missions of the DOI involves the skills of 10 bureaus and spans 2,400 locations across the U.S. These locations are often remote and present managers with unique challenges. Managers and experts in the field organization must be allowed to exercise informed judgement and discretion, and must have a skilled workforce to address the issues and manage their operations. The DOI's agency reform plan, developed in response to the President's Executive Order "Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch," provides a strategy for better enabling our managers and workforce in the field through regional realignment and executive empowerment, increased colocation, and shifting workforce resources closer to the DOI's field locations.

Engaging the Nation in Cooperative Stewardship - In managing such a broad range of resources for the benefit of the public, the DOI works closely with other federal agencies, state, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and the public. The DOI's reform plan calls for increased coordination across agency lines and levels of government to achieve common goals and resolve differences without expensive and time-consuming litigation. DOI is working to increase its collaborations and partnerships across all levels of government.

Improving Infrastructure - The DOI manages an infrastructure asset portfolio with a replacement value exceeding $300 billion. Most well-known are the DOI's iconic and unique national treasures, which have priceless historical significance. More broadly, the DOI owns approximately 43,000 buildings, 100,000 miles of roads, and 80,000 structures; including dams, laboratories, employee housing, Indian schools, visitor facilities, historic structures and hydropower infrastructure. The related deferred maintenance backlog has grown to over $15 billion in 2016, of which over $11 billion belongs to the National Park Service. DOI is committed to determining how to best address

this backlog and maintain its facilities for the safety and productivity of its workforce, and the continued high quality experience and enjoyment by the American public.

Striking a Regulatory Balance – In accordance with the Executive Order on Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda, the DOI will identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. The DOI will continue to protect human health and the environment in a responsible, cost-effective manner but in a way that avoids imposing an undue process or economic burden on the public.

Generating Revenue, Jobs, and Economic Activity - The DOI grants access to public lands and offshore areas for all forms of energy development—representing roughly a quarter of the Nation's domestic supplies of oil and natural gas—while ensuring safety, environmental protection and revenue generation for the American public. It is important to the Nation's future that these natural resources are managed wisely and – as appropriate -- made accessible for public use to help generate revenues, enhance national security, create jobs, and grow the U.S. economy.

Restoring Trust - It is critical that the DOI can be trusted to operate in the best interest of the American public. Key to maintaining public trust and confidence in the integrity of government is the adherence to high ethical standards and ensuring that government business is conducted with impartiality, transparency, accountability, and integrity. While many of our employees have important law enforcement responsibilities as part of their jobs, more generally we want the public to primarily view our employees as helpful and friendly technical experts, not as law enforcement. When we do need to perform our law enforcement responsibilities, our preference is to achieve compliance through education and demonstrating a sincere desire to create win-win situations with the public we serve. The DOI embodies this principle, follows the law and holds people accountable. Decisions are based on sound science and the best interest of the public.

The DOI is committed to effective and efficient financial operations and accountability characterized by high quality and timely reporting, robust internal controls, clean audits, and effective follow-up on audit and internal control findings. The DOI utilizes the enterprise Financial and Business Management System for the integration of business functions including budget execution, finance, acquisition, improved internal controls, a secure information technology environment, and a community of business innovation, efficiency, and transparency.

Respect for Tribal Sovereignty – As a steward of tribal trust assets, the DOI plays a critical role for the United States in fulfilling the trust responsibility to Indian tribes. The DOI is committed to effectively meeting that responsibility by assisting tribes and Indian individual land owners to create greater economic opportunities, build safer and healthier communities, and effectively consulting with tribal governments.

OVERVIEW OF THE FY 2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

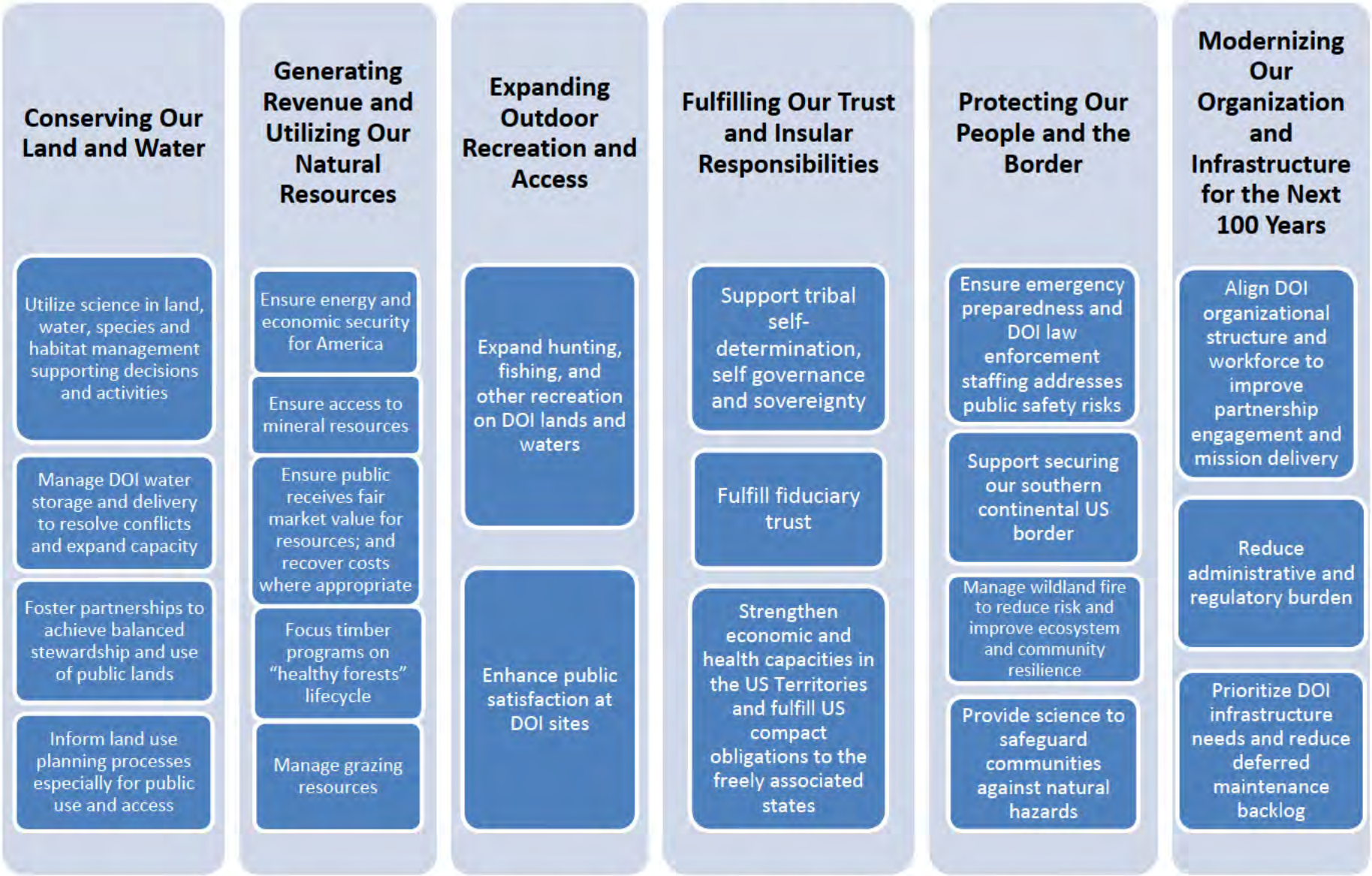
The DOI's FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan provides the framework for the programs and activities that are performed by 10 bureaus and multiple offices, and take place at approximately 2,400 locations throughout the Nation.

The Strategic Plan facilitates the integration of programs, the allocation and alignment of resources, and collaboration and coordination with stakeholders to achieve key goals. A set of six mission areas, 21 goals, 34 strategies, and approximately 120 performance measures will guide the DOI's activities for the next five years. These mission areas reflect the Secretary of the Interior's priorities, while the goals and strategies describe the means by which those priorities will be achieved.

The mission areas, goals, and strategies that constitute the Strategic Plan are displayed in the Strategic Plan Framework, followed by a description of the mission areas, goals, strategic objectives, and performance measures. An FY 2022 goal is provided for each performance measure that reflects a desirable annual level of achievement that DOI aspires to assuming the availability of a reasonable level of resources. The anticipated level of performance for these measures on an annual basis in consideration of actual resource levels will be reported in the DOI's Annual Performance Plan and Report that is released with the FY 2019 President's budget and available at www.doi.gov/bpp.

There is some continuity of performance measures from the FY 2014-2018 Strategic Plan because the core of our statutory mission remains the same regardless of shifts in policy emphasis resulting from a change in Administrations. Trends in performance related to funding and programmatic plans are available in the DOI's FY 2019 Annual Performance Plan and Report available at www.doi.gov/bpp.

STRATEGIC PLAN FRAMEWORK



Crosscutting principles: Senior executives provide leadership in achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals and are expected to: ensure cost-effective operations and quality service to the public; facilitate organizational cooperation and conflict resolution; ensure workplace environment conducive to employee productivity and safety; and hold individuals accountable for their actions.

DESCRIPTION OF MISSION AREAS

(With Supporting Goals, Strategies, and Performance Measures)

MISSION AREA 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

The DOI ensures that America's natural endowment – the lands and waters of the United States – is conserved for the benefit, use, and enjoyment of current and future generations. The DOI's bureaus use the best available science, modern natural resource management techniques, technology and engineering, efficient decision-making processes, robust partnerships, and improved land use planning to ensure balanced stewardship and use of the public lands and its resources, including wildlife and fish species.

GOAL #1: Utilize science in land, water, species and habitat management supporting decisions and activities

The DOI will ensure that it delivers data, tools, techniques, and analyses that advance understanding of natural resources, the forces that shape them, and the interactions of plants, animals, and people that live within them. Research, monitoring, and remote sensing are necessary to understand and detect changes that affect land resources and processes that are essential to the Nation's economic growth, well-being, and ecological health. These efforts support the DOI in its role as the largest manager of the Nation's land and water resources.

The DOI's land and water management bureaus are stewards of the lands and waters managed by the DOI. These bureaus will utilize the best available scientific data, tools, techniques, and analyses provided by our researchers, our nonfederal government partners, or others to maintain and restore lands and waters and ensure that habitats support healthy fish and wildlife populations.

STRATEGY #1: Apply science to land, water, and species management

The USGS seeks to understand the Nation's environmental, natural resource, and economic challenges with scientific monitoring and research to support the development of management strategies that address the impacts of land use on the availability and sustainability of land and water resources. The USGS helps management agencies by providing them the measures designed to prevent or control invasive species and wildlife disease outbreaks; and apply decision science to actions.

The USGS conducts monitoring, assessments, and research in order to understand and predict changes in the quality and quantity of water resources in response to land-use and management scenarios. Through advanced understanding and integrated modeling of processes that determine water availability, the USGS informs the balanced management of water resources for multiple purposes, including energy production, human and crop consumption, the sustainability of fish and other aquatic communities valued by society, and public enjoyment. The USGS works with land and water resources managers in applying its data and research results to help them make informed decisions for effectively managing the resources with which they are entrusted.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent completion of targeted land and water management research actions	100%
USGS	Millions of people living in targeted watersheds covered by completed water quality models	306.7
USGS	Percent completion of planned water quality sampling and studies for the Nation's groundwater, streams and rivers	100%
USGS	Percent completion of the USGS National Water Census baseline	100%
USGS	Percent completion of U.S. aquifer groundwater availability baseline studies	43%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted species management research actions	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted biological threats research actions	100%
USGS	Percent completion of collaborative research projects on factors affecting fish and wildlife habitat	100%

STRATEGY #2: Provide stewardship of land, surface water, streams and shorelines

The Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation manage, maintain and restore uplands, wetlands, lakes, streams and some marine areas through efforts that include controlling invasive plants and animals, restoring land or waters to a condition that is self-sustaining, and ensuring that habitats support healthy fish and wildlife populations. The DOI's Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration program works with the bureaus to assess the impacts of oil spills and hazardous waste sites and coordinates restoration efforts. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement works with states and tribes to ensure that coal mining is conducted in a manner that protects citizens and the environment during mining, restores the land to beneficial use following mining, and mitigates the effects of historic mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned mine lands. The DOI aims to balance the conservation of special places with resource development while also providing visitors with opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Bureaus administer their resource management and conservation programs on more than 400 million acres of upland, wetland, and aquatic lands within their jurisdiction. Many of these lands have special status as national parks, seashores, monuments, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, national conservation lands or wild and scenic rivers. Land managers utilize earth and natural science, social science, partnerships with other DOI bureau, federal, state, local and tribal entities, and other tools and resources (including its front-line managers) in managing these lands and waters.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of DOI acres that have achieved desired conditions	88.9%
BLM, FWS	Percent of DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles that have achieved desired conditions	89.2%
BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS	Percent of acres infested with invasive plant species that are under control	0.2%
FWS, NPS	Percent of invasive animal species populations that are under control	8.7%
OSMRE	Percent completion of abandoned mine lands restored by eliminating health, safety, and environmental concerns	57%
OSMRE	Percent of active coal mining sites that are free of off-site impacts	88%
OSMRE	Percent of coal mine acreage reclaimed to beneficial post-mining land use	44%

STRATEGY #3: Provide stewardship of wildlife, bird, fish, and plant species

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is tasked with the conservation and protection of certain populations of fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. The FWS works first to prevent species from becoming listed as threatened or endangered by using the best available science to make land management decisions that might affect species viability. The FWS conducts, consults or coordinates many species management activities in partnership with others including NPS, BLM, Reclamation, and other federal, state, local and tribal agencies and private organizations. The strategy to sustain species focuses on identifying and implementing corrective actions that will lead to species recovery.

Congress passed the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973, to protect and recover imperiled species from becoming extinct and to conserve the habitats upon which they depend. The FWS and the Commerce Department's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) administer the ESA. The FWS has primary responsibility for terrestrial and freshwater organisms, while the responsibilities of NMFS are mainly marine wildlife such as whales and anadromous fish such as salmon.

FWS works with many partners using a range of conservation tools to recover listed species (threatened and endangered) to ensure that they are able to survive on their own in the wild. These tools can include acquiring and restoring habitat, removing invasive species, conducting surveys, monitoring individual populations, and breeding species in captivity to release them into their historic range.

The DOI uses a number of datasets and metrics to track its progress on species listings, downlistings, delistings, critical habitat, scientific findings, and Species Status Assessments (SSA). The SSA is the scientific foundation supporting listing, delisting, and downlisting decisions and recovery plans and includes biological and threats information and analyses that help FWS and its partners better understand the species status. Recovery criteria, describing the conditions of the species when the protections of the act are no longer necessary, address both the biological status in terms of the 3 R's (resiliency, representation and redundancy) and the mitigation of threats necessary to achieve that status. The DOI is working to include more information on critical habitat,

estimated costs of recovery and economic impact of its threatened and endangered species listings and recovery action plans, to provide a more complete perspective to states and the public of the actions being planned for attempting to save each species.

In its Policy Regarding the Role of State Agencies in ESA Activities, FWS coordinates, collaborates, and uses the expertise of state agencies in developing the scientific foundation upon which FWS bases its determinations for listing actions. By September 30, 2018, all FWS decisions on whether to list a species under the ESA will be informed by input from state fish and wildlife agencies, subject to the affected states' willingness to participate (some state fish and wildlife agencies have declined participation due to lack of authority for some species under ESA review). This input should include (but is not limited to) a solicitation of state data and state personnel involvement in the development of SSAs.

Per Section 4(c)(1) of the ESA, FWS is required to review the status of each listed species at least once every 5 years and determine whether it should be: (1) removed from the List (delisted), (2) reclassified from endangered to threatened (downlisted), or (3) reclassified from threatened to endangered (uplisted). By September 30, 2019, for 100% of all species with 5-year reviews recommending downlisting or delisting FWS will have proposed downlisting or delisting rules acted on by the Director, or a new status review initiated if new information indicates the need for an updated assessment prior to initiating rulemaking, within 2 years of the 5-year review recommendation.

The DOI's responsibility to protect fish, wildlife, and native plants transcends jurisdictional boundaries, and includes efforts that affect almost 1,500 species with special status under the Endangered Species Act and more than 1,000 migratory birds that receive Federal protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The DOI works to combat domestic and international wildlife trafficking by improving enforcement of domestic laws, strengthening international cooperation and global enforcement, promoting legal trade and hunting, and helping to reduce demand for illegal wildlife products. Under Executive Order 13771 of January 30, 2017, i.e. Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, the DOI is reviewing its regulations and administrative processes to determine what cost savings, to the government and to private constituents, are possible by repealing regulations for which the perceived benefits might not be justified relative to their implementation costs, and which administrative processes could be streamlined or made more efficient. This activity is described further in the second goal under the sixth Mission Area on reducing administrative and regulatory burden.

Agency Priority Performance Goals:

- ***By September 30, 2018, 100% of proposed species listings will be based on best available information that includes state input and/or data provided through participation in Species Status Assessments (SSA).***
- ***By September 30, 2019, 100% of all Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plans will have quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species.***

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
FWS	Percent of Threatened or Endangered species listed for 2.5 years or more with a final recovery plan	75%
FWS	Percent of five-year Threatened or Endangered species five-year status review recommendations to downlist or delist acted on within five years *(prior to next status review)*	60%
FWS	Percent of listed species with current five-year reviews *(completed in the last five years)*	90%
FWS	Percent of rules and findings completed based on Threatened or Endangered Species Status Assessments	100%
FWS	Percent of threatened and endangered species listings with proposed critical habitat	100%
FWS	Percent of migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels	72%
FWS	Percent of fish species of management concern that are managed to self-sustaining levels	23%

GOAL #2 Manage DOI water storage and delivery to resolve conflicts and expand capacity

The Western U.S. is one of the fastest growing regions of the country, and urbanization has created significant demands for water use and service. The DOI strives to keep its water storage facilities in good condition to ensure safe and reliable water supply. Stretching existing water supplies for multiple uses are among the many significant challenges facing Reclamation. The Bureau of Reclamation is the nation's largest wholesale water supplier and manages water in 17 western states. Reclamation's projects and programs are an important driver of economic growth bringing water to more than 31 million people and providing one of five western farmers (140,000) with irrigation water for 10 million acres of farmland that produce 60 percent of the nation's vegetables and 25 percent of its fruits and nuts. Reclamation's facilities also provide substantial flood control, hydropower, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits.

The DOI is the lead agency in defining and protecting water rights for Indian tribes and individual Indian land owners. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is responsible for maintaining 137 dams on tribal lands. The BIA also provides irrigation water to over 780,000 acres through 17 congressionally authorized irrigation projects.

STRATEGY #1 Manage water resources and delivery

Changes in water supplies, water demands, and the increased duration and frequency of droughts have the potential to affect Reclamation's ability to fulfill its mission. Many rural communities face significant challenges in financing the cost of replacing or upgrading aging and obsolete facilities and systems. Water conservation programs increase the available water supply and contribute to DOI's broader objective of achieving a more sustainable, secure water supply. Protecting and extending the life of aging infrastructure are significant challenges facing Reclamation, and maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement will become more costly over time. Reclamation

prioritizes infrastructure assets based on detailed design criteria: engineering need, consequence of failure, financial considerations, efficiency opportunities, scheduling, and others.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) water management functions are implemented through three complementary programs. The Water Rights Negotiation/Litigation Program defines and protects Indian water rights and settles claims through negotiations if possible, or alternatively, through litigation. The Water Management Program assists tribes in managing, conserving, and utilizing trust water resources. The BIA Irrigation, Power and Safety of Dams program operates and manages irrigation, power, and dam infrastructure. The program sets high standards for maintenance, collaboration with stakeholders, and effective water and power distribution. The BIA manages facilities to ensure they do not present an unacceptable risk to downstream lives and property; and are managed in an economically, technically, environmentally, and culturally sound manner.

Agency Priority Performance Goal: By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Reclamation will facilitate water conservation capacity of 53,800 acre-feet to help reduce the impact of drought.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BOR	Percent of water infrastructure in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating (FRR) [high- and significant-hazard dams]	74%
BOR	Amount of acre feet of water conservation capacity enabled to help address drought	1,392,000
BIA	Percent of projects completed in support of water management, planning, and pre-development.	77%

GOAL #3: Foster partnerships to achieve balanced stewardship and use of our public lands

The DOI will assess, utilize and enhance the most promising of partnership practices and explore the potential for furthering these types of opportunities to work jointly with other individuals and organizations for the benefit of the nation's public lands, waters, and historic and cultural sites and the fish and wildlife species.

STRATEGY #1: Build and maintain partnership programs

Public and private partnerships provide opportunities for greater engagement of people and organizations in caring for and managing the natural, historical, cultural and physical resources across the DOI's 500 million acres. This can be especially beneficial for our national park units, National Wildlife Refuges, wildlife management areas, and national conservation public lands. Support can come from other federal or state agencies, tribal nations, volunteers, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, corporations or foundations through sponsorship or philanthropy. DOI bureaus should endeavor to partner with non-traditional stakeholders to increase our relevance to the American public, rather than just relying on traditional constituencies.

The National Park Service already has the authority from Congress to accept monetary and in-kind gifts, including those collected through the National Park Foundation. Similarly, the Fish and Wildlife Service has authority to accept gifts from some entities, including some non-profits organizations and the federally chartered non-profit National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The Bureau of Land Management has Congressional authority to accept monetary and other types of donations, along with Congressional authorization to create a Bureau of Land Management Foundation. The BLM works with local, state, federal, and private partners on nearly all of the activities undertaken on public lands, from identifying important fish and wildlife habitat with the state game and fish agencies, working with local rangeland fire protection associations, to providing hunting and fishing opportunities for sports men groups. As permitted under current law, the DOI hopes to develop further philanthropic and sponsorship opportunities, and promote other partnering best practices.

The DOI utilizes migratory bird joint ventures as collaborative, regional partnerships of government agencies, non-profit organizations, corporations, tribes, and individuals that conserve habitat for the benefit of priority bird species, other wildlife, and people. Joint ventures bring these diverse partners together under the guidance of national and international bird conservation plans to design and implement landscape-scale conservation efforts in support of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the other bird management plans. These joint ventures use state-of-the-art science to ensure that diverse habitat is available to sustain migratory bird populations for the benefit of those species, other wildlife, and the public. These partnerships have a three-decade record of success, they use non-regulatory solutions and economically sound business approaches, promote working lands conservation, sporting, and outdoor traditions, and support resilient urban and rural communities.

The Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture working near each other in the field continue to pool resources, conduct joint projects and share services under Service First agreements. Service First authority promotes collaborating across bureau and agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and integrate responses to federal land management issues and opportunities. Bureaus of the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperate in jointly managing some areas. For example, the National Trail, and Wild and Scenic River Systems span every state of our nation and exceed the length of the interstate highway system. Federal land management agencies, as well as state and local jurisdictions and partners enhance recreational access, conserve the Nation's heritage, and leverage the federal investment to manage these nationally recognized resources cooperatively.

Building new partnerships for infrastructure improvement is a priority at the DOI. There are also numerous volunteer opportunities, where individuals or associations provide service in caring for natural resources and cultural and historic assets on our public lands (see www.volunteer.gov). The DOI will also empower managers in the field to directly engage in further collaboration within the units they manage, identify best practices for collaboration and partnering, provide training and technical support, and encourage field managers to find or create and execute partnerships on a local basis.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Number of estimated work hours in a national park unit, National Wildlife Refuge, or Bureau of Land Management site that are performed or sponsored by a private citizen, National Service participant or non-federal entity	9,870,000
BOR, FWS, CUPCA	Number of non-DOI acres restored, including through partnerships	593,876
FWS	Number of non-DOI acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres restored through partnerships	602,654
FWS, CUPCA	Number of non-DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles restored, including through partnerships	255

GOAL #4: Inform land use planning processes especially for public use and access

The DOI will review and improve its land planning processes to enable expanded access and use of the public lands while restoring a balance between conservation and utilization of the lands, energy and mineral resources, waters, fish and wildlife, and other natural and cultural resources. The DOI will employ the latest available science, land-imaging and other technology tools and datasets to inform land use planning to maximize the societal value of land planning. The DOI land use planning will take into account the land use plans of affected local and state governments.

STRATEGY #1: Assess land use planning processes for public access and use of DOI lands

DOI land use and management plans ensure that the public lands are managed in accordance with the intent of Congress as stated in several authorities including, but not limited to: the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act, the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration and Improvement Acts, the Organic Act of 1916 (National Park Service), the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

Land use planning efforts vary across bureaus based on enabling legislation. The National Park Service creates management plans to execute its mission. The National Wildlife Refuge system creates Comprehensive Conservation Plans for each refuge as part of their mission. The BLM's mission states that its duty is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the multiple use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

A common thread through all three bureaus' mission is the need to accommodate and benefit the use and enjoyment of these public lands for both present and future generations. Some lands are made available for multiple use and sustained yield, other lands for conservation and preservation values.

The DOI is undertaking the challenge to review and improve its planning processes in ways that can best meet the sometimes-conflicting uses for public lands. The DOI will strive to enhance public participation and input to the planning processes, engage our state, local, and tribal government partners, provide open and understandable decision-making, expedite the decision-making process

so that implementation is not delayed, and ensure that public access and use is appropriately built into every land use plan.

STRATEGY #2: Inform land use planning with mapping and land imaging

The USGS is the lead civilian mapping agency for the Nation and supports the conduct of detailed surveys and the resulting distribution of high-quality and highly-accurate topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic maps and data. Remote sensing satellites and aircraft monitor the Earth providing information that is broad, precise, impartial, and easily available. For more than 45 years, Landsat satellites have collected data over the planet's land surface to support global research studies. These data constitute the longest continuous record of the Earth's land surface as seen from space.

High-resolution information results in geologic maps and geospatial products that enable precise planning of civil engineering and transportation infrastructure, versatile urban planning, improved flood projection, timely and accurate emergency response, effective hazard identification and mitigation, and detailed environmental analyses. This information is also used by DOI bureau land managers in exercising their responsibilities to help plan for public land use and access.

In the next decade, the USGS will continue to improve spatial and temporal resolution through research and development of products such as full four-dimensional geologic maps, showing how the complex geologic structure of the Earth has changed through time. Mapping accuracy through cutting-edge technology allows for precise planning for energy development, transportation and pipeline infrastructure projects, urban planning, flood prediction, emergency response, and hazard mitigation.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent of land-area coverage available to the public over the internet through the National Geologic Mapping Database	55.5%
USGS	Percent of foundational topographic information services updated quarterly to support on-demand mapping	100%
USGS	Percent completion of research efforts related to land resource management	100%
USGS	Number of terabytes of remotely-sensed data managed	20,140
USGS	Percent increase of scientific research enhanced with Advanced Research Computation	100%

MISSION AREA 2 Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

The DOI provides access to and manages energy and other resources including oil, gas, coal, timber, grazing, and non-energy minerals on public lands and oil and gas on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The DOI is committed to achieve and maintain American energy dominance through responsible productivity of the public lands for the multiple use and economic benefit of present and future generations.

GOAL #1 Ensure energy and economic security for America

The DOI is the steward and manager of much of America's natural resources which include oil, gas, coal, minerals, and renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, geothermal, and hydropower. There are vast amounts of untapped domestic energy reserves on public lands. DOI is also reinitiating the National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program development process, which is a key component of the America First Energy Plan and the Executive Order on Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy, to bring jobs and prosperity to millions of Americans. Our nation will use the revenues from energy production to rebuild our roads, schools, bridges and public infrastructure. The Department's "all-of-the-above" strategy facilitates development of all energy resources and makes our nation stronger by decreasing dependency on other nations, creating jobs, and helping drive economic growth.

STRATEGY #1: Promote safe and robust oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy resource development

Oil, gas, coal and renewable energy form the cornerstones of our nation's energy base, and the DOI will continue to expand production of both offshore and onshore conventional and renewable U.S. energy resources while ensuring safety and reliability through efficient permitting, appropriate standards, assessment and oversight. As demand for energy resources grows, agencies within the DOI, such as BIA, BLM, BOEM, BSEE, OSMRE, and USGS conduct work that is increasingly critical to understand the exploration, development, quality, supply, and use of our energy resources. This work enables the DOI to advance new sources of efficient energy generation, facilitate the construction of new or upgraded infrastructure including transmission networks, develop resources responsibly, and ensure that the American public receives a fair return on that development.

Agency Priority Performance Goals:

- ***By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Land Management will eliminate its backlog of fluid mineral Applications for Permits to Drill (APD's) that have been pending for 3 years or more.***
- ***By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Land Management will process 80% of parcels created for leasing public lands for oil, gas, or other mineral extraction within 180 days.***

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of pending fluid minerals Applications for Permits to Drill (APDs) which are processed	75%
BLM	Percent of high priority fluid mineral cases that have completed inspection during the year	100%

BLM	Percent of coal lease applications processed	15%
BLM	Number of acres of public lands made available for oil and natural gas leasing	25,000,000
BLM, BOEM	Number of megawatts of approved capacity authorized (that year) on public land and the OCS for renewable energy development while ensuring compliant environmental review	2,020
BOEM	Percentage of Exploration and Development Plan reviews completed within statutory timelines	100%
BOEM	Percent of offshore lease sale processes completed, pursuant to the Secretary's approved National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted energy resource assessments and research	100%
BSEE	Amount of operational offshore oil spilled (in barrels) per million barrels produced	3.1
BSEE	Percent of high risk production facilities and operations inspected	95%
BSEE	Number of recordable injuries per 200,000 offshore man hours worked	.390
BSEE	Percentage of high risk well operation (e.g., drilling) inspections completed	95%

STRATEGY #2: Provide hydropower

The DOI facilitates the development and use of renewable energy that employs hydropower energy to strengthen US energy security, economic vitality, and quality of life. The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) is the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the U.S., operating and maintaining 53 hydroelectric power facilities, comprising over 14,700 megawatts of capacity. On average, Reclamation generates 40 million megawatt-hours of electricity each year – the equivalent demand of over 3.5 million U.S. homes, returning over one billion dollars in federal revenue through power sales. Sustainable, low cost hydropower generated by Reclamation projects has provided significant value to the nation, spurring the development of the western U.S. – through the provision of firm electric power to rural communities as well as ancillary service to support western interconnect grid reliability. Reclamation works to promote domestic energy production by enabling new energy generation from hydropower, a renewable source, and facilitating the construction of new or upgraded transmission networks, helping to create new industries and supply chains, driving economic growth and job creation, and helping provide more energy from domestic sources.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BOR	Amount of hydropower capability, in megawatts (MW), installed from 2018 through 2022	50
BOR	Percent of hydropower facilities in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating	73%

BOR	Percent of time that Bureau of Reclamation hydroelectric generating units are available to the interconnected Western electrical system during daily peak demand periods	80%

GOAL #2: Ensure access to mineral resources

The DOI recognizes that public lands are an important source of the Nation's non-energy mineral resources, some of which are critical and strategic. The DOI is committed to ensuring appropriate access to public lands, for orderly and efficient development of these resources under principles of multiple use management.

STRATEGY #1: Manage non-energy mineral development

DOI promotes energy security, environmental protection, and economic development through responsible, science-informed management of mineral resources. The BLM conducts environmental analysis of complex issues necessary to authorize use on BLM public lands and meet the increasing demand for non-energy solid leasable minerals, especially potash and phosphate. BOEM's Marine Minerals Program provides sand and gravel resources to protect and improve coastal infrastructure and the environment locally, regionally and nationally. Additionally, the in-depth science provided by the USGS Mineral Resources Program (http://minerals.usgs.gov) facilitates resource discovery and provides essential information and analyses for strategic, evidence-based economic and geopolitical decisions.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of non-energy mineral exploration and development requests processed	30%
BOEM	Number of sand and gravel requests processed for coastal restoration projects	8
USGS	Percent completion of targeted non-fuel mineral resource assessments and research	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted Critical Mineral Early Warning System (CMEWS) analyses and evaluations	100%

GOAL #3: Ensure public receives fair market value for resources; and recover costs where appropriate

Rents, royalties, and bonuses are collected from issuing leases on public lands, and offshore on the OCS, and for the amount of the resource extracted. These resources include oil, gas, coal, forage for grazing, and access to renewable energy resources such as solar, wind, and geothermal. It is important that these financial transactions include appropriate accountability and fair return to the American public. The associated regulations and practices for these fees and collections must also be rational and transparent to ensure businesses that extract and process these resources can function efficiently and profitably in order to support the economic growth and security of the nation.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure accurate and timely accounting and collection of energy revenues

The Department collects, disburses and verifies natural resource revenue generated from issuing leases on public lands, and offshore on the OCS. This revenue is then shared with states and localities according to specific statutory obligations, allocated to various Federal programs, or deposited in the General Fund of the Treasury, thus serving to reduce the deficit. The DOI is committed to managing these transactions accurately, responsibly, and in a timely manner. The Royalty Policy Committee has been reinstated by the Secretary to elicit robust advice and recommendations regarding policies related to royalties from these resources and their benefit to the American public.

The BSEE helps ensure the accuracy of metering from higher risk hydrocarbon sites that experience high volumes of throughput and/or have a past history of noncompliance to help ensure the appropriate financial benefit is obtained for the American people. Additionally, data driven procedures enable the BOEM and the BLM to ensure bid adequacy through a two phased review system for onshore and offshore leasing, and also allow for timely collection and disbursement of mineral and renewable energy revenues by the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR). ONRR's distributions benefit the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Historic Preservation Fund, and the Reclamation Fund, helping to ensure America's natural resources and rich history are available to be enjoyed by current and future generations. Distributions to states are used to fund capital projects such as schools, roads, and public buildings. Revenues collected from leases on Indian lands directly benefit members of the Indian community.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
ONRR	Percent of federal and Indian oil and gas revenues disbursed on a timely basis per statute ($ Billions)	98%
BSEE	Percent of oil royalty meters, identified as high-risk using a risk based methodology, where meter provings will be observed	10%

STRATEGY #2: Ensure effective collection and application of recreation fees

The nation's public lands offer many excellent locations for public recreation in the outdoors at national parks and monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, BLM public lands and other locations, in historic sites and buildings and at national treasures such as the Statue of Liberty. Facilities (roads, visitor centers, bathrooms, historic buildings, museums, etc.) that enable visitors to enjoy their public lands and sites are expensive to maintain. All of the major land management bureaus have large backlogs of deferred maintenance at these facilities. The DOI will continuously review its fee structure to determine how best to accommodate visitors enjoyment while collecting fees that help to offset some of the maintenance costs required to keep visitor-facing infrastructure in good shape for visitors. All such reviews of fees and changes will remain consistent with Congressional direction that has been provided through a series of laws including the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

The National Park Service established fee structure guidelines in 2006 to standardize rates across the country. The resulting tier system assigns each park unit to a tier and associated entrance fee schedule based on the type of site and the amenities provided for the public. During 2017, the National Park Service initiated a comprehensive review to evaluate and consider bringing entrance fees at all park units into compliance with their assigned tier through a process of public engagement by January 1, 2018. Even with proposed increases, entrance fees remain affordable at $15-$30 per vehicle, which is normally good for several days. The America the Beautiful Pass Annual Pass remains at the price of $80 for one year for unlimited entrance fees for almost all national parks, Fish and Wildlife and BLM sites where fees are required. Congress raised the one-time cost of the America the Beautiful Lifetime Senior Pass for those age 62 or older from the previous fee of $10 to $80 effective in August 2017.

Reviews of other amenity fees (such as for campgrounds and special use permits) will also strive to set fair and equitable fees for activities that visitors enjoy after they enter the park, refuge, or recreation area. The bureaus will seek public comment during any process to review and modify fee amounts to ensure that the public has an opportunity to raise questions and provide comments regarding any fee changes. The bureaus will also identify ways to modernize and enhance fee collection mechanisms that speed access to facilities and/or reduce the cost to the federal government for fee collection.

GOAL #4: Focus timber programs on "healthy forests" lifecycle

The BLM manages forests or woodlands for the benefit of the American public. The BLM maintains a permanent source of timber supply, which supports the production of lumber, plywood, and paper, while also protecting watersheds, regulating stream flow, contributing to the economic stability of local communities and industries, and providing recreational opportunities. Responsible management that reduces fire fuels improves the health and resilience of our forests and helps to prevent forest fires.

The BIA manages forests as a trust asset of Indian tribes. Tribally owned forest assets contribute substantially to national sources of timber supply. Many tribes now actively participate in management of their forest assets through self-governance and self-determination programs.

STRATEGY #1: Manage sales of timber and forest product resources

Forest management programs within the DOI generate economic benefits through timber harvests on public and Indian trust lands, and restoring forest health. The benefits of healthy forests include typical forest products such as timber and biomass but also include opportunities for recreation and maintenance of watershed health.

The BLM has two focus areas for forest management, the Oregon and California grant lands and the public domain lands. For Oregon and California lands, generating revenue for counties is the primary driver of forest management treatments, while for public domain lands, fire management is the primary driver for forest management. The BLM is currently reviewing its management plans to determine prospects for offering additional timber for sale in the future.

The BIA manages forests as a trust asset of Indian tribes. Tribally owned forest assets contribute substantially to the national sources of timber supply. Many tribes now actively participate in management of their forest assets through the self-governance and self-determination programs.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of allowable sale quantity (ASQ) timber offered for sale consistent with applicable resource management plans (O&C--Oregon and California--only)	100%
BLM	Volume (mmbf) of wood products offered consistent with applicable management plans	285
BIA	Percent of Annual Allowable Cut prepared and offered for sale or free use	48%

GOAL #5: Manage grazing resources

The BLM manages livestock grazing on over half of its public lands; approximately 18,000 permits and leases are held by ranchers that graze their livestock on over 21,000 grazing allotments throughout BLM managed lands. The BLM's overall objective is to ensure the long-term health and productivity of these lands. BLM uses a variety of methods to accomplish this objective – periodic rest or deferment of grazing in pastures in specific allotments during critical growth periods; vegetation treatments; and projects such as water developments and fences. The terms and conditions for grazing on BLM-managed lands such as stipulations on forage use and season of use are set forth in the permits and leases issued by the Bureau to public land ranchers.

STRATEGY #1: Provide for sustainable forage and grazing

Livestock grazing contributes to food production and adds to local economic stability, and it can be used in certain areas to maintain and improve land health by reducing hazardous fuels and minimizing the likelihood and impact of catastrophic wildfires. The BLM partners with local communities and state and local governments to develop rangeland improvement projects, stewardship contracting, and good neighbor authority in its rangeland management. In recent years, the number of grazing permits and leases processed has decreased due to dramatic increases in litigation and drought. The BLM continues to look for opportunities to streamline the grazing permit process and provide livestock operators greater flexibility in grazing their livestock on public lands.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of grazing permits and leases processed as planned consistent with applicable resource management plans	16%
BIA	Percent of tribal range units assessed during the reporting year for level of utilization	15%

MISSION AREA 3 Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Outdoor recreation is integral to a healthy lifestyle for millions of Americans. Visitors to the DOI's public lands and waters take advantage of the physical, mental, and social benefits that outdoor recreational experiences provide. Americans have the opportunity to hunt and fish on public lands managed by the DOI as part of its multiple-use policy that also includes hiking, camping, climbing, boating, wildlife viewing, and other outdoor pursuits.

GOAL #1: Expand hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands and waters

Hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities contributed $156 billion in economic activity across the United States according to the FWS National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. More than 101 million Americans, or 40 percent of the United States' population 16 and older, pursue wildlife-related recreation, which supports 480,000 American jobs.

Following two initial Secretarial Orders issued on his first day, Secretary Zinke issued Secretarial Order 3356 in September, 2017, to further expand public access to lands and waters administered by the DOI, for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other forms of outdoor recreation. In addition, this Order gave greater priority to recruiting and retaining sportsmen and women conservationists, with an emphasis on engaging youth, veterans, minorities, and underserved communities that traditionally have low participation in outdoor recreation activities.

STRATEGY #1: Promote hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands and waters

There are 372 National Wildlife Refuges and wetland management districts open to hunting and 308 refuges and wetland management districts open to fishing. As practiced on refuges, hunting and fishing do not pose a threat to wildlife populations, and in some instances, are actually necessary for sound wildlife management. For example, deer populations will often grow too large for the refuge habitat to support. If some of the deer are not harvested, they destroy habitat for themselves and other animals and die from starvation or disease. The harvesting of wildlife on refuges is carefully regulated to ensure an appropriate balance between population levels and wildlife habitat. The FWS National Fish Hatcheries continue to be a valuable tool in managing fisheries providing recreation opportunities to America's 36 million anglers who spend $46 billion annually in pursuit of their favored pastime.

There are 76 areas managed by the National Park Service that permit hunting. A total of 51,097,000 acres managed by the NPS are open to hunting at various times during the year, representing approximately 60% of the total acreage of the NPS system. The Bureau of Land Management estimates that over 95 percent of the nearly 250 million acres of BLM-managed public lands are open to hunting.

The recreation areas developed as a result of Bureau of Reclamation water projects are among the Nation's most popular for water-based outdoor recreation. There are 289 Reclamation project areas that have developed recreation facilities and opportunities available for public use. Reclamation has approximately 6.5 million acres of land and water, most of which is available for public outdoor recreation. The 187 developed recreation areas managed by Reclamation or a non-Federal recreation partner draw over 24 million visits annually. The 187 developed recreation areas provide 549 campgrounds, 454 boat launch ramps, and more than 5,500 miles of shoreline.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
FWS	Number of National Wildlife Refuge acres newly opened to hunting and fishing	250,000
BLM	Number of legal public access transactions completed that facilitate open access to recreation opportunities	20
BLM	Number of newly installed campsites, restrooms, and other facilities that promote public access to BLM-managed public lands	30
BLM, BOR, FWS	Number of individuals participating in outdoor recreation activities at special events	5,420,000

GOAL #2: Enhance public satisfaction at DOI sites

Visitor satisfaction with the quality of experiences on public lands remains very high. Collectively, satisfaction is above 90 percent for the bureaus providing recreation services, e.g., interpretive programs, visitor centers, camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, boating, off-highway vehicle driving, wildlife viewing, photography, and climbing. Satisfaction with recreation services provided through facilitated programs remains very high – also above 90 percent.

STRATEGY #1: Enhance the enjoyment and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage

Survey results show that a sizeable percentage of visitors are satisfied with their experiences at parks, refuges and other public lands. Competition from other forms of entertainment pose challenges to the DOI in its quest to ensure that all Americans understand, appreciate and enjoy the special places protected by the national parks, wildlife refuges and BLM lands.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of visitors satisfied with the quality of the experience	95%
BLM, NPS	Percent of visitors satisfied with facilitated programs	94%

MISSION AREA 4 Fulfilling Our Trust and Insular Responsibilities

The DOI upholds the Federal government's unique trust responsibilities by fostering the government-to-government relationships between the Federal government and federally recognized Tribes, and by providing services to individual American Indians, and Alaskan Natives. The U.S. also has important relationships with the affiliated insular areas including the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The DOI administers and oversees Federal Assistance to the three Freely Associated States: The Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

GOAL #1: Support tribal self-determination, self-governance, and sovereignty

The DOI is strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship between the Federal Government and tribal nations because self-determination, sovereignty, self-government, and self-reliance are the tools that will enable tribal nations to shape their own destiny. Tribes have also assumed an expanded role in the operation of Indian programs through Public Law 93-638 contracting. Tribes contract with the Federal Government to operate programs serving their tribal members and other eligible persons.

STRATEGY #1: Support self-governance and self-determination

Self-Governance: Under a self-governance compact, a tribe takes over most or all operations affecting that tribe. The Indian Affairs' Office of Self-Governance (OSG) implements the Tribal Self Governance Act of 1994 by developing and implementing regulations, policies, and guidance in support of self-governance initiatives. Indian Affairs advocates for the transfer of Federal programmatic authorities and resources to tribal governments and supports tribal sovereignty and an expanded role in the operation of Indian programs. The program work includes negotiating annual funding agreements with eligible tribes and consortia, and resolving issues identified in financial and program audits of self-governance operations.

Self-Determination: Under a self-determination contract, a tribe contracts with BIA to take over operation of a program formerly delivered by BIA employees. The funds BIA previously used to run the program transfer to the tribe. Self-determination typically is a program-by-program decision. The Indian Self-Determination Program within BIA works to further American Indian tribes' exercise of self-determination and conducts oversight of self-determination contracts and grants.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
AS-IA	Percent of Self-Governance Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audits are made within 6 months	99%
BIA	Percent of Self-Determination Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audits are made within 6 months	91%
AS-IA	Percent of P.L. 93-638 contracts with clean audits	90%

GOAL #2: Fulfill fiduciary trust

The DOI has ongoing responsibilities to ensure that trust and restricted Federal Indian-owned lands are managed effectively and to accurately account for revenues and disbursements in a timely and efficient manner. The Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians and the Bureau of Indian Affairs oversee fiduciary trust activities. The DOI assists American Indian and Alaska Native communities in developing capabilities needed to strengthen their communities and maintain economic self-sufficiency. Efforts such as reducing fractionation of Indian lands and developing conservation and resource management plans help tribes maximize economic benefits of their lands. Securing unsubsidized employment reduces dependency on Federal subsidized programs such as childcare assistance, food stamps, and welfare.

Trust assets are crucial to the financial well-being of individual Indian beneficiaries and key components in the economies of tribes. As such, these assets must be managed with great care, paying attention that all financial transactions are completed accurately and as quickly as possible. Since passage of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform of 1994, the trust accounts managed by OST are balanced to the penny on a daily basis. OST has also incorporated industry-standard practices, such as a lockbox facility, to shorten the time between the payment of a lease and deposit of those funds into a trust account. For Fiscal Years (FY) 2013 through 2017, OST has received a "clean" audit opinion for Individual Indian Monies (IIM) accounts, attesting to its professionalism in managing these assets. Despite this proven record of success, OST retains a commitment to continual reform, looking for more ways to improve its service to individual Indians and tribes.

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) helps provide quality education opportunities starting in early childhood in accordance with tribally identified strategies and needs that contribute to the social well-being of the community and sustain Indian cultures. Tribes directly operate 150 of the 183 BIE funded schools through self-determination contracts and Tribally Controlled Schools Act grants.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure accurate and timely management of fiduciary trust assets

In its effort to promote the fulfillment of fiduciary trust processes, the DOI assists Indian tribes in developing capacity and infrastructure needed to attain economic self-sufficiency on reservations to enhance their quality of life. One critical path is economic development and job creation. The BIA coordinates development of comprehensive tribal programs with the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services. The DOI offers programs and financial services that encourage start-ups and help position Indian businesses and individuals to compete in today's economy.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BIA	Total average gain in earnings of participants that obtain unsubsidized employment through Job Placement Training programs for tribes submitting P.L. 102-477 related reports	$10.82
BIA	Percent of active, supervised Individual Indian Monies (IIM) case records reviewed in accordance with regulations	98%

BIA	Increase in the percentage of submitted land-into-trust applications with determinations (Fee to Trust)	40%
OST	Percent of financial information initially processed accurately in trust beneficiaries' accounts.	99%
OST	Percent of oil and gas revenue transmitted by ONRR recorded in the Trust Funds Accounting System within 24 hours of receipt.	99%
OST	Percent of timeliness of financial account information provided to trust beneficiaries.	100%

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen Indian Education

Improving performance in BIE schools is a challenge the DOI is addressing through initiatives aimed at increasing student achievement. Students at BIE-funded schools receive a culturally relevant, high-quality education that prepares them with the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to flourish in the opportunities of tomorrow, become healthy and successful individuals, and lead their communities and sovereign nations to a thriving future that preserves their unique cultural identities.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BIE	Percent of students attending BIE-funded schools completing high school with a regular diploma within four years of their 9th grade entry date	69%

GOAL #3: Strengthen economic and health capacities in the US Territories, and fulfill US compact obligations to the freely associated states

The DOI supports the U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States (FAS) through the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) under the Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs. The U.S.-affiliated insular areas are: the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Residents of these U.S. territories are U.S. citizens or nationals. The DOI also administers and oversees Federal assistance provided to the three Freely Associated States: the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. The Assistant Secretary Insular and International Affairs and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out these responsibilities on behalf of the Secretary.

STRATEGY #1: Bolster Healthcare Capacity

The Territories and FAS experience significant healthcare challenges. The DOI along with other partners, such as the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will work with insular area partners to improve the quality of healthcare across the insular areas. The DOI will make investments to implement corrective action plans which address chronic operational and facility shortcomings at territorial hospitals, which serve their U.S. citizens and nationals, with a focus on those identified by the HHS/Centers for Medicare/Medicaid (CMS) and local elected officials. Additional investments will be made to combat non-communicable and communicable diseases impacting the Pacific and Caribbean islands such as obesity, diabetes, and tuberculosis.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Percent of Community Water Systems (CWS) that receive health based violations notices from the US Environmental Protection Agency	9%
OIA	Number of new and relapse tuberculosis cases occurring during the calendar year on the islands (per 1,000 people in the population)	1
OIA	Percent of patients with newly diagnosed tuberculosis disease for whom 12 months or less of treatment is indicated, who complete treatment within 12 months	95%
OIA	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (number of deaths to infants from birth through 1 year of age per number of live births)	6

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen Island Economies

Strong local economies provide employment and a viable tax base for citizens in the Insular Areas. The DOI will assist the insular areas to strengthen their economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, public services and technical assistance which will attract and retain private sector investment. The DOI will promote policies and improve Federal coordination on issues impacting insular economies.

Capital investments will be made in basic utilities, hospitals, schools, ports, tourist areas, telecommunications and roads as they create the backbone for increased economic activity. Pursuing renewable energy strategies lessens dependence on oil imports and provides more reliable and affordable energy.

Stable economies and fiscally prudent insular governments foster a more hospitable climate for investment in the islands. Technical assistance will be provided to equip the insular areas with the statistical and management information necessary for informed leadership decision making, expert consultants to effectively improve insular government financial policies and procedures, and strong financial management systems along with technical planning abilities.

The DOI will help create economic opportunity by forging partnerships that bolster tourism and attract industry by promoting the unique island cultures, natural resources, and by preparing the next generation of business leaders. Key indicators of OIA's effectiveness include the following:

Average per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP): In the four U.S. Territories (Guam, US Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)) for which it is measured, GDP remains a fraction of that for other U.S. citizens in the states. OIA provides technical assistance to the insular areas to assist with economic development planning and execution and supports local planning and education activities related to tourism, agriculture, and aquaculture. In addition, OIA funds infrastructure projects related to economic development, such as fiber optic connectivity, port improvements and renovations to tourist districts.

Cost of electricity: Without indigenous fossil fuels, insular areas face great challenges in achieving reliable, affordable, and secure energy, which can have severe economic effects on the island communities. These areas depend almost entirely on imported petroleum products for energy. The residential cost per kilowatt hour for power in the territories directly impacts the quality of life in

the insular areas and remains over three times higher than the national average. To try to address high electricity costs, the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) contracts with the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to engage territories and provide energy efficiency and renewable energy assessments, help develop strategic energy plans, and provide technical assistance in reviewing and implementing alternative energy projects. The OIA, through its Empowering Insular Communities grant program, continues to provide funding for the highest priority projects identified in the energy plans including photovoltaic, wind and geothermal development projects, as well as assuring traditional energy plants continue operating.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Difference in the mean GDP per capita in the 4 US territories compared to the mean GDP per capita in the US	60%
OIA	Difference in the residential cost per kilowatt hour for power from the national average	2X

STRATEGY #3: Fulfill US Compact Obligations

In coordination with the State Department, the DOI will implement compact obligations with three U.S.-affiliated Freely Associated States (FAS): the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the Republic of Palau (Palau). The DOI will make direct grants to the FSM and RMI under their amended Compacts to provide assistance in six sectors: education, health care, infrastructure, public sector capacity building, private sector development, and environment. The DOI will also continue to support U.S. compact obligations to Palau.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Ratio of FAS private sector jobs versus total FAS employment	55%
OIA	Ratio of FAS public sector jobs versus total FAS Employment	45%
OIA	Percent of FAS employment attributable to OIA Grants and Programs	30%
OIA	Percent of FAS employee compensation attributable to OIA grants and programs	25%
OIA	Average FAS private sector wage rate as a percentage of average FAS central government wage rate	45%

MISSION AREA 5 Protecting Our People and the Border

Inherent in DOI's management responsibilities of the public lands is the requirement to protect employees and visitors. Ensuring employee and public safety is complex and requires the resources of multiple bureaus and offices covering four disciplines – law enforcement, emergency management, wildland fire, and natural hazards science. The DOI's Law Enforcement Program has the third largest contingent of Federal law enforcement officers in the Executive Branch. Depending on the season, approximately 3,500-4,000 law enforcement officers, rangers, and other employees patrol vast acres of public lands, national parks, wildlife refuges, and Indian communities and protect people, as well as natural, cultural, and heritage resources from illegal activities. Wildland fires potentially endanger lives and property. The Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) coordinates among the DOI's land management bureaus and the US Forest Service to safely, efficiently, and effectively prevent, respond to, and manage the impacts of wildfires. The USGS also protects lives by monitoring and warning of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides, and environmental health hazards.

The DOI has land on both the Canadian and Mexican borders, and a presence in the Pacific that exposes Americans to risks from Asia. The Administration is presently emphasizing securing our southern border with Mexico to better protect our country. The DOI has a considerable amount of land that borders Mexico. As such, the DOI's law enforcement officers work in partnership with the US Customs and Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Agency, and tribal, state and local governments to address the flow of illegal immigration, gun and drug trafficking, and to mitigate the impacts associated with these activities, which affect DOI lands and our community partners. In addition, OWF shares wildfire management responsibilities with Mexico along the southern border.

GOAL 1: Ensure emergency preparedness & DOI law enforcement staffing addresses public safety risks

The DOI places a high priority on safety, security, and preparedness, and will uphold its responsibilities for protecting lives, resources, and property through a wide variety of program areas, including law enforcement, health and safety, security, and emergency management. The DOI's preference is to achieve public and visitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations by using techniques that are not confrontational and are designed to elicit voluntary as opposed to coerced compliance.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure public safety on our lands

The Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES) provides program direction and oversight on law enforcement policy, border security, drug enforcement, training at the national academy, internal affairs, victims assistance, program compliance, and inspections as well as emergency deployment of DOI law enforcement resources. The Office coordinates with other Federal, state and local agencies (including the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Central Intelligence Agency) on law enforcement and security issues, including infrastructure on the Outer Continental Shelf, the Trans-Alaska pipeline, and gas transmission lines.

To help ensure effective protection of people on DOI lands, each bureau will determine the effective level and distribution of law enforcement staffing for each of its programs on a unit-by-unit basis. The effective level and distribution of staffing needs is dependent on the differing

conditions, levels of risk, and populations served in each unit, captured through a staffing model developed and monitored by each bureau. The DOI's bureaus will engage in developing these staffing models, to determine on a program basis the effective levels of law enforcement staffing that are needed across its units, evaluate the actual level of law enforcement staffing that presently exists, and develop recommendations for better ensuring the effective level of staffing for protecting the people in each unit.

The DOI will strengthen law enforcement in Indian Country by putting more officers on the streets, bolstering tribal courts, and helping fight violent crime and drug abuse. Tribal justice systems are an essential part of tribal governments, which interface with BIA and tribal law enforcement activities. Congress and the Federal courts have repeatedly recognized tribal justice systems as the appropriate forums for adjudicating disputes and minor criminal activity within Indian Country. It is important that the BIA and tribal law enforcement activities complement the operations of the tribal courts to ensure that justice in the tribal forums is administered effectively.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OLES	Percent of DOI law enforcement agencies with a current law enforcement staffing plan	100%
BIA	Percent of criminal offenses solved by arrest (Part 1 Offense Clearance Rate)	44%

Strategy 2: Prepare DOI to respond to and recover from emergencies and incidents

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) promotes all-hazard preparedness and response; ensures continuity of the DOI to perform essential functions during catastrophic events; and assists communities during imminent threats. Collectively, the DOI supports the five National Planning Frameworks (Protection, Prevention, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery) and their related five Federal Interagency Operational Plans, the National Incident Management System, and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan while continuing the DOI's mission to protect natural and cultural resources. The DOI's All-Hazards Baseline Operational Plan provides the baseline guidance for how the Department prepares for and responds to emergencies, regardless of type or cause. The OEM leads coordination and information sharing for emergency management regarding communications, public health, environmental health, wildlife health, integrated pest management, invasive species, and occupational safety and health across the DOI's bureaus and offices.

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PEM	Average Interior Readiness (I-READ) Index score for emergency preparedness across DOI Bureaus/Offices	91.0%

GOAL 2: Support securing our southern continental US border

The DOI manages 41% of the southwest border of the continental United States. The DOI's managers in the field are daily faced with tough decisions on how to best utilize their law

enforcement assets. An integrated government approach is essential to effectively securing the border and supporting the construction of a physical barrier where needed. Through partnering, federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies working in proximity to each other have been able to address critical issues like illegal immigration and marijuana smuggling.

STRATEGY #1: Support securing our southern continental US border

The DOI's goal is to increase collaboration among the agencies operating along the border to better understand each other's mission, share resources, and coordinate efforts. This is accomplished by routine interagency coordination, participating in local Border Management Task Force (BMTF) meetings, interagency training, an annual interagency border forum, and law enforcement specific operations.

The US Border Patrol is the main federal agency responsible for patrolling DOI lands adjacent to the US/Mexican Border. The DOI's goal is to work with US Border Patrol to decrease illegal immigration on DOI managed public lands through collaborative efforts with partnering agencies.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
PMB/OLES	Number of apprehensions on DOI-managed lands	Reduced Annually

GOAL #3: Manage wildland fire to reduce risk and improve ecosystem and community resilience

The DOI, working with the Department of Agriculture, will improve the way that both agencies manage wildland fire by ensuring that fire management assets are used in the most efficient way possible. The DOI will work with state, local, tribal, and other partners to ensure a coordinated approach to wildland fire management that enables protection responsibilities to be exchanged and resources shared to improve operational efficiency and reduce management duplication. The DOI will continue to integrate science and technology into informing and supporting the firefighters with the appropriate training tools, resources and program support to enable them to work safely and effectively.

The DOI is developing new wildland fire management performance measures to better articulate and determine the efficacy of Department and Administration resources in achieving desired resource conditions that reduce the intensity, severity or negative effects of wildfire. As part of this effort, the Department has established a working group among the four DOI wildland fire bureaus, as well as the U.S. Forest Service, which will explore the feasibility of concepts and principles in wildfire risk mitigation, and examine the value of the strategic placement of fuels treatments as informed by a risk assessment and mitigation plan. This group will develop recommendations for a) establishing outcome-based targets, and b) annually evaluating the performance of the program in meeting the desired objectives of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. When

completed, the DOI will incorporate the new performance measures into its strategic plan implementation.

STRATEGY #1: Integrate fire ecology, risk management, and collaboration to mitigate wildfire impacts

The Department's Office of Wildland Fire coordinates programs and funding across four bureaus (BLM, FWS, NPS, and BIA) that manage wildland fire programs to implement the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, a science-based collaborative approach to mitigating wildfire risk. The DOI, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, is committed to the inclusive principles of providing safe and effective response to wildfires, promoting fire-adapted communities, and creating fire-resilient landscapes. The DOI strives to achieve a science-based and technically effective wildland fire management program that is integrated with natural resources programs.

Successful management in fire-adapted communities and landscapes depends on implementation of a broad-based, intergovernmental, collaborative, and national cohesive strategy to address the mounting challenges of escalating fire behavior, increased risk to responders, greater natural and cultural resource losses, and increased threats and losses to communities. The DOI is a lead agency in this collaborative approach with the Forest Service and other Federal, state, tribal, and local governments and stakeholders.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OWF	Percent of DOI-managed landscape acres that are in desired condition as a result of fire management	36%
OWF	Percent of DOI-managed treatments that reduce risk to communities that have a wildland fire mitigation plan	94%
OWF	Percent of wildfires on DOI-managed landscapes where the initial strategies fully succeeded during the initial response phase	97%

GOAL #4: Provide science to safeguard communities from natural hazards

The USGS helps protect public safety, public health, and property by effectively delivering natural hazards and environmental health science. The Nation's emergency managers and public officials use USGS science to inform citizens of the potential risks these hazards pose to natural systems and the built environment, improve preparation and response activities, and protect the health of the public, which reduce the loss of life and property.

STRATEGY #1: Monitor and assess natural hazards risk and response planning

Responsibilities in natural hazards include the issuing of warnings and advisories for earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, and coastal erosion; informing warnings issued by other agencies for floods, tsunamis, and wildfires; providing timely information to emergency managers and response officials, the media, and the public to inform and educate communities during and between crises.

The USGS supports these activities by implementing 24x7 operations for seismic, volcanic, and geomagnetic monitoring efforts; maintaining an extensive national network of streamgages measuring rainfall, streamflow, stream height or lake levels; and developing the next generation of tools for rapid evaluation of hazards.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent completion of targeted natural hazards assessments of very high and high-threat regions of the Nation (Index)	4%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted landslide hazard research	8%
USGS	Percent completion of coastal and marine hazards and subsidence research (Index)	87%
USGS	Percent progress towards optimal monitoring capability for natural hazards situational awareness (Index)	52%
USGS	Percent of the National Streamflow Network (NSN) streamgages that are fully operational	88%

MISSION AREA 6 Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

The DOI is looking to better ensure effective operations and service delivery through coordinated organizational alignments in the field across bureaus and with other federal and nonfederal partners, and through putting a relatively larger fraction of our employees into the field to serve the public. Expediting environmental analysis and compliance, reducing the cost of space, collocating offices for more convenient public service and improved interagency coordination, and common regional boundaries are all being explored to help improve the DOI's infrastructure and related effectiveness.

GOAL #1: Align DOI organizational structure and workforce to improve partnership engagement and mission delivery

The DOI is reevaluating its organizational model to determine how to best achieve its mission of serving the American public, honoring our tribal and fiduciary trust responsibilities, and managing and protecting our land, water and natural resources for the next 100 years.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure effective alignment of DOI organizational structure in the field and with partners

The DOI intends to establish unified regional boundaries for its bureaus in 2018 and to further develop this approach in 2019. The goal is to improve overall operations, internal communications, customer service, and stakeholder engagement. Aligning geographic areas across the DOI will enhance coordination of resource decisions and policies and will simplify how citizens engage with the DOI.

Organizing bureaus with common geographic areas will allow for more integrated and better coordinated decision making across bureaus. Currently, the DOI's bureaus have more than 40 distinct regions, each with its own geographic boundaries. This complicates coordination and hampers the DOI's ability to get things done expeditiously. Having unified regions will help streamline operations and in doing so, provide better service to the American people. Bureaus within a region will focus on common issues, taking a comprehensive approach versus a bureau-centric approach. This culture shift will help us work better together to accomplish one vision. The new regional boundaries currently under discussion – and subject to modification – are expected to have minimal budgetary impact.

To improve customer service and reduce operational costs, sharing functions at field locations has already begun. For a number of years, the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture's US Forest Service (USFS) have pooled resources, conducted joint projects, and shared services under Service First agreements where field locations are in close proximity to each other. Service First authority promotes partnering across agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and to address federal land management issues in an integrated way.

STRATEGY #2: Improve strategic hiring, placement and retention efforts to ensure mission-critical service delivery through data driven processes and increased employee engagement efforts

The DOI is committed to managing America's vast natural and cultural resources with a 70,000-strong and 350 occupation-plus workforce that exemplifies high performance, customer service and

accountability. Historically, it has been difficult to attract certain DOI employees or recruits in certain occupations to positions in headquarters, or even to regional offices, because many of our employees enjoy living in relatively rural areas and because the cost of living is so much higher in large cities. Moving a larger fraction of our staff of some bureaus to relatively more rural and considerably less expensive areas in the West might therefore both reduce payroll cost because fewer employees would receive locality pay, and improve employee retention.

To facilitate strategic human capital planning, the Department has put in place hiring controls to emphasize new hiring for field-related positions rather than administrative and support positions in the Washington, D.C., and Denver, Colorado metropolitan areas.

The DOI will leverage automation to improve employee performance and training opportunities, and examine additional data to determine if operational efficiencies can be gained while minimizing redundancies under the current organizational design.

Data to be analyzed include:

- Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (*e.g.*, employee engagement)
- Geographic Representation of Bureau Mission Critical Occupations
- Geographic Representation of Administrative and Support Services
- Customer Service data
- Benchmarking cost allocations for administrative and support functions
- DOI Human Capital Framework Evaluations
- Accountability drivers on performance, labor management, EEO, etc.
- Bureau plans in response to the Department-wide Workplace Environment Survey

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PHR	Employee engagement index for DOI in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey	75%
PHR	DOI's ranking among large agencies in the Partnership for Public Services' Best Places to Work report	1

GOAL #2: Reduce administrative and regulatory burden

Executive Order 13771, Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, directed agencies to "manage the costs associated with the governmental imposition of private expenditures required to comply with Federal regulations." The DOI is reviewing its regulations and administrative processes to determine what cost savings, to the government and to the public, are possible by repealing regulations for which the perceived benefits might not be justified relative to their implementation costs, and which administrative processes could be streamlined or made more efficient.

STRATEGY #1: Evaluate and improve the net benefits of regulatory reform initiatives and policies, and identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification

On February 24, 2017, President Trump signed Executive Order 13777 entitled, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda" to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens placed on the American people. The Executive Order established a Regulatory Reform Officer (RRO) for each agency and a Regulatory Reform Task Force. The efforts of the RRO and the task force will help identify

regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. The costs of the regulatory and deregulatory actions are measured as the opportunity costs or cost savings to society, as defined in OMB Circular A-4 (i.e. the values reported are the cumulative net savings from deregulatory actions and costs of newly required regulatory actions over multiple years starting in FY 2017). In 2017, the DOI achieved cumulative net savings of $1.15B (net present value) from its deregulatory actions. Goals for subsequent years will be established as the DOI completes its review of target regulations.

Office	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
DOI	Total incremental cost of all EO 13771 regulatory actions and EO 13771 deregulatory actions (including costs or cost savings carried over from previous fiscal years)	TBD
DOI	Number of EO 13771 regulatory actions issued.	TBD
DOI	Number of EO 13771 deregulatory actions issued.	TBD

STRATEGY #2: Improve transparency and timeliness of the infrastructure permitting process

As outlined in the President's Executive Order "Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure," and the corresponding Secretarial Order 3355, a significant opportunity exists for agencies to streamline and collaborate on National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) compliance efforts. The DOI believes this can best be achieved through a unified regional structure adopted across the DOI which focuses on the intersecting issues within the same geographical boundaries.

The DOI is also establishing an Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting (ECEP) to expedite the responsible leasing and permitting of energy and mineral production. More specifically, this involves, but is not limited to, the processing of Applications for Permit to Drill (APD), Expressions of Interest (EOI), coal leasing actions, Right-of-Way (ROW) applications, and harmonization of appurtenant environmental reviews.

Office	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
DOI	*Cross-Agency Priority Goal metric on improving infrastructure permitting to be added*	
BLM	Average amount of time (in days) to process and administratively complete Applications for Permit to Drill	90 days
BLM	Average amount of time (in months) to issue a decision on major right-of-way applications	48 months
BLM	Average amount of time (in days) to process and administratively complete a grazing permit	390 days
FWS	Percent of formal Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultations addressed in a timely manner	100%

GOAL #3: Prioritize DOI infrastructure needs and reduce deferred maintenance backlog

Real property assets are integral to the success of Interior's mission. DOI's real property inventory includes approximately 43,000 buildings and 80,000 structures across six major land-holding bureaus, with a replacement value of approximately $300 billion. DOI manages the full life-cycle requirements of nearly every type of constructed asset found, including visitor centers, dams, schools, health clinics, power generating facilities, housing, hotels, fire stations, campgrounds, roads, water and wastewater treatment plants, offices, and more. Many of these assets have historic or cultural significance that not only support the DOI's mission, but are important to our Nation's heritage.

STRATEGY #1: Maintain critical DOI infrastructure and facilities to ensure effective operations and service delivery

The DOI's goal is to balance mission delivery demands with adequate investments in operations and maintenance to sustain the portfolio in an appropriate condition befitting of our role as America's stewards. Appropriately maintained assets enable the DOI to accomplish habitat and resource management, provide outdoor recreation activities, deliver water, fulfill trust and treaty responsibilities, and provide critical economic inputs and job creation for local communities. Adequately constructed and maintained Federal real property supports healthy habitats and populations, availability of safe and reliable public use opportunities, and robust local economies.

A significant factor impacting a sustainable portfolio of constructed assets is DOI's aging infrastructure. Many assets already exceed original design life, and this trend of aging infrastructure continues to threaten mission delivery. Prioritizing repairs on a portfolio scale will ensure the assets condition is maintained at an acceptable level. Effective management of deferred maintenance is a Departmental priority to ensure completion of needed repairs and prevent further deterioration and unsafe conditions. The DOI prioritizes addressing deferred maintenance/repair needs for mission critical activities. Furthermore, proactive maintenance, replacement of components and colocation of programs and staff in owned facilities will help to reduce future costs.

The DOI conserves the Nation's cultural and heritage sites that reflect a rich and diverse history. The DOI safeguards our heritage for the generations that follow, to better understand our country and learn from our past. Many challenges exist in protecting and maintaining historic and archeological sites, especially with the impacts of weather on fragile sites and structures. Sites are exposed to changing weather conditions that cause damage and deterioration of the structures and sites and some locations are vandalized or accidentally damaged by visitors to federal lands.

The Road Construction Program maintains and operates the 29,000 miles of BIA-owned roads and bridges. These roads and bridges serve as the primary access points to tribal communities, without which critical resources and services would not reach tribal members.

The DOI will continue to improve and provide safe, functional, energy efficient, and universally accessible BIA facilities. The DOI is allocating funds to improve its Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded schools, and improve the learning environment of BIE students.

Agency Priority Performance Goal: By September 30, 2019, the Department of the Interior will improve the condition of its priority real property assets such that 82% are in the desired state of acceptable condition.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
PAM	Percent of priority assets in acceptable condition (i.e. meet investment objective)	84%
PAM	Amount of priority deferred maintenance (repair) needs/activities addressed (i.e. completed for that year)	$1.2 billion
NPS	Value of NPS deferred maintenance work orders closed ($000)	TBD
BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of historic structures on DOI inventory in good condition	57%
BIA, BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS	Percent of museum collections on DOI inventory in good condition	59%
BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of archaeological sites on DOI inventory in good condition	67%
BOR	Maintain a completion rate of 95% for Safety of Dam recommendations	95%
BIA	Percent of miles of BIA road in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	14%
BIA	Percent of BIA bridges in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	69%
BIE	Percent of students in BIE school facilities that are in acceptable condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index	67%

STRATEGY #2: Provide dependable and efficient information technology

Information Management and Technology (IMT) provides modern and secure technology solutions to advance the DOI's ability to deliver programs and services to the public and our customers. To do so, the DOI must protect its critical information assets from cyber exploitation and attack to ensure that employees and the public can rely on the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the DOI's data and information systems. The DOI is implementing advanced technologies that will increase visibility into its IMT environment, improve protections around our high-value information assets, and empower its workforce to better detect, respond, and recover from cyber-attacks and breaches. With a more secure computing environment in place, its employees can more easily obtain the tools and data they need to perform the mission securely efficiently and effectively, anywhere and anytime.

The DOI will continue to deploy and mature Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) capabilities that help to fortify its networks and systems. These capabilities provide the DOI with tools necessary to better identify cybersecurity risks on an ongoing basis, prioritize these risks based upon potential impacts, and enable cybersecurity personnel to mitigate the most significant

problems first. Achieving the performance objectives will enable the DOI to meet the requirements of Presidential Executive Order 13800, "Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure." The DOI has adopted the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework and will work towards implementing and maturing the set of activities known to be effective in managing cybersecurity risks and that are necessary to achieve key cybersecurity outcomes that support the following functions: Identify, Protect, Detect, Respond and Recover.

The DOI is working collaboratively with its user community to understand operational needs better in the field, resulting in expanding network capabilities to improve connectivity in remote areas so employees can be as productive as possible. To improve collaboration, the DOI will enhance its Geospatial Platform capabilities, which is an internet-based tool for sharing trusted geospatial data with the public, government agencies, and partners to meet their mission needs. The DOI will also seek to deliver improved services at a lower cost by consolidating and standardizing IT services and systems, including consolidating and optimizing its data center and network operations and standardizing security, customer support, and administrative functions.

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PIO	Percent of unclassified network hardware and software assets appropriately authorized and managed	95%
PIO	Percent completion of DOI's Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Implementation Plan	100%

APPENDIX A – ACRONYMS

APD	Application for Permit to Drill	I-READ	Interior Readiness (index)
APIPA	Association of Pacific Island Public Auditors	LHP	Landslide Hazard Program
APP	Annual Performance Plan	LIDAR	Light Detection And Ranging
APP&R	Annual Performance Plan and Report	LTRO	Land Title and Records Office
APR	Annual Performance Report	MMBF	Million Board Feet
ARPA	Archeological Resources Protection Act	MR&R	Major Rehabilitations and Replacements
AS-IA	Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs	MRP	Mineral Resource Program
AS-IN	Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs	MTS	Mineral Tracking System
AS-PMB	Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and	NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and
	Budget		Repatriation Act
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs	NAWQA	National Water Quality Assessment Program
BIE	Bureau of Indian Education	NCGMP	National Geologic Map Database
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	NFHS	National Fish Hatchery System
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
BSEE	Bureau of Safety and Environmental	NIBRS	National Incident Based Reporting System
	Enforcement	NIMS	National Incident Management System
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	NLCD	National Land Cover Database
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
CFS	Cubic Foot per Second	NPS	National Park Service
CNMI	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	NWRS	National Wildlife Refuge System
CWS	Community Water Systems	O&C	Oregon and California
DOI	Department of the Interior	O&M	Operations and Maintenance
EHP	Earthquake Hazard Program	OCS	Outer Continental Shelf
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	OEPC	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
ERP	Energy Resource Program	OIA	Office of Insular Affairs
FASS-CMS	Financial Assistance and Social Services – Case Management System	OIG	Office of the Inspector General
FCI	Facilities Condition Index	OJS	Office of Justice Services
FRPP	Federal Real Property Profile	OLES	Office of Law Enforcement and Security
FRR	Facility Reliability Rating	OMB	Office of Management and Budget
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service	OSG	Office of Self-Governance
GAO	Government Accountability Office	OSMRE	Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	OST	Office of Special Trustee
GIS	Geographic Information System	ONRR	Office of Natural Resources Revenue
GPRA	Government Performance Results Act	OPM	Office of Personnel Management
GPS	Geospatial Positioning System	OWF	Office of Wildland Fire
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services	PAM	Office of Acquisitions and Property
HMA	Herd Management Area		Management
HPPG	High Priority Performance Goal	PEM	Office of Emergency Management
ICWA	Indian Child Welfare Act	PEP	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
IGFOA	Island Government Finance Officers'	PFM	Office of Financial Management
	Association	PHR	Office of Human Resources
IIM	Individual Indian Money	PIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
ILCO	Indian Land Consolidation Office	ROW	Right of Way
ILCP	Indian Land Consolidation Program	SMART	Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow

IMARS	Incident Management Analysis Reporting System		
SMCRA	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977		
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and		
	Mathematics		
T&E	Threatened and Endangered		
TFAS	Trust Financial Accounting System		
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture		
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey		
VHP	Volcano Hazard Program		
WUI	Wildland-Urban Interface		

From:	Gillespie, Laurie
To:	Stephen Guertin
Cc:	Denise Sheehan; Rebekah Giddings; Jessie Cheek; Alisa Rawlins
Subject:	Fwd: Distributing strat plan
Date:	Monday, March 12, 2018 12:17:58 PM
Attachments:	FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan (3-5-2018).pdf

Hi Steve,

To facilitate the process of getting out the information on performance plans to the SES and include needed language on the Strategic Plan, I was thinking of taking the memo which has already been signed and dated on p 1 but not yet sent out, and adding the Strategic Plan information on p 2 or 3. This way we do not need to do a whole new memo and have it go thru the surnaming/signature process again. Before I proceed, please let me know if this is ok with you?

Many thanks,
Laurie
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Giddings, Rebekah** <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Mar 12, 2018 at 9:16 AM
Subject: Fwd: Distributing strat plan
To: Laurie Gillespie <Laurie_Gillespie@fws.gov>

can you take a look at this?

Rebekah Giddings
Deputy Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital
US Fish and Wildlife Service
703-358-2117

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---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Guertin, Stephen** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Sun, Mar 11, 2018 at 1:27 PM
Subject: Fwd: Distributing strat plan
To: Rebekah Giddings <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov>, Jessie Cheek <jessie_cheek@fws.gov>
Cc: Denise Sheehan <denise_sheehan@fws.gov>

We had written our guidance to have our SESers address the top ten list and SOs. The

political leadership team also want our SESers to address the relevant elements of the strategic plan. Did Greg Sheehan sign out the original guidance? If so, we will need to amend it. If not, we can intercept the package and add this additional guidance. Thanks. Steve

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Sheehan, Gregory** <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
Date: Sat, Mar 10, 2018 at 4:32 PM
Subject: Fwd: Distributing strat plan
To: Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>

Steve,

We need to discuss next steps on this strategic plan on Tuesday morning when I return.

Thanks
Greg

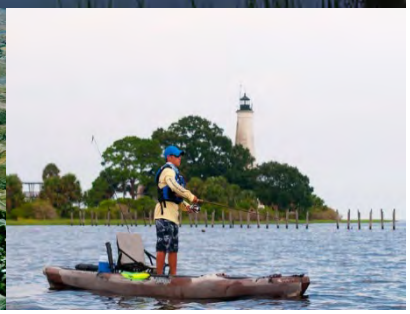
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Cameron, Scott** <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Mar 6, 2018 at 3:20 PM
Subject: Fwd: Distributing strat plan
To: Timothy Petty <timothy_petty@ios.doi.gov>, Joseph Balash <joseph_balash@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Larrabee <jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov>, John Tahsuda <john.tahsuda@bia.gov>, Daniel Jorjani <daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov>, "Domenech, Douglas" <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>, Brenda Burman <bburman@usbr.gov>, Brian Steed <bsteed@blm.gov>, Scott Angelle <scott.angelle@bsee.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>

All,
Attached is the new DOI GPRA strategic plan. This, along with the Secretary's Top 10 list, ought to be reflected in the 2018 SES performance standards for your direct reports. With FY 18 already half over, I'd urge you to get FY18 performance plans in place for your SESers ASAP, if you haven't done so already, so they can understand your goals for them and have as much time as possible to accomplish those goals.
Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

--

Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street NW, Room 3358
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-4545

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018 – 2022



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LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY

The Department of the Interior's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2018-2022 is our bold vision for the future under President Donald J. Trump. As the chief stewards of our public lands, it is our job to ensure that these lands continue to be used "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people," as the words engraved into the Roosevelt Arch at Yellowstone National Park so proudly proclaim.

We will restore the American conservation ethic that built our nation. Among the American traditions that made our country great was a philosophy of multiple-use on our public lands. I am an admirer of President Theodore Roosevelt – he had it right. As President Roosevelt once remarked, "It is not what we have that will make us a great nation; it is the way in which we use it."

Our public lands are our greatest treasures, and all Americans should be able to experience these treasures. One of my top priorities as Secretary of the Interior is public access to public land. Recognizing that hunting and fishing is an integral part of the American heritage, we must do more to ensure that all Americans can enjoy these sports – not just the wealthy elite. Americans should also be proud of their public lands, which is why investing in American infrastructure and addressing the maintenance backlog at our National Parks is critically important.

While "benefit and enjoyment" includes recreation, it also includes traditional uses like grazing and timber harvesting. Our mandate is multiple-use of public lands, and multiple-use also includes the development of natural resources as we seek to leverage American energy for American strength. Americans should have the right to make a living off the land, and one of our most critical responsibilities at Interior is upholding this right.

If we are going to preserve our heritage, we must bolster our standing in the world. It is in the economic and national security interest of the United States to pursue a policy of American energy dominance. An America-First energy policy is one which maximizes the use of American resources while freeing us from dependence on foreign oil.

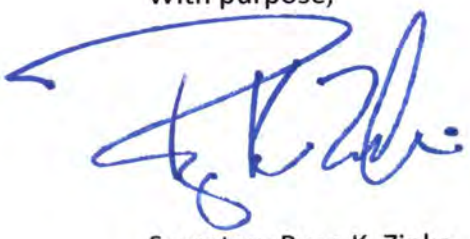
American energy dominance requires aggressive regulatory reform. With our strategic plan, the Interior Department has a unique opportunity to cut the burdensome, unnecessary regulations that have suppressed job creation and wealth generation. Regulatory reform also includes reduced permitting times. The Trump Administration will not deregulate or streamline at the expense of environmental standards or worker safety, but we will strike a balance and strive toward regulatory certainty going forward when creating a bureaucratic framework.

Along with our conservation stewardship responsibilities, we must also be the greatest champion of our tribal nations. Native Americans and Alaska Natives are proud people with a rich history. Sovereignty has to have meaning, and the days of empty promises to our tribal communities are over. Our priorities in Indian Country will be self-determination, government-to-government interaction, and empowerment.

To accomplish our goals, a reorganization of the Department is necessary. We will chart a path forward for the next 100 years at Interior, as Teddy Roosevelt did over a century ago. As a former Navy SEAL, I have long believed that a healthy front line makes for a healthy operation – it is in this spirit that the reorganization plan will focus on our front lines and how we can better engage those on the ground.

Our strategic plan will restore trust in local communities. The federal government has a long way to go when it comes to being a good neighbor, but I am confident we can get there. With a renewed focus on conservation and a bold approach to energy, the Department of the Interior can lead the way in making America great again. This is our desired outcome.

With purpose,



Secretary Ryan K. Zinke
United States Department of the Interior

MISSION AND ORGANIZATION

Mission

The Department of the Interior (DOI) conserves and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, provides scientific and other information about natural resources and natural hazards to address societal challenges and create opportunities for the American people, and honors the Nation's trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities to help them prosper.

Vision

The Department of the Interior strives to fulfill a vision to:

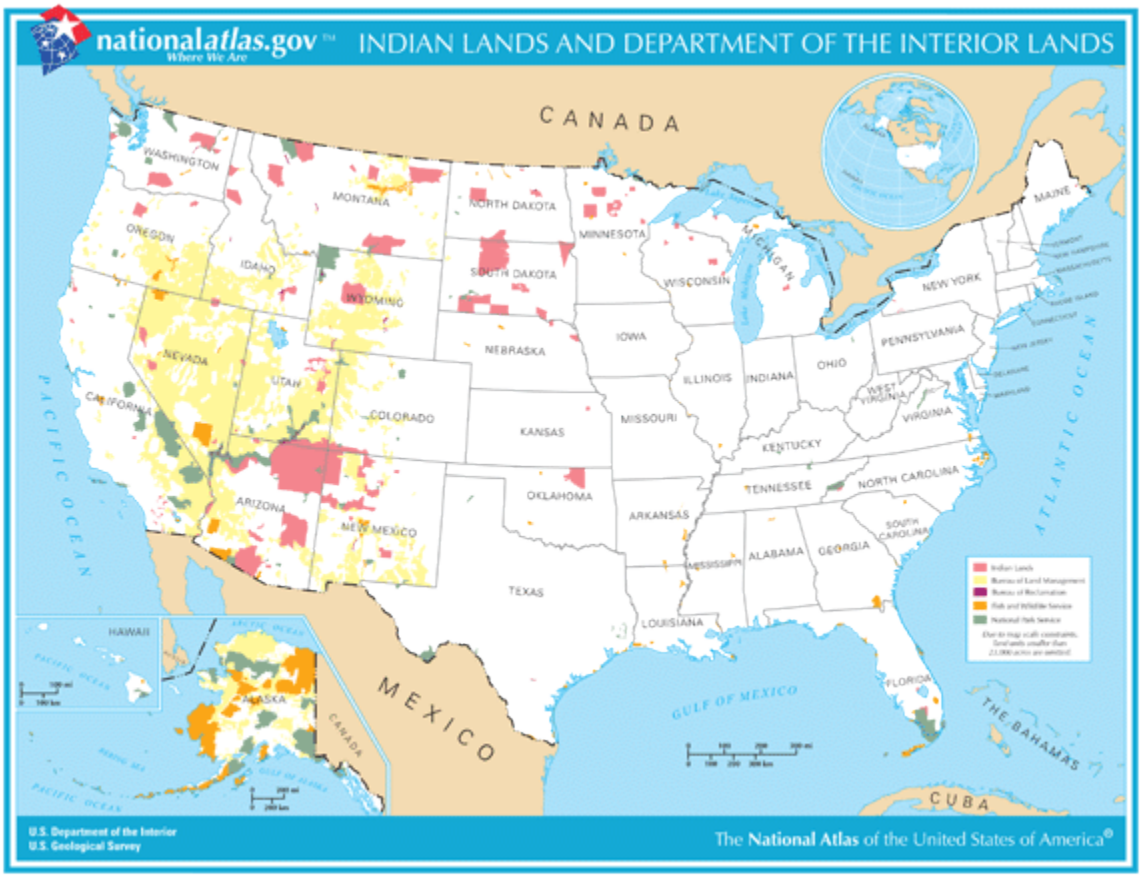
- *Promote energy dominance and critical minerals development* to create jobs for Americans, insulate our nation from volatile political developments overseas, provide additional energy security to allies via surplus domestic supply, and generate revenue for all levels of government so they in turn have the resources to better serve the American people.
- *Increase access to outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans* so that our people can be healthier, more fully enjoy the wonderful features of their federal lands, and take advantage of hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation pursuits that are the roots of the conservation movement.
- *Enhance conservation stewardship* whereby all levels of government and private landowners work cooperatively together in an atmosphere of mutual respect to achieve shared natural resource management goals across landscapes.
- *Improve management of species and their habitats* by focusing our financial and staff resources on improving the status of our nation's fish and wildlife and the healthy habitats that support them, and by streamlining bureaucracy to help us spend relatively more of our funding productively on the ground to better meet societal needs and our own natural resource management responsibilities.
- *Uphold trust and related responsibilities*, recognizing the importance of government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, and insular areas, and respecting self-determination and sovereignty.

History

The Department of the Interior (DOI) was established in 1849. The DOI was charged with managing a wide variety of programs, which included overseeing Indian Affairs, exploring the western wilderness, directing the District of Columbia jail, constructing the National Capital's water system, managing hospitals and universities, improving historic western emigrant routes, marking boundaries, issuing patents, conducting the census, and researching the geological resources of the United States. As the country matured during the last half of the 19th Century, so did the DOI and its mission began to evolve as some of these functions moved to other agencies at the same time the DOI acquired new responsibilities.

With information from Robert Utley and Barry Mackintosh, *The Department of Everything Else: Highlights of Interior History*, 1988, pp. 1-2.

Surface Lands Managed by the Department of the Interior



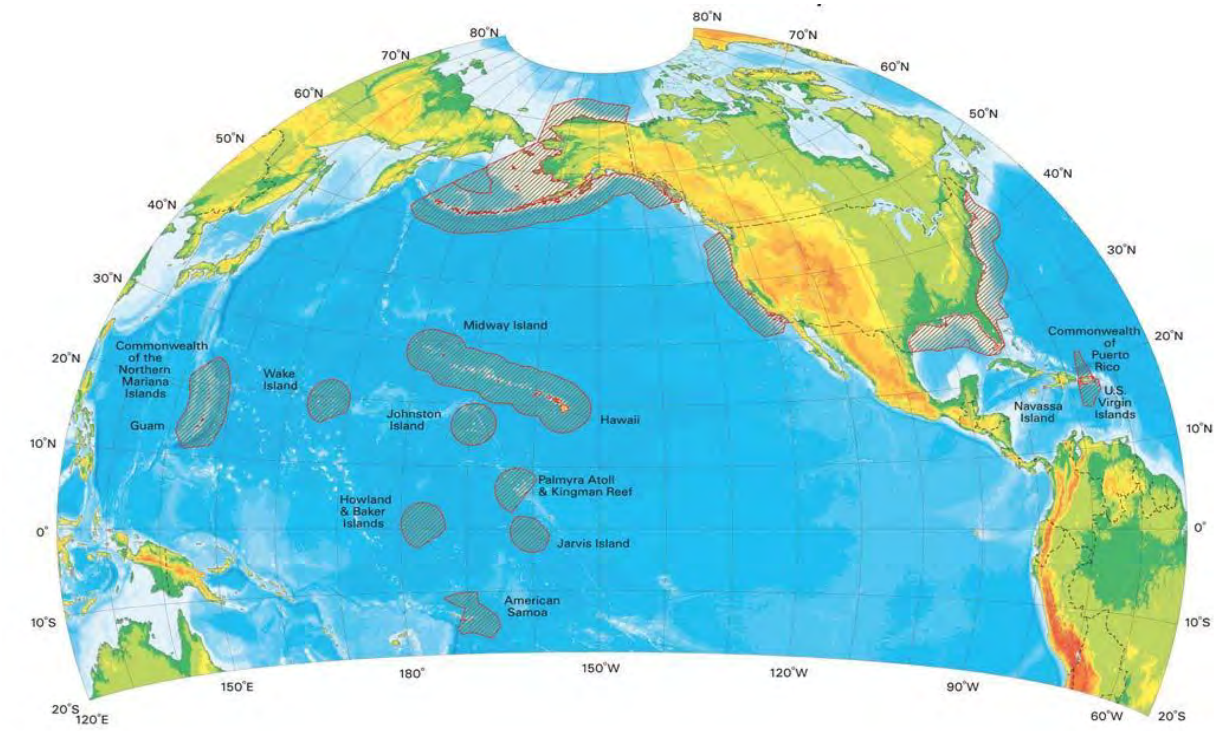
USGS Map, Oct 2014 (except for US Territories that are identified on next graphic)

Following Theodore Roosevelt's conservation summit and the awakening of the conservation movement at the beginning of the 20th Century, there was an increasing urgency and expanding congressional mandate to protect and more effectively manage the nation's natural resources. In 1905, management of the federal forests changed from the Department of the Interior to the United States Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture. Its Chief, Gifford Pinchot, introduced better forestry methods. Pinchot sought to turn public land policy from one that disposed of resources to private parties, to one that maintained federal ownership and management of public land. Pinchot argued that scientific management of forests and natural resources was profitable. He generally opposed preservation for the sake of preservation. During the 1960's and 1970's the DOI's authorizing statutes shifted to put more emphasis on the preservation, management, and use of public lands and natural and cultural resources.

Today, the DOI manages the Nation's public lands and minerals, including providing access to more than 480 million acres of public lands, 700 million acres of subsurface minerals, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf. The DOI is the steward of 20 percent of the Nation's lands, including national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other public lands; manages resources that supply 30 percent of the Nation's energy; supplies and manages water in the 17 Western States and supplies 15 percent of the Nation's hydropower energy; and upholds Federal trust responsibilities to 573 federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages. The DOI is responsible for migratory bird and wildlife conservation, historic preservation, endangered species conservation, surface-mined lands protection and restoration, mapping, geological, hydrological, and biological science

for the Nation, and financial and technical assistance for the insular areas (many of which are depicted in the following graphic).

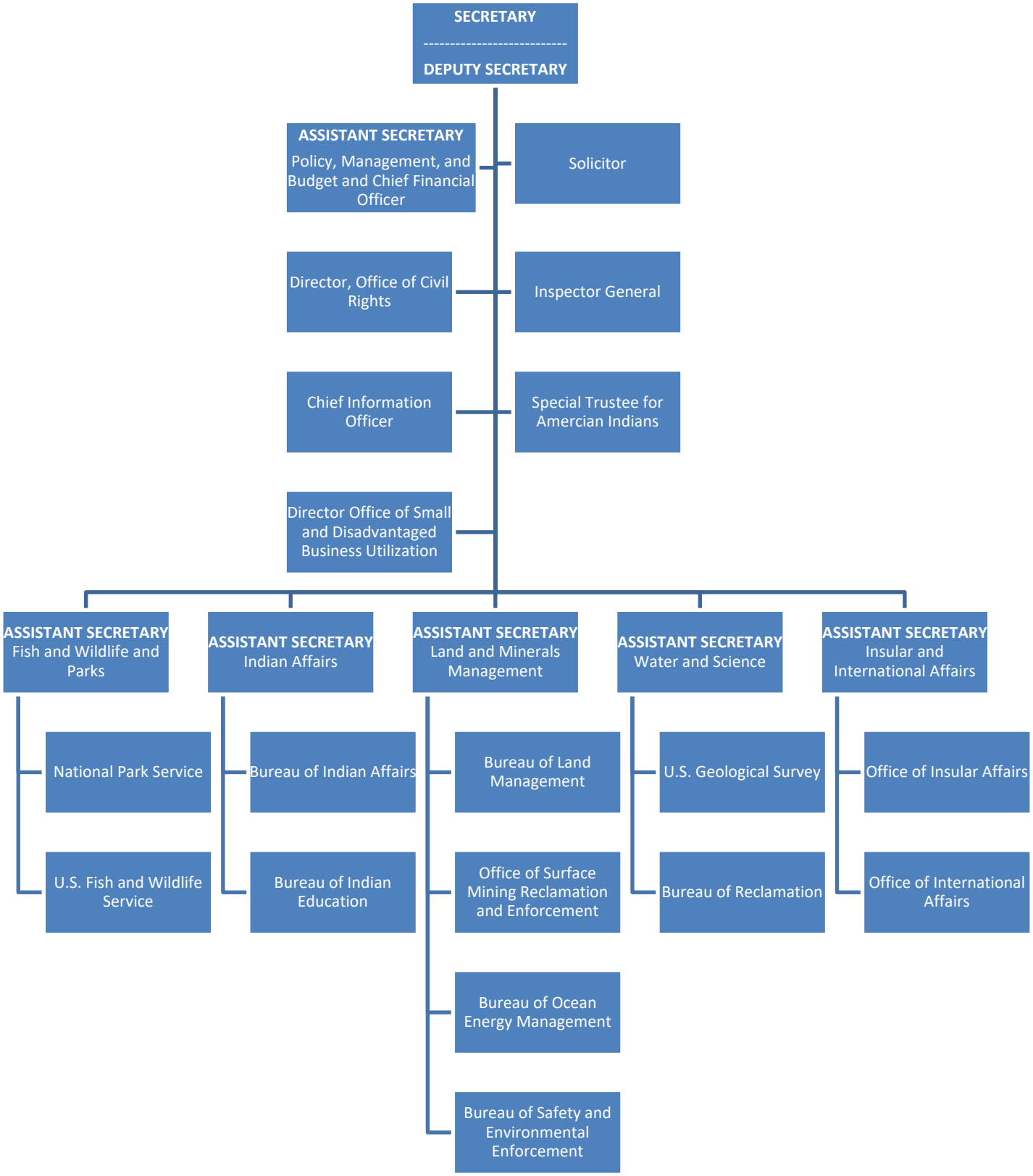
United States Continental Shelf Boundary Areas



National Geophysical Data Center, Sep 2001

The DOI's programs encompassed in this Strategic Plan cover a broad spectrum of activities that are performed by 10 bureaus and multiple offices and are captured in the following presentation of each entity's unique mission and set of responsibilities. The Strategic Plan's six mission areas capture the vitality, inventiveness, and potential of the bureaus and offices and the DOI's 70,000 dedicated and skilled employees. Along with our hardworking and skilled employees, over 350,000 much appreciated volunteers annually contribute their time in support of bureau and office missions, bringing unique local knowledge to park operations, assisting in recovery from natural disasters, and participating in environmental education, among other activities. We cannot effectively address all our responsibilities alone, so it is critical to strengthen partnerships with our sister federal agencies with related missions. In the federal family, we share forest, minerals, rangeland, and wildland fire management responsibilities with the US Department of Agriculture's Forest Service. We share water resource management and hydroelectric power generation responsibilities with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and we share fishery and endangered species management responsibilities with the Department of Commerce's National Marine Fisheries Service. In some ways, our relationships with state, tribal, and local government are even more important. We operate within the bounds of state water law, and respect state authority over resident wildlife. We deal with tribal governments on a government to government basis, respecting each other's authority and jurisdiction. We share land use planning responsibilities with local government, so we must make our own land management plans in a way that is mindful of the goals and plans of those local government neighbors.

US Department of the Interior Organization Chart



Bureau and Office Summaries

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- Manages public lands for the benefit of all Americans under the dual framework of multiple use and sustained yield on nearly 250 million surface acres, as well as 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate. Priorities include:
  - Making full use of the Nation's domestic energy and mineral sources, including conventional and renewable energy sources;
  - Serving American families by providing outdoor recreation opportunities that are key to the Nation's heritage and its economy; and
  - Managing working landscapes to support sustainable livestock grazing operations; and timber and biomass production.
  - Developing and maintaining strong partnerships with State, local, and private stakeholders in shared conservation stewardship.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE)

- Protects the environment during coal mining through Federal programs, grants to states and Tribes, and oversight activities.
- Ensures the land is reclaimed afterwards.
- Mitigates the effects of past mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned coal mine lands.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- Manages access to renewable and conventional energy resources of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS);
- Administers nearly 3,000 active fluid mineral leases on over 16 million OCS acres;
- Oversees 4 percent of the natural gas and 18 percent of the oil produced domestically; and
- Oversees lease and grant issuance for off shore renewable energy projects.
- Manages leasing for marine mineral resources such as sand to facilitate beach replenishment and coastal nourishment projects.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

- Produces information to increase understanding of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and landslides.
- Conducts research and delivers assessments on oil, gas, and alternative energy potential, production, consumption, and environmental effects.
- Conducts reliable scientific research in land resources, mineral assessments, and water resources to inform effective decision making and planning.
- Provides science information that supports natural resource decisions.
- Produces topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic data and maps.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- Fosters secure and reliable energy production from the 1.7 billion acre U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) for America's energy future.
- Conducts inspections, permitting, incident and equipment failure analysis, oil spill preparedness and enforcement programs aimed at promoting a culture of safety and reducing risk to those who work offshore.
- Supports the technical expertise to engage opportunities and to meet challenges to tap the full potential of OCS energy resources.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

- Manages, develops, and protects water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.
- Largest wholesale supplier of water in the Nation
- Manages 492 dams and 338 reservoirs.
- Delivers water to 1 in every 5 western farmers and more than 31 million people.
- America's second largest producer of hydroelectric power.

Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

- Manages the lands and waters of the 855 million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, primarily for the benefit of fish and wildlife.
- Manages 73 fish hatcheries and other related facilities for endangered species recovery and to restore native fisheries.
- Protects and conserves:
  - Migratory birds;
  - Threatened and endangered species; and
  - Certain marine mammals.
- Hosts about 48 million visitors annually at more than 560 refuges located in all 50 states and 38 wetland management districts.

Indian Affairs (IA)

- Fulfills Indian trust responsibilities.
- Promotes self-determination on behalf of 573 federally recognized Indian Tribes.
- Funds self-governance compacts and self-determination contracts to support all Federal programs including education, law enforcement, and social service programs that are delivered by Tribal Nations.
- Supports 183 elementary and secondary schools and dormitories, providing educational services to approximately 48,000 students in 23 states.
- Supports 32 community colleges, universities, post-secondary schools, and technical colleges.

Note: IA includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)

National Park Service (NPS)

- Maintains and manages a system of 417 natural, cultural, and recreational sites for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people.
- Manages and protects over 27,000 historic and prehistoric structures, nearly 44 million acres of designated wilderness, and a wide range of museum collections and cultural and natural landscapes.
- Provides outdoor recreation to nearly 324 million visitors at national park units.
- Provides technical assistance and support to state, tribal and local natural and cultural resource sites and programs, and fulfills responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Insular and International Affairs

- Coordinates federal policy for the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Oversees the Department's involvement with oceans policy
- Manages the Department's involvement in international affairs
- Responsible for administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association, as well as providing technical and financial assistance to all the Insular Areas.

Note: Includes Office of Insular Affairs and Office of International Affairs

Departmental Offices

- Immediate Office of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Assistant Secretaries
- Office of the Solicitor
- Policy, Management and Budget provides leadership and support for the following:
  - Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition;
  - Public Safety, Resource Protection, and Emergency Services;
  - Natural Resources Revenue Management;
  - Human Capital and Diversity;
  - Technology, Information and Business Services;
  - Policy and Environmental Management
- Office of Inspector General
- Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

CROSS-CUTTING PRINCIPLES

As the Department of the Interior (DOI) advances through FY 2018-2022, the following principles guide our leadership, management, and workforce.

Effective and Accountable Leadership - The DOI is committed to being an outstanding steward of approximately 500 million acres of public lands, 700 million onshore subsurface acres, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) including magnificent vistas, valuable energy and mineral resources, unique ecosystems, range, and treasured natural, cultural, and heritage assets. The management and oversight of these resources require a dedicated cadre of employees, the contributions of volunteers, and the input of stakeholders to inform decision-making. The challenges of managing for a diverse constituency while meeting national goals for energy development and sustaining high levels of recreation and access require technical expertise, the best available science, and an understanding of the balance of development and conservation.

A critical role for DOI's senior executives is providing the necessary leadership to guide the efforts of DOI's offices, bureaus, and field locations in effectively achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals especially through:

- Ensuring cost effective operations and quality customer-centric service to the public;
- Facilitating cooperation and collaboration across organizations within the DOI and its federal and nonfederal partners;
- Ensuring a workplace environment that is safe, fair, and conducive to employee productivity; resolving conflicts as needed; and
- Holding individuals at all levels accountable for their actions.

Empowering the Field - Accomplishing the multi-faceted missions of the DOI involves the skills of 10 bureaus and spans 2,400 locations across the U.S. These locations are often remote and present managers with unique challenges. Managers and experts in the field organization must be allowed to exercise informed judgement and discretion, and must have a skilled workforce to address the issues and manage their operations. The DOI's agency reform plan, developed in response to the President's Executive Order "Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch," provides a strategy for better enabling our managers and workforce in the field through regional realignment and executive empowerment, increased colocation, and shifting workforce resources closer to the DOI's field locations.

Engaging the Nation in Cooperative Stewardship - In managing such a broad range of resources for the benefit of the public, the DOI works closely with other federal agencies, state, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and the public. The DOI's reform plan calls for increased coordination across agency lines and levels of government to achieve common goals and resolve differences without expensive and time-consuming litigation. DOI is working to increase its collaborations and partnerships across all levels of government.

Improving Infrastructure - The DOI manages an infrastructure asset portfolio with a replacement value exceeding $300 billion. Most well-known are the DOI's iconic and unique national treasures, which have priceless historical significance. More broadly, the DOI owns approximately 43,000 buildings, 100,000 miles of roads, and 80,000 structures; including dams, laboratories, employee housing, Indian schools, visitor facilities, historic structures and hydropower infrastructure. The related deferred maintenance backlog has grown to over $15 billion in 2016, of which over $11 billion belongs to the National Park Service. DOI is committed to determining how to best address

this backlog and maintain its facilities for the safety and productivity of its workforce, and the continued high quality experience and enjoyment by the American public.

Striking a Regulatory Balance – In accordance with the Executive Order on Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda, the DOI will identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. The DOI will continue to protect human health and the environment in a responsible, cost-effective manner but in a way that avoids imposing an undue process or economic burden on the public.

Generating Revenue, Jobs, and Economic Activity - The DOI grants access to public lands and offshore areas for all forms of energy development—representing roughly a quarter of the Nation's domestic supplies of oil and natural gas—while ensuring safety, environmental protection and revenue generation for the American public. It is important to the Nation's future that these natural resources are managed wisely and – as appropriate -- made accessible for public use to help generate revenues, enhance national security, create jobs, and grow the U.S. economy.

Restoring Trust - It is critical that the DOI can be trusted to operate in the best interest of the American public. Key to maintaining public trust and confidence in the integrity of government is the adherence to high ethical standards and ensuring that government business is conducted with impartiality, transparency, accountability, and integrity. While many of our employees have important law enforcement responsibilities as part of their jobs, more generally we want the public to primarily view our employees as helpful and friendly technical experts, not as law enforcement. When we do need to perform our law enforcement responsibilities, our preference is to achieve compliance through education and demonstrating a sincere desire to create win-win situations with the public we serve. The DOI embodies this principle, follows the law and holds people accountable. Decisions are based on sound science and the best interest of the public.

The DOI is committed to effective and efficient financial operations and accountability characterized by high quality and timely reporting, robust internal controls, clean audits, and effective follow-up on audit and internal control findings. The DOI utilizes the enterprise Financial and Business Management System for the integration of business functions including budget execution, finance, acquisition, improved internal controls, a secure information technology environment, and a community of business innovation, efficiency, and transparency.

Respect for Tribal Sovereignty – As a steward of tribal trust assets, the DOI plays a critical role for the United States in fulfilling the trust responsibility to Indian tribes. The DOI is committed to effectively meeting that responsibility by assisting tribes and Indian individual land owners to create greater economic opportunities, build safer and healthier communities, and effectively consulting with tribal governments.

OVERVIEW OF THE FY 2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

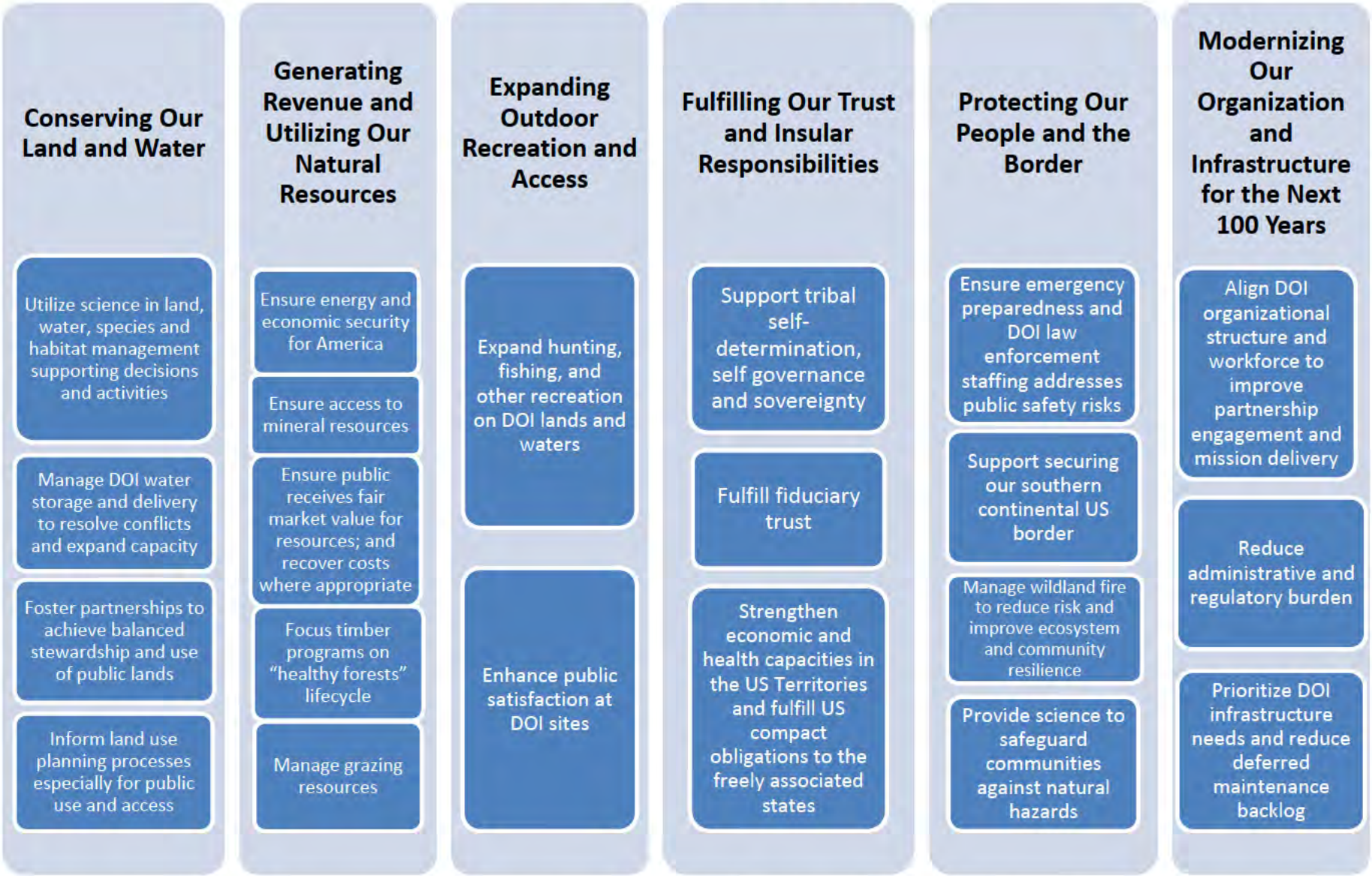
The DOI's FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan provides the framework for the programs and activities that are performed by 10 bureaus and multiple offices, and take place at approximately 2,400 locations throughout the Nation.

The Strategic Plan facilitates the integration of programs, the allocation and alignment of resources, and collaboration and coordination with stakeholders to achieve key goals. A set of six mission areas, 21 goals, 34 strategies, and approximately 120 performance measures will guide the DOI's activities for the next five years. These mission areas reflect the Secretary of the Interior's priorities, while the goals and strategies describe the means by which those priorities will be achieved.

The mission areas, goals, and strategies that constitute the Strategic Plan are displayed in the Strategic Plan Framework, followed by a description of the mission areas, goals, strategic objectives, and performance measures. An FY 2022 goal is provided for each performance measure that reflects a desirable annual level of achievement that DOI aspires to assuming the availability of a reasonable level of resources. The anticipated level of performance for these measures on an annual basis in consideration of actual resource levels will be reported in the DOI's Annual Performance Plan and Report that is released with the FY 2019 President's budget and available at www.doi.gov/bpp.

There is some continuity of performance measures from the FY 2014-2018 Strategic Plan because the core of our statutory mission remains the same regardless of shifts in policy emphasis resulting from a change in Administrations. Trends in performance related to funding and programmatic plans are available in the DOI's FY 2019 Annual Performance Plan and Report available at www.doi.gov/bpp.

STRATEGIC PLAN FRAMEWORK



Crosscutting principles: Senior executives provide leadership in achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals and are expected to: ensure cost-effective operations and quality service to the public; facilitate organizational cooperation and conflict resolution; ensure workplace environment conducive to employee productivity and safety; and hold individuals accountable for their actions.

DESCRIPTION OF MISSION AREAS

(With Supporting Goals, Strategies, and Performance Measures)

MISSION AREA 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

The DOI ensures that America's natural endowment – the lands and waters of the United States – is conserved for the benefit, use, and enjoyment of current and future generations. The DOI's bureaus use the best available science, modern natural resource management techniques, technology and engineering, efficient decision-making processes, robust partnerships, and improved land use planning to ensure balanced stewardship and use of the public lands and its resources, including wildlife and fish species.

GOAL #1: Utilize science in land, water, species and habitat management supporting decisions and activities

The DOI will ensure that it delivers data, tools, techniques, and analyses that advance understanding of natural resources, the forces that shape them, and the interactions of plants, animals, and people that live within them. Research, monitoring, and remote sensing are necessary to understand and detect changes that affect land resources and processes that are essential to the Nation's economic growth, well-being, and ecological health. These efforts support the DOI in its role as the largest manager of the Nation's land and water resources.

The DOI's land and water management bureaus are stewards of the lands and waters managed by the DOI. These bureaus will utilize the best available scientific data, tools, techniques, and analyses provided by our researchers, our nonfederal government partners, or others to maintain and restore lands and waters and ensure that habitats support healthy fish and wildlife populations.

STRATEGY #1: Apply science to land, water, and species management

The USGS seeks to understand the Nation's environmental, natural resource, and economic challenges with scientific monitoring and research to support the development of management strategies that address the impacts of land use on the availability and sustainability of land and water resources. The USGS helps management agencies by providing them the measures designed to prevent or control invasive species and wildlife disease outbreaks; and apply decision science to actions.

The USGS conducts monitoring, assessments, and research in order to understand and predict changes in the quality and quantity of water resources in response to land-use and management scenarios. Through advanced understanding and integrated modeling of processes that determine water availability, the USGS informs the balanced management of water resources for multiple purposes, including energy production, human and crop consumption, the sustainability of fish and other aquatic communities valued by society, and public enjoyment. The USGS works with land and water resources managers in applying its data and research results to help them make informed decisions for effectively managing the resources with which they are entrusted.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent completion of targeted land and water management research actions	100%
USGS	Millions of people living in targeted watersheds covered by completed water quality models	306.7
USGS	Percent completion of planned water quality sampling and studies for the Nation's groundwater, streams and rivers	100%
USGS	Percent completion of the USGS National Water Census baseline	100%
USGS	Percent completion of U.S. aquifer groundwater availability baseline studies	43%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted species management research actions	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted biological threats research actions	100%
USGS	Percent completion of collaborative research projects on factors affecting fish and wildlife habitat	100%

STRATEGY #2: Provide stewardship of land, surface water, streams and shorelines

The Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation manage, maintain and restore uplands, wetlands, lakes, streams and some marine areas through efforts that include controlling invasive plants and animals, restoring land or waters to a condition that is self-sustaining, and ensuring that habitats support healthy fish and wildlife populations. The DOI's Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration program works with the bureaus to assess the impacts of oil spills and hazardous waste sites and coordinates restoration efforts. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement works with states and tribes to ensure that coal mining is conducted in a manner that protects citizens and the environment during mining, restores the land to beneficial use following mining, and mitigates the effects of historic mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned mine lands. The DOI aims to balance the conservation of special places with resource development while also providing visitors with opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Bureaus administer their resource management and conservation programs on more than 400 million acres of upland, wetland, and aquatic lands within their jurisdiction. Many of these lands have special status as national parks, seashores, monuments, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, national conservation lands or wild and scenic rivers. Land managers utilize earth and natural science, social science, partnerships with other DOI bureau, federal, state, local and tribal entities, and other tools and resources (including its front-line managers) in managing these lands and waters.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of DOI acres that have achieved desired conditions	88.9%
BLM, FWS	Percent of DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles that have achieved desired conditions	89.2%
BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS	Percent of acres infested with invasive plant species that are under control	0.2%
FWS, NPS	Percent of invasive animal species populations that are under control	8.7%
OSMRE	Percent completion of abandoned mine lands restored by eliminating health, safety, and environmental concerns	57%
OSMRE	Percent of active coal mining sites that are free of off-site impacts	88%
OSMRE	Percent of coal mine acreage reclaimed to beneficial post-mining land use	44%

STRATEGY #3: Provide stewardship of wildlife, bird, fish, and plant species

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is tasked with the conservation and protection of certain populations of fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. The FWS works first to prevent species from becoming listed as threatened or endangered by using the best available science to make land management decisions that might affect species viability. The FWS conducts, consults or coordinates many species management activities in partnership with others including NPS, BLM, Reclamation, and other federal, state, local and tribal agencies and private organizations. The strategy to sustain species focuses on identifying and implementing corrective actions that will lead to species recovery.

Congress passed the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973, to protect and recover imperiled species from becoming extinct and to conserve the habitats upon which they depend. The FWS and the Commerce Department's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) administer the ESA. The FWS has primary responsibility for terrestrial and freshwater organisms, while the responsibilities of NMFS are mainly marine wildlife such as whales and anadromous fish such as salmon.

FWS works with many partners using a range of conservation tools to recover listed species (threatened and endangered) to ensure that they are able to survive on their own in the wild. These tools can include acquiring and restoring habitat, removing invasive species, conducting surveys, monitoring individual populations, and breeding species in captivity to release them into their historic range.

The DOI uses a number of datasets and metrics to track its progress on species listings, downlistings, delistings, critical habitat, scientific findings, and Species Status Assessments (SSA). The SSA is the scientific foundation supporting listing, delisting, and downlisting decisions and recovery plans and includes biological and threats information and analyses that help FWS and its partners better understand the species status. Recovery criteria, describing the conditions of the species when the protections of the act are no longer necessary, address both the biological status in terms of the 3 R's (resiliency, representation and redundancy) and the mitigation of threats necessary to achieve that status. The DOI is working to include more information on critical habitat,

estimated costs of recovery and economic impact of its threatened and endangered species listings and recovery action plans, to provide a more complete perspective to states and the public of the actions being planned for attempting to save each species.

In its Policy Regarding the Role of State Agencies in ESA Activities, FWS coordinates, collaborates, and uses the expertise of state agencies in developing the scientific foundation upon which FWS bases its determinations for listing actions. By September 30, 2018, all FWS decisions on whether to list a species under the ESA will be informed by input from state fish and wildlife agencies, subject to the affected states' willingness to participate (some state fish and wildlife agencies have declined participation due to lack of authority for some species under ESA review). This input should include (but is not limited to) a solicitation of state data and state personnel involvement in the development of SSAs.

Per Section 4(c)(1) of the ESA, FWS is required to review the status of each listed species at least once every 5 years and determine whether it should be: (1) removed from the List (delisted), (2) reclassified from endangered to threatened (downlisted), or (3) reclassified from threatened to endangered (uplisted). By September 30, 2019, for 100% of all species with 5-year reviews recommending downlisting or delisting FWS will have proposed downlisting or delisting rules acted on by the Director, or a new status review initiated if new information indicates the need for an updated assessment prior to initiating rulemaking, within 2 years of the 5-year review recommendation.

The DOI's responsibility to protect fish, wildlife, and native plants transcends jurisdictional boundaries, and includes efforts that affect almost 1,500 species with special status under the Endangered Species Act and more than 1,000 migratory birds that receive Federal protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The DOI works to combat domestic and international wildlife trafficking by improving enforcement of domestic laws, strengthening international cooperation and global enforcement, promoting legal trade and hunting, and helping to reduce demand for illegal wildlife products. Under Executive Order 13771 of January 30, 2017, i.e. Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, the DOI is reviewing its regulations and administrative processes to determine what cost savings, to the government and to private constituents, are possible by repealing regulations for which the perceived benefits might not be justified relative to their implementation costs, and which administrative processes could be streamlined or made more efficient. This activity is described further in the second goal under the sixth Mission Area on reducing administrative and regulatory burden.

Agency Priority Performance Goals:

- ***By September 30, 2018, 100% of proposed species listings will be based on best available information that includes state input and/or data provided through participation in Species Status Assessments (SSA).***
- ***By September 30, 2019, 100% of all Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plans will have quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species.***

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
FWS	Percent of Threatened or Endangered species listed for 2.5 years or more with a final recovery plan	75%
FWS	Percent of five-year Threatened or Endangered species five-year status review recommendations to downlist or delist acted on within five years *(prior to next status review)*	60%
FWS	Percent of listed species with current five-year reviews *(completed in the last five years)*	90%
FWS	Percent of rules and findings completed based on Threatened or Endangered Species Status Assessments	100%
FWS	Percent of threatened and endangered species listings with proposed critical habitat	100%
FWS	Percent of migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels	72%
FWS	Percent of fish species of management concern that are managed to self-sustaining levels	23%

GOAL #2 Manage DOI water storage and delivery to resolve conflicts and expand capacity

The Western U.S. is one of the fastest growing regions of the country, and urbanization has created significant demands for water use and service. The DOI strives to keep its water storage facilities in good condition to ensure safe and reliable water supply. Stretching existing water supplies for multiple uses are among the many significant challenges facing Reclamation. The Bureau of Reclamation is the nation's largest wholesale water supplier and manages water in 17 western states. Reclamation's projects and programs are an important driver of economic growth bringing water to more than 31 million people and providing one of five western farmers (140,000) with irrigation water for 10 million acres of farmland that produce 60 percent of the nation's vegetables and 25 percent of its fruits and nuts. Reclamation's facilities also provide substantial flood control, hydropower, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits.

The DOI is the lead agency in defining and protecting water rights for Indian tribes and individual Indian land owners. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is responsible for maintaining 137 dams on tribal lands. The BIA also provides irrigation water to over 780,000 acres through 17 congressionally authorized irrigation projects.

STRATEGY #1 Manage water resources and delivery

Changes in water supplies, water demands, and the increased duration and frequency of droughts have the potential to affect Reclamation's ability to fulfill its mission. Many rural communities face significant challenges in financing the cost of replacing or upgrading aging and obsolete facilities and systems. Water conservation programs increase the available water supply and contribute to DOI's broader objective of achieving a more sustainable, secure water supply. Protecting and extending the life of aging infrastructure are significant challenges facing Reclamation, and maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement will become more costly over time. Reclamation

prioritizes infrastructure assets based on detailed design criteria: engineering need, consequence of failure, financial considerations, efficiency opportunities, scheduling, and others.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) water management functions are implemented through three complementary programs. The Water Rights Negotiation/Litigation Program defines and protects Indian water rights and settles claims through negotiations if possible, or alternatively, through litigation. The Water Management Program assists tribes in managing, conserving, and utilizing trust water resources. The BIA Irrigation, Power and Safety of Dams program operates and manages irrigation, power, and dam infrastructure. The program sets high standards for maintenance, collaboration with stakeholders, and effective water and power distribution. The BIA manages facilities to ensure they do not present an unacceptable risk to downstream lives and property; and are managed in an economically, technically, environmentally, and culturally sound manner.

Agency Priority Performance Goal: By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Reclamation will facilitate water conservation capacity of 53,800 acre-feet to help reduce the impact of drought.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BOR	Percent of water infrastructure in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating (FRR) [high- and significant-hazard dams]	74%
BOR	Amount of acre feet of water conservation capacity enabled to help address drought	1,392,000
BIA	Percent of projects completed in support of water management, planning, and pre-development.	77%

GOAL #3: Foster partnerships to achieve balanced stewardship and use of our public lands

The DOI will assess, utilize and enhance the most promising of partnership practices and explore the potential for furthering these types of opportunities to work jointly with other individuals and organizations for the benefit of the nation's public lands, waters, and historic and cultural sites and the fish and wildlife species.

STRATEGY #1: Build and maintain partnership programs

Public and private partnerships provide opportunities for greater engagement of people and organizations in caring for and managing the natural, historical, cultural and physical resources across the DOI's 500 million acres. This can be especially beneficial for our national park units, National Wildlife Refuges, wildlife management areas, and national conservation public lands. Support can come from other federal or state agencies, tribal nations, volunteers, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, corporations or foundations through sponsorship or philanthropy. DOI bureaus should endeavor to partner with non-traditional stakeholders to increase our relevance to the American public, rather than just relying on traditional constituencies.

The National Park Service already has the authority from Congress to accept monetary and in-kind gifts, including those collected through the National Park Foundation. Similarly, the Fish and Wildlife Service has authority to accept gifts from some entities, including some non-profits organizations and the federally chartered non-profit National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The Bureau of Land Management has Congressional authority to accept monetary and other types of donations, along with Congressional authorization to create a Bureau of Land Management Foundation. The BLM works with local, state, federal, and private partners on nearly all of the activities undertaken on public lands, from identifying important fish and wildlife habitat with the state game and fish agencies, working with local rangeland fire protection associations, to providing hunting and fishing opportunities for sports men groups. As permitted under current law, the DOI hopes to develop further philanthropic and sponsorship opportunities, and promote other partnering best practices.

The DOI utilizes migratory bird joint ventures as collaborative, regional partnerships of government agencies, non-profit organizations, corporations, tribes, and individuals that conserve habitat for the benefit of priority bird species, other wildlife, and people. Joint ventures bring these diverse partners together under the guidance of national and international bird conservation plans to design and implement landscape-scale conservation efforts in support of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the other bird management plans. These joint ventures use state-of-the-art science to ensure that diverse habitat is available to sustain migratory bird populations for the benefit of those species, other wildlife, and the public. These partnerships have a three-decade record of success, they use non-regulatory solutions and economically sound business approaches, promote working lands conservation, sporting, and outdoor traditions, and support resilient urban and rural communities.

The Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture working near each other in the field continue to pool resources, conduct joint projects and share services under Service First agreements. Service First authority promotes collaborating across bureau and agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and integrate responses to federal land management issues and opportunities. Bureaus of the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperate in jointly managing some areas. For example, the National Trail, and Wild and Scenic River Systems span every state of our nation and exceed the length of the interstate highway system. Federal land management agencies, as well as state and local jurisdictions and partners enhance recreational access, conserve the Nation's heritage, and leverage the federal investment to manage these nationally recognized resources cooperatively.

Building new partnerships for infrastructure improvement is a priority at the DOI. There are also numerous volunteer opportunities, where individuals or associations provide service in caring for natural resources and cultural and historic assets on our public lands (see www.volunteer.gov). The DOI will also empower managers in the field to directly engage in further collaboration within the units they manage, identify best practices for collaboration and partnering, provide training and technical support, and encourage field managers to find or create and execute partnerships on a local basis.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Number of estimated work hours in a national park unit, National Wildlife Refuge, or Bureau of Land Management site that are performed or sponsored by a private citizen, National Service participant or non-federal entity	9,870,000
BOR, FWS, CUPCA	Number of non-DOI acres restored, including through partnerships	593,876
FWS	Number of non-DOI acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres restored through partnerships	602,654
FWS, CUPCA	Number of non-DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles restored, including through partnerships	255

GOAL #4: Inform land use planning processes especially for public use and access

The DOI will review and improve its land planning processes to enable expanded access and use of the public lands while restoring a balance between conservation and utilization of the lands, energy and mineral resources, waters, fish and wildlife, and other natural and cultural resources. The DOI will employ the latest available science, land-imaging and other technology tools and datasets to inform land use planning to maximize the societal value of land planning. The DOI land use planning will take into account the land use plans of affected local and state governments.

STRATEGY #1: Assess land use planning processes for public access and use of DOI lands

DOI land use and management plans ensure that the public lands are managed in accordance with the intent of Congress as stated in several authorities including, but not limited to: the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act, the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration and Improvement Acts, the Organic Act of 1916 (National Park Service), the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

Land use planning efforts vary across bureaus based on enabling legislation. The National Park Service creates management plans to execute its mission. The National Wildlife Refuge system creates Comprehensive Conservation Plans for each refuge as part of their mission. The BLM's mission states that its duty is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the multiple use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

A common thread through all three bureaus' mission is the need to accommodate and benefit the use and enjoyment of these public lands for both present and future generations. Some lands are made available for multiple use and sustained yield, other lands for conservation and preservation values.

The DOI is undertaking the challenge to review and improve its planning processes in ways that can best meet the sometimes-conflicting uses for public lands. The DOI will strive to enhance public participation and input to the planning processes, engage our state, local, and tribal government partners, provide open and understandable decision-making, expedite the decision-making process

so that implementation is not delayed, and ensure that public access and use is appropriately built into every land use plan.

STRATEGY #2: Inform land use planning with mapping and land imaging

The USGS is the lead civilian mapping agency for the Nation and supports the conduct of detailed surveys and the resulting distribution of high-quality and highly-accurate topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic maps and data. Remote sensing satellites and aircraft monitor the Earth providing information that is broad, precise, impartial, and easily available. For more than 45 years, Landsat satellites have collected data over the planet's land surface to support global research studies. These data constitute the longest continuous record of the Earth's land surface as seen from space.

High-resolution information results in geologic maps and geospatial products that enable precise planning of civil engineering and transportation infrastructure, versatile urban planning, improved flood projection, timely and accurate emergency response, effective hazard identification and mitigation, and detailed environmental analyses. This information is also used by DOI bureau land managers in exercising their responsibilities to help plan for public land use and access.

In the next decade, the USGS will continue to improve spatial and temporal resolution through research and development of products such as full four-dimensional geologic maps, showing how the complex geologic structure of the Earth has changed through time. Mapping accuracy through cutting-edge technology allows for precise planning for energy development, transportation and pipeline infrastructure projects, urban planning, flood prediction, emergency response, and hazard mitigation.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent of land-area coverage available to the public over the internet through the National Geologic Mapping Database	55.5%
USGS	Percent of foundational topographic information services updated quarterly to support on-demand mapping	100%
USGS	Percent completion of research efforts related to land resource management	100%
USGS	Number of terabytes of remotely-sensed data managed	20,140
USGS	Percent increase of scientific research enhanced with Advanced Research Computation	100%

MISSION AREA 2 Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

The DOI provides access to and manages energy and other resources including oil, gas, coal, timber, grazing, and non-energy minerals on public lands and oil and gas on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The DOI is committed to achieve and maintain American energy dominance through responsible productivity of the public lands for the multiple use and economic benefit of present and future generations.

GOAL #1 Ensure energy and economic security for America

The DOI is the steward and manager of much of America's natural resources which include oil, gas, coal, minerals, and renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, geothermal, and hydropower. There are vast amounts of untapped domestic energy reserves on public lands. DOI is also reinitiating the National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program development process, which is a key component of the America First Energy Plan and the Executive Order on Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy, to bring jobs and prosperity to millions of Americans. Our nation will use the revenues from energy production to rebuild our roads, schools, bridges and public infrastructure. The Department's "all-of-the-above" strategy facilitates development of all energy resources and makes our nation stronger by decreasing dependency on other nations, creating jobs, and helping drive economic growth.

STRATEGY #1: Promote safe and robust oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy resource development

Oil, gas, coal and renewable energy form the cornerstones of our nation's energy base, and the DOI will continue to expand production of both offshore and onshore conventional and renewable U.S. energy resources while ensuring safety and reliability through efficient permitting, appropriate standards, assessment and oversight. As demand for energy resources grows, agencies within the DOI, such as BIA, BLM, BOEM, BSEE, OSMRE, and USGS conduct work that is increasingly critical to understand the exploration, development, quality, supply, and use of our energy resources. This work enables the DOI to advance new sources of efficient energy generation, facilitate the construction of new or upgraded infrastructure including transmission networks, develop resources responsibly, and ensure that the American public receives a fair return on that development.

Agency Priority Performance Goals:

- ***By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Land Management will eliminate its backlog of fluid mineral Applications for Permits to Drill (APD's) that have been pending for 3 years or more.***
- ***By September 30, 2019, the Bureau of Land Management will process 80% of parcels created for leasing public lands for oil, gas, or other mineral extraction within 180 days.***

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of pending fluid minerals Applications for Permits to Drill (APDs) which are processed	75%
BLM	Percent of high priority fluid mineral cases that have completed inspection during the year	100%

BLM	Percent of coal lease applications processed	15%
BLM	Number of acres of public lands made available for oil and natural gas leasing	25,000,000
BLM, BOEM	Number of megawatts of approved capacity authorized (that year) on public land and the OCS for renewable energy development while ensuring compliant environmental review	2,020
BOEM	Percentage of Exploration and Development Plan reviews completed within statutory timelines	100%
BOEM	Percent of offshore lease sale processes completed, pursuant to the Secretary's approved National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted energy resource assessments and research	100%
BSEE	Amount of operational offshore oil spilled (in barrels) per million barrels produced	3.1
BSEE	Percent of high risk production facilities and operations inspected	95%
BSEE	Number of recordable injuries per 200,000 offshore man hours worked	.390
BSEE	Percentage of high risk well operation (e.g., drilling) inspections completed	95%

STRATEGY #2: Provide hydropower

The DOI facilitates the development and use of renewable energy that employs hydropower energy to strengthen US energy security, economic vitality, and quality of life. The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) is the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the U.S., operating and maintaining 53 hydroelectric power facilities, comprising over 14,700 megawatts of capacity. On average, Reclamation generates 40 million megawatt-hours of electricity each year – the equivalent demand of over 3.5 million U.S. homes, returning over one billion dollars in federal revenue through power sales. Sustainable, low cost hydropower generated by Reclamation projects has provided significant value to the nation, spurring the development of the western U.S. – through the provision of firm electric power to rural communities as well as ancillary service to support western interconnect grid reliability. Reclamation works to promote domestic energy production by enabling new energy generation from hydropower, a renewable source, and facilitating the construction of new or upgraded transmission networks, helping to create new industries and supply chains, driving economic growth and job creation, and helping provide more energy from domestic sources.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BOR	Amount of hydropower capability, in megawatts (MW), installed from 2018 through 2022	50
BOR	Percent of hydropower facilities in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating	73%

BOR	Percent of time that Bureau of Reclamation hydroelectric generating units are available to the interconnected Western electrical system during daily peak demand periods	80%

GOAL #2: Ensure access to mineral resources

The DOI recognizes that public lands are an important source of the Nation's non-energy mineral resources, some of which are critical and strategic. The DOI is committed to ensuring appropriate access to public lands, for orderly and efficient development of these resources under principles of multiple use management.

STRATEGY #1: Manage non-energy mineral development

DOI promotes energy security, environmental protection, and economic development through responsible, science-informed management of mineral resources. The BLM conducts environmental analysis of complex issues necessary to authorize use on BLM public lands and meet the increasing demand for non-energy solid leasable minerals, especially potash and phosphate. BOEM's Marine Minerals Program provides sand and gravel resources to protect and improve coastal infrastructure and the environment locally, regionally and nationally. Additionally, the in-depth science provided by the USGS Mineral Resources Program (http://minerals.usgs.gov) facilitates resource discovery and provides essential information and analyses for strategic, evidence-based economic and geopolitical decisions.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of non-energy mineral exploration and development requests processed	30%
BOEM	Number of sand and gravel requests processed for coastal restoration projects	8
USGS	Percent completion of targeted non-fuel mineral resource assessments and research	100%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted Critical Mineral Early Warning System (CMEWS) analyses and evaluations	100%

GOAL #3: Ensure public receives fair market value for resources; and recover costs where appropriate

Rents, royalties, and bonuses are collected from issuing leases on public lands, and offshore on the OCS, and for the amount of the resource extracted. These resources include oil, gas, coal, forage for grazing, and access to renewable energy resources such as solar, wind, and geothermal. It is important that these financial transactions include appropriate accountability and fair return to the American public. The associated regulations and practices for these fees and collections must also be rational and transparent to ensure businesses that extract and process these resources can function efficiently and profitably in order to support the economic growth and security of the nation.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure accurate and timely accounting and collection of energy revenues

The Department collects, disburses and verifies natural resource revenue generated from issuing leases on public lands, and offshore on the OCS. This revenue is then shared with states and localities according to specific statutory obligations, allocated to various Federal programs, or deposited in the General Fund of the Treasury, thus serving to reduce the deficit. The DOI is committed to managing these transactions accurately, responsibly, and in a timely manner. The Royalty Policy Committee has been reinstated by the Secretary to elicit robust advice and recommendations regarding policies related to royalties from these resources and their benefit to the American public.

The BSEE helps ensure the accuracy of metering from higher risk hydrocarbon sites that experience high volumes of throughput and/or have a past history of noncompliance to help ensure the appropriate financial benefit is obtained for the American people. Additionally, data driven procedures enable the BOEM and the BLM to ensure bid adequacy through a two phased review system for onshore and offshore leasing, and also allow for timely collection and disbursement of mineral and renewable energy revenues by the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR). ONRR's distributions benefit the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Historic Preservation Fund, and the Reclamation Fund, helping to ensure America's natural resources and rich history are available to be enjoyed by current and future generations. Distributions to states are used to fund capital projects such as schools, roads, and public buildings. Revenues collected from leases on Indian lands directly benefit members of the Indian community.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
ONRR	Percent of federal and Indian oil and gas revenues disbursed on a timely basis per statute ($ Billions)	98%
BSEE	Percent of oil royalty meters, identified as high-risk using a risk based methodology, where meter provings will be observed	10%

STRATEGY #2: Ensure effective collection and application of recreation fees

The nation's public lands offer many excellent locations for public recreation in the outdoors at national parks and monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, BLM public lands and other locations, in historic sites and buildings and at national treasures such as the Statue of Liberty. Facilities (roads, visitor centers, bathrooms, historic buildings, museums, etc.) that enable visitors to enjoy their public lands and sites are expensive to maintain. All of the major land management bureaus have large backlogs of deferred maintenance at these facilities. The DOI will continuously review its fee structure to determine how best to accommodate visitors enjoyment while collecting fees that help to offset some of the maintenance costs required to keep visitor-facing infrastructure in good shape for visitors. All such reviews of fees and changes will remain consistent with Congressional direction that has been provided through a series of laws including the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

The National Park Service established fee structure guidelines in 2006 to standardize rates across the country. The resulting tier system assigns each park unit to a tier and associated entrance fee schedule based on the type of site and the amenities provided for the public. During 2017, the National Park Service initiated a comprehensive review to evaluate and consider bringing entrance fees at all park units into compliance with their assigned tier through a process of public engagement by January 1, 2018. Even with proposed increases, entrance fees remain affordable at $15-$30 per vehicle, which is normally good for several days. The America the Beautiful Pass Annual Pass remains at the price of $80 for one year for unlimited entrance fees for almost all national parks, Fish and Wildlife and BLM sites where fees are required. Congress raised the one-time cost of the America the Beautiful Lifetime Senior Pass for those age 62 or older from the previous fee of $10 to $80 effective in August 2017.

Reviews of other amenity fees (such as for campgrounds and special use permits) will also strive to set fair and equitable fees for activities that visitors enjoy after they enter the park, refuge, or recreation area. The bureaus will seek public comment during any process to review and modify fee amounts to ensure that the public has an opportunity to raise questions and provide comments regarding any fee changes. The bureaus will also identify ways to modernize and enhance fee collection mechanisms that speed access to facilities and/or reduce the cost to the federal government for fee collection.

GOAL #4: Focus timber programs on "healthy forests" lifecycle

The BLM manages forests or woodlands for the benefit of the American public. The BLM maintains a permanent source of timber supply, which supports the production of lumber, plywood, and paper, while also protecting watersheds, regulating stream flow, contributing to the economic stability of local communities and industries, and providing recreational opportunities. Responsible management that reduces fire fuels improves the health and resilience of our forests and helps to prevent forest fires.

The BIA manages forests as a trust asset of Indian tribes. Tribally owned forest assets contribute substantially to national sources of timber supply. Many tribes now actively participate in management of their forest assets through self-governance and self-determination programs.

STRATEGY #1: Manage sales of timber and forest product resources

Forest management programs within the DOI generate economic benefits through timber harvests on public and Indian trust lands, and restoring forest health. The benefits of healthy forests include typical forest products such as timber and biomass but also include opportunities for recreation and maintenance of watershed health.

The BLM has two focus areas for forest management, the Oregon and California grant lands and the public domain lands. For Oregon and California lands, generating revenue for counties is the primary driver of forest management treatments, while for public domain lands, fire management is the primary driver for forest management. The BLM is currently reviewing its management plans to determine prospects for offering additional timber for sale in the future.

The BIA manages forests as a trust asset of Indian tribes. Tribally owned forest assets contribute substantially to the national sources of timber supply. Many tribes now actively participate in management of their forest assets through the self-governance and self-determination programs.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of allowable sale quantity (ASQ) timber offered for sale consistent with applicable resource management plans (O&C--Oregon and California--only)	100%
BLM	Volume (mmbf) of wood products offered consistent with applicable management plans	285
BIA	Percent of Annual Allowable Cut prepared and offered for sale or free use	48%

GOAL #5: Manage grazing resources

The BLM manages livestock grazing on over half of its public lands; approximately 18,000 permits and leases are held by ranchers that graze their livestock on over 21,000 grazing allotments throughout BLM managed lands. The BLM's overall objective is to ensure the long-term health and productivity of these lands. BLM uses a variety of methods to accomplish this objective – periodic rest or deferment of grazing in pastures in specific allotments during critical growth periods; vegetation treatments; and projects such as water developments and fences. The terms and conditions for grazing on BLM-managed lands such as stipulations on forage use and season of use are set forth in the permits and leases issued by the Bureau to public land ranchers.

STRATEGY #1: Provide for sustainable forage and grazing

Livestock grazing contributes to food production and adds to local economic stability, and it can be used in certain areas to maintain and improve land health by reducing hazardous fuels and minimizing the likelihood and impact of catastrophic wildfires. The BLM partners with local communities and state and local governments to develop rangeland improvement projects, stewardship contracting, and good neighbor authority in its rangeland management. In recent years, the number of grazing permits and leases processed has decreased due to dramatic increases in litigation and drought. The BLM continues to look for opportunities to streamline the grazing permit process and provide livestock operators greater flexibility in grazing their livestock on public lands.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM	Percent of grazing permits and leases processed as planned consistent with applicable resource management plans	16%
BIA	Percent of tribal range units assessed during the reporting year for level of utilization	15%

MISSION AREA 3 Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Outdoor recreation is integral to a healthy lifestyle for millions of Americans. Visitors to the DOI's public lands and waters take advantage of the physical, mental, and social benefits that outdoor recreational experiences provide. Americans have the opportunity to hunt and fish on public lands managed by the DOI as part of its multiple-use policy that also includes hiking, camping, climbing, boating, wildlife viewing, and other outdoor pursuits.

GOAL #1: Expand hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands and waters

Hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities contributed $156 billion in economic activity across the United States according to the FWS National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. More than 101 million Americans, or 40 percent of the United States' population 16 and older, pursue wildlife-related recreation, which supports 480,000 American jobs.

Following two initial Secretarial Orders issued on his first day, Secretary Zinke issued Secretarial Order 3356 in September, 2017, to further expand public access to lands and waters administered by the DOI, for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other forms of outdoor recreation. In addition, this Order gave greater priority to recruiting and retaining sportsmen and women conservationists, with an emphasis on engaging youth, veterans, minorities, and underserved communities that traditionally have low participation in outdoor recreation activities.

STRATEGY #1: Promote hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands and waters

There are 372 National Wildlife Refuges and wetland management districts open to hunting and 308 refuges and wetland management districts open to fishing. As practiced on refuges, hunting and fishing do not pose a threat to wildlife populations, and in some instances, are actually necessary for sound wildlife management. For example, deer populations will often grow too large for the refuge habitat to support. If some of the deer are not harvested, they destroy habitat for themselves and other animals and die from starvation or disease. The harvesting of wildlife on refuges is carefully regulated to ensure an appropriate balance between population levels and wildlife habitat. The FWS National Fish Hatcheries continue to be a valuable tool in managing fisheries providing recreation opportunities to America's 36 million anglers who spend $46 billion annually in pursuit of their favored pastime.

There are 76 areas managed by the National Park Service that permit hunting. A total of 51,097,000 acres managed by the NPS are open to hunting at various times during the year, representing approximately 60% of the total acreage of the NPS system. The Bureau of Land Management estimates that over 95 percent of the nearly 250 million acres of BLM-managed public lands are open to hunting.

The recreation areas developed as a result of Bureau of Reclamation water projects are among the Nation's most popular for water-based outdoor recreation. There are 289 Reclamation project areas that have developed recreation facilities and opportunities available for public use. Reclamation has approximately 6.5 million acres of land and water, most of which is available for public outdoor recreation. The 187 developed recreation areas managed by Reclamation or a non-Federal recreation partner draw over 24 million visits annually. The 187 developed recreation areas provide 549 campgrounds, 454 boat launch ramps, and more than 5,500 miles of shoreline.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
FWS	Number of National Wildlife Refuge acres newly opened to hunting and fishing	250,000
BLM	Number of legal public access transactions completed that facilitate open access to recreation opportunities	20
BLM	Number of newly installed campsites, restrooms, and other facilities that promote public access to BLM-managed public lands	30
BLM, BOR, FWS	Number of individuals participating in outdoor recreation activities at special events	5,420,000

GOAL #2: Enhance public satisfaction at DOI sites

Visitor satisfaction with the quality of experiences on public lands remains very high. Collectively, satisfaction is above 90 percent for the bureaus providing recreation services, e.g., interpretive programs, visitor centers, camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, boating, off-highway vehicle driving, wildlife viewing, photography, and climbing. Satisfaction with recreation services provided through facilitated programs remains very high – also above 90 percent.

STRATEGY #1: Enhance the enjoyment and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage

Survey results show that a sizeable percentage of visitors are satisfied with their experiences at parks, refuges and other public lands. Competition from other forms of entertainment pose challenges to the DOI in its quest to ensure that all Americans understand, appreciate and enjoy the special places protected by the national parks, wildlife refuges and BLM lands.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of visitors satisfied with the quality of the experience	95%
BLM, NPS	Percent of visitors satisfied with facilitated programs	94%

MISSION AREA 4 Fulfilling Our Trust and Insular Responsibilities

The DOI upholds the Federal government's unique trust responsibilities by fostering the government-to-government relationships between the Federal government and federally recognized Tribes, and by providing services to individual American Indians, and Alaskan Natives. The U.S. also has important relationships with the affiliated insular areas including the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The DOI administers and oversees Federal Assistance to the three Freely Associated States: The Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

GOAL #1: Support tribal self-determination, self-governance, and sovereignty

The DOI is strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship between the Federal Government and tribal nations because self-determination, sovereignty, self-government, and self-reliance are the tools that will enable tribal nations to shape their own destiny. Tribes have also assumed an expanded role in the operation of Indian programs through Public Law 93-638 contracting. Tribes contract with the Federal Government to operate programs serving their tribal members and other eligible persons.

STRATEGY #1: Support self-governance and self-determination

Self-Governance: Under a self-governance compact, a tribe takes over most or all operations affecting that tribe. The Indian Affairs' Office of Self-Governance (OSG) implements the Tribal Self Governance Act of 1994 by developing and implementing regulations, policies, and guidance in support of self-governance initiatives. Indian Affairs advocates for the transfer of Federal programmatic authorities and resources to tribal governments and supports tribal sovereignty and an expanded role in the operation of Indian programs. The program work includes negotiating annual funding agreements with eligible tribes and consortia, and resolving issues identified in financial and program audits of self-governance operations.

Self-Determination: Under a self-determination contract, a tribe contracts with BIA to take over operation of a program formerly delivered by BIA employees. The funds BIA previously used to run the program transfer to the tribe. Self-determination typically is a program-by-program decision. The Indian Self-Determination Program within BIA works to further American Indian tribes' exercise of self-determination and conducts oversight of self-determination contracts and grants.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
AS-IA	Percent of Self-Governance Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audits are made within 6 months	99%
BIA	Percent of Self-Determination Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audits are made within 6 months	91%
AS-IA	Percent of P.L. 93-638 contracts with clean audits	90%

GOAL #2: Fulfill fiduciary trust

The DOI has ongoing responsibilities to ensure that trust and restricted Federal Indian-owned lands are managed effectively and to accurately account for revenues and disbursements in a timely and efficient manner. The Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians and the Bureau of Indian Affairs oversee fiduciary trust activities. The DOI assists American Indian and Alaska Native communities in developing capabilities needed to strengthen their communities and maintain economic self-sufficiency. Efforts such as reducing fractionation of Indian lands and developing conservation and resource management plans help tribes maximize economic benefits of their lands. Securing unsubsidized employment reduces dependency on Federal subsidized programs such as childcare assistance, food stamps, and welfare.

Trust assets are crucial to the financial well-being of individual Indian beneficiaries and key components in the economies of tribes. As such, these assets must be managed with great care, paying attention that all financial transactions are completed accurately and as quickly as possible. Since passage of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform of 1994, the trust accounts managed by OST are balanced to the penny on a daily basis. OST has also incorporated industry-standard practices, such as a lockbox facility, to shorten the time between the payment of a lease and deposit of those funds into a trust account. For Fiscal Years (FY) 2013 through 2017, OST has received a "clean" audit opinion for Individual Indian Monies (IIM) accounts, attesting to its professionalism in managing these assets. Despite this proven record of success, OST retains a commitment to continual reform, looking for more ways to improve its service to individual Indians and tribes.

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) helps provide quality education opportunities starting in early childhood in accordance with tribally identified strategies and needs that contribute to the social well-being of the community and sustain Indian cultures. Tribes directly operate 150 of the 183 BIE funded schools through self-determination contracts and Tribally Controlled Schools Act grants.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure accurate and timely management of fiduciary trust assets

In its effort to promote the fulfillment of fiduciary trust processes, the DOI assists Indian tribes in developing capacity and infrastructure needed to attain economic self-sufficiency on reservations to enhance their quality of life. One critical path is economic development and job creation. The BIA coordinates development of comprehensive tribal programs with the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services. The DOI offers programs and financial services that encourage start-ups and help position Indian businesses and individuals to compete in today's economy.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BIA	Total average gain in earnings of participants that obtain unsubsidized employment through Job Placement Training programs for tribes submitting P.L. 102-477 related reports	$10.82
BIA	Percent of active, supervised Individual Indian Monies (IIM) case records reviewed in accordance with regulations	98%

BIA	Increase in the percentage of submitted land-into-trust applications with determinations (Fee to Trust)	40%
OST	Percent of financial information initially processed accurately in trust beneficiaries' accounts.	99%
OST	Percent of oil and gas revenue transmitted by ONRR recorded in the Trust Funds Accounting System within 24 hours of receipt.	99%
OST	Percent of timeliness of financial account information provided to trust beneficiaries.	100%

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen Indian Education

Improving performance in BIE schools is a challenge the DOI is addressing through initiatives aimed at increasing student achievement. Students at BIE-funded schools receive a culturally relevant, high-quality education that prepares them with the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to flourish in the opportunities of tomorrow, become healthy and successful individuals, and lead their communities and sovereign nations to a thriving future that preserves their unique cultural identities.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
BIE	Percent of students attending BIE-funded schools completing high school with a regular diploma within four years of their 9th grade entry date	69%

GOAL #3: Strengthen economic and health capacities in the US Territories, and fulfill US compact obligations to the freely associated states

The DOI supports the U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States (FAS) through the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) under the Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs. The U.S.-affiliated insular areas are: the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Residents of these U.S. territories are U.S. citizens or nationals. The DOI also administers and oversees Federal assistance provided to the three Freely Associated States: the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. The Assistant Secretary Insular and International Affairs and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out these responsibilities on behalf of the Secretary.

STRATEGY #1: Bolster Healthcare Capacity

The Territories and FAS experience significant healthcare challenges. The DOI along with other partners, such as the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will work with insular area partners to improve the quality of healthcare across the insular areas. The DOI will make investments to implement corrective action plans which address chronic operational and facility shortcomings at territorial hospitals, which serve their U.S. citizens and nationals, with a focus on those identified by the HHS/Centers for Medicare/Medicaid (CMS) and local elected officials. Additional investments will be made to combat non-communicable and communicable diseases impacting the Pacific and Caribbean islands such as obesity, diabetes, and tuberculosis.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Percent of Community Water Systems (CWS) that receive health based violations notices from the US Environmental Protection Agency	9%
OIA	Number of new and relapse tuberculosis cases occurring during the calendar year on the islands (per 1,000 people in the population)	1
OIA	Percent of patients with newly diagnosed tuberculosis disease for whom 12 months or less of treatment is indicated, who complete treatment within 12 months	95%
OIA	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (number of deaths to infants from birth through 1 year of age per number of live births)	6

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen Island Economies

Strong local economies provide employment and a viable tax base for citizens in the Insular Areas. The DOI will assist the insular areas to strengthen their economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, public services and technical assistance which will attract and retain private sector investment. The DOI will promote policies and improve Federal coordination on issues impacting insular economies.

Capital investments will be made in basic utilities, hospitals, schools, ports, tourist areas, telecommunications and roads as they create the backbone for increased economic activity. Pursuing renewable energy strategies lessens dependence on oil imports and provides more reliable and affordable energy.

Stable economies and fiscally prudent insular governments foster a more hospitable climate for investment in the islands. Technical assistance will be provided to equip the insular areas with the statistical and management information necessary for informed leadership decision making, expert consultants to effectively improve insular government financial policies and procedures, and strong financial management systems along with technical planning abilities.

The DOI will help create economic opportunity by forging partnerships that bolster tourism and attract industry by promoting the unique island cultures, natural resources, and by preparing the next generation of business leaders. Key indicators of OIA's effectiveness include the following:

Average per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP): In the four U.S. Territories (Guam, US Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)) for which it is measured, GDP remains a fraction of that for other U.S. citizens in the states. OIA provides technical assistance to the insular areas to assist with economic development planning and execution and supports local planning and education activities related to tourism, agriculture, and aquaculture. In addition, OIA funds infrastructure projects related to economic development, such as fiber optic connectivity, port improvements and renovations to tourist districts.

Cost of electricity: Without indigenous fossil fuels, insular areas face great challenges in achieving reliable, affordable, and secure energy, which can have severe economic effects on the island communities. These areas depend almost entirely on imported petroleum products for energy. The residential cost per kilowatt hour for power in the territories directly impacts the quality of life in

the insular areas and remains over three times higher than the national average. To try to address high electricity costs, the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) contracts with the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to engage territories and provide energy efficiency and renewable energy assessments, help develop strategic energy plans, and provide technical assistance in reviewing and implementing alternative energy projects. The OIA, through its Empowering Insular Communities grant program, continues to provide funding for the highest priority projects identified in the energy plans including photovoltaic, wind and geothermal development projects, as well as assuring traditional energy plants continue operating.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Difference in the mean GDP per capita in the 4 US territories compared to the mean GDP per capita in the US	60%
OIA	Difference in the residential cost per kilowatt hour for power from the national average	2X

STRATEGY #3: Fulfill US Compact Obligations

In coordination with the State Department, the DOI will implement compact obligations with three U.S.-affiliated Freely Associated States (FAS): the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the Republic of Palau (Palau). The DOI will make direct grants to the FSM and RMI under their amended Compacts to provide assistance in six sectors: education, health care, infrastructure, public sector capacity building, private sector development, and environment. The DOI will also continue to support U.S. compact obligations to Palau.

Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OIA	Ratio of FAS private sector jobs versus total FAS employment	55%
OIA	Ratio of FAS public sector jobs versus total FAS Employment	45%
OIA	Percent of FAS employment attributable to OIA Grants and Programs	30%
OIA	Percent of FAS employee compensation attributable to OIA grants and programs	25%
OIA	Average FAS private sector wage rate as a percentage of average FAS central government wage rate	45%

MISSION AREA 5 Protecting Our People and the Border

Inherent in DOI's management responsibilities of the public lands is the requirement to protect employees and visitors. Ensuring employee and public safety is complex and requires the resources of multiple bureaus and offices covering four disciplines – law enforcement, emergency management, wildland fire, and natural hazards science. The DOI's Law Enforcement Program has the third largest contingent of Federal law enforcement officers in the Executive Branch. Depending on the season, approximately 3,500-4,000 law enforcement officers, rangers, and other employees patrol vast acres of public lands, national parks, wildlife refuges, and Indian communities and protect people, as well as natural, cultural, and heritage resources from illegal activities. Wildland fires potentially endanger lives and property. The Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) coordinates among the DOI's land management bureaus and the US Forest Service to safely, efficiently, and effectively prevent, respond to, and manage the impacts of wildfires. The USGS also protects lives by monitoring and warning of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides, and environmental health hazards.

The DOI has land on both the Canadian and Mexican borders, and a presence in the Pacific that exposes Americans to risks from Asia. The Administration is presently emphasizing securing our southern border with Mexico to better protect our country. The DOI has a considerable amount of land that borders Mexico. As such, the DOI's law enforcement officers work in partnership with the US Customs and Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Agency, and tribal, state and local governments to address the flow of illegal immigration, gun and drug trafficking, and to mitigate the impacts associated with these activities, which affect DOI lands and our community partners. In addition, OWF shares wildfire management responsibilities with Mexico along the southern border.

GOAL 1: Ensure emergency preparedness & DOI law enforcement staffing addresses public safety risks

The DOI places a high priority on safety, security, and preparedness, and will uphold its responsibilities for protecting lives, resources, and property through a wide variety of program areas, including law enforcement, health and safety, security, and emergency management. The DOI's preference is to achieve public and visitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations by using techniques that are not confrontational and are designed to elicit voluntary as opposed to coerced compliance.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure public safety on our lands

The Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES) provides program direction and oversight on law enforcement policy, border security, drug enforcement, training at the national academy, internal affairs, victims assistance, program compliance, and inspections as well as emergency deployment of DOI law enforcement resources. The Office coordinates with other Federal, state and local agencies (including the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Central Intelligence Agency) on law enforcement and security issues, including infrastructure on the Outer Continental Shelf, the Trans-Alaska pipeline, and gas transmission lines.

To help ensure effective protection of people on DOI lands, each bureau will determine the effective level and distribution of law enforcement staffing for each of its programs on a unit-by-unit basis. The effective level and distribution of staffing needs is dependent on the differing

conditions, levels of risk, and populations served in each unit, captured through a staffing model developed and monitored by each bureau. The DOI's bureaus will engage in developing these staffing models, to determine on a program basis the effective levels of law enforcement staffing that are needed across its units, evaluate the actual level of law enforcement staffing that presently exists, and develop recommendations for better ensuring the effective level of staffing for protecting the people in each unit.

The DOI will strengthen law enforcement in Indian Country by putting more officers on the streets, bolstering tribal courts, and helping fight violent crime and drug abuse. Tribal justice systems are an essential part of tribal governments, which interface with BIA and tribal law enforcement activities. Congress and the Federal courts have repeatedly recognized tribal justice systems as the appropriate forums for adjudicating disputes and minor criminal activity within Indian Country. It is important that the BIA and tribal law enforcement activities complement the operations of the tribal courts to ensure that justice in the tribal forums is administered effectively.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OLES	Percent of DOI law enforcement agencies with a current law enforcement staffing plan	100%
BIA	Percent of criminal offenses solved by arrest (Part 1 Offense Clearance Rate)	44%

Strategy 2: Prepare DOI to respond to and recover from emergencies and incidents

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) promotes all-hazard preparedness and response; ensures continuity of the DOI to perform essential functions during catastrophic events; and assists communities during imminent threats. Collectively, the DOI supports the five National Planning Frameworks (Protection, Prevention, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery) and their related five Federal Interagency Operational Plans, the National Incident Management System, and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan while continuing the DOI's mission to protect natural and cultural resources. The DOI's All-Hazards Baseline Operational Plan provides the baseline guidance for how the Department prepares for and responds to emergencies, regardless of type or cause. The OEM leads coordination and information sharing for emergency management regarding communications, public health, environmental health, wildlife health, integrated pest management, invasive species, and occupational safety and health across the DOI's bureaus and offices.

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PEM	Average Interior Readiness (I-READ) Index score for emergency preparedness across DOI Bureaus/Offices	91.0%

GOAL 2: Support securing our southern continental US border

The DOI manages 41% of the southwest border of the continental United States. The DOI's managers in the field are daily faced with tough decisions on how to best utilize their law

enforcement assets. An integrated government approach is essential to effectively securing the border and supporting the construction of a physical barrier where needed. Through partnering, federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies working in proximity to each other have been able to address critical issues like illegal immigration and marijuana smuggling.

STRATEGY #1: Support securing our southern continental US border

The DOI's goal is to increase collaboration among the agencies operating along the border to better understand each other's mission, share resources, and coordinate efforts. This is accomplished by routine interagency coordination, participating in local Border Management Task Force (BMTF) meetings, interagency training, an annual interagency border forum, and law enforcement specific operations.

The US Border Patrol is the main federal agency responsible for patrolling DOI lands adjacent to the US/Mexican Border. The DOI's goal is to work with US Border Patrol to decrease illegal immigration on DOI managed public lands through collaborative efforts with partnering agencies.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
PMB/OLES	Number of apprehensions on DOI-managed lands	Reduced Annually

GOAL #3: Manage wildland fire to reduce risk and improve ecosystem and community resilience

The DOI, working with the Department of Agriculture, will improve the way that both agencies manage wildland fire by ensuring that fire management assets are used in the most efficient way possible. The DOI will work with state, local, tribal, and other partners to ensure a coordinated approach to wildland fire management that enables protection responsibilities to be exchanged and resources shared to improve operational efficiency and reduce management duplication. The DOI will continue to integrate science and technology into informing and supporting the firefighters with the appropriate training tools, resources and program support to enable them to work safely and effectively.

The DOI is developing new wildland fire management performance measures to better articulate and determine the efficacy of Department and Administration resources in achieving desired resource conditions that reduce the intensity, severity or negative effects of wildfire. As part of this effort, the Department has established a working group among the four DOI wildland fire bureaus, as well as the U.S. Forest Service, which will explore the feasibility of concepts and principles in wildfire risk mitigation, and examine the value of the strategic placement of fuels treatments as informed by a risk assessment and mitigation plan. This group will develop recommendations for a) establishing outcome-based targets, and b) annually evaluating the performance of the program in meeting the desired objectives of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. When

completed, the DOI will incorporate the new performance measures into its strategic plan implementation.

STRATEGY #1: Integrate fire ecology, risk management, and collaboration to mitigate wildfire impacts

The Department's Office of Wildland Fire coordinates programs and funding across four bureaus (BLM, FWS, NPS, and BIA) that manage wildland fire programs to implement the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, a science-based collaborative approach to mitigating wildfire risk. The DOI, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, is committed to the inclusive principles of providing safe and effective response to wildfires, promoting fire-adapted communities, and creating fire-resilient landscapes. The DOI strives to achieve a science-based and technically effective wildland fire management program that is integrated with natural resources programs.

Successful management in fire-adapted communities and landscapes depends on implementation of a broad-based, intergovernmental, collaborative, and national cohesive strategy to address the mounting challenges of escalating fire behavior, increased risk to responders, greater natural and cultural resource losses, and increased threats and losses to communities. The DOI is a lead agency in this collaborative approach with the Forest Service and other Federal, state, tribal, and local governments and stakeholders.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
OWF	Percent of DOI-managed landscape acres that are in desired condition as a result of fire management	36%
OWF	Percent of DOI-managed treatments that reduce risk to communities that have a wildland fire mitigation plan	94%
OWF	Percent of wildfires on DOI-managed landscapes where the initial strategies fully succeeded during the initial response phase	97%

GOAL #4: Provide science to safeguard communities from natural hazards

The USGS helps protect public safety, public health, and property by effectively delivering natural hazards and environmental health science. The Nation's emergency managers and public officials use USGS science to inform citizens of the potential risks these hazards pose to natural systems and the built environment, improve preparation and response activities, and protect the health of the public, which reduce the loss of life and property.

STRATEGY #1: Monitor and assess natural hazards risk and response planning

Responsibilities in natural hazards include the issuing of warnings and advisories for earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, and coastal erosion; informing warnings issued by other agencies for floods, tsunamis, and wildfires; providing timely information to emergency managers and response officials, the media, and the public to inform and educate communities during and between crises.

The USGS supports these activities by implementing 24x7 operations for seismic, volcanic, and geomagnetic monitoring efforts; maintaining an extensive national network of streamgages measuring rainfall, streamflow, stream height or lake levels; and developing the next generation of tools for rapid evaluation of hazards.

Bureaus	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
USGS	Percent completion of targeted natural hazards assessments of very high and high-threat regions of the Nation (Index)	4%
USGS	Percent completion of targeted landslide hazard research	8%
USGS	Percent completion of coastal and marine hazards and subsidence research (Index)	87%
USGS	Percent progress towards optimal monitoring capability for natural hazards situational awareness (Index)	52%
USGS	Percent of the National Streamflow Network (NSN) streamgages that are fully operational	88%

MISSION AREA 6 Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

The DOI is looking to better ensure effective operations and service delivery through coordinated organizational alignments in the field across bureaus and with other federal and nonfederal partners, and through putting a relatively larger fraction of our employees into the field to serve the public. Expediting environmental analysis and compliance, reducing the cost of space, collocating offices for more convenient public service and improved interagency coordination, and common regional boundaries are all being explored to help improve the DOI's infrastructure and related effectiveness.

GOAL #1: Align DOI organizational structure and workforce to improve partnership engagement and mission delivery

The DOI is reevaluating its organizational model to determine how to best achieve its mission of serving the American public, honoring our tribal and fiduciary trust responsibilities, and managing and protecting our land, water and natural resources for the next 100 years.

STRATEGY #1: Ensure effective alignment of DOI organizational structure in the field and with partners

The DOI intends to establish unified regional boundaries for its bureaus in 2018 and to further develop this approach in 2019. The goal is to improve overall operations, internal communications, customer service, and stakeholder engagement. Aligning geographic areas across the DOI will enhance coordination of resource decisions and policies and will simplify how citizens engage with the DOI.

Organizing bureaus with common geographic areas will allow for more integrated and better coordinated decision making across bureaus. Currently, the DOI's bureaus have more than 40 distinct regions, each with its own geographic boundaries. This complicates coordination and hampers the DOI's ability to get things done expeditiously. Having unified regions will help streamline operations and in doing so, provide better service to the American people. Bureaus within a region will focus on common issues, taking a comprehensive approach versus a bureau-centric approach. This culture shift will help us work better together to accomplish one vision. The new regional boundaries currently under discussion – and subject to modification – are expected to have minimal budgetary impact.

To improve customer service and reduce operational costs, sharing functions at field locations has already begun. For a number of years, the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture's US Forest Service (USFS) have pooled resources, conducted joint projects, and shared services under Service First agreements where field locations are in close proximity to each other. Service First authority promotes partnering across agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and to address federal land management issues in an integrated way.

STRATEGY #2: Improve strategic hiring, placement and retention efforts to ensure mission-critical service delivery through data driven processes and increased employee engagement efforts

The DOI is committed to managing America's vast natural and cultural resources with a 70,000-strong and 350 occupation-plus workforce that exemplifies high performance, customer service and

accountability. Historically, it has been difficult to attract certain DOI employees or recruits in certain occupations to positions in headquarters, or even to regional offices, because many of our employees enjoy living in relatively rural areas and because the cost of living is so much higher in large cities. Moving a larger fraction of our staff of some bureaus to relatively more rural and considerably less expensive areas in the West might therefore both reduce payroll cost because fewer employees would receive locality pay, and improve employee retention.

To facilitate strategic human capital planning, the Department has put in place hiring controls to emphasize new hiring for field-related positions rather than administrative and support positions in the Washington, D.C., and Denver, Colorado metropolitan areas.

The DOI will leverage automation to improve employee performance and training opportunities, and examine additional data to determine if operational efficiencies can be gained while minimizing redundancies under the current organizational design.

Data to be analyzed include:

- Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (*e.g.*, employee engagement)
- Geographic Representation of Bureau Mission Critical Occupations
- Geographic Representation of Administrative and Support Services
- Customer Service data
- Benchmarking cost allocations for administrative and support functions
- DOI Human Capital Framework Evaluations
- Accountability drivers on performance, labor management, EEO, etc.
- Bureau plans in response to the Department-wide Workplace Environment Survey

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PHR	Employee engagement index for DOI in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey	75%
PHR	DOI's ranking among large agencies in the Partnership for Public Services' Best Places to Work report	1

GOAL #2: Reduce administrative and regulatory burden

Executive Order 13771, Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, directed agencies to "manage the costs associated with the governmental imposition of private expenditures required to comply with Federal regulations." The DOI is reviewing its regulations and administrative processes to determine what cost savings, to the government and to the public, are possible by repealing regulations for which the perceived benefits might not be justified relative to their implementation costs, and which administrative processes could be streamlined or made more efficient.

STRATEGY #1: Evaluate and improve the net benefits of regulatory reform initiatives and policies, and identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification

On February 24, 2017, President Trump signed Executive Order 13777 entitled, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda" to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens placed on the American people. The Executive Order established a Regulatory Reform Officer (RRO) for each agency and a Regulatory Reform Task Force. The efforts of the RRO and the task force will help identify

regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. The costs of the regulatory and deregulatory actions are measured as the opportunity costs or cost savings to society, as defined in OMB Circular A-4 (i.e. the values reported are the cumulative net savings from deregulatory actions and costs of newly required regulatory actions over multiple years starting in FY 2017). In 2017, the DOI achieved cumulative net savings of $1.15B (net present value) from its deregulatory actions. Goals for subsequent years will be established as the DOI completes its review of target regulations.

Office	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
DOI	Total incremental cost of all EO 13771 regulatory actions and EO 13771 deregulatory actions (including costs or cost savings carried over from previous fiscal years)	TBD
DOI	Number of EO 13771 regulatory actions issued.	TBD
DOI	Number of EO 13771 deregulatory actions issued.	TBD

STRATEGY #2: Improve transparency and timeliness of the infrastructure permitting process

As outlined in the President's Executive Order "Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure," and the corresponding Secretarial Order 3355, a significant opportunity exists for agencies to streamline and collaborate on National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) compliance efforts. The DOI believes this can best be achieved through a unified regional structure adopted across the DOI which focuses on the intersecting issues within the same geographical boundaries.

The DOI is also establishing an Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting (ECEP) to expedite the responsible leasing and permitting of energy and mineral production. More specifically, this involves, but is not limited to, the processing of Applications for Permit to Drill (APD), Expressions of Interest (EOI), coal leasing actions, Right-of-Way (ROW) applications, and harmonization of appurtenant environmental reviews.

Office	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
DOI	*Cross-Agency Priority Goal metric on improving infrastructure permitting to be added*	
BLM	Average amount of time (in days) to process and administratively complete Applications for Permit to Drill	90 days
BLM	Average amount of time (in months) to issue a decision on major right-of-way applications	48 months
BLM	Average amount of time (in days) to process and administratively complete a grazing permit	390 days
FWS	Percent of formal Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultations addressed in a timely manner	100%

GOAL #3: Prioritize DOI infrastructure needs and reduce deferred maintenance backlog

Real property assets are integral to the success of Interior's mission. DOI's real property inventory includes approximately 43,000 buildings and 80,000 structures across six major land-holding bureaus, with a replacement value of approximately $300 billion. DOI manages the full life-cycle requirements of nearly every type of constructed asset found, including visitor centers, dams, schools, health clinics, power generating facilities, housing, hotels, fire stations, campgrounds, roads, water and wastewater treatment plants, offices, and more. Many of these assets have historic or cultural significance that not only support the DOI's mission, but are important to our Nation's heritage.

STRATEGY #1: Maintain critical DOI infrastructure and facilities to ensure effective operations and service delivery

The DOI's goal is to balance mission delivery demands with adequate investments in operations and maintenance to sustain the portfolio in an appropriate condition befitting of our role as America's stewards. Appropriately maintained assets enable the DOI to accomplish habitat and resource management, provide outdoor recreation activities, deliver water, fulfill trust and treaty responsibilities, and provide critical economic inputs and job creation for local communities. Adequately constructed and maintained Federal real property supports healthy habitats and populations, availability of safe and reliable public use opportunities, and robust local economies.

A significant factor impacting a sustainable portfolio of constructed assets is DOI's aging infrastructure. Many assets already exceed original design life, and this trend of aging infrastructure continues to threaten mission delivery. Prioritizing repairs on a portfolio scale will ensure the assets condition is maintained at an acceptable level. Effective management of deferred maintenance is a Departmental priority to ensure completion of needed repairs and prevent further deterioration and unsafe conditions. The DOI prioritizes addressing deferred maintenance/repair needs for mission critical activities. Furthermore, proactive maintenance, replacement of components and colocation of programs and staff in owned facilities will help to reduce future costs.

The DOI conserves the Nation's cultural and heritage sites that reflect a rich and diverse history. The DOI safeguards our heritage for the generations that follow, to better understand our country and learn from our past. Many challenges exist in protecting and maintaining historic and archeological sites, especially with the impacts of weather on fragile sites and structures. Sites are exposed to changing weather conditions that cause damage and deterioration of the structures and sites and some locations are vandalized or accidentally damaged by visitors to federal lands.

The Road Construction Program maintains and operates the 29,000 miles of BIA-owned roads and bridges. These roads and bridges serve as the primary access points to tribal communities, without which critical resources and services would not reach tribal members.

The DOI will continue to improve and provide safe, functional, energy efficient, and universally accessible BIA facilities. The DOI is allocating funds to improve its Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded schools, and improve the learning environment of BIE students.

Agency Priority Performance Goal: By September 30, 2019, the Department of the Interior will improve the condition of its priority real property assets such that 82% are in the desired state of acceptable condition.

Bureaus/ Offices	Key Performance Indicators	2022 Goal
PAM	Percent of priority assets in acceptable condition (i.e. meet investment objective)	84%
PAM	Amount of priority deferred maintenance (repair) needs/activities addressed (i.e. completed for that year)	$1.2 billion
NPS	Value of NPS deferred maintenance work orders closed ($000)	TBD
BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of historic structures on DOI inventory in good condition	57%
BIA, BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS	Percent of museum collections on DOI inventory in good condition	59%
BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS	Percent of archaeological sites on DOI inventory in good condition	67%
BOR	Maintain a completion rate of 95% for Safety of Dam recommendations	95%
BIA	Percent of miles of BIA road in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	14%
BIA	Percent of BIA bridges in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	69%
BIE	Percent of students in BIE school facilities that are in acceptable condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index	67%

STRATEGY #2: Provide dependable and efficient information technology

Information Management and Technology (IMT) provides modern and secure technology solutions to advance the DOI's ability to deliver programs and services to the public and our customers. To do so, the DOI must protect its critical information assets from cyber exploitation and attack to ensure that employees and the public can rely on the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the DOI's data and information systems. The DOI is implementing advanced technologies that will increase visibility into its IMT environment, improve protections around our high-value information assets, and empower its workforce to better detect, respond, and recover from cyber-attacks and breaches. With a more secure computing environment in place, its employees can more easily obtain the tools and data they need to perform the mission securely efficiently and effectively, anywhere and anytime.

The DOI will continue to deploy and mature Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) capabilities that help to fortify its networks and systems. These capabilities provide the DOI with tools necessary to better identify cybersecurity risks on an ongoing basis, prioritize these risks based upon potential impacts, and enable cybersecurity personnel to mitigate the most significant

problems first. Achieving the performance objectives will enable the DOI to meet the requirements of Presidential Executive Order 13800, "Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure." The DOI has adopted the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework and will work towards implementing and maturing the set of activities known to be effective in managing cybersecurity risks and that are necessary to achieve key cybersecurity outcomes that support the following functions: Identify, Protect, Detect, Respond and Recover.

The DOI is working collaboratively with its user community to understand operational needs better in the field, resulting in expanding network capabilities to improve connectivity in remote areas so employees can be as productive as possible. To improve collaboration, the DOI will enhance its Geospatial Platform capabilities, which is an internet-based tool for sharing trusted geospatial data with the public, government agencies, and partners to meet their mission needs. The DOI will also seek to deliver improved services at a lower cost by consolidating and standardizing IT services and systems, including consolidating and optimizing its data center and network operations and standardizing security, customer support, and administrative functions.

Offices	Key Performance Indicator	2022 Goal
PIO	Percent of unclassified network hardware and software assets appropriately authorized and managed	95%
PIO	Percent completion of DOI's Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Implementation Plan	100%

APPENDIX A – ACRONYMS

APD	Application for Permit to Drill	I-READ	Interior Readiness (index)
APIPA	Association of Pacific Island Public Auditors	LHP	Landslide Hazard Program
APP	Annual Performance Plan	LIDAR	Light Detection And Ranging
APP&R	Annual Performance Plan and Report	LTRO	Land Title and Records Office
APR	Annual Performance Report	MMBF	Million Board Feet
ARPA	Archeological Resources Protection Act	MR&R	Major Rehabilitations and Replacements
AS-IA	Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs	MRP	Mineral Resource Program
AS-IN	Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs	MTS	Mineral Tracking System
AS-PMB	Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and	NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and
	Budget		Repatriation Act
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs	NAWQA	National Water Quality Assessment Program
BIE	Bureau of Indian Education	NCGMP	National Geologic Map Database
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	NFHS	National Fish Hatchery System
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
BSEE	Bureau of Safety and Environmental	NIBRS	National Incident Based Reporting System
	Enforcement	NIMS	National Incident Management System
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	NLCD	National Land Cover Database
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
CFS	Cubic Foot per Second	NPS	National Park Service
CNMI	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	NWRS	National Wildlife Refuge System
CWS	Community Water Systems	O&C	Oregon and California
DOI	Department of the Interior	O&M	Operations and Maintenance
EHP	Earthquake Hazard Program	OCS	Outer Continental Shelf
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	OEPC	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
ERP	Energy Resource Program	OIA	Office of Insular Affairs
FASS-CMS	Financial Assistance and Social Services – Case Management System	OIG	Office of the Inspector General
FCI	Facilities Condition Index	OJS	Office of Justice Services
FRPP	Federal Real Property Profile	OLES	Office of Law Enforcement and Security
FRR	Facility Reliability Rating	OMB	Office of Management and Budget
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service	OSG	Office of Self-Governance
GAO	Government Accountability Office	OSMRE	Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	OST	Office of Special Trustee
GIS	Geographic Information System	ONRR	Office of Natural Resources Revenue
GPRA	Government Performance Results Act	OPM	Office of Personnel Management
GPS	Geospatial Positioning System	OWF	Office of Wildland Fire
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services	PAM	Office of Acquisitions and Property
HMA	Herd Management Area		Management
HPPG	High Priority Performance Goal	PEM	Office of Emergency Management
ICWA	Indian Child Welfare Act	PEP	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
IGFOA	Island Government Finance Officers'	PFM	Office of Financial Management
	Association	PHR	Office of Human Resources
IIM	Individual Indian Money	PIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
ILCO	Indian Land Consolidation Office	ROW	Right of Way
ILCP	Indian Land Consolidation Program	SMART	Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow

IMARS	Incident Management Analysis Reporting System		
SMCRA	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977		
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and		
	Mathematics		
T&E	Threatened and Endangered		
TFAS	Trust Financial Accounting System		
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture		
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey		
VHP	Volcano Hazard Program		
WUI	Wildland-Urban Interface		

From: Jim Kurth
To: Stephen Guertin
Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 11:46:36 AM

"None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge"

Even if we could spend money, without the Border Patrol's authority to invoke a waiver of the Refuge Act, there is no way we could find this project compatible with the refuge purposes.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 17, 2018, at 2:27 PM, Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov> wrote:

> I will let Cynthia and Chris Nolin know to get ready
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> **From:** "Sheehan, Gregory" <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
> **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 2:00:03 PM EDT
> **To:** Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account**
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> **From:** "Cameron, Scott" <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>
> **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 11:38:03 AM EDT
> **To:** Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, "Moss, Adrianne" <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>, Susan Combs <susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), Jean Parrish <jean_parrish@ios.doi.gov>
> **Subject: Flexibility in FWS construction account**

All,

The question has been posed as to the authority and the ability of FWS to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border. Apparently there is a 2 mile stretch of land in Texas that is in question.

Jean, can you please schedule a meeting on this topic with POB, FW&P, FWS, and (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

From:	Nachmany, Eli
To:	Todd Willens; Scott Cameron; Michael Argo; Harry Humbert; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C); Susan Combs; Ross, Paul; Greg Sheehan; Jeremy Barnum; Wainman, Barbara; Shire, Gavin; Paul (Dan) Smith
Cc:	Laura Rigas; Newell, Russell; John Bockmier; Heather Swift
Subject:	FIRST DRAFT: Secretary Zinke op-ed on border deployment
Date:	Tuesday, May 8, 2018 3:10:06 PM
Attachments:	0503 SOI border.docx

Hi all,

Attached please find the first draft of an op-ed from the Secretary on the border deployment of 22 LEOs, for policy review. Please let me know if there are any edits to this op-ed by **COB tomorrow, Wednesday, May 9**. Thank you!

--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285

BORDER OP-ED, SECRETARY ZINKE

A strong border is a key pillar of a nation of laws. The U.S. Department of the Interior manages one-fifth of our nation's territory, including approximately 39-percent of the American border with Mexico.

Illegal activity at the border, from drug smuggling to unlawful entry, puts the safety of the American people at risk. As a government whose first responsibility is to its citizens, securing our borders is our solemn obligation. Since taking office as Secretary of the Interior in March 2017, protecting our people and the border has been one of my top priorities.

Last month, President Donald J. Trump ordered the deployment of National Guard troops to the southern border, so that we may achieve this mission. This operation will get underway in a few days. What our nation needs most at the border is a wall, but in the meantime, sending more resources to protect American sovereignty and stop the inflow of illegal substances is the best strategy. I applaud the President for his leadership on this critical issue.

At Interior, we are standing with the President and the American people. I am working with our Secretary of Homeland Security, Kirstjen Nielsen, to develop a plan that realizes the President's vision of a strong border. Border Patrol has provided Interior with four public land sites on the border where we can best support the administration's efforts: South Texas National Wildlife Refuge (Texas), Amistad National Recreation Area (Texas), Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (Arizona), and Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument (Arizona).

To these places, I am sending a total of 22 law enforcement officers—some from the Fish and Wildlife Service, and others from the National Park Service—on Interior's first deployment. We will begin this operation on May 14, 2018 and sustain our presence at the border for at least 90 days. Previous leaders have kicked the can of border security down the road, but as illegal drugs pour across the border and illegal immigration continues to threaten our country, we have reached the end of this road.

Drugs—opioids in particular—are causing a national crisis. The opioid epidemic has affected communities in every corner of the country. I was recently in Arizona, touring the southern border. Over a six-month period of time in 2017, reports indicate that at least 716 people died from opioid-related overdoses in the state[1].

The amount of drugs coming into our country from Mexico is especially an issue for Native Americans. Mexico is the primary source for heroin in the United States, according to a Drug Enforcement Administration report from 2017[2]. As Secretary of the Interior, one of my responsibilities is to be the greatest champion of our Indian nations. In recent years, American

[1] https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-health/2018/01/05/716-opioid-overdose-deaths-6-months-2017-real-time-tracking-arizona-health-services/1000809001/
[2] https://www.dea.gov/docs/DIR-040-17_2017-NDTA.pdf

Indian communities have experienced a higher increase in opioid overdose deaths than has any other group in America.

While I was in Arizona, I also met with multiple Native American tribes to discuss law enforcement efforts to combat the problem of opioids. We have established a law enforcement task force to address the opioid epidemic. An April drug raid in New Mexico seized $2.5 million worth of methamphetamine and more than $20,000 worth of marijuana, along with smaller amounts of heroin and other narcotics.

In coordination with the Indian nations, we are cracking down on the dealers who are selling out our kids. If we can cut off the supply chain for some of these drugs at the border, however, we will be much better off.

To do this, we will need to work with our partners. Interior is fortunate to have a close relationship with Border Patrol, and inter-agency collaboration has made enforcement a much easier task. We will continue to work in close concert with Border Patrol and Homeland Security to achieve the President's vision of a safe and sovereign America.

President Trump is a law-and-order president, and we are restoring the rule of law.

From:	Nachmany, Eli
To:	David Bernhardt; Downey Magallanes; Todd Willens; Scott Cameron; Michael Argo; Harry Humbert; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C); Susan Combs; Ross, Paul; Greg Sheehan; Jeremy Barnum; Wainman, Barbara; Shire, Gavin; Paul (Dan) Smith; Daniel Jorjani; John Tanner; Todd Wynn
Cc:	Laura Rigas; Newell, Russell; John Bockmier; Heather Swift
Subject:	SECOND DRAFT: Secretary Zinke op-ed on border deployment
Date:	Wednesday, May 9, 2018 11:34:58 AM
Attachments:	0503 SOI border.docx

Hi all,

Attached, please find the second draft of the Secretary's op-ed on law enforcement border deployment. We are thinking of placing in Arizona or Texas (if Texas, I will tweak slightly to be more Texas-focused, as opposed to Arizona-focused, as it is now).

From yesterday's first draft, I have incorporated edits from Greg, Todd Willens, and (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C). Scott, I added in a nod to the resources angle as well, as you requested, near the front of the op-ed.

Please let me know by **COB tomorrow, Thursday, May 10** if this is alright to go on to the Secretary for his edits and review. Thank you all for your help on this!

--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285

BORDER OP-ED, SECRETARY ZINKE

A secure border is a key pillar of a nation of laws. The U.S. Department of the Interior manages one-fifth of our nation's territory, including approximately 39-percent of the American border with Mexico.

Illegal activity at the border puts the safety of the American people at risk. This activity can take many forms, from drug smuggling and human trafficking to unlawful entry and natural/cultural resource destruction. Since taking office as Secretary of the Interior in March 2017, protecting our people, our resources, and our border has been one of my top priorities. As a government whose first responsibility is to its citizens, securing our borders is our solemn obligation.

Last month, President Donald J. Trump ordered the deployment of National Guard troops to the southern border, so that we may achieve this mission. This operation will get underway in a few days. What our nation needs most at the border is a wall, but in the meantime, sending more resources to protect American sovereignty and stop the inflow of illegal substances is the best strategy. I applaud the President for his leadership on this critical issue.

At Interior, we are standing with the President and the American people. I am working with our Secretary of Homeland Security, Kirstjen Nielsen, to develop a plan that realizes the President's vision of a secure border. Border Patrol has provided Interior with four public land sites on the border where we can best support the administration's efforts: South Texas National Wildlife Refuge (Texas), Amistad National Recreation Area (Texas), Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (Arizona), and Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument (Arizona).

To these places, I am sending a total of 22 law enforcement officers—some from the Fish and Wildlife Service, and others from the National Park Service—on Interior's first deployment. We will begin this operation on May 14, 2018 and sustain our presence at the border for at least 90 days. Previous leaders have kicked the can of border security down the road, but as illegal drugs pour across the border and illegal immigration continues to threaten our country, we have reached the end of this road.

Drugs—opioids in particular—are causing a national crisis. The opioid epidemic has affected communities in every corner of the country. I was recently in Arizona, touring the southern border. Over a six-month period of time in 2017, reports indicate that at least 716 people died from opioid-related overdoses in the state[1].

The amount of drugs coming into our country from Mexico is especially an issue for Native Americans. Mexico is the primary source for heroin in the United States, according to a Drug Enforcement Administration report from 2017[2]. As Secretary, one of my responsibilities is to be

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[2] https://www.dea.gov/docs/DIR-040-17_2017-NDTA.pdf

the greatest champion of our Indian nations. In recent years, American Indian communities have experienced a higher increase in opioid overdose deaths than has any other group in America.

While I was in Arizona, I also met with multiple Native American tribes to discuss law enforcement efforts to combat the problem of opioids. We have established a law enforcement task force to address the opioid epidemic. An April drug raid in New Mexico seized $2.5 million worth of methamphetamine and more than $20,000 worth of marijuana, along with smaller amounts of heroin and other narcotics.

In coordination with the Indian nations, we are cracking down on the dealers who are selling out our communities. If we can cut off the supply chain for some of these drugs at the border, however, we will be much better off.

To do this, we will need to work with our partners. Interior is fortunate to have a close relationship with Border Patrol, and inter-agency collaboration is a necessary component of strong enforcement of the law. We will continue to work in close concert with Border Patrol and Homeland Security to achieve the President's vision of a safe and sovereign America.

President Trump is a law-and-order president, and we are restoring the rule of law.

From:	Nachmany, Eli
To:	Downey Magallanes; Todd Willens; Scott Cameron; Michael Argo; Harry Humbert; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Susan Combs; Paul (Dan) Smith; Greg Sheehan; Jeremy Barnum; Wainman, Barbara; Ross, Paul; Daniel Jorjani; John Tanner; Todd Wynn; Shire, Gavin
Cc:	Laura Rigas; Newell, Russell; John Bockmier; Heather Swift
Subject:	THIRD DRAFT (TX placement, narrower focus): Secretary Zinke op-ed on border deployment
Date:	Monday, May 21, 2018 12:30:09 PM
Attachments:	0503 SOI border.docx

Hi all,

Given some recent developments, including our successful start to the border deployment, we have decided to rework the op-ed to feature a specific focus on the deployment. It is now tailored for placement in a Texas newspaper, too. The latest draft is attached.

Please let me know by **COB tomorrow, Tuesday, May 22** if this is alright to go on to the Secretary for his edits. Thank you all for your help (and patience, given the changes and different drafts!) on this.

--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285

BORDER OP-ED, SECRETARY ZINKE

President Donald J. Trump has been clear: we have to build a border wall and secure the southern border from illegal activity. As President Trump's Secretary of the Interior—the chief steward of our public lands—I am responsible for overseeing approximately 40-percent of the U.S.-Mexico border. At Interior, we are stepping up our law enforcement efforts on these lands to support the President's mission, because a secure border is a key pillar of a nation of laws.

Last month, President Donald J. Trump ordered the deployment of National Guard troops to the southern border, so that we may achieve this mission. What our nation needs at the border is a wall, but in the meantime, sending more resources to protect American sovereignty and stop the inflow of illegal substances is the best strategy. I applaud the President for his leadership on this critical issue.

Illegal activity at the border puts the safety of the American people at risk. This activity can take many forms, from drug smuggling and violence to unlawful entry. Since taking office, protecting our people, our natural and cultural resources, and our border has been one of my top priorities. As a government whose first responsibility is to its citizens, securing our borders is our solemn obligation.

I am working with our Secretary of Homeland Security, Kirstjen Nielsen, to execute a plan that fulfills this obligation. Border Patrol has provided Interior with public land sites on the border where we can best support the administration's efforts.

To these places, I sent 22 law enforcement officers—some from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and others from the U.S. Park Police—on Interior's first deployment. We began this operation on May 14, 2018. Previous leaders have kicked the can of border security down the road, but as illegal drugs pour across the border and violence continues to threaten our country, we have reached the end of this road.

We are already witnessing positive results. Within the first 48 hours of the deployment, Department of the Interior federal law enforcement made 13 arrests and seized an illegal firearm. Because of this initial success, I have sent additional law enforcement to the border. These law enforcement officers are brave patriots – time and again, they represent the thin blue line between chaos and justice.

In Texas, Interior holdings on the border span from the Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuges (under the Fish and Wildlife Service) to the Amistad National Recreation Area (under the National Park Service), among others. All told, Interior oversees about 258 miles of borderlands in the Lone Star State.

To be successful in defending these lands, along with our border in states like New Mexico, Arizona, and California, we will need to work with our partners. Interior is fortunate to have a

close relationship with Border Patrol, and inter-agency collaboration is a necessary component of strong enforcement of the law. We will continue to work in close concert with Border Patrol and Homeland Security to achieve the President's vision of a safe and sovereign America.

President Trump is a law-and-order president, and we are restoring the rule of law.

From:	Nikki_Randolph@fws.gov
To:	charisa_morris@fws.gov; kashyap_patel@fws.gov
Subject:	DCN: PMB0004804 - Surname Review Draft U.S. Department of the Interior 2018-2020 Annual Performance Plan & 2017 Report (APP&R)
Date:	Monday, September 10, 2018 4:47:09 AM
Attachments:	Draft APP_R 08302018_surname_copy.pdf

This is a 156 page document. I really thinks its a waste to print out,
ABHC has already surnamed it. Any chance we can get Steve or Jim to review this electronically? Today, since it was due last friday and ABHC held it up;.

Surname Review Draft

U.S. Department of the Interior
2018-2020 Annual Performance Plan & 2017 Report (APP&R)

August 30, 2018

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Introduction

The Department of the Interior (DOI) conserves and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, provides scientific and other information about natural resources and natural hazards to address societal challenges and create opportunities for the American people, and honors the Nation's trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities to help them prosper.

The Department manages the Nation's public lands and minerals, including providing access to more than 530 million surface acres of public lands, 700 million acres of subsurface minerals, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf. The Department is the steward of 20 percent of the Nation's lands, including national parks, national wildlife refuges, and the public lands. It manages resources providing approximately 19 percent of the Nation's energy; delivers and manages water in the 17 Western states and supplies 17 percent of the Nation's hydropower energy; and upholds Federal trust responsibilities to 567 federally recognized Indian tribes, Alaska Native communities, and insular areas. The Department also partners with states to manage wildlife, promote healthy forests and suppress fire, manage energy resource development (oil, gas, hydro, geothermal, wind, solar) on its lands and offshore areas, promote outdoor recreation (including hunting, fishing, boating, hiking, biking, etc.) and provide mapping, geological, hydrological, and biological science for the Nation.

This Annual Performance Plan and Report (APP&R) is prepared in compliance with the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) Modernization Act of 2010, P.L. 111-352. The APP&R provides an assessment of the Department's progress toward achieving its Strategic Plan goals using a collection of key performance indicators, including the results over the past five years and targets for the next two years. As part of this program performance assessment, the APP&R also displays corresponding funding investments and strategic actions planned for the next two years. This information is used for planning and provides transparency and accountability to the public.

Bureau and Office Summaries

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- Manages public lands for the benefit of all Americans under the dual framework of multiple use and sustained yield on nearly 250 million surface acres, as well as 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate. Priorities include:
  - Making full use of the Nation's domestic energy and mineral sources, including conventional and renewable energy sources;
  - Serving American families by providing outdoor recreation opportunities that are key to the Nation's heritage and its economy;
  - Managing working landscapes to support sustainable livestock grazing operations; and timber and biomass production; and
  - Developing and maintaining strong partnerships with state, local, and private stakeholders in shared conservation stewardship.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE)

- Protects the environment during coal mining through Federal programs, grants to states and Tribes, and oversight activities.
- Ensures the land is reclaimed afterwards.
- Mitigates the effects of past mining by pursuing reclamation of abandoned coal mine lands.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- Manages access to renewable and conventional energy resources of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).
- Administers nearly 3,000 active fluid mineral leases on over 16 million OCS acres;
- Oversees 4 percent of the natural gas and 18 percent of the oil produced domestically;
- Oversees lease and grant issuance for offshore renewable energy projects; and
- Manages leasing for marine mineral resources such as sand to facilitate beach replenishment and coastal nourishment projects.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

- Produces information to increase understanding of natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and landslides.
- Conducts research and delivers assessments on oil, gas, and alternative energy potential, production, consumption, and environmental effects.
- Conducts reliable scientific research in land resources, mineral assessments, and water resources to inform effective decision making and planning.
- Provides science information that supports natural resource decisions.
- Produces topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic data and maps.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- Fosters secure and reliable energy production from the 1.7 billion-acre U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) for America's energy future.
- Conducts inspections, permitting, incident and equipment failure analysis, oil spill preparedness and enforcement programs aimed at promoting a culture of safety and reducing risk to those who work offshore.
- Supports the technical expertise to engage opportunities and to meet challenges to tap the full potential of OCS energy resources.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

- Manages, develops, and protects water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.
- Largest wholesale supplier of water in the Nation.
- Manages 492 dams and 338 reservoirs.
- Delivers water to 1 in every 5 western farmers and more than 31 million people.
- America's second largest producer of hydroelectric power.

Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

- Manages the lands and waters of the 855 million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, primarily for the benefit of fish and wildlife.
- Manages 73 fish hatcheries and other related facilities for endangered species recovery and to restore native fisheries.
- Protects and conserves:
  - Migratory birds;
  - Threatened and endangered species; and
  - Certain marine mammals.
- Hosts about 48 million visitors annually at more than 560 refuges located in all 50 states and 38 wetland management districts.

Indian Affairs (IA)

- Fulfills Indian trust responsibilities.
- Promotes self-determination on behalf of 573 federally recognized Indian Tribes.
- Funds self-governance compacts and self-determination contracts to support all Federal programs including education, law enforcement, and social service programs that are delivered by Tribal Nations.
- Supports 183 elementary and secondary schools and dormitories, providing educational services to approximately 48,000 students in 23 states.
- Supports 32 community colleges, universities, post-secondary schools, and technical colleges.

Note: IA includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)

National Park Service (NPS)

- Maintains and manages a network of 417 natural, cultural, and recreational sites for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people.
- Manages and protects nearly 27,000 historic and prehistoric structures, nearly 44 million acres of designated wilderness, and a wide range of museum collections and cultural and natural landscapes.
- Provides outdoor recreation to nearly 324 million visitors at National Park units.
- Provides technical assistance and support to state, tribal and local natural and cultural resource sites and programs, and fulfills responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Departmental Offices

- Immediate Office of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Assistant Secretaries
- Office of the Solicitor
- Policy, Management and Budget provides leadership and support for the following:
  - Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition;
  - Public Safety, Resource Protection, and Emergency Services;
  - Natural Resources Revenue Management;
  - Human Capital and Diversity;
  - Technology, Information and Business Services;
  - Policy and Environmental Management;
  - Natural Resource Damage Assessment;
  - Wildland Fire Management; and
  - Native Hawaiian Relations
- Office of Inspector General
- Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

Insular and International Affairs

- Coordinates federal policy for the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Oversees the Department's involvement with oceans policy.
- Manages the Department's involvement in international affairs.
- Responsible for administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association, as well as providing technical and financial assistance to all the Insular Areas.

Note: Includes Office of Insular Affairs and Office of International Affairs

Data Accuracy and Reliability

The Department ensures the accuracy and reliability of the performance data in its Annual Performance Plan and Report (combined) and in measuring progress towards its Agency Priority Goals, in accordance with the five data quality specifications in the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010 for:

- Means used to verify and validate measured values: All performance data reported in the Annual Performance Plan & Report and on http://www.performance.gov/ by the Department is subject to the data verification and validation standards initially published in 2003 and reissued in 2007 (see https://www.doi.gov/performance/data-validation-and-verification). Implementing organization heads or chief officials confirm in writing the validity of the data. In the case of Agency Priority (Performance) Goals, senior officials in the implementing organization personally present the data on a quarterly basis to the Deputy Secretary.

- Sources for the data: Program managers provide performance data based on their observations that can include extrapolations of selected representative samples or history adjusted for estimates of changing conditions. These data are tracked and maintained in separate systems. Following review by the providing bureau or office, data are collected, reviewed, integrated, and maintained by the Department's Office of Planning and Performance Management in its Annual Performance Plan & Report (APP&R) that is available at the Department's Budget and Performance Portal (www.doi.gov/bpp), and on the www.performance.gov website.

- Level of accuracy required for the intended use of the data: Performance data reported in the Annual Performance Plan & Report and on http://www.performance.gov/ is used for management purposes, as a representative indicator of progress in relation to a target or goal established by the corresponding implementing organization. The accuracy of the information is that which is considered necessary to provide a reasonable representation of the progress made relative to a target or goal for discussion purposes, to help:
    - determine if the progress is considered adequate;
    - provide understanding of the ability for the processes and methods being implemented to achieve the goal;
    - indicate if any further exploration or evaluation is needed to better ensure achievement of the goal; and
    - whether alternative action, including adjusting funding levels, facilities, workforce, IT capabilities, etc., is needed to help better ensure achievement of the goal.

- Limitations to the data at the required level of accuracy: Performance data are subject to potential errors from the use of estimations and extrapolations (especially where direct measurement is impractical and/or too costly), individual observation, miscommunication, and/or failure to effectively employ the guidance described in the performance measure template or the "Indicator" description in http://www.performance.gov/. However, based on multiple review levels and accuracy certifications, these limitations are not significant.

- How the agency has compensated for such limitations if needed to reach the required level of accuracy: The measurement procedures for each performance measure used in the Annual Performance Plan and Report are described and documented in data measurement templates posted on the OMB MAX website, or described in the "Indicator" block for each Agency Priority (Performance) Goal on http://www.performance.gov/. Along with the implementing organization's official assurance of faithfully employing the data verification and validation standards, submitted data are reviewed within the context of the scope and nature of the activity, plans, and experience to help confirm accuracy. Following review and verification by the submitting bureau or office, the data are reviewed again (within corresponding trends and programmatic context) by the Department's Office of Planning and Performance Management to determine if further consultation with the data provider is necessary to adjust or correct the reported data before publication. Senior management and leadership consider this level of accuracy to be acceptable in their use of the data. Experience in using the data, historical trend and programmatic context assessments, and bureau data quality certifications indicate that the limitations are considered minor and compensating measures are not considered necessary.

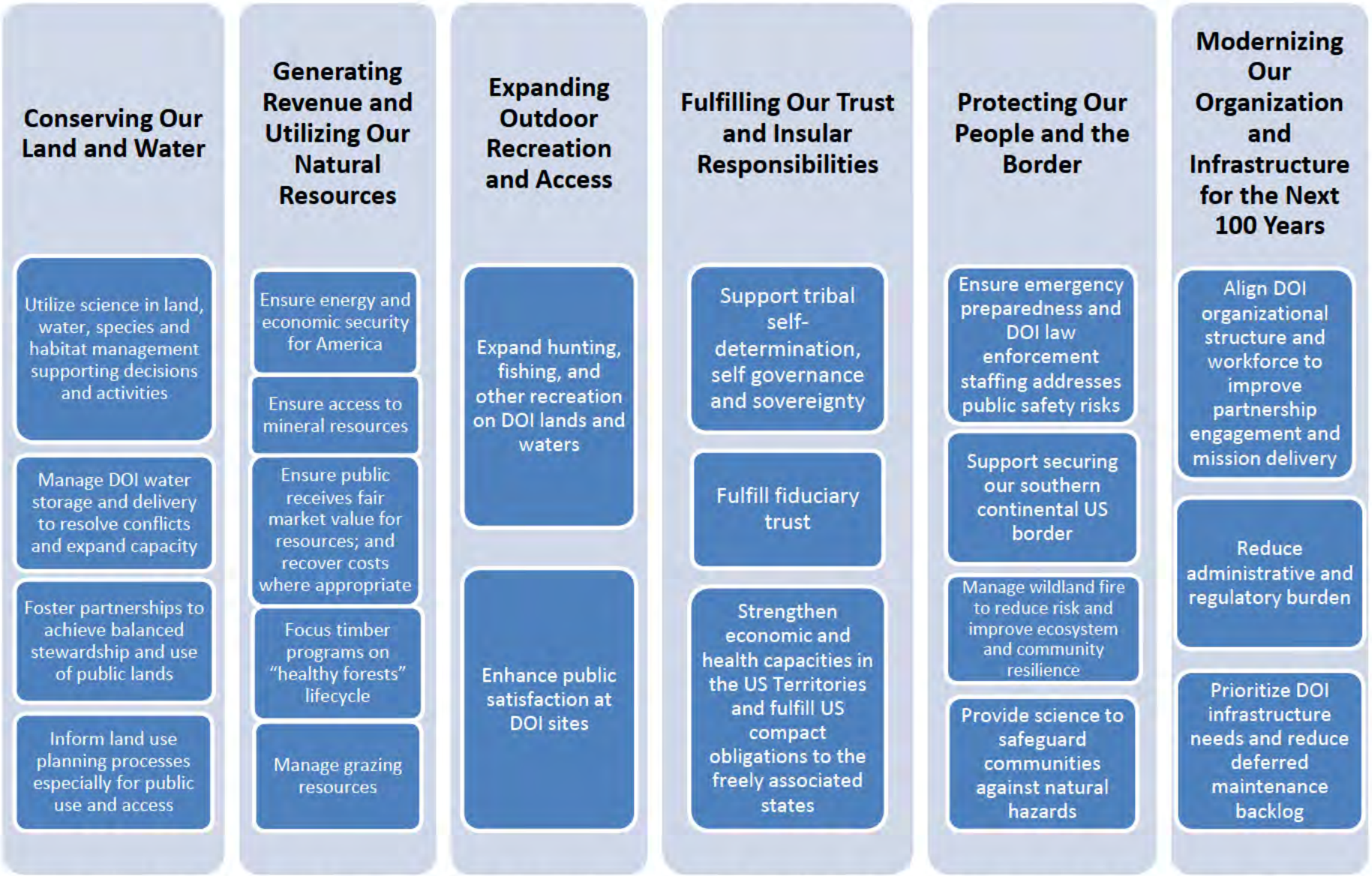
- In addition to employing the Department's data validation and verification standards, and internal reviews of submitted data, the best "test" of the data's accuracy is in its use. Agency Priority (Performance) Goal data are reviewed during quarterly status reviews where senior officials report their data directly to the Department's Deputy Secretary and is made publicly available through http://www.performance.gov/. Annual performance plan and report information is provided with historical, organizational, and supporting context to provide the reader with a fuller perspective of the data and is reviewed annually at the "strategic objective" level.

How to Use the Annual Performance Plan & Report

The Annual Performance Plan and Report is organized by the Mission Areas, Goals, and Strategic Objectives of the Department's FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan. The APP&R provides the performance and funding details of each contributing bureau and program to present the progress made and plans for achieving each goal. Each section contains seven components:

1. Identification of the relevant Mission Area, Goal, and Strategic Objective.
2. Program Performance Overview – a concise explanation of the progress made in implementing the strategic objective and attaining the related strategic goal. This section also includes, where applicable, a summary of FY 2017 accomplishments, risks, and major management challenges. (The next edition of this plan and report will be created after FY 2018 results are available and will be updated to summarize FY 2018 accomplishments.)
3. Public Benefit – a review of what the public gains from our efforts.
4. DOI Strategic Plan Performance Measures – this section reports on the performance measures for achieving the GPRA goals in the Strategic Plan. For each performance measure, actual performance is reported for FY 2014 through FY 2017. In addition, performance targets are provided for fiscal years 2018, 2019, and 2020.
5. Bureau Supporting Performance Measures and/or Milestones – this section contains bureau-specific performance measures and/or milestones that support achievement of the goals and strategies. For each measure or milestone, actual data are provided for FY 2014 through FY 2017. Target data are provided for fiscal years 2018, 2019, and FY 2020.
6. Strategic Actions planned through FY 2020 – this section contains a bulleted list of strategic actions that highlight some of the key, significant activities planned through the budget year of FY 2020 to attain the performance targets associated with the Department's FY 2020 budget request.
7. Key Funding Sources – this section contains estimates of funding budgeted for programs that support the goal and strategies. Funding estimates are based on actual enacted amounts for FY 2014 through FY 2017. Amounts for FY 2018, 2019, and 2020 are based on the Department's 2018 appropriations, 2019 budget request and 2020 budget submission to OMB, respectively.

FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan Framework



Crosscutting principles: Senior executives provide leadership in achieving Presidential and Secretarial goals and are expected to: ensure cost-effective operations and quality service to the public; facilitate organizational cooperation and conflict resolution; ensure workplace environment conducive to employee productivity and safety; and hold individuals accountable for their actions.

Mission Area 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

Mission Area 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

Goal #1: Utilize Science in Land, Water, Species, and Habitat Management for Decisions and Activities

Strategy #1: Apply science to land and species management

Program Performance Overview: Overall, performance improved from FY 2016 to FY 2017, with seven of eight strategic plan measures improving performance or remaining level. Performance between 2017 and 2018 was mixed, with water measures improving. USGS will maintain the core functions of its missions and prioritize its activities to ensure the most essential scientific knowledge and tools are delivered to land managers and policy makers for decision-making.

Performance in the monitoring and assessing of the Nation's water availability and quality shows steady improvement from FY 2014 through FY 2017. This level of performance indicates programs are effectively applying funding toward needed research, monitoring, and assessments to inform decision makers about water availability and quality.

Public Benefit: The USGS conducts scientific monitoring and research to support management strategies that address the impacts of land use and environmental change on the availability and sustainability of resources. The USGS supports management agencies by identifying conservation measures designed to preclude the need for listing species as endangered or threatened; recover listed species; and prevent or control invasive species and wildlife disease outbreaks.

The USGS conducts monitoring, assessments, and research to understand and predict changes in the quality and quantity of water resources in response to land-use and management scenarios. Through advanced understanding and integrated modeling of processes that determine water availability, the USGS informs the balanced management of water resources for multiple purposes, including energy production, the sustainability of fish and other aquatic communities valued by society, and public enjoyment.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Apply science to land, water, and species management									
Percent completion of targeted land and water management research actions	USGS	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	14%	14%	
		N/A	N/A	1	7	7	1	1	
		N/A	N/A	1	7	7	7	7	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percentage of people living in targeted watersheds covered by completed water quality models	USGS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	35%	65%	
		N/A	0	0	0	0	108	200	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	307	307	
Percent completion of planned water quality sampling and studies for the Nation's groundwater, streams and rivers	USGS	11%	22%	35%	47%	59%	66%	70%	
Percent completion of the USGS National Water Census baseline	USGS	N/A	N/A	N/A	0%	10%	30%	60%	
Percent completion of U.S. aquifer groundwater availability baseline studies	USGS	N/A	25%	28%	30%	35%	35%	38%	
		N/A	10	11	12	14	14	15	
		N/A	40	40	40	40	40	40	
Percent completion of targeted species management research actions	USGS	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	20%	N/A	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	5	5	1	0	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	5	5	5	5	
Percent completion of targeted biological threats research actions	USGS	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	91%	82%	
		N/A	N/A	9	11	11	10	9	
		N/A	N/A	9	11	11	11	11	
Percent completion of collaborative research projects on effects to fish and wildlife habitat from changing conditions	USGS	N/A	100%	100%	90%	67%	100%	17%	
		N/A	41	55	45	20	6	1	
		N/A	41	55	50	30	6	6	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Apply science to land, water, and species management								
Percent of water withdrawals from Public Supply, Thermoelectric, and Irrigation reported to USGS from our partners of a defined quality level	USGS	N/A	N/A	9%	18%	19%	19%	19%
		N/A	N/A	15	30	32	32	32
		N/A	N/A	168	168	168	168	168
Percent of Cooperative Research Units fully operational	USGS	78%	78%	79%	71%	71%	tbd	tbd
		93	93	94	84	84	tbd	tbd
		119	119	119	119	119	119	119

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

U.S. Geological Survey

Ecosystems (ECO):

- Deliver data to Federal and State managers and the public on distribution of aquatic invasive species through a Web-based platform that serves as an early warning and alert system for new invasions with tools to identify potential invaders after large storm events.
- Provide data, technical expertise, and capacity to facilitate rapid response by states to new invasions of invasive plants and animals and develop species-specific controls to minimize application costs and ecological effects of treatments including targeted chemicals for Asian carp and zebra and quagga mussels, pheromones (chemical substances) for sea lamprey, and microbes to control mosquitoes, common reed, and cheatgrass.
- Test and refine new molecular and remote sensing technologies including environmental DNA (eDNA), drones, and infrared remote sensing to identify invasive species early in an invasion when chances of eradication success are highest.
- Support early detection and rapid response for invasive reptiles such as Burmese pythons and Argentine black and white tegus in Florida, boa constrictors in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and brown tree snakes in Guam, including the Brown Tree Snake Rapid Response Team. Improve the power of early detection tools and develop containment and control methods as part of the intergovernmental team preventing the spread of Asian carp into the Great Lakes and reducing their effects elsewhere in the Nation.
- Conduct population assessments for the following: Great Lakes forage fish used by states, tribes, and provinces to manage a $7 billion commercial and recreational fishing industry; migratory birds used by National Flyway Councils to manage

waterfowl hunting in the United States in cooperation with Canada and Mexico; and North American bats to understand impacts of the invasive fungal disease white-nose syndrome on control of insects that threaten agriculture and human health.

- Provide maps of real-time and forecasted plant and animal activity used by resource managers to predict and manage invasive species, insect pests, wildlife disease, recreational opportunities, and habitats within and across protected areas.
- Develop scientific information and tools for use by Interior bureaus and other federal, state and tribal agencies to design and site energy, transportation, and other infrastructure to reduce conflict with wildlife and comply with laws and regulations.
- Provide research and decision support tools to address the science needs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's 7-year work plan for species listing decisions. Develop science and tools to identify habitat required to maintain target populations of federally listed species, candidate species, migratory species, and other species of management concern.
- Provide surveillance, diagnostics, source tracking, and management tools including vaccine development for nationally significant wildlife diseases such as avian influenza in birds, white nose syndrome in bats, and chronic wasting disease in large game species such as deer and elk.
- Provide science to inform decisions about planning, managing, and using coastal areas for purposes as varied as resource management, economic development, and hazard mitigation.
- Provide research and decision support tools to manage Interior lands to reduce the risks of fire, invasive species, wildlife disease, and harmful algal blooms. Provide information on the most cost-effective and successful land and water conservation and restoration practices to support Interior lands and trust responsibilities.
- Provide integrated science to improve degraded large-scale ecosystems which provide surrounding communities with services such as clean water, flood control, and natural resources for multi-faceted economies based on outdoor recreation, commercial seafood harvest, and tourism.

Water Availability and Use Science Program (WAUSP):

- Conduct National Water Census activities such as developing tools and models to estimate water use; operationalizing field-scale evapotranspiration (ET) estimation techniques; refining models to estimate streamflow in ungaged basins; and developing an integrated approach for evaluating water availability for human and ecological use, infrastructure, security, and economic optimization.
- Continue support for completion of the National Water Census water budget component baseline estimates by 2022.
- Measure and analyze water use information in cooperation with other federal agencies, states, localities, tribes, and partners to determine the amount of water, where, and how it is used in support of water resources management.
- Complete two, and continue work on the remaining five, regional groundwater availability studies, providing resource managers more information and new tools to understand groundwater resources and make management decisions in their area.
- Conduct studies at Water Science Centers across the Nation in cooperation with state, local, regional, and tribal partners that provide the data and tools necessary for resource managers to make management decisions regarding water availability now

and into the future. These local studies will help to inform the National Water Census and national level efforts about water availability.

National Water Quality Program (NWQP):

- Support long-term, nationally consistent monitoring of sediment, nutrients, and pesticides at 65 stream sites located on large inland and coastal rivers that drain to regionally and nationally important estuaries. These sites are used to track changes in the amounts of nutrients, sediments, and other contaminants delivered to important receiving waters and how contaminant concentrations and loads are changing over time.
- Provide regional-scale modeling of current and projected surface-water and groundwater quality in selected major river basins and important principal aquifers. These models provide predictions of where concentrations of nutrients, sediments, and pesticides are likely to occur at levels that would impair water quality.
- Initiate efforts to apply state-of-the-science sensor technology to monitor and forecast changes on a near real-time basis for key water-quality constituents or their surrogates—such as salinity, sediment, algal toxins (e.g., from harmful algal blooms), and other contaminants—that can impair water quality and adversely affect the health of humans and aquatic ecosystems.

National and Regional Climate Adaptation Science Centers (NRCASC):

- Provide national level synthesis of environmental change important to Departmental resource management priorities.
- Conduct gap analysis of climate impacts and adaptation needs for Interior bureaus.
- Provide summaries of best adaptation practices and state of the science for climate change impacts to managers.
- Advance the science in the design of adaptation strategies for Departmental resource management.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
U.S. Geological Survey								
Status and Trends	20,473	20,473	20,473	20,473	20,334	11,325	11,325	
Fisheries Program	20,886	20,886	20,886	21,136	20,992	9,701	---	
Wildlife Program	44,757	45,257	45,757	46,007	45,695	33,440	33,784	
Environments Program	36,244	36,224	38,415	37,415	37,161	24,569	24,569	

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Invasive Species	13,080	16,830	17,330	17,330	17,212	17,096	13,096	
Cooperative Research Units	17,371	17,371	17,371	17,371	17,253	---	---	
National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center/DOI Climate Science Centers (CSCs)	23,735	26,735	26,435	25,335	---	---	---	
National and Regional Climate Adaptation Science Centers	---	---	---	---	25,163	12,989	2,665	
Water Availability and Use Science Program	16,846	22,360	22,360	24,360	29,045	19,623	19,623	
National Water Quality Program	50,770	50,772	50,722	50,722	50,722	44,196	34,435	
Total	244,162	256,908	259,749	260,149	263,577	172,939	139,497	

Mission Area 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

Goal #1: Utilize Science in Land, Water, Species, and Habitat Management for Decisions and Activities

Strategy #2: Provide stewardship of land, surface water, stream, and shorelines

Strategy #3: Provide stewardship of wildlife, bird, fish, and plant species

Program Performance Overview: Land and water health and wildlife management performance measures showed generally stable performance trends over the past several years. Programs that were able to sustain performance generally did so because of redirection of resources to higher priority activities, multi-year efforts coming to fruition in 2014-2016, or sustained results from prior-year efforts remaining intact. In 2016, some performance benefitted from additional funds made available to help celebrate the National Park Service's Centennial (1916-2016). There is some potential for declining performance due to the limited ability to address the risk of pervasive and persistent problems, such as invasive species. Performance in maintaining and preserving migratory birds, fish populations, and endangered species is positive.

More recently, in 2017, the Department met or exceeded the performance targets on 9 of the 11 measures targeted in 2017 in these two strategies to improve land and water health and recover and sustain species. Favorable weather, the ability to redirect funds to priority projects, additional partner support, and the deployment of invasive species strike teams and volunteers led to better-than-expected performance in many areas.

Public Benefit: The Department provides stewardship for over 500 million acres of public lands, together with associated waterways and plant and animal species. Land in desired condition is valued for recreational opportunities (including fishing and hunting), and vast open spaces, which contribute to public enjoyment and health. Maintaining or improving the condition of stream and shoreline miles benefits fish populations, enhances wildlife habitat, and contributes to a balanced ecology. The Nation's forests, mountains, wetlands, grasslands, and deserts host biological diversity that is critical to overall ecosystem health, and species survival and well-being. The Department is working to compile more information on critical habitat, estimated costs of recovery and the economic impact of its threatened and endangered species listings to provide a more complete picture to states, tribes, and the public.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Provide stewardship of land, surface water, streams and shorelines									
Percent of DOI acres that have achieved desired conditions where condition is known and as specified in management plans	DOI	76.7%	78.1%	78.2%	82.5%	89.3%	87.3%	87.1%	
		353,869,240	360,116,825	361,651,952	472,556,098	746,623,779	736,796,598	735,118,984	
		461,495,700	461,325,882	462,520,691	572,940,348	836,053,382	844,053,382	844,053,383	
	BLM	62.6%	62.8%	63.1%	63.4%	66.1%	64.1%	64.4%	
		155,317,905	155,861,568	156,434,421	157,120,885	158,600,000	159,000,000	159,600,000	
		248,000,000	248,000,000	248,000,000	248,000,000	240,000,000	248,000,000	248,000,000	
	FWS	93.4%	97.3%	97.7%	98.7%	99.6%	97.6%	97.1%	
		140,150,828	145,791,353	145,948,626	246,396,015	518,693,756	508,319,881	505,778,283	
		150,059,055	149,889,237	149,426,338	249,712,459	520,825,493	520,825,493	520,825,494	
	NPS	92.1%	92.2%	91.1%	91.8%	92.2%	92.4%	92.7%	
		58,400,507	58,463,904	59,268,905	69,039,198	69,330,023	69,476,717	69,740,701	
		63,436,645	63,436,645	65,094,353	75,227,889	75,227,889	75,227,889	75,227,889	
Percent of DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles that have achieved desired conditions where condition is known and as specified in management plans	DOI	89.3%	89.4%	89.6%	89.6%	89.2%	88.0%	88.3%	
		442,707	443,433	443,890	444,391	443,721	437,514	439,035	
		495,851	495,764	495,584	495,721	497,430	497,430	497,430	
	BIA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	tbd	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	BLM	85.4%	85.9%	86.2%	86.5%	85.1%	85.1%	85.1%	
		132,344	133,070	133,579	134,010	133,350	133,350	133,350	
		154,976	154,976	154,976	154,976	156,697	156,697	156,697	
	FWS	91.0%	91.1%	91.1%	91.1%	91.1%	89.3%	89.7%	
		310,363	310,363	310,311	310,381	310,371	304,164	305,685	
		340,875	340,788	340,608	340,745	340,733	340,733	340,733	
	DOI	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percent of baseline acres infested with target invasive plant species that are under control		228,545	246,678	222,779	241,723	271,958	246,315	273,479	
		39,930,649	83,246,310	82,914,580	83,020,208	83,044,723	83,102,142	83,644,222	
	BLM	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	
		147,277	149,743	141,103	161,482	192,854	175,000	192,500	
		35,762,000	79,236,079	79,236,079	79,236,079	79,236,079	79,236,079	79,236,607	
	BOR	51.5%	100.0%	97.7%	100.0%	91.3%	91.3%	113.6%	
		3,329	2,620	1,916	2,181	1,792	1,792	4,046	
		6,463	2,620	1,961	2,181	1,963	1,963	3,562	
	FWS	2.2%	2.7%	2.0%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	
		52,839	59,696	46,836	33,751	35,006	34,306	41,716	
		2,399,819	2,245,244	2,337,279	2,345,638	2,450,769	2,499,784	3,039,737	
	NPS	1.4%	2.0%	2.5%	3.1%	3.1%	2.6%	2.6%	
		25,100	34,619	32,924	44,309	42,306	35,217	35,217	
		1,762,367	1,762,367	1,339,261	1,436,310	1,355,912	1,364,316	1,364,316	

Percent of invasive animal species populations that are under control	DOI	11.5%	11.2%	8.7%	9.5%	9.3%	8.5%	8.2%	
		340	337	279	309	304	287	309	
		2,959	2,999	3,189	3,256	3,285	3,357	3,747	
	FWS	6.9%	7.5%	5.6%	5.6%	5.4%	5.1%	5.1%	
		118	127	97	95	95	93	113	
		1,701	1,699	1,745	1,700	1,771	1,806	2,196	
	NPS	17.6%	16.2%	12.6%	13.8%	13.8%	12.5%	12.6%	
		222	210	182	214	209	194	196	
		1,258	1,300	1,444	1,556	1,514	1,551	1,551	

Percent completion of abandoned coal mine lands restored by eliminating health, safety, and environmental concerns.	OSMRE	47%	49%	50%	51%	52%	54%	55%	
		450,779	463,118	475,250	487,569	500,846	513,941	524,778	
		954,290	954,290	954,290	954,290	954,290	954,290	954,290	

	OSMRE	90%	89%	91%	90%	89%	89%	89%	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percent of active coal mining sites that are free of off-site impacts		5,995	6,034	5,995	5,785	5,676	5,588	5,543	
		6,671	6,775	6,608	6,414	6,378	6,288	6,227	
Percent of coal mine acreage reclaimed to beneficial post-mining land use	OSMRE	37%	38%	39%	40%	41%	41%	42%	
		1,377,569	1,419,963	1,459,792	1,505,975	1,542,514	1,580,506	1,621,917	
		3,711,422	3,712,704	3,715,854	3,738,306	3,774,845	3,812,837	3,831,925	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Provide stewardship of wildlife, bird, fish, and plant species									
Percent of Threatened or Endangered species listed for 2.5 years or more with a final recovery plan	FWS	83%	81%	78%	76%	76%	73%	73%	
		1,113	1,112	1,124	1,129	1,141	1,153	1,151	
		1,338	1,379	1,449	1,479	1,505	1,579	1,579	
Percent of five-year Threatened or Endangered species five-year status review recommendations to downlist or delist acted on within five years (prior to next status review)	FWS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	18%	38%	27%	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9	15	22	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	49	40	82	
Percent of listed species with current five-year reviews (completed in the last five years)	FWS	63%	48%	47%	49%	62%	76%	81%	
		937	723	713	782	980	1,200	1,280	
		1,498	1,503	1,530	1,580	1,580	1,580	1,580	
Percent of rules and findings completed based on Threatened or Endangered Species Status Assessments (SSAs)	FWS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	42%	35%	92%	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	9	23	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	24	26	25	
Percent of Threatened and Endangered species listings with proposed critical habitat	FWS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	83%	91%	100%	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	10	6	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	11	6	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percent of migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels	FWS	72.8%	72.8%	72.8%	72.8%	72.8%	72.8%	72.8%	
		747	747	747	747	747	747	747	
		1,026	1,026	1,026	1,026	1,026	1,026	1,026	
Percent of fish species of management concern that are managed to self-sustaining levels, in cooperation with affected States, Tribes, and others, as defined in approved management documents	FWS	24.0%	24.3%	23.0%	23.0%	23.0%	23.0%	20.8%	
		44	45	42	42	42	42	38	
		183	185	183	183	183	183	183	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Provide stewardship of land, surface water, streams and shorelines								
Wild Horse and Burro Management Areas: Percent of Herd Management Areas (HMAs) achieving appropriate management levels	BLM	17%	15%	16%	18%	10%	8%	8%
		31	26	29	32	18	15	15
		179	179	177	177	177	177	177
Percent of Resource Management plans completed within four years of start	BLM	38%	32%	36%	36%	35%	34%	38%
		29	30	40	42	42	43	49
		77	95	110	116	119	128	130
Number of acres where reclamation goals are achieved as evidenced by release from Phase III Performance Bonds	OSMRE	38,783	42,394	40,709	46,183	36,539	37,992	41,411
Number of acres released from Phase I & II Performance Bonds	OSMRE	82,916	57,235	79,827	98,911	65,832	73,881	73,731
Number of students trained - National Technical Training Program (NTTP)	OSMRE	688	667	700	701	650	650	650

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Provide stewardship of wildlife, bird, fish, and plant species								
Number of threatened or endangered species recovery activities implemented	DOI	1,610	1,830	1,900	1,761	1,652	802	777
	BLM	1,519	1,740	1,816	1,660	1,550	700	675
	BOR	91	90	84	101	102	102	102
# of acre feet of optimum refuge water supply delivered	BOR	25,150	13,548	37,073	96,021	55,000	52,250	52,250

Performance Trend Clarifications

Fluctuations in a year's funding may cause spikes in performance. Redefinitions of activities, such as increases to the denominator of measures based on better science data also cause some performance to change even when the resources and the level of effort addressing these activities remain relatively constant from year to year. For example:

- In 2014, the BLM conducted many new surveys and updates to treated acres of invasive plant areas, resulting in both the number of acres infested and the number of acres treated to change in 2015 for the measure tracking percentage of baseline acres infested with invasive plants.

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Fish and Wildlife Service

- Continue to work collaboratively with private landowners and other conservation partners to voluntarily protect, conserve, and restore their lands to keep working lands in traditional uses while improving habitat, and water quality to benefit species.
- Work with state and federal partners, using early detection, rapid assessment, containment, rapid response, and control efforts, to prevent the spread of Asian Carp into the Great Lakes and the expansion of Asian Carp's range in the upper Mississippi, Ohio and Missouri River basins.
- Continue existing ecosystem restoration efforts in the Klamath Basin, Chesapeake Bay, Everglades, and California Bay Delta.
- Continue maintenance and limited improvements to visitor facilities, including parking areas, kiosks, interpretive signs, trails, and boardwalks.
- Conduct the environmental review of Gulf Coast restoration projects funded by Deepwater Horizon and RESTORE Act funds so that projects can move through the review process in a timely fashion.

- Continue to combat illegal wildlife trafficking through strengthening law enforcement, reducing demand for illegally traded wildlife, and expanding international cooperation and commitment to address the threat.

Bureau of Land Management

- Continue to develop and conduct science-based strategic and essential conservation actions to maintain sustainable populations of wildlife.
- Restore and maintain habitats to support populations of native wildlife and plants.
- Work with states, tribes, and other partners to conserve big game winter range and migration corridors.
- Implement on-the-ground conservation in priority areas in partnership with others while providing access to energy resources and minerals.
- Work closely with state fish and wildlife agencies on wildlife resource issues, including support for implementation of State Wildlife Action Plans, which establish broad-scale wildlife priorities and identify the species and habitats of greatest conservation need.
- Address the population of wild horses and burros above the appropriate management level by increasing adoptions and sales, including incentivizing adoptions, seeking authority to transfer animals to local, state, and other federal agencies for use as work animals, as well as extending the use of contraceptives and spaying and neutering animals before returning them to the range.
- Continue working with leading universities and U.S. Geological Survey scientists to better refine wild horse and burro population growth suppression methods and overall herd management techniques.

National Park Service

- Conduct natural resources conservation and protection and complete a strategic selection of projects to focus resources toward the National Park Service's most critical high-priority natural resource needs in parks. Projects may include preservation of air and water quality and geological, paleontological, and marine resources; addressing invasive plants and animals; and the restoration of disturbed lands and riparian areas.
- Protect bats by conducting measures to control and manage White-Nose Syndrome and protect cave ecosystems.
- Dedicate special effort to the management of invasive quagga and zebra mussels, which threaten delicate aquatic ecosystems, renewable energy generation, fishing, and boating.

Bureau of Reclamation

- Evaluate strategies to continue efficient management of invasive species and their impact to project operations.

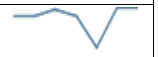
- Collaborate with the California Department of Food and Agriculture to target invasive species infestations in the Redding, Calaveras, Chowchilla, and Tulare areas that could be a threat to resources near conveyance systems of the Central Valley Project.
- Implement riparian restoration on non-DOI lands in partnership with other agencies.
- Reassess and monitor the implementation of the Platte River Program's Land, Adaptive Management, and Integrated Monitoring and Research Plans.
- Assess and monitor water quality parameters at the Palo Verde Diversion Dam on the lower Columbia River, in accordance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit and Aquatic Application Plan.
- Refine and implement long-term water reliability strategies to meet Optimum Refuge Water Supply to ensure the 19 Central Valley Project refuges annually receive water of specified quantity, timing, and suitable quality to support their wetland and aquatic environments.
- Focus effort to maintain the Long-Term Experimental and Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement operation of Glen Canyon Dam in cooperation with NPS, USGS, and the Department of Energy Argonne National Lab.
- Re-assess and advance the Middle Rio Grande Collaborative Program agreement to provide funds for the purchase of water and support Rio Grande silvery minnow during periods of low flow in the Middle Rio Grande River.

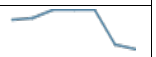
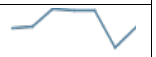
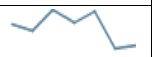
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

- Restore abandoned mine lands to improve environmental quality and reduce the potential for exposure of hazards to the public.
- Sustain training and technical assistance to states and tribes for area-wide reclamation planning.
- Provide technical support and assistance to states and tribes to help develop and support best practices in mining and reclamation.
- Ensure prompt problem identification and resolution at mine sites to prevent off-site impacts.
- Improve and accelerate mine plan reviews to ensure energy is available to meet security and economic needs.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Land Management								
Soil, Water, and Air Management	42,939	43,239	43,609	43,609	27,034	---	---	
Rangeland Management	39,500	39,500	39,500	39,500	33,877	46,354	46,354	

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Riparian Management	21,321	21,321	21,321	21,321	20,222	---	---	
Wild Horse and Burro Management	77,245	77,245	80,555	80,555	70,719	66,719	66,719	
Wildlife Habitat Management	---	---	---	---	---	81,753	81,753	
Aquatic Habitat Management	---	---	---	---	---	37,664	37,664	
Wilderness Management	18,264	18,264	18,264	---	---	11,931	11,931	
Resource Protection - Resource Management Planning	37,125	38,125	48,125	52,125	38,437	36,131	36,131	
Abandoned Mine Lands	16,687	16,987	19,946	20,036	9,062	---	---	
Hazardous Materials Management	15,612	15,612	15,612	15,463	10,780	---	---	
Abandoned Mine Lands and Hazardous Materials Management	---	---	---	---	---	13,260	13,260	
Western Oregon - Resource Management Planning	7,140	7,140	3,985	3,985	2,010	---	---	
Range Improvements	9,280	9,270	9,320	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
Subtotal	285,113	286,703	300,237	286,594	222,141	303,812	303,812	
Bureau of Reclamation								
Water and Related Resources	28,566	32,519	31,848	31,693	45,398	46,418	24,864	
Fish and Wildlife Service								
Resource Management	1,089,715	1,109,372	1,138,840	1,136,692	1,149,582	1,034,268	1,014,915	
Construction	14,307	14,275	21,555	21,514	16,825	14,329	14,281	
Land Acquisition	53,878	47,060	67,815	67,685	58,992	11,833	11,745	
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund	49,594	49,594	52,960	52,859	52,601	---	---	
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	34,145	34,145	35,145	35,078	37,886	33,600	33,600	
Multinational Species Conservation Fund	9,061	9,061	11,061	11,039	10,986	6,000	6,000	

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation	3,660	3,660	3,910	3,903	3,883	3,900	1,198	
State Wildlife Grants	27,587	27,587	28,468	28,414	29,209	14,704	9,534	
Subtotal	1,281,947	1,294,754	1,359,754	1,357,184	1,359,964	1,118,634	1,091,273	
National Park Service								
Operation of the National Park System	256,802	261,619	270,344	271,354	267,410	240,433	306,287	
Centennial Challenge	---	1,000	1,500	2,000	1,986	---	---	
National Recreation and Preservation	15,068	15,801	15,624	15,627	15,522	6,520	3,884	
Construction (and Major Maintenance)	5,529	3,753	16,164	8,810	15,305	18,098	16,687	
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	38,793	39,016	72,917	70,008	69,534	---	-2,793	
Subtotal	316,192	321,189	376,549	367,799	369,757	265,051	324,065	
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement								
Regulation and Technology	122,753	122,753	123,293	121,017	120,235	101,338	96,464	
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund	279,054	195,190	280,453	161,888	325,316	232,975	255,678	
Subtotal	401,807	317,943	403,746	282,905	445,551	334,313	352,142	
Total	2,313,625	2,253,108	2,472,134	2,326,175	2,442,811	2,068,228	2,096,156	

Mission Area 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

Goal #2: Manage DOI Water Storage and Delivery to Resolve Conflicts and Expand Capacity

Strategy #1: Manage water resources and delivery

Program Performance Overview: The Department is providing a much-needed capability in the West to deliver water through its reservoirs and dams, and support water supplies through support for new water storage and conservation. Performance is trending upward, primarily due to funding for WaterSMART (Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow) and related water conservation programs. Enhancing water storage takes years for construction to be completed.

Reclamation strives to keep its facilities in good condition to ensure the reliable supply of water and stretch existing water supplies that can be made available for other uses. In 2017, 80% of Reclamation's facilities were evaluated as being in good condition, a decrease of one percent from the previous fiscal year. The water facility inventory dropped by one from 343 to 342 because the Tehama Colusa Fish Facility in the Mid-Pacific Region was decommissioned, taken apart, filled in, and disconnected from the river. Reclamation prioritizes infrastructure assets based on detailed design criteria: engineering need, consequence of failure, financial considerations, efficiency opportunities, scheduling, and others.

Many rural communities face significant challenges in financing the cost of replacing or upgrading aging and obsolete facilities and systems. The water conservation programs, i.e., WaterSMART, Title XVI, CALFED, Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement, and Upper Colorado River Recovery Implementation, contribute by increasing the available water supply and contribute to the Department's broader objective of achieving a more sustainable, secure water supply. In FY 2017, Reclamation provided funding for projects that will increase potential water savings of 37,777 acre-feet. While only 12 of 43 Water and Energy Efficiency Grant projects were awarded in FY 2017, the water savings from the remaining 31 projects will be reported in FY 2018. Cumulatively, projects funded from 2010-2017 have enabled 1,182,599 acre-feet of water conservation capacity.

Public Benefit: Reclamation is the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 Western States, bringing water to more than 31 million people and providing one of five western farmers (140,000) with irrigation water for 10 million acres of farmland that produce 60 percent of the nation's vegetables and 25 percent of its fruits and nuts. Reclamation's facilities also provide substantial flood control, hydropower, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits. The Western U.S. is one of the fastest growing regions of the country, and urbanization has created demands for water, power, and recreational facilities. Changes in water supplies, water demands, and the increased duration and frequency of droughts have the potential to affect Reclamation's ability to fulfill its mission.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Manage water resources and delivery									
Percent of water infrastructure in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating (FRR) [high- and significant-hazard dams]	BOR	78%	79%	81%	80%	73%	73%	76%	
		269	272	279	272	251	251	261	
		344	344	344	342	342	342	342	
Acre feet of water conservation capacity enabled through Reclamation's Priority Goal conservation programs (cumulative since 2010)	BOR	860,299	977,454	1,144,822	1,182,599	1,226,414	1,236,476	1,245,669	
Annual percent of projects completed in support of water management, planning, and pre-development	BIA	85%	88%	83%	87%	78%	76%	73%	
		66	68	71	76	65	63	61	
		78	77	86	87	83	83	83	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Manage water resources and delivery								
% of annual water facility condition assessments completed	BOR	97%	90%	99%	94%	100%	100%	100%
		191	179	181	175	184	182	191
		196	198	183	187	184	182	191
Annual acre feet of water reclaimed and delivered	BOR	434,827	369,414	387,648	388,416	440,206	454,330	433,170
Installed capacity of water conveyance systems in CFS-Miles (nominal flow rate (CFS) per pipe size times installed length (miles))	BOR	10,073	4,821	663	876	2,463	1,403	876

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
% complete of milestones for on-going surface water storage projects	BOR	59%	62%	90%	76%	76%	76%	100%
		17	18	26	22	22	22	29
		29	29	29	29	29	29	29
Number of linear miles of functional BIA irrigation project canals servicing irrigated lands	BIA	91%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	98%
		5,863	5,326	5,312	5,309	5,264	5,250	5,250
		6,460	5,358	5,354	5,350	5,350	5,353	5,353
Percentage of maintenance projects that are completed within established timeframes	BIA	86%	90%	96%	92%	92%	90%	90%
		1,555	1,178	1,110	1,083	1,060	900	900
		1,813	1,313	1,154	1,178	1,150	1,000	1,000
% of formal reviews completed (Includes Periodic Facility Reviews and Comprehensive Facility Reviews on high and significant hazard dams, and Reviews of Operation and Maintenance examination at reserved works associated facilities)	BOR	95%	97%	94%	95%	100%	100%	100%
		74	89	76	79	103	77	70
		78	92	81	83	103	77	70

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

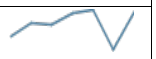
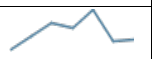
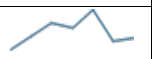
Bureau of Reclamation

- Utilize ranking systems for prioritizing maintenance, environmental, conservation, and planning activities to meet all of Reclamation's water challenges, addressing aging infrastructure maintenance needs and ensuring the delivery of water and power.
- Assess the energy-saving benefits resulting from water conservation and the use of renewable hydroelectric energy.
- Seek new WaterSMART grant proposals and provide cost-shared funding for water conservation and efficiency projects.
- Issue WaterSMART grants funding opportunity for water marketing activities.
- Launch WaterSMART grants funding opportunity for Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects.
- Advance the implementation of section 4009(c) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (P.L. 114-322) through the Title XVI Program.
- Monitor safety and implement required modifications with state-of-the-art design upgrades to ensure safety of dams.
- Verify and validate data used to report facility Operations and Maintenance (O&M) information, including major rehabilitations and replacements data and annual O&M costs.
- Install wide-head turbines to improve efficiencies.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

- Maintain and expand a managerial environment with tribes that promote healthy watersheds and sustainable, secure water supplies.
- Continue to provide technical assistance to the tribes for protection of tribal water resources through self-assessments required to define and characterize goals for tribal water as well as areas of improvement regarding BIA performance servicing tribes.
- Continue to provide administrative cost support for tribes who are engaged in the protection of Indian water rights as well as maintain records through P.L. 93-638 and track individual contracts that provide annually funded projects as managed by tribes
- Prioritize maintenance and rehabilitation activities to increase the irrigated acreage served by improving project canals.
- Continue to increase the number of maintenance projects completed in the Facilities Maintenance Management System (Maximo).
- Continue to ensure compliance with operating guidance and provide training opportunities to improve project operations.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Indian Affairs								
Irrigation Operations and Maintenance	11,342	11,539	11,398	12,905	14,009	9,134	9,134	
Water Mgmt., Planning & Predevelopment	6,439	6,452	6,469	6,478	4,734	4,747	3,498	
Irrigation Project Construction	4,382	6,000	6,004	6,006	7,334	6,542	13,095	
Subtotal	22,163	23,991	23,871	25,389	26,077	20,423	25,727	
Bureau of Reclamation								
Water and Related Resources	576,214	643,494	706,172	679,808	782,047	613,375	626,753	
Total	598,377	667,485	730,043	705,197	808,124	633,798	652,480	

Mission Area 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

Goal #3: Foster Partnerships to Achieve Balanced Stewardship and Use of Public Lands

Strategy #1: Build and maintain partnership programs

Program Performance Overview: Performance in FY 2017 was positive with most of the measures exceeding their planned targets for FY 2016. The measures for non-DOI lands vary widely from year to year depending on the projects that finish that year and partner support and engagement. In 2017, targets for these measures are different from past years due to internal reorganizations and reallocation of resources, but in many cases show positive results over some prior years. On DOI lands, the acres restored or improved using partnerships are tabulated in the measure for acres in desired condition within Goal 1, Strategy 2 "Provide stewardship of land, surface water, streams and shorelines." Many other activities with partners also bring benefits to both DOI and non-DOI lands, waters, and species and other metrics throughout the Department capture these activities. Working closely and cooperatively with state and local governments and private landowners is a proven tool for achieving resource management objectives.

Public Benefit: Public-private partnerships provide opportunities for greater engagement of people and organizations in caring for and managing the natural, historical, cultural and physical resources across the Department's 500 million acres. This can be especially beneficial for our national park units, National Wildlife Refuges, wildlife management areas, and national conservation lands. Support can come from other federal or state agencies, tribal nations, volunteers, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, corporations or foundations through sponsorship or philanthropy. Some programs within the Department also work on stewardship of non-DOI lands providing technical and financial assistance to private landowners, tribes and schools on a voluntary basis to help meet the habitat needs of federal trust species. For example, since 1988, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program within FWS has worked with more than 45,000 landowners and thousands of conservation partners to successfully restore over four million acres of wetland and upland habitat and over ten thousand miles of streams to benefit numerous fish and wildlife species.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Build and maintain partnership programs									
Number of estimated work hours in a national park unit, National Wildlife Refuge, or Bureau of Land Management unit that are performed or sponsored by a	DOI	8,262,654	9,460,324	9,544,385	9,575,243	9,394,140	9,250,328	9,270,746	
	BLM	N/A	N/A	N/A	940,359	900,000	900,000	900,000	
	FWS	1,527,869	1,539,142	1,480,590	1,444,306	1,303,562	1,303,562	1,288,746	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
private citizen, National Service participant or non-federal entity	NPS	6,734,785	7,921,182	8,063,795	7,190,578	7,190,578	7,046,766	7,082,000	
Number of non-DOI acres restored, including through partnerships, as specified in plans or agreements that involve DOI	DOI	613,138	408,405	636,918	544,144	593,966	584,243	607,500	
	BOR	2,518	3,126	2,634	2,744	2,815	3,149	2,815	
	CUPCA	N/A	N/A	N/A	83	240	325	325	
	FWS	610,620	405,279	634,284	541,317	590,911	580,769	604,360	
Number of non-DOI acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres restored through partnerships, as specified in management plans or agreements that involve DOI	FWS	618,406	495,206	835,027	310,720	602,654	206,405	183,685	
Number of non-DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles restored, including through partnerships, as specified in plans or agreements that involve DOI	DOI	579	727	413	309	209	182	414	
	CUPCA	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	4	4	4	
	FWS	579	727	413	308	205	178	410	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Fish and Wildlife Service

- The National Wildlife Refuge System will train and supervise approximately 36,000 volunteers that contribute more than 1.4 million hours annually to conservation and recreation programs.
- Continue to work collaboratively with private landowners and other conservation partners to voluntarily protect, conserve, and restore their lands to keep working lands in traditional uses while improving habitat, and water quality to benefit species.
- Work with state and federal partners, using early detection, rapid assessment, containment, rapid response, and control efforts, to prevent the spread of Asian Carp into the Great Lakes and the expansion of Asian Carp's range in the upper Mississippi, Ohio and Missouri River basins.

- Continue working with local partners on ecosystem restoration efforts in the Klamath Basin, Chesapeake Bay, Everglades, and California Bay Delta.
- Retain maintenance capacity for the National Conservation Training Center to preserve the campus as the leading facility to engage, educate, and employ conservation professionals.

National Park Service

- Cultivate partnerships with federal and non-federal entities to support resource management. Examples include NPS coordination of the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) national network for research, technical assistance, education, and capacity building, as well as administration of the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) and National Natural Landmarks (NNL) programs to support conservation and recreation.
- Foster interest in volunteerism through volunteer.gov, NPS.gov, and social media channels.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
National Park Service								
Operation of the National Park System	---	---	---	---	107,754	96,999	58,882	
National Recreation and Preservation	---	---	---	---	168	---	2,670	
Construction (and Major Maintenance)	---	---	---	---	2,196	1,877	---	
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	---	---	---	---	9,938	---	2,207	
Total	---	---	---	---	120,056	98,876	63,759	

Mission Area 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

Goal #4: Inform Land Use Planning Processes Especially for Public Use and Access

Strategy #1: Assess land use planning process for public access and use of DOI lands

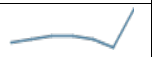
Program Performance Overview: The Department is undertaking the challenge to redesign and improve its planning processes in ways that can best meet the sometimes-conflicting uses for public lands. The improved land use planning processes will engage our state and local government partners and provide the public with the maximum possible input into the planning process and result in the best possible public access to public lands and waters.

Public Benefit: The Department's land use and management plans ensure that the public lands are managed in accordance with the intent of Congress as stated in several authorities including, but not limited to: the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act, the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration and Improvement Acts, the Organic Act of 1916 (National Park Service), and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

A common thread through all three bureaus' (BLM, FWS, NPS) missions is the need to accommodate and promote the use and enjoyment of the public lands for both present and future generations. There are lands deemed important for their scenic, recreational, hunting, fishing, scientific, historical, archaeological, or wildlife conservation values. Other lands are made available for multiple use and sustained yield that recognizes the Nation's need for domestic sources of minerals, food, timber, and fiber.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Land Management								
Cadastral, Land and Realty Management	---	---	---	---	---	48,290	48,290	
National Park Service								
Operation of the National Park System	24,352	25,150	26,060	26,208	25,388	22,983	35,906	

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
National Recreation and Preservation	215	217	217	217	215	194	195	
Construction (and Major Maintenance)	1,755	1,764	1,764	1,764	1,752	1,595	1,601	
Subtotal	26,322	27,131	28,041	28,189	27,355	24,772	37,702	
Total	26,322	27,131	28,041	28,189	27,355	73,062	85,992	

Mission Area 1: Conserving Our Land and Water

Goal #4: Inform Land Use Planning Processes Especially for Public Use and Access

Strategy #2: Inform land use planning with mapping and land imaging

Program Performance Overview: The USGS conducts national-focused Earth-system science, along with its many partners, to deliver an understanding of the Earth's complex geologic structure, biology, and hydrology. Products include geologic maps, three-dimensional geologic models, interpretive studies, and scientific publications, all of which are essential for informed public policy decision making and economic development. Overall, performance improved from 2016 to 2017, with eight of ten performance measures improving or remaining level. Mapping and land remote sensing is expected to improve due to modest increases in funding. This improvement in performance indicates that national coverage is increasing for baseline geological maps, research, and assessments for informing land manager and policymaker decision making.

The USGS's Three-Dimensional Elevation Program (3DEP) supplies up-to-date topographic information and precise three–dimensional representations and models of natural and man-made features. By 2019, the USGS plans to acquire 3DEP-quality topographic information for 45 percent of the Nation.

Public Benefit: The USGS is the lead civilian mapping agency for the Nation and supports the conduct of detailed surveys and the resulting distribution of high-quality and highly-accurate topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and biogeographic maps and data. Remote sensing satellites and aircraft monitor the Earth providing information that is broad, precise, impartial, and easily available. For more than 45 years, Landsat satellites have collected data over the planet's land surface to support global research studies. These data constitute the longest continuous record of the Earth's land surface as seen from space.

High-resolution elevation information in geologic maps and geospatial products enable precise planning of civil engineering and transportation infrastructure, versatile urban planning, improved flood projection, timely and accurate emergency response, effective hazard identification and mitigation, and detailed environmental analyses.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Inform land use planning with mapping and land imaging									
	USGS	N/A	52.47%	53.01%	53.52%	53.90%	54.29%	54.60%	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percent of land-area coverage available to the public thru the National Geologic Map Database		N/A	1,856,018	1,875,026	1,893,157	1,906,679	1,920,447	1,931,441	
		N/A	3,537,438	3,537,438	3,537,438	3,537,438	3,537,438	3,537,438	
Percent of foundational topographic information services updated quarterly to support on-demand mapping	USGS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	25%	50%	75%	
		N/A	N/A	0	0	2	4	6	
		N/A	N/A	0	0	8	8	8	
Percent completion of research efforts related to land resource management	USGS	N/A	100%	92%	100%	100%	100%	82%	
		N/A	268	245	281	145	125	103	
		N/A	268	265	281	145	125	125	
Terabytes of remotely-sensed data managed	USGS	N/A	12,582	14,997	18,536	17,894	18,431	18,984	
Percent increase of scientific research enhanced with Advanced Research Computation	USGS	N/A	18%	28%	46%	61%	75%	85%	
		N/A	165	254	412	550	675	765	
		N/A	900	900	900	900	900	900	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Inform land use planning with mapping and land imaging								
Percent of the Nation with National Hydrography Dataset Plus High Resolution produced	USGS	N/A	N/A	N/A	43%	63%	76%	84%
		N/A	N/A	N/A	1,593,480	2,320,943	2,792,859	3,086,169
		N/A	N/A	N/A	3,676,516	3,676,516	3,676,516	3,676,516
Number of remotely-sensed data products distributed to partners and stakeholders	USGS	14,622,000	19,553,000	27,621,000	44,358,000	38,628,750	41,332,763	42,515,546
Percent of the Nation with 3DEP quality data acquired	USGS	N/A	N/A	N/A	37%	46%	51%	53%
		N/A	N/A	N/A	1,342,721	1,661,196	1,821,715	1,890,543

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
		N/A	N/A	N/A	3,592,762	3,592,762	3,592,762	3,592,762
Percent of planned Landsat 9 ground station development actions completed	USGS	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
		N/A	N/A	4	7	10	11	9
		N/A	N/A	4	7	10	11	9
Percent completion of planned U.S. Surface Area Coverage mapping via the National Land Cover Database	USGS	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
		N/A	N/A	78	100	90	100	78
		N/A	N/A	78	100	90	100	78

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

U.S. Geological Survey

National Land Imaging Program (NLIP):

- Continue to develop the Landsat 9 ground and flight systems in close collaboration with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) with a target launch in fiscal year 2021 to replace an older satellite (Landsat 7).
- Continue operation of Landsat 7 and Landsat 8 satellites to monitor water use, moisture content in soil and vegetation, and provide valuable insight on changing terrestrial surface conditions.
- Continue to support the Land Change Monitoring, Assessment, and Projection's suite of utilities including access to Landsat Analysis-Ready Data (ARD) and land change products for all contiguous U.S. lands (i.e., the lower 48 States and the District of Columbia).
- Investigate and adapt unmanned aircraft technology to support many science needs (e.g., surface water dynamics, groundwater surveys, coastal erosion, fault line surveys, microclimate studies, wildlife surveys, coal mine reclamation, and harmful algal blooms) in difficult to access areas, at lower human risk and at lower cost than traditional methods.

Land Change Science Program (LCS):

- Update the National Land Cover Database (NLCD) to track land cover change from 1992 through 2016. Currently, the database identifies changes through 2011. (A new release is scheduled in FY 2019 to track changes through 2016. This will provide resource managers recent information to support resource management plans and assessments.)
- Conduct research and national-scale synthesis of natural patterns of drought and extreme events on terrestrial and aquatic communities, providing data to improve capabilities of resource managers and Interior bureaus to anticipate future changes in water availability and impacts on society, agriculture, and natural resources

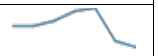
- Conduct analysis of long-term drivers, patterns, and impacts of sea-level change on coastal regions and infrastructure in support of natural resource management.
- Conduct research and applications designed to understand and reduce risk to natural disasters, including developing evacuation response scenarios to tsunamis and characterizing and monitoring the wildland urban interface risk from wildfire.

Core Science Systems (CSS):

- Continue to collect high-resolution light detection and ranging (lidar) elevation data to achieve the first-ever cycle of nationwide lidar coverage by 2037 to support topographic map production.
- Continue acquisition of high-resolution interferometric synthetic aperture radar (IfSAR) elevation data for the State of Alaska by 2021; develop more efficient means of updating hydrography data; and continue to produce topographic maps.
- Revise 92 percent of topographic maps for Alaska by the end of 2020 using the updated elevation and hydrography data. These new maps and data are used in a broad range of applications including infrastructure planning, recreation, navigation safety, hazards mitigation, and Arctic wildlife assessments.
- Continue acquisition of high-resolution hydrography data (NHDPlusHR) for the Nation to support flood risk management; infrastructure improvements; and energy resource management and complete 84 percent of the Nation's NHDPlusHR data by the end of 2020.
- Make available, through the National Geologic Map Database, detailed geologic maps covering an additional 32,000 square miles of the continental United States, in partnership with State Geological Surveys, to support the objectives of Secretarial Order 3359 for national energy and mineral exploration.
- Continue efforts to design, build, and interpret a seamless three-dimensional geologic framework for the Nation based on new and prior geologic mapping at regional to local scales to improve mineral, energy, earthquake and landslide hazards assessments, ground water analyses, and infrastructure development. Enhance the USGS's high performance computing capabilities to support USGS and Interior computational and management challenges, and enable more timely data transfer, analysis, and delivery of completed research results to support smart decisions on Secretarial priorities related to natural resource assessment and use.
- Support the use and development of field-based technology and related standards for purposes of expediting and expanding digital field data capture and real-time interpretation, data preservation, and dissemination.
- Continue development of the USGS's National Biogeographic Map to provide analytical tools for the examination of selected species, habitats, protections, and habitat conditions.
- Continue to provide foundational data for emergency response and mitigation efforts to support public safety after major natural disasters.

- Prioritize efforts to preserve, expose, and reuse valuable physical geoscience samples (e.g., drilling cores and rock and sediment samples) and data (e.g., borehole logs, GIS databases, and maps). NGGDPP would provide support for approximately 8 state data preservation projects.
- By 2020, reach the goal of 765 total scientists using the USGS high performance computing capability through intensive outreach and training.
- Work to make geologic maps publicly available for 55.2 percent of the U.S. (by FY 2022) through the National Geologic Map Database by Optimizing the use of geological and geophysical surveys and national digital geospatial datasets to expand opportunities for the development of subsurface geologic interpretations, increase the interpretive resolution of surface mapping and boost geologic mapping productivity.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
U.S. Geological Survey								
Climate Research and Development	20,495	21,495	21,495	19,295	---	---	---	
Land Remote Sensing	67,894	67,894	72,194	85,794	---	---	---	
Land Change Science	10,492	10,492	10,492	9,892	---	---	---	
National Land Imaging Program	---	---	---	---	85,211	75,514	75,514	
Land Change Science	---	---	---	---	37,887	14,739	14,739	
Science Synthesis, Analysis, and Research Program	24,314	24,299	24,299	24,299	24,134	19,010	17,577	
National Cooperative Geological Mapping Program	24,397	24,397	24,397	24,397	24,231	22,390	18,162	
National Geospatial Program	60,096	58,532	62,854	67,354	66,897	50,878	45,878	
Total	207,688	207,109	215,731	231,031	238,360	182,531	171,870	

Mission Area 2: Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

Mission Area 2: Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

Goal #1: Ensure Energy and Economic Security for America

Strategy #1: Promote safe and robust oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy resource development

Program Performance Overview: The Department is modernizing policies and leveraging science and technology to achieve energy dominance, promote development of our Nation's vast energy resources, and expand production of both offshore and onshore conventional and renewable U.S. energy resources consistent with the newly developed National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program, the America First Energy Plan, and the Executive Order on Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth.

Onshore, BLM's processing of Applications for Permit to Drill (APDs) is consistent with previous performance, largely due to modernizing the Automated Fluid Minerals Support System (AFMSS) and attaining the authority to collect higher processing fees to provide the necessary workforce.

Starting in 2017, the BLM focused on all high priority inspections (e.g., production, drilling, abandonment, workover, idle well or environmental) rather than being limited to production related inspections. The BLM plans to significantly increase the number of acres of public lands made available for oil and gas leasing. Providing access to these resources on public lands will help make our nation stronger by decreasing our dependency on other nations, creating jobs, and helping drive economic growth. The BLM expects the number of coal lessee applications processed to return to a level of about 3 per year.

Offshore, BOEM's success with high priority oil and gas development activities, including plan administration, economic analyses, and resource evaluation, enabled the Department to meet established lease sale targets.

The Department facilitates the development and use of renewable energy that employs wind, solar, geothermal, and hydropower energy, as part of an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy. Connecting renewable energy projects to the transmission grid and key markets is central to making renewable energy generation projects viable. Performance has been strong with an increase of over 16,000 megawatts of capacity approved in the last 7 years.

Science and safety are essential to a robust and secure domestic energy-enabling environment. BOEM integrates science across program areas and planning activities, conducting extensive research necessary for environmental studies and environmental assessments for offshore energy resources. Additionally, science provided by the USGS Energy Resources Program (http://energy.usgs.gov) facilitates energy resource discovery and responsible development.

Performance measures for both oil spill and recordable injuries were on target and consistent with recent performance, bolstered by BSEE Oil Spill Research focused on preventing and/or mitigating oil spills, and collaborative work between BSEE and BOEM to establish appropriate permitting and oversight processes to ensure safety of offshore operations.

Public Benefit: The Department oversees vast resources that expand the production of energy in the U.S., promote energy security, and help drive job growth and the economy. Six Department bureaus, BLM, BOEM, BSEE, USGS, FWS and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), work to promote safe and reliable domestic energy exploration, development and production.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Promote oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy resource development									
Percent of pending fluid minerals Applications for Permits to Drill (APDs) which are processed	BLM	55.6%	57.2%	56.5%	57.0%	59.6%	64.1%	69.0%	
		4,924	4,913	3,093	3,322	3,410	3,520	4,159	
		8,862	8,596	5,477	5,826	5,719	5,493	6,027	
Percent of high risk production facility and operations inspected	BSEE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	90	90	90	
Number of recordable injuries per 200,000 Offshore Man Hours Worked (or 100-man years)	BSEE	0.330	0.280	0.214	0.245	0.400	0.400	0.400	
Percent of high risk well operations (e.g., drilling) inspections completed	BSEE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	90	90	90	
Percent of high priority fluid mineral cases that have completed inspection during the year	BLM	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	13,215	13,457	13,500	13,600	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	13,215	13,457	13,500	13,600	
Percent of coal lease applications processed. (cum.)	BLM	10%	23%	9%	20%	9%	11%	11%	
		4	9	3	6	3	3	3	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
		41	39	32	30	32	27	27	
Number of acres of public lands made available for oil and gas leasing	BLM	N/A	4,017,062	1,983,887	2,408,536	15,000,000	17,000,000	18,000,000	
Number of megawatts of approved capacity authorized on public land and the OCS for renewable energy development while ensuring full environmental review	DOI	822	1,007	447	210	682	1,520	2,110	
	BLM	822	977	435	210	682	1,500	2,000	
	BOEM	0	30	12	0	0	20	110	
Percentage of Exploration and Development Plan reviews completed within statutory timelines	BOEM	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100	100	100	
Percentage of offshore lease sale processes completed, pursuant to the Secretary's National Oil and Gas Leasing Program	BOEM	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
		3	2	3	3	2	2	2	
		3	2	3	3	2	2	2	
Percent completion of targeted energy resource assessments and research (Index; 2022 target = 119 assessments completed)	USGS	100%	100%	95%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Amount (in barrels) of operational offshore oil spilled per million barrels produced	BSEE	0.580	3.420	3.660	0.065	3.000	2.900	2.900	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Promote oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy resource development								
Number of completed publications in support of energy resource assessments and research	USGS	272	238	291	321	200	180	151
Achieve utilization rate of X% at Ohmsett (The Ohmsett facility provides independent and objective performance testing of full-scale oil spill response equipment and marine energy systems (wave energy conversion devices) and helps improve technologies through research and development.)	BSEE	87%	96%	91%	91%	85%	85%	85%

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Bureau of Land Management

Oil and Gas Management

- Continue advancing the Administration's priority of Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources by streamlining a variety of processes, such as Applications for Permits to Drill (APDs), which will simultaneously address concerns over permitting backlogs.
- Improve internal processes to simplify and streamline the leasing process to alleviate unnecessary impediments and burdens and expedite the offering of lands nominated for lease.
- Improve and streamline land-use planning, increasing efficiencies and decreasing time for completion allowing for a reduced APD backlog, streamlined permitting process, and a fair return to the taxpayer through inspection and enforcement.
- Build upon ongoing activities to implement an overall strategy that includes refining and updating the Automated Fluid Minerals Support System, creating Right-of-Way Strike Teams, establishing APD targets, and increasing interagency coordination.
- Work towards newly established Agency Priority Goals on processing of parcels created to lease public lands for oil, gas, or other minerals and on elimination of APD backlogs.
- Continue coordination with the BLM's cadastral survey, lands, and realty programs to enhance efficient processing of oil and gas activities.

Coal Management

- Continue advancing the Administration's priority of Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources by streamlining permitting for Federal coal mining and rights-of-way, which will simultaneously address concerns over backlogs.
- Provide assistance from the BLM Energy and Minerals Task Force to BLM State and Field offices to expedite the leasing and permitting of energy minerals including updating surface and sub-surface data layers and Public Lands Survey System data.
- Continue processing Lease by Application, Lease Modification Applications, and trespass cases to ensure that the public receives fair return for its non-renewable coal resources.

Renewable Energy

- Continue to process pending applications for new wind, solar and geothermal projects.
- Focus on streamlining review processes.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

- Conduct five lease sales
    - Gulf of Mexico Central Planning Area Sale 247 (March 2017)
    - Alaska Cook Inlet Sale 244 (June 2017)
    - Gulf of Mexico Regionwide Sale 249 (August 2017)
    - Gulf of Mexico Regionwide Sale 250 (March 2018)
    - Gulf of Mexico Sale 251 (August 2018)
- Allocate resources to support a programmatic environmental analysis, initiate environmental studies, advance modeling capabilities, and conduct outreach to public stakeholders.
- Initiate a new National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program development process
- Efficiently process site assessment and construction and operations plans for existing leases including thorough engineering and environmental reviews.
- Assess and determine the path forward for renewable energy leasing on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).
- Continue to identify areas that appear suitable for renewable energy development on the Pacific OCS.
- Conduct thorough environmental reviews and consultations of potential OCS leasing activities offshore the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.
- Plan and hold at least two commercial wind energy lease sales in Atlantic or Pacific OCS states that ensure fair return to the United States.
- Finalize a decision on issuance of a research lease for a national wave energy testing facility off the shore of Oregon.

Bureau of Reclamation

- Collaborate with the Department of Energy and the Army Corps of Engineers through the Memorandum of Understanding for Hydropower framework to help meet the Nation's needs for reliable, affordable, and environmentally sustainable hydropower.
- Support the development of non-federal hydropower at existing Reclamation facilities through the Lease of Power Privilege and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensing processes.
- Leverage Reclamation's Hydropower Efficiency Research Systems initiative to improve operational efficiencies at Reclamation power plants.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

- Implement an inspection strategy that is based on annual planning and incorporates regulatory compliance, risk, management systems and performance-based techniques or methodologies.
- Keep pace with technological innovations that enable development and production in frontier areas and resolve technological challenges such as development in high pressure/high temperature environments.
- Maintain diligent oversight of end-of-life facilities and reservoirs to ensure maximum resource recovery, safe operations and strengthen decommissioning/idle iron compliance.
- Champion oil spill preparedness principles and practices including the verification of current industry capabilities and the advancement of oil spill response research and technologies.
- Focus on improvements to current efforts involving the Offshore Energy Safety Institute, Safe OCS and BAST-Best Available and Safest Technologies.
- Refine permitting review strategies to support timely development and accurately reflect the risks and phases of development of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).
- Reform overly burdensome regulations while sustaining safety and environmental protection.
- Foster active engagement with renewable energy stakeholders with a goal of supporting a safe, robust, and technically innovative offshore wind energy industry on the OCS.

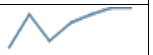
Fish and Wildlife Service

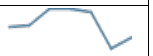
- Continue to work with all federal and other partners to design energy projects that will facilitate energy development while protecting the environment.
- Invest funds to streamline energy project consultation and permitting with public and private partners.

U.S. Geological Survey – Energy Resources Program

- Release additional USGS assessments of undiscovered, technically recoverable oil and gas resources in U.S. and non-U.S. basins, including in strategic areas of national interest. Continue the underlying geological, geophysical and geochemical research that underpins the assessments.
- Expand unconventional oil and gas research efforts that begun in 2016 on the geologic causes of variability in the recovery of petroleum and water, and studies of baseline water quality.
- Continue research into geothermal resources aimed at improving the viability of Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) and studying environmental impacts of geothermal energy development on Federal lands.
- Support USGS gas hydrate studies with the USGS Coastal-Marine Hazards and Resources Program and contribute to Department of Energy (DOE) and industry-sponsored cooperative gas hydrate projects.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Land Management								
Oil and Gas Management	80,877	53,183	59,671	67,574	75,927	83,101	83,101	
Oil and Gas Permit Processing	32,500	32,500	7,125	6,365	5,737	5,737	5,737	
Oil and Gas Inspection and Enforcement	---	41,126	48,000	48,000	48,385	48,385	48,385	
Coal Management	9,595	9,595	10,868	10,868	19,015	19,015	19,015	
Renewable Energy	29,061	29,061	29,061	29,061	16,292	12,000	12,000	
Subtotal	152,033	165,465	154,725	161,868	165,356	168,238	168,238	
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management								
Ocean Energy Management	---	---	---	---	---	---	186,454	
Renewable Energy	23,656	23,104	24,278	23,887	21,676	16,179	15,652	
Offsetting Collections - Renewable Energy	---	---	---	---	---	4,541	5,670	
Conventional Energy	102,659	107,845	137,327	135,344	137,733	49,783	52,270	
Offsetting Collections - Conventional Energy	---	---	---	---	---	9,512	10,626	

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Environmental Programs	10,000	7,500	6,600	7,700	7,900	48,256	52,753	
Offsetting Collections - Environmental Programs	---	---	---	---	---	31,518	32,349	
Executive Direction	---	---	2,652	2,629	2,221	12,728	12,375	
Offsetting Collections - Executive Direction	---	---	---	---	---	4,245	4,759	
Subtotal	288,348	303,914	325,582	331,428	334,886	345,000	914,054	
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement								
Environmental Enforcement	3,027	3,027	3,027	3,027	1,568	1,568	2,279	
Offsetting Collections - Environmental Enforcement	5,287	5,287	5,287	5,287	2,885	2,495	2,495	
Operations, Safety and Regulation	46,390	51,833	72,913	71,605	69,412	69,412	74,204	
Offsetting Collections - Operations, Safety, and Regulation	85,817	81,764	72,041	73,349	78,529	55,477	57,616	
Oil Spill Research	14,899	14,899	14,899	14,899	12,700	12,700	12,700	
Subtotal	155,420	156,810	168,167	168,167	165,094	141,652	149,294	
U.S. Geological Survey								
Energy Resources	25,970	24,895	24,695	24,695	24,527	25,879	21,715	
Total	469,738	485,619	518,444	524,290	524,507	512,531	1,085,063	

Mission Area 2: Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

Goal #1: Ensure Energy and Economic Security for America

Strategy #2: Provide hydropower

Program Performance Overview: The Bureau of Reclamation is the second largest producer of renewable hydropower in the United States and operates 52 hydroelectric power facilities, with 14,700 megawatts of capacity. Reclamation generates an average 40 million megawatt-hours of electricity each year. In 2017, 85% of Reclamation's hydropower facilities were evaluated as being in good condition, a decrease of two percentage points from the previous fiscal year but like prior years. Reclamation employees were proactive in identifying deficiencies contributing to lower Facility Reliability Rating (FRR) scores and acted to correct the most significant deficiencies using a risk-based prioritization methodology.

Reclamation administers a comprehensive power operations and maintenance program to ensure hydropower facilities are reliable, safe, economical, and efficient. Reclamation coordinates with Department of Energy and power customers to strategically identify, fund, and implement capital and technological investments that deliver operational benefits and reduce risk. Program performance is measured by hydropower facility availability during peak electricity demand periods.

Public Benefit: The Bureau of Reclamation works to promote domestic energy production by enabling new energy generation from hydropower, facilitating the construction of new or upgraded transmission networks, helping to create new industries and supply chains, driving economic growth and job creation, and helping provide more energy from domestic sources.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Provide hydropower									
Amount of hydropower capability, in megawatts (MW), installed from 2018 through 2022	BOR	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.5	10.0	10.0	10.0	
Percent of hydropower facilities in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating	BOR	88%	81%	87%	85%	77%	77%	71%	
		46	42	45	44	40	40	37	
		52	52	52	52	52	52	52	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percent of time that Bureau of Reclamation hydroelectric generating units are available to the interconnected Western electrical system during daily peak demand periods	BOR	84%	83%	82%	81%	79%	79%	79%	
		84	83	82	81	79	79	79	
		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Provide hydropower								
Number of Annual, Periodic and Comprehensive Reviews Completed	BOR	52	50	52	52	52	52	52
Percent of generating capacity that has a major generator/turbine related component rated in poor condition.	BOR	17%	29%	21%	20%	29%	29%	29%
		2,554	4,195	3,147	2,976	4,339,658	4,339,658	4,339,658
		14,721	14,719	14,719	14,729	14,728,608	14,728,608	14,728,608
Forced outage factor lower than or equal to the industry average of 2.2%	BOR	2.7%	3.6%	1.6%	2.6%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%

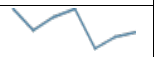
Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Bureau of Reclamation

- Collaborate with the Department of Energy and the Army Corps of Engineers through the Memorandum of Understanding for Hydropower framework to help meet the Nation's need for reliable, affordable, and environmentally sustainable hydropower.
- Support the development of non-federal hydropower through the Lease of Power Privilege and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensing processes.
- Leverage Reclamation's Hydropower Efficiency Research Systems initiative to improve operational efficiencies at Reclamation power plants.

- Assess opportunities for federal and non-federal hydrokinetic, conventional, and pumped storage hydropower development.
- Collaborate with stakeholder groups and regulatory agencies to improve and streamline non-federal hydropower permitting processes.
- Provide power operations and maintenance-related support services and collaboration with other Federal, tribal, state, and local governments, power industry constituencies, and other interested parties.
- Support hydropower data acquisition, analysis, and archiving initiatives to improve operational performance, asset management, and regulatory compliance at Reclamation power plants.
- Assess progress of initiatives in deferred maintenance reporting, power related security, and risk-based asset management studies.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Reclamation								
Water and Related Resources	56,633	49,620	54,081	56,358	44,452	47,954	49,337	

Mission Area 2: Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

Goal #2: Ensure Access to Mineral Resources

Strategy #1: Manage non-energy mineral development

Program Performance Overview: The Department promotes economic development and environmental protection through responsible, science-informed management of mineral resources. The BLM conducts environmental analysis of complex issues necessary to authorize use on BLM public lands, to meet the increasing demand for non-energy solid leasable minerals, especially potash and phosphate. Additionally, the science provided by the USGS Mineral Resources Program (MRP) facilitates resource discovery and provides essential information and analyses for strategic, evidence-based economic and geopolitical decisions. BOEM's Marine Minerals Program provides sand and gravel resources to protect and improve coastal infrastructure and the environment locally, regionally and nationally.

Performance for USGS remains level from 2016 through 2017, thereby allowing non-energy mineral research and assessments to keep up with demand. To date, BOEM has conveyed the rights to more than 139 million cubic yards of Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) sediment by executing 52 negotiated agreements for projects in eight states and that have restored over 303 miles of coastline. BLM will increase processing speed for non-energy mineral exploration and development to ensure the Nation is able to meet the demand for mineral materials and non-energy solid leasable minerals through expediting permit approvals while ensuring the American taxpayer receives fair return for mineral materials and leasable mineral commodities.

Based on the President's Executive Order and Secretarial Order 3359, the Department's budget includes funding to help spur critical mineral resource development in the United States. Efforts will include developing advanced topographic, geologic, and geophysical data needed to locate U.S. critical mineral resources to inform private-sector domestic development, reduce dependence on foreign sources, and support job creation and technological innovation.

Public Benefit: Non-energy minerals, including potassium, phosphorus, sodium, potash, lead, and zinc, clay, sand, gravel, and building stone, are vital components of basic industry and life in the United States and support local infrastructure and economic development. As the Nation continues to depend on minerals to manufacture products we rely on every day, from our cell phones and laptops to our cars, the Department will continue to leverage research and assessments to understand and maximize the use of national and global mineral resources while balancing the Nation's mineral needs with the protection of the human, marine, and coastal environments.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Manage non-energy mineral development									
Percent of non-energy mineral exploration and development requests processed	BLM	22%	12%	19%	35%	22%	22%	22%	
		105	58	81	174	91	91	91	
		475	482	432	493	415	415	415	
Number of sand and gravel requests processed for coastal restoration projects	BOEM	5	5	5	7	7	8	7	
Percent completion of targeted non-fuel mineral resource assessments and research (Index; 2022 target = 5,240 research, assessment, and minerals information reports)	USGS	N/A	92%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Percent completion of targeted Critical Mineral Early Warning System (CMEWS) analyses and evaluations	USGS	N/A	N/A	N/A	17%	33%	50%	67%	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	4	8	12	16	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	24	24	24	24	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Manage non-energy mineral development								
Number of Non-Energy Solid Mineral (potassium, gypsum, etc.) Inspections and Production Verifications.	BLM	1,684	1,651	1,367	1,161	1,400	1,400	1,400
Number of Mineral Material (sand, gravel, clay, etc.)	BLM	3,106	2,899	2,991	2,781	2,700	2,700	2,700

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Inspections and Production Verifications								

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Bureau of Land Management

- Continue program reform efforts by improving alignment of staffing resources and work prioritization to successfully achieve corrective actions to ensure that mineral materials are sold at fair market value.
- Complete NEPA reviews associated with the potential permitting of three new phosphate mines in Idaho that will sustain current production.
- Continue to work on the Mineral Tracking System which will be used to support the automation and tracking of licenses, leases, permitting and inspection capabilities of the solid minerals program.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

- Respond to every request to provide Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) sand and gravel resources that are used primarily for natural infrastructure such as beaches and dunes and to protect coastal investments and habitats locally, regionally, and nationally.
- Develop a National Inventory of OCS Sand Resources; an integrated inventory of the character, quantity, and location of sand resources on the OCS and the habitat they provide.
- Develop a Marine Minerals Information System (MMIS) that provides a framework for historic resource data, current information collected under the Sandy-funded Atlantic Sand Assessment Project (ASAP) and state cooperative agreements, lease-specific information, and future data collection efforts.

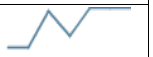
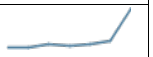
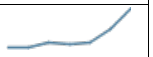
U.S. Geological Survey – Mineral Resources Program

- Collect, analyze, and disseminate minerals information and materials flow studies.
- Conduct research on new sources of critical minerals and on the lifecycles of critical minerals.
- Conduct research to understand the genesis and distribution of the critical mineral resources throughout the Nation by collecting, preserving, and disseminating geological, geochemical, and geophysical data and initiating qualitative and quantitative mineral assessments.
- Implement Executive Order 13817 and Secretarial Order 3359 for critical mineral assessments in support of a prioritized nationwide program of topographic, geologic, and geophysical mapping to enhance understanding of the Nation's mineral

resource potential to better manage the supply of critical minerals.

- Continue implementation of a Quality Management System (QMS) for Mineral Resources Program-funded laboratories.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Land Management								
Other Mineral Resources Management	10,586	10,586	11,879	10,978	12,043	12,043	12,043	
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management								
Ocean Energy Management	---	---	---	---	---	---	5,729	
Conventional Energy	---	---	---	---	---	2,504	---	
Marine Minerals	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,879	
Offsetting Collections - Marine Minerals	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,850	
Subtotal	10,586	10,586	11,879	10,978	12,043	14,547	34,959	
U.S. Geological Survey								
Mineral Resources	45,931	45,931	48,371	48,371	48,043	58,226	58,226	
Total	56,517	56,517	60,250	59,349	60,086	72,773	93,185	

Mission Area 2: Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

Goal #3: Ensure Public Receives Fair Market Value for Resources; and Recover Costs Where Appropriate

Strategy #1: Ensure accurate and timely accounting of energy revenues

Program Performance Overview: The Department collects, disburses and verifies federal and Indian energy and other natural resource revenue collected from issuing leases on federal lands (and offshore on the outer continental shelf) for the amount of the resource extracted. These resources include oil, gas, coal, and access to renewable energy resources such as solar, wind, and geothermal. To ensure the appropriate accountability and compensation to the American public for the use of these resources, it is important that a fair and appropriate amount of funds are collected and that such transactions are implemented accurately, responsibly, and in a timely manner. The Royalty Policy Committee was reconvened in 2017 to provide advice to the Secretary on the fair market value and the collection of revenue from energy and mineral resources on federal and Indian lands and to advise on the potential impacts of proposed policies and regulations related to revenue collection.

The Office of Natural Resource Revenue (ONNR) maintains a high level of achievement for timely disbursement of federal and Indian revenues, with performance targets averaging 98% over the past five years. ONRR also performs compliance activities to ensure the Department collects revenue due from oil and gas produced on federal lands and waters. The FY 2017 result for timely disbursement of revenues exceeded the target due to a newly streamlined electronic reporting website for companies, which resulted in more efficient and accurate reports and payments from companies.

The BOEM supports timely collection and disbursement of mineral and renewable energy revenues through data driven procedures which help to ensure bid adequacy using a two-phased review system for onshore and offshore leasing. Similarly, the BSEE's risk-based methodology helps to ensure the accuracy of metering from higher risk hydrocarbon sites that experience high volumes of throughput and/or have a history of noncompliance.

Public Benefit: The Department employs data driven procedures to verify, collect and disburse energy and natural resources revenue to several entities and ensure the appropriate financial benefit is obtained for the American people. Revenues collected from leases on Indian lands work directly to benefit members of the Indian community. Distributions to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Historic Preservation Fund, and the Reclamation Fund help ensure America's natural resources, landscapes, and rich history are available and enjoyed by current and future generations. States use the distributed funds to support large capital projects such as schools, roads, and public buildings. The Administration's Public Lands Infrastructure Initiative entails dedicating a fraction of new

energy revenues to address deferred maintenance in National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, and Indian schools. The balance of revenue disbursements is applied to reduce the deficit.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Ensure accurate and timely accounting of energy revenues									
Percent of federal and Indian revenues disbursed on a timely basis per statute	ONRR	99.5%	99.3%	99.2%	99.4%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	
($ Billions)		3.407	2.659	1.910	1.989	2.450	2.450	2.450	
		3.423	2.679	1.926	2.001	2.500	2.500	2.500	
Percent of oil royalty meters (identified as high-risk using a risk-based methodology) where meter provings are observed	BSEE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	7	8	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

- Continue phased implementation of an oil and gas revenue and production reporting and verification program on Osage mineral lands. The delegated authority from BIA will add approximately 5,000 leases, 30,000 producing wells, and 800 operators to ONRR's systems, which will increase ONRR's Indian lease administration workload by 82 percent.
- Integrate BOEM's lease data and geospatial data to enable accurate allocation and timely disbursement of qualified Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 related revenues
- Enhance Geospatial Information System capability to enable in-depth analysis of lease revenue related to existing leases and transportation infrastructure.
- Re-compete the Information Technology Systems contract for the operations and maintenance of ONRR's mission critical Minerals Revenue Management Support System (MRMSS), which supports all ONRR in the collection, analysis, disbursement and verification of revenues.
- Expand integration of business intelligence and analytic tools to support mission-critical data exchange and shared business processes.

- Join our DOI leasing partners in standing up the Royalty Policy Committee to provide advice on the fair market value of, and on the collection of revenues derived from, the development of energy and natural resources on Federal and Indian lands.

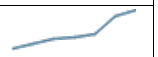
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

- Continue to implement, and refine and update, BOEM's fair market value evaluation processes to ensure the government receives the fair market value for outer continental shelf resources.

Bureau of Safety & Environmental Enforcement

- Prioritize inspection and verification activities to ensure oil and gas volumes are accurately accounted for by operators of facilities with high production volumes.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement								
Operations, Safety and Regulation	---	---	---	---	3,120	3,120	8,393	
Office of Natural Resources Revenue	119,383	121,631	125,519	126,487	125,628	137,505	137,730	
Total	119,383	121,631	125,519	126,487	128,748	140,625	146,123	

Mission Area 2: Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

Goal #3: Ensure Public Receives Fair Market Value for Resources; and Recover Costs Where Appropriate

Strategy #2: Ensure effective collection and application of recreation fees

Program Performance Overview: The National Park Service established fee structure guidelines in 2006 to standardize rates across the country. The resulting tier system assigns each park unit to a tier and associated entrance fee schedule based on the type of site and the amenities provided for the public. During 2017, the National Park Service initiated a comprehensive review to evaluate and consider bringing entrance fees at all park units into compliance with their assigned tier through a process of public engagement. All the funds collected would be used to enhance visitor services, with an emphasis on improving infrastructure and deferred maintenance projects.

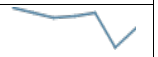
Public Benefit: The nation's public lands offer many excellent locations for public recreation in the outdoors at national parks and monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, BLM public lands and other locations, in historic sites and buildings and at national treasures such as the Statue of Liberty. Facilities, including roads, visitor centers, bathrooms, historic buildings, museums, etc., that enable visitors to enjoy their public lands and sites. All the major land management bureaus have backlogs of deferred maintenance. The Department will continuously review its fee structure to determine how best to accommodate visitors' enjoyment while collecting fees that help to offset some of the maintenance costs required to keep visitor-facing infrastructure in good shape. All such reviews of fees and changes will remain consistent with Congressional direction that has been provided through a series of laws including the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

National Park Service

- Support positive visitor experiences by providing enhanced outdoor recreation opportunities and visitor services, managing deferred maintenance for visitor-facing facilities, engaging in habitat restoration to improve wildlife-related recreation, and providing public safety services.
- Implement new technologies to ensure financial integrity of collections.
- Continue to engage stakeholders in efforts to evaluate, update, and standardize fees with the goal of setting fair and equitable rates.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
National Park Service								
Operation of the National Park System	37,658	37,110	36,530	36,726	37,020	33,650	35,599	

Mission Area 2: Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

Goal #4: Focus Timber Programs on "Healthy Forests" Lifecycle

Strategy #1: Manage sales of timber and forest product resources

Program Performance Overview: Over the past four years, performance has varied between a high of 80% and a low of 62% of timber resources made available for sale due to litigation stemming from environmental issues and fluctuations in the housing market and transportation costs, affecting the BLM's ability to sell timber, and utilize the by-products. The Department is working to employ sound forestry practices that address the increased risk of wildfire exacerbated by damage from invasive insects.

In 2017, the BLM did not meet its Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) due to multiple factors including required protection for species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and ensuring all timber sales were compatible with new 2016 Resource Management Plans (RMPs) transition plans.

Public Benefit: Timber and by-product sales contribute to the economic stability of local communities and industry. Timber and by-product sales also lead to increased forest health through restoration.

The Public Domain Forest Management program manages over 58 million acres of forests and woodlands mainly in the western states. BLM forests and woodlands serve a variety of purposes and provide many important benefits, offering timber and other forest products and recreational opportunities that support local economies. Such resources serve as valuable wildlife habitat and play an important role in carbon storage and clean water and air. In the process of using timber sales as a tool to restore and treat forests, the program focuses on ecosystem restoration and health, protection, and management for multiple objectives including biodiversity, conservation, and sustainable development for local communities. The program also coordinates with the Wildland Fire management program to leverage funds for hazardous fuels reduction projects.

The Western Oregon Forest Management program includes all costs associated with management, maintenance, and enhancement of forests and woodlands on the public lands, including the Oregon and California (O&C) Grant lands, the Coos Bay Wagon Road lands, and Public Domain land within western Oregon, except for activities directly related to reforestation and forest development. The program offers for sale timber and other forest products in such a way as to sustain a permanent source of timber supply while also maintaining forest health.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Manage sales of timber and forest product resources									
Percent of allowable sale quantity timber offered for sale consistent with applicable resource management plans (O&C--Oregon and California--only) (cum.)	BLM	76%	80%	62%	57%	65%	71%	90%	
		155	162	126	116	134	145	185	
		203	203	203	205	205	205	205	
Volume of wood products offered consistent with applicable management plans. (cum.)	BLM	269	251	228	231	232	210	225	
Percentage of Annual Allowable Cut Prepared and Offered for Sale or Free Use	BIA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	48%	48%	29%	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	13,667	347,724	206,000	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	28,473	724,447	721,000	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

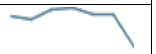
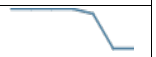
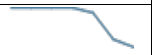
Bureau of Land Management

- Ensure the health and resilience of the Nation's public forest lands as well as the availability of traditional forest products, such as timber through responsible land management.
- Continue to seek strategies to improve efficiency especially in issuing forest product permits, acres of forest restored through sales, biomass utilization, and timber volume offered.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

- Create career development paths to improve employee skills and enhance retention.
- Communicate natural resources funding opportunities to regions and tribes.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Indian Affairs								
Forestry	47,735	45,895	51,914	54,155	49,013	48,872	27,022	
Bureau of Land Management								
Public Domain Forest Management	9,838	9,838	9,980	10,076	10,135	9,527	9,527	
Forest Management	33,447	33,447	33,752	32,942	33,872	---	---	
Other Forest Resources Management	36,985	36,985	33,495	33,495	25,385	---	---	
Reforestation and Forest Development	23,851	23,851	24,023	24,023	20,086	---	---	
Subtotal	104,121	104,121	101,250	100,536	89,478	9,527	9,527	
Total	151,856	150,016	153,164	154,691	138,491	58,399	36,549	

Mission Area 2: Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources

Goal #5: Manage Grazing Resources

Strategy #1: Provide for sustainable forage and grazing

Program Performance Overview: In recent years, the amount of time, effort, and cost devoted to issuing grazing permits has increased mostly due to dramatic increases in litigation when permits are appealed during the decision process. Increased litigation is impacting performance and has led to fewer permits processed and a growing backlog in grazing permit renewals. At the same time continued drought requires staff time and other resources needed for permit renewals and lease processing to be used to deal with the effects of drought on the public lands.

The 2017 target was not met for grazing permits and leases processed as planned consistent with applicable resource management plans due to unexpected vacancies in range staffing positions for several months, along with additional permitting restrictions on sage grouse habitat.

Public Benefit: Livestock grazing contributes to food production and adds to local economic stability, and it can be used in certain areas to maintain and improve land health by reducing hazardous fuels, treating invasive weeds, and minimizing the impact of catastrophic wildfires.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Provide for sustainable forage and grazing									
Percent of grazing permits and leases processed as planned consistent with applicable resource management plans.	BLM	22%	18%	13%	13%	14%	10%	11%	
(cum.)		1,374	1,213	862	917	1,005	1,000	1,250	
		6,300	6,900	6,800	6,800	7,400	10,000	11,600	
Percent of range units assessed during the reporting year for level of utilization and/or rangeland condition/trend.	BIA	31%	44%	42%	49%	40%	41%	39%	
		1,131	1,547	1,377	1,498	1,333	1,334	1,279	
		3,642	3,539	3,252	3,050	3,316	3,279	3,249	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Provide for sustainable forage and grazing								
Percentage of grazing permits monitored annually for adherence to permit provisions, including permittee compliance with requirements described in conservation plans.	BIA	35%	40%	41%	37%	36%	36%	37%
		4,849	5,670	5,558	5,093	4,947	4,949	5,270
		13,788	14,058	13,523	13,792	13,764	13,869	14,058

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

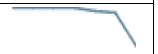
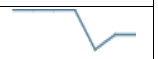
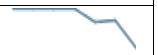
Bureau of Land Management

- Continue to streamline the grazing permit process and provide greater flexibility to the American rancher.
- Process Outcome-Based Grazing Authorizations, which allow livestock operators more flexibility to make livestock use adjustments in response to changing conditions such as drought or wildland fire.
- Work with ranchers to address excessive fuels buildup. Targeted grazing, which focuses on intensive grazing in a limited, strategic area, has been useful in influencing wildland fire behavior by breaking up large expanses of relatively homogeneous fuels that burn uniformly with strategically placed buffers of reduced fuels.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

- Provide policy, resources and technical assistance to regions, agencies, and tribes to ensure conservation and sustained yield management on Indian Trust lands.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Indian Affairs								
Agriculture and Range	30,558	30,494	30,751	30,769	28,822	27,977	12,998	
Bureau of Land Management								
Rangeland Management	39,500	39,500	39,500	39,500	33,876	35,762	35,762	
Total	70,058	69,994	70,251	70,269	62,698	63,739	48,760	

Mission Area 3: Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Mission Area 3: Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Goal #1: Expand Hunting, Fishing, and Other Recreation on DOI Lands

Strategy #1: Promote hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands

Program Performance Overview: This Strategic Plan strategy supports and highlights Secretary Zinke's Secretarial Orders 3356 and 3366, to further expand public access to lands and waters administered by the Department, for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other forms of outdoor recreation.

Currently, the Bureau of Land Management estimates that over 95 percent of the nearly 250 million acres of BLM-managed public lands are open to hunting. In addition, in 2017, the Fish and Wildlife Service had 372 National Wildlife Refuges and wetland management districts open to hunting and 308 refuges and wetland management districts open to fishing. As practiced on refuges, hunting and fishing do not pose a threat to wildlife populations, and in some instances, are necessary for sound wildlife management. For example, deer populations will often grow too large for the refuge habitat to support. If some of the deer are not harvested, they destroy habitat for themselves and other animals and die from starvation or disease. The harvesting of wildlife on refuges is carefully regulated to ensure an appropriate balance between population levels and wildlife habitat. The FWS National Fish Hatcheries continue to be a valuable tool in managing fisheries.

The recreation areas developed as a result of Bureau of Reclamation water projects are among the Nation's most popular for water-based outdoor recreation. There are 289 Reclamation project areas that have developed recreation facilities and opportunities available for public use. Reclamation has approximately 6.5 million acres of land and water, most of which are available for public outdoor recreation. The 187 developed recreation areas managed by Reclamation or a non-federal recreation partner draw over 24 million visits annually. These recreation areas provide 549 campgrounds, 454 boat launch ramps, and more than 5,500 miles of shoreline.

Public Benefit: Outdoor recreation is integral to a healthy lifestyle for millions of Americans. Visitors to the Department's public lands and waters take advantage of the physical, mental, and social benefits that outdoor recreational experiences provide. Americans can hunt and fish on public lands managed by the Department as part of its multiple-use policy which also includes hiking, camping, climbing, boating, wildlife viewing, and other outdoor pursuits. Hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities contributed $156 billion in economic activity across the United States according to the FWS National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. More than 101 million Americans, or 40 percent of the United States' population 16 and older, pursue wildlife-related recreation, which supports 480,000 American jobs.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Promote hunting, fishing, and other recreation on DOI lands									
Number of National Wildlife Refuge acres newly opened to hunting and fishing	FWS	N/A	1,078	2,435	71,769	172,450	177,624	182,953	
Number of legal public access transactions completed that facilitate open access to recreation opportunities	BLM	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	8	12	
Number of newly installed campsites, restrooms, and other facilities that promote public access to BLM-managed public lands	BLM	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Number of individuals participating in outdoor recreation activities at special events	DOI	1,578,173	1,481,817	1,626,423	1,928,389	4,506,671	4,272,916	4,626,670	
	BLM	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,000,000	2,200,000	2,200,000	
	BOR	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,401,129	967,374	1,365,179	
	FWS	1,578,173	1,481,817	1,626,423	1,928,389	1,105,542	1,105,542	1,061,491	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Fish and Wildlife Service

- Increase activities that support conservation stewardship in alignment with Secretarial Order 3356 that calls for improving game and habitat management and increasing outdoor recreation opportunities, particularly for hunters, anglers, and sportsmen. Such activities include opening acres of national wildlife refuges to hunting and fishing opportunities while aligning regulations with the states to better increase access and strike a regulatory balance.
- Foster recreational fishing through sustained hatchery production in support of enhancing opportunities for the 58 million recreational anglers in the U.S.

- Welcome more than 48 million visitors to the Refuge System to enjoy educational and interpretive programs, hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, and photography.
- Continue maintenance and limited improvements to visitor facilities, including parking areas, kiosks, interpretive signs, trails, and boardwalks.

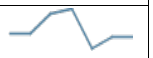
National Park Service

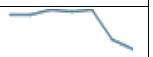
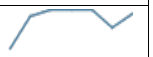
- Provide visitor services and protection, including but not limited to interpretive services and facilitated programs, interpretive media such as brochures and wayside exhibits, educational programs, volunteer services, recreational opportunities, visitor facilities, and management of and coordination with commercial services and concessions to enhance the visitor experience.

Bureau of Land Management

- Provide recreation opportunities for tens of millions of visitors, including but not limited to hiking, biking, camping, hunting, fishing, skiing, horse riding, and snowmobiling and off-highway vehicles.
- Collaborate with public and private partners to provide recreation opportunities.
- Implement and support Secretarial Orders 3356 and 3366, which support and expand hunting and fishing access and opportunities, enhance conservation stewardship, improve wildlife management, ensure that public lands and waters are open for hunting, fishing and recreational access, and increase outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans.
- Assess and improve the bureau's recreation-related websites to identify local opportunities for families to access and enjoy public lands, streamline trip planning and reservation services, and offer updated, engaging, and relevant visitor information.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Land Management								
Recreation Resources Management	24,348	24,348	25,598	26,732	23,617	26,617	26,617	
National Monuments and National Conservation Areas	15,909	15,909	18,409	18,409	13,847	13,130	13,130	
National Monuments and National Conservation Areas - old structure	370	370	383	389	348	---	---	
Subtotal	40,627	40,627	44,390	45,530	37,812	39,747	39,747	

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Reclamation								
Water and Related Resources	---	---	---	---	7,603	8,188	8,686	
Fish and Wildlife Service								
Resource Management	92,466	92,118	93,686	93,494	94,380	90,300	89,537	
Construction	1,258	1,255	1,895	1,891	1,479	1,260	1,255	
Land Acquisition	544	475	685	684	596	120	119	
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund	501	501	535	534	531	---	---	
State Wildlife Grants	31,108	31,108	32,103	32,042	32,937	16,582	10,752	
Subtotal	125,877	125,457	128,904	128,645	129,923	108,262	101,663	
National Park Service								
Operation of the National Park System	---	110,153	113,938	115,260	115,791	101,592	175,009	
Centennial Challenge	---	1,500	2,250	3,000	2,980	---	---	
National Recreation and Preservation	---	14,455	14,335	14,338	14,241	6,145	6,176	
Construction (and Major Maintenance)	---	2,211	2,211	2,211	2,196	1,877	1,885	
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	---	36,769	72,417	69,509	69,037	---	-2,793	
Subtotal	---	165,088	205,151	204,318	204,245	109,614	180,277	
Total	166,504	331,172	378,445	378,493	379,583	265,811	330,373	

Mission Area 3: Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Goal #2: Enhance Public Satisfaction at DOI Sites

Strategy #1: Enhance the enjoyment and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage

Program Performance Overview: Visitor satisfaction with the quality of experiences on public lands remains very high. In 2017, the Department continued its high level of performance in the recreation and visitor experience measure. Survey results show that almost all (about 93%) visitors are satisfied with their experiences at parks, refuges and other public lands and waters. Collectively, satisfaction is above 95 percent for visitors served by facilitated programs.

Public Benefit: Outdoor recreation is integral to a healthy lifestyle for millions of Americans. Visitors to the Department's public lands and waters take advantage of the physical, mental, and social benefits that outdoor recreational experiences provide. Heritage and cultural sites provide insights into our past and the background of our Nation.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Enhance the enjoyment and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage									
Percent of visitors satisfied with the quality of experience	DOI	95%	95%	95%	93%	94%	94%	93%	
	BLM	96%	96%	96%	91%	95%	95%	92%	
	FWS	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	
	NPS	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	
Percent of visitors satisfied with facilitated programs	DOI	96%	96%	96%	96%	96%	94%	94%	
	BLM	95%	94%	94%	95%	95%	95%	92%	
	NPS	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	92%	95%	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Enhance the enjoyment and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage								
Percent of visitors understanding and appreciating the significance of the park they are visiting	NPS	77%	74%	80%	79%	82%	78%	80%

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Fish and Wildlife Service

- Provide safe and accessible facilities for visitors to view/photograph/learn about archaeological sites, historic structures, and historical collections.
- Develop visitor programs, materials, and services that generate interest in cultural and historical structures and artifacts.
- Support innovative community engagement at five high-priority urban refuges and 20 urban partnerships to encourage city dwellers to enjoy the outdoors and connect them with nature.
- Maintain the visibility of Refuge System as an inexpensive, family-friendly place for Americans to reconnect with America's natural and cultural resources.
- Promote new strategies to engage communities in meaningful, collaborative ways to create "stepping stones of engagement" for new audiences to connect with outdoor experiences both on Service lands (Wildlife Refuges) and partner lands.
- Continue maintenance and limited improvements to visitor facilities, including parking areas, kiosks, interpretive signs, trails, and boardwalks.

Bureau of Land Management

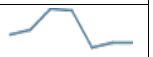
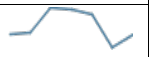
- Provide recreation opportunities for tens of millions of visitors, including but not limited to hiking, biking, camping, hunting, fishing, skiing, horse riding, and snowmobiling and off-highway vehicles.
- Collaborate with public and private partners to provide recreation opportunities.
- Implement and support Secretarial Order 3356, which supports and expands hunting and fishing, enhances conservation stewardship, improves wildlife management, and increase outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans.
- Increase use of realty acquisition tools (such as easements donations, fee simple acquisition, and exchanges) to provide access to public lands for recreational opportunities.

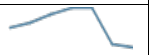
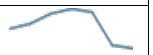
- Assess and improve the Bureau's recreation-related websites to identify local opportunities for families to access and enjoy public lands, streamline trip planning and reservation services, and offer updated, engaging, and relevant visitor information.

National Park Service

- Provide visitor services and protection, including but not limited to interpretive services and facilitated programs, interpretive media such as brochures and wayside exhibits, educational programs, volunteer services, recreational opportunities, visitor facilities, and management of and coordination with commercial services and concessions to enhance the visitor experience.
- Supply visitors with up-to-date interpretive, logistical, and safety information.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Land Management								
Recreation Resources Management	24,349	24,349	25,599	26,733	23,617	26,617	26,617	
National Monuments and National Conservation Areas	15,910	15,910	18,410	18,410	13,848	13,130	13,130	
Challenge Cost Share	2,413	2,413	2,413	---	---	---	---	
Recreational Access	---	2,000	8,000	8,000	---	---	---	
National Monuments and National Conservation Areas - old structure	378	383	384	390	348	---	---	
Subtotal	43,050	45,055	54,806	53,533	37,813	39,747	39,747	
Fish and Wildlife Service								
Resource Management	6,157	6,167	6,245	6,231	6,252	6,076	6,156	
Construction	157	157	237	236	185	157	157	
Subtotal	6,314	6,324	6,482	6,467	6,437	6,233	6,313	
National Park Service								

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Operation of the National Park System	407,246	418,101	434,841	443,050	446,897	387,897	391,859	
Centennial Challenge	---	1,500	2,250	3,000	2,980	---	---	
National Recreation and Preservation	10,079	10,775	10,574	10,574	10,486	777	782	
Historic Preservation Fund	23,963	23,962	31,963	46,463	46,147	13,467	---	
Construction (and Major Maintenance)	13,148	13,004	13,004	13,004	12,916	9,718	9,744	
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	12,503	12,711	15,418	12,506	12,421	---	2,207	
Subtotal	466,939	480,053	508,050	528,597	531,847	411,859	404,592	
Total	516,303	531,432	569,338	588,597	576,097	457,839	450,652	

Mission Area 4: Fulfilling Our Trust and Insular Responsibilities

Mission Area 4: Fulfilling Our Trust and Insular Responsibilities

Goal #1: Support Tribal Self-Determination, Self-Governance, and Sovereignty

Strategy #1: Support self-governance and self-determination

Program Performance Overview: This strategy focuses on the accountability aspects of supporting tribal self-governance and self-determination programs. Tribes operating under self-governance and self-determination demonstrate financial statement accuracy and compliance with generally accepted accounting principles by obtaining "clean audits." In recent years, performance on tribal audits has fluctuated near 80 percent.

Though the Department met its FY 2016 targets for both clean audits and timeliness of management actions on audits and recommendations, challenges exist including inaccurate documentation filed by tribes to certify how they are spending funds and BIA's failure to review single audits submitted by tribes. BIA also is challenged by a limited number of warranted contracting officers and contracting officers' representatives, who are responsible for monitoring and overseeing contracts. [1]

Public Benefit: Self-governance and self-determination strengthen the government-to-government relationship between the Federal Government and tribal nations. Together, these programs support and strengthen tribal self-governance, sovereignty, self-determination, and self-reliance, applying local expertise and knowledge to managing tribal functions and services.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Support self-governance and self-determination activities									
Percent of Self-Governance Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audit or recommendations are made within 180 days	BIA	N/A	N/A	N/A	51%	99%	99%	99%	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	91	124	126	126	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	177	125	127	127	
	AS-IA	N/A	N/A	N/A	96%	91%	95%	93%	

[1] Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Interior, Report No: 2016-ER-049, page 30.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percent of Self-Determination Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audit or recommendations are made within 180 days		N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	71 74	172 190	78 82	84 90	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Bureau of Indian Affairs - Division of Self Determination

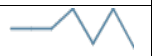
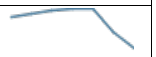
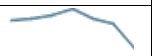
- Continue to monitor monthly Single Audit Reports to ensure timely management decisions are made, and collections are being imposed.
- Continue to provide Audit Training to Awarding Officials responsible for issuing findings and determinations related to A-133 Audits.

Indian Affairs - Office of Self-Governance

- Negotiate funding agreements with tribes.
- Conduct information meetings with tribes considering self-governance.
- Provide curriculum-based Self-Governance Training to new and existing tribes and their federal partners.
- Offer planning and negotiation meetings through teleconference and in-person visits.
- Gain approval for an ongoing Self-Governance Youth internship program.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Indian Affairs								
Indian Self-Determination Fund (TPA)	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	
Small and Needy Tribes (TPA)	1,845	1,845	1,845	4,448	---	4,448	---	
Tribal Government Program Oversight	8,128	8,181	8,273	8,377	8,014	8,616	7,326	

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Subtotal	14,973	15,026	15,118	17,825	13,014	18,064	12,326	
National Park Service								
Operation of the National Park System	5,837	6,940	7,209	7,249	7,091	6,298	6,833	
National Recreation and Preservation	3,346	3,445	3,476	3,476	3,468	1,683	1,545	
Historic Preservation Fund	8,985	8,985	9,985	10,485	10,414	5,738	---	
Subtotal	18,168	19,370	20,670	21,210	20,973	13,719	8,378	
Total	33,141	34,396	35,788	39,035	33,987	31,783	20,704	

Mission Area 4: Fulfilling Our Trust and Insular Responsibilities

Goal #2: Fulfill Fiduciary Trust

Strategy #1: Ensure accurate and timely management of fiduciary trusts

Program Performance Overview: The Department's performance in fulfilling fiduciary trust responsibilities to American Indians ranges from 90 to 100 percent as the Department reviews, processes, and carries out trust responsibilities in a timely and accurate manner.

In FY 2017, the Department continued its strong performance in fulfilling its trust responsibilities except for processing times for land-into-trust determinations.

Public Benefit: By fulfilling fiduciary trust responsibilities, the Department provides timely reposting of Indian trust ownership information to beneficiaries and ensures adherence to Indian law and litigation settlements. Responsibility for fiduciary trust oversight of Tribal lands and assets rests with several Departmental offices and programs.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Ensure accurate and timely management of fiduciary trusts									
Total average gain in earnings of participants that obtain unsubsidized employment through Job Placement Training programs for tribes submitting P.L. 102-477 related reports	BIA	$9.27	$10.20	$9.69	$9.54	$9.97	$10.11	$10.25	
		$33,092	$24,330	$31,861	$34,172	$31,889	$34,380	$36,890	
		3,568	2,385	3,288	3,582	3,200	3,400	3,600	
Percent of active, supervised Individual Indian Monies (IIM) case records reviewed in accordance with regulations	BIA	96%	97%	97%	100%	96%	96%	96%	
		716	699	665	665	672	688	720	
		747	720	686	667	697	715	750	
Increase in the percentage of submitted land-into-trust applications with determinations (Fee to Trust)	BIA	42%	29%	38%	22%	33%	33%	33%	
		962	299	263	158	90	84	78	
		2,278	1,029	697	705	270	251	233	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percent of financial information initially processed accurately in trust beneficiaries' accounts.	OST	99.99%	99.99%	99.99%	99.99%	99.00%	99.79%	99.50%	
		9,980,933	10,723,816	10,261,456	10,673,067	9,900,000	10,477,500	10,447,500	
		9,981,933	10,724,403	10,262,924	10,673,871	10,000,000	10,500,000	10,500,000	
Percent of oil and gas revenue transmitted by ONRR recorded in the Trust Funds Accounting System within 24 hours of receipt	OST	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	99.00%	99.00%	
		912,751,133	570,897,122	381,372,922	473,425,865	594,000,000	693,000,000	693,000,000	
		912,751,133	570,897,122	381,372,922	473,425,865	594,000,000	700,000,000	700,000,000	
Percent of timeliness of financial account information provided to trust beneficiaries	OST	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	
		870,140	895,984	877,759	884,303	880,000	850,000	850,000	
		870,140	895,984	877,759	884,303	880,000	850,000	850,000	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Ensure accurate and timely management of fiduciary trusts								
Percent of title encumbrances requested during the reporting year that are completed by the end of the reporting year	BIA	N/A	80%	74%	82%	84%	84%	84%
		N/A	5,548	5,023	10,137	5,440	5,059	4,705
		N/A	6,911	6,827	12,302	6,479	6,025	5,603
Percent of Estates Closed	BIA	96%	94%	97%	98%	93%	93%	93%
		4,797	4,356	4,095	4,512	5,731	7,867	3,965
		4,977	4,642	4,221	4,603	6,155	8,452	4,264
Percent of qualifying probate orders encoded within 72 hours	BIA	93%	90%	91%	95%	92%	91%	90%
		5,010	4,009	4,630	6,190	5,616	4,954	5,647
		5,409	4,472	5,079	6,512	6,115	5,446	6,288
Percent of qualifying non-probate conveyance documents, including deeds, recorded within 48 hours	BIA	96%	98%	98%	97%	94%	98%	92%
		9,382	22,359	18,119	24,817	16,898	10,164	8,025
		9,736	22,922	18,464	25,476	18,070	10,416	8,707
Percent of land titles certified within 48 hours	BIA	80%	46%	71%	95%	86%	92%	93%
		121,789	194,243	122,797	284,058	209,775	61,412	46,886
		152,245	418,881	173,420	299,601	243,150	66,704	50,206
	BIA	89%	88%	85%	75%	77%	75%	74%

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Percent of recipients who complete the goals identified in the Individual Self-sufficiency Plans (Welfare Assistance Program)		29,658	29,326	24,896	17,374	17,400	16,800	15,932
		33,390	33,490	29,338	23,317	22,568	22,320	21,500
Percent of Indian Child Welfare Act notices processed within 15 days of receipt	BIA	95%	95%	98%	100%	96%	94%	94%
		17,923	21,715	22,442	26,368	25,368	21,197	20,210
		18,860	22,821	22,900	26,411	26,411	22,550	21,500
The number of jobs created by the job placement services program (JPT) from tribes that submitted PL 102-477 reports.	BIA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4,875	4,875	4,875

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

- Prioritize the management, reporting, and disbursement of tribal and individual Indian financial trust asset funds ($4.1B in approximately 3,500 tribal trust fund accounts and approximately $8.7M in 404,000 Individual Indian Money accounts).
- Continue to process trust account transactions accurately and timely.
- Record at least 99% of Oil and Gas royalty revenues from the Office of Natural Resources Receipts in beneficiary accounts within 24 hours of receipt.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Human Services

- Improve the percentage of BIA Regions and Agencies, and Tribes, that receive updates to new policy guidance.
- Determine needs and gaps within the existing tribal welfare assistance structure specific to child assistance and build competency within the social service workforce.
- Partner with the Tribes and the PL 102-477 Program to develop a plan aimed at hiring Tribal General Assistance clients into temporary jobs. The goal of this partnership is mutually beneficial as it will help create a workforce for General Assistance clients.
- Continue to focus efforts on developing implementing quality training on General Assistance. This training will give the social services staff the skills to engage with challenging clients and assist them in obtaining a level of self-sufficiency via General Education Development (GED) or through obtaining employment

- Continue work within the Financial Assistance and Social Services – Case Management System (FASS-CMS) Modernization Initiative with a focus on the development of the Child and Family Services portion of the system, with enhancements to be deployed in FY 2019.
- Continue to boost the BIA workforce through capacity building and deploy tablets or other mobile devices that allow caseworkers access to FASS-CMS to improve case management including Individual Self-Sufficiency Plans (ISPs).
- Provide on-going training on the Native American Children's Safety Act Guidance.
- Deploy the national ICWA database that tracks notices on the FASS-CMS.
- Continue working to build partnerships with Universities and other Organizations on recruiting and increasing the number of Master Level Social Workers to fill IIM Specialist positions across the nation.
- Provide policy oversight, technical assistance, and procedural training to BIA Region and Agency staff on managing and monitoring supervised Individual Indian Monies (IIM) accounts.
- Review active supervised Individual Indian Monies (IIM) case records for compliance with 25 CFR Part 115.427.

Job Placement and Training Program

- Work with tribal Job Placement and Training coordinators to develop plans for job training and employment opportunities for tribal members with a focus on ex-offenders who lack employment skills and need assistance overcoming barriers to employment.
- Work to improve program efficiencies at the tribal level in service delivery and case management.

Land Titles and Records

- Test new standardized performance reports capturing the recording of all transactions in addition to conveyances.
- Collaborate with the Land Buy-Back Program to identify enhancements, procedures, and protocols to address conveyance defects before closeout.
- Release new Division of Land Title and Records Office (LTRO) Mortgage Processing Handbook and Contact Guide to improve lending processing.
- Deploy the new Trust Asset and Accounting Management System (TAAMS) Map Viewer and work with LTRO's to address Legal Land Description Discrepancies for mapping in TAAMS.

Probate

- Report death notifications on a timely basis to begin the probate process.
- Conduct research on a timely basis regarding trust assets and family history for submission to the Office of Hearing and Appeals (OHA) for the adjudication process.

- Perform reviews on a timely basis of the Decision Order issued by OHA for completion.
- Complete and forward all cases to the Division of Land, Title and Records Office for distribution of land interest by the order from OHA.
- Complete and forward all cases promptly to the Office of Special Trustee for distribution of IIM Account by the order from the OHA.

Real Estate Services

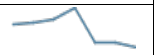
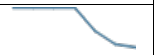
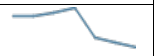
- Continue to improve and monitor the timeliness of processing leases utilizing the realty tracking system that identifies locations.
- Provide training to realty field staff utilizing the enhanced realty tracking tool.
- Develop automated solutions to transfer the realty tracking system to the Trust Asset and Accounting Management System for increasing efficiency and data integrity by one record system.
- Update the Leasing Handbook to assist, standardize, and streamline leasing processes and approvals.
- Create and implement systemized training on a national, regional and agency level.

Fee to Trust

- Continue designing and enhancing the automated solutions in the processing of Fee-To-Trust applications in the Trust Asset and Accounting Management System (TAAMS).
- Enhance services and support by conducting outreach to state, local, and tribal governments.
- Implement guidance for the new policy regarding Fee-To-Trust off-reservation cases.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Indian Affairs								
Tribal Government Program Oversight	---	---	---	---	---	7,326	7,326	
Social Services (TPA)	35,763	40,871	45,179	52,343	34,987	32,864	32,864	
Welfare Assistance (TPA)	74,809	74,809	74,791	74,773	70,794	65,794	65,794	

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Indian Child Welfare Act (TPA)	10,710	15,433	15,641	18,946	14,918	13,696	13,696	
Probate (TPA)	11,989	12,043	11,928	12,039	11,869	10,989	9,995	
Land Title and Records Offices	13,732	13,981	13,905	13,891	6,109	12,610	10,610	
Real Estate Services	46,360	36,435	36,837	37,070	35,574	34,909	28,913	
Job Placement and Training (TPA)	10,920	11,463	11,445	12,504	10,987	8,027	12,148	
Economic Development (TPA)	1,713	1,706	1,794	1,801	1,725	1,737	1,737	
Subtotal	205,996	206,741	211,520	223,367	186,963	187,952	183,083	
Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians								
Executive Direction	3,522	3,214	3,421	3,035	2,897	1,697	2,452	
Program Operations and Support	136,155	135,815	135,608	135,994	116,503	105,370	102,691	
Subtotal	139,677	139,029	139,029	139,029	119,400	107,067	105,143	
Total	345,673	345,770	350,549	362,396	306,363	295,019	288,226	

Mission Area 4: Fulfilling Our Trust Responsibilities

Goal #2: Fulfill Fiduciary Trust

Strategy #2: Strengthen Indian Education

Program Performance Overview: The Department of the Interior, in consultation with the Office of Management and Budget, has highlighted this objective as a focus area for improvement. The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) provides funding to 183 elementary and secondary schools and dormitories serving approximately 48,000 students, with over two-thirds of the schools operated by tribes and the remainder operated directly by BIE. Additionally, BIE funds 32 tribal colleges, universities, tribal technical colleges, and post-secondary schools.

Public Benefit: Providing quality education opportunities starting in early childhood by tribally identified strategies and needs. Tribal communities need an educated citizenry to lead their governments, develop reservation economies, contribute to the social well-being of the community, and sustain Indian cultures.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Strengthen Indian Education									
Percent of students attending BIE-funded schools completing high school with a regular diploma within four years of their 9th grade entry date	BIE	48%	51%	49%	63%	65%	67%	67%	
		1,616	1,626	1,520	1,761	1,822	1,878	1,878	
		3,363	3,209	3,119	2,803	2,803	2,803	2,803	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Strengthen Indian Education								
Percent of students at Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded	BIE	N/A	N/A	55%	50%	53%	53%	55%
		N/A	N/A	24,127	23,594	25,083	25,083	26,029
		N/A	N/A	43,837	47,326	47,326	47,326	47,326

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
schools attending 93% or more of enrolled days								

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2019:

Bureau of Indian Education

- Complete the reorganization of the Bureau of Indian Education that will focus on providing the resources and customized technical assistance to support tribes in establishing and operating high-performing schools on their own.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Indian Education	788,754	810,531	852,367	---	---	---	---	

Mission Area 4: Fulfilling Our Trust and Insular Responsibilities

Goal #3: Strengthen Economic and Health Capacities in the US Territories, and Fulfill US Compact Obligations to the Freely Associated States

Strategy #1: Bolster Healthcare Capacity

Program Performance Overview: Performance metrics for this strategy focus on health issues directly impacting insular area residents.

Community Water System (CWS) Violations: Availability of clean water serves as a key indicator of quality of life and, for this goal, performance is indicated by CWS violation notices from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Continued economic challenges and aging infrastructure impact the insular area residents' ability to maintain water system conditions, but more than 90% of the 131 water systems are free of health-based violation notices each year.

Tuberculosis: The Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) will work to promote health and quality of life by preventing, controlling, and eventually eliminating tuberculosis (TB) from the islands by collaborating with the Territories, Freely Associated States (FAS) and Federal partners. Monitoring TB incidence allows OIA to identify new cases and transmission in the communities since ensuring that patients complete treatment for active TB disease is part of the goal.

Infant Mortality: Infant mortality is considered a basic measure of public health for countries around the world. Over the past decade, the overall infant mortality rate in the United States has improved, declining 15% from 6.9 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2005—a recent high—to 5.8 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2014. The infant mortality rate in the insular areas is more than double the larger United States. Infant mortality continues to be an extremely complex health issue with many medical, social, and economic factors including race/ethnicity, maternal age, education, smoking and health status.

Public Benefit: The Territories and the Freely Associated States experience significant healthcare challenges. The Department of the Interior along with other partners, such as the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will work with insular area partners to improve the quality of healthcare across the insular areas. The Department will make investments to implement corrective action plans to address chronic operational and facility shortcomings at hospitals which serve their U.S. citizens and residents and focus on those factors identified by the HHS/U.S. Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services (CMS) and local elected officials. Additional investments will be made to combat non-communicable and communicable diseases impacting the Pacific and Caribbean such as obesity, diabetes, and tuberculosis.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

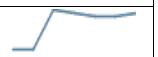
Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Bolster Healthcare Capacity									
Percent of Community Water Systems (CWS) that receive health-based violations notices from the US Environmental Protection Agency.	OIA	8%	13%	8%	11%	10%	10%	10%	
		12	19	11	14	13	13	13	
		147	147	131	132	132	132	132	
Number of new and relapse tuberculosis cases occurring during the calendar year on the islands (per 1,000 people in the population)	OIA	64	72	77	91	85	80	75	
Percent of patients with newly diagnosed tuberculosis disease for whom 12 months or less of treatment is indicated, who complete treatment within 12 months	OIA	72%	89%	93%	81%	85%	88%	90%	
		303	299	339	257	270	280	285	
		421	336	365	317	317	317	317	
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (number of deaths to infants from birth through 1 year of age per number of live births)	OIA	N/A	12	12	15	14	13	12	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Office of Insular Affairs

- Continue water infrastructure projects that support clean water objectives.
- Invest in healthcare infrastructure and operations.
- Target financial assistance to combat non-communicable and communicable diseases.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Office of Insular Affairs								
American Samoa Operations	---	---	7,900	7,900	7,900	7,900	7,900	
Capital Improvement Project Grants	---	---	5,400	---	---	---	5,000	
Technical Assistance	---	---	1,012	456	456	500	500	
Maintenance Assistance Fund	---	---	100	---	---	---	---	
Marshall Islands Compact	---	---	9,188	9,202	6,869	5,929	5,929	
Federated States of Micronesia Compact	---	---	22,053	23,509	22,623	21,258	21,258	
Compact Impact	---	---	15,020	12,610	12,610	12,610	12,610	
Total	---	---	60,673	53,677	50,458	48,197	53,197	

Mission Area 4: Fulfilling Our Trust Responsibilities

Goal #3: Strengthen Economic and Health Capacities in the US Territories, and Fulfill US Compact Obligations to the Freely Associated States

Strategy #2: Strengthen Island Economies

Program Performance Overview: Performance metrics for this strategy focus on economic issues directly impacting insular area residents. The economic prosperity of the States is important to the United States for national security, diplomatic, and humanitarian purposes.

Average per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP): In the four U.S. Territories (Guam, US Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)), GDP per capita is 45% of the GDP per capita for the U.S. OIA provides technical assistance to the insular areas to assist with economic development planning and execution and supports local planning and education activities related to tourism, agriculture, and aquaculture. In addition, OIA funds infrastructure projects related to economic development, such as fiber optic connectivity, port improvements, and renovations to tourist districts.

Cost of electricity: Without their own fossil fuel sources, insular areas face great challenges in achieving reliable, affordable, and secure energy. The resulting increased costs can have severe economic effects on the island communities which depend almost entirely on imported petroleum products for energy. The residential cost per kilowatt hour for power in the territories directly impacts the quality of life in the insular areas and remains approximately two times higher than the national average. To try to address electricity costs, OIA contracts with the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to engage territories and provide energy efficiency and renewable energy assessments, help develop strategic energy plans, and provide technical assistance in reviewing and implementing sustainable energy projects. The OIA, through its Empowering Insular Communities grant program, continues to provide funding for the highest priority projects identified in the energy plans including photovoltaic, wind, and geothermal development projects.

Public Benefit: Strong local economies provide employment and a viable tax base for citizens in the insular areas. The Department will assist the insular areas to strengthen their economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, public services, and technical assistance which will attract and retain private sector investment. The Department will promote policies and improve federal coordination on issues impacting insular economies.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

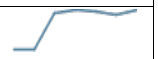
Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Strengthen Island Economies									
Difference in the mean GDP per capita in the 4 US territories	OIA	41%	44%	43%	45%	46%	46%	48%	
compared to the mean GDP per		19,972	22,205	22,159	23,388	23,700	24,000	25,000	
capita in the US		49,210	50,051	51,241	51,737	51,737	51,737	51,737	
Difference in the residential cost per kilowatt hour for power from	OIA	3.1	3.0	2.4	1.9	2.4	2.4	2.0	
the national average		$0.37	$0.39	$0.31	$0.25	$0.31	$0.31	$0.26	
		$0.12	$0.13	$0.13	$0.13	$0.13	$0.13	$0.13	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Office of Insular Affairs

- Support energy planning committees in the insular areas and implement action items/projects contained in local sustainable energy plans.
- Fund public infrastructure projects that attract investment and provide technical assistance for economic development activities.
- Supply professional training and consultation services to insular governments to help improve financial reporting.
- Equip insular area leadership with the statistical tools necessary for informed decision-making.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Office of Insular Affairs								
American Samoa Operations	---	---	14,852	14,852	14,697	13,629	13,629	
American Samoa Direct Loan Program Account	---	---	115	---	---	---	---	
Capital Improvement Project Grants	---	---	---	---	---	---	22,720	
Office of Insular Affairs	---	---	9,448	9,448	9,384	9,430	9,430	
Technical Assistance	---	---	14,492	16,328	16,214	14,171	13,360	
Maintenance Assistance Fund	---	---	981	4,000	3,973	1,023	1,023	
Brown Tree Snake Control	---	---	3,500	3,500	3,476	2,837	2,600	
Coral Reef Initiative & Natural Resources	---	---	1,000	1,250	1,242	946	946	
Energizing Insular Communities	---	---	2,971	3,471	3,447	2,811	811	
Compact Impact - Discretionary	---	---	3,000	3,000	2,980	---	---	
Assistance to American Samoa Direct Loan Financing Account	---	---	-489	-469	---	---	---	
Compact Impact	---	---	14,980	17,390	17,390	17,390	17,390	
Guam Section 30 Income Taxes	---	---	79,238	85,712	78,000	78,000	78,000	
VI Rum Excise Taxes	---	---	211,851	242,099	224,000	209,000	224,000	
Total	---	---	355,939	400,581	374,803	349,237	383,909	

Mission Area 4: Fulfilling Our Trust Responsibilities

Goal #3: Strengthen Economic and Health Capacities in the US Territories, and Fulfill US Compact Obligations to the Freely Associated States

Strategy #3: Fulfill US Compact Obligations

Program Performance Overview: Performance metrics for this strategy focus on the economic benefits of Compact of Free Association annual financial assistance on Freely Associated States (FAS) residents. Financial assistance is provided through the Office of Insular Affairs.

Public Benefit: In coordination with the State Department, the Department will implement Compact obligations with three U.S.-affiliated Freely Associated States: The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the Republic of Palau (Palau). The Department will make direct grants to the FSM and RMI under their amended Compacts to provide assistance in six sectors: education, health care, infrastructure, public sector capacity building, private sector development, and environment. The Department will request continuing appropriations which support U.S. Compact obligations to Palau.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Fulfill US Compact Obligations									
Ratio of FAS private sector jobs versus total FAS employment	OIA	49%	49%	50%	50%	50%	50%	51%	
		17,833	18,229	18,803	18,803	18,900	19,100	19,250	
		36,513	36,865	37,844	37,844	37,844	37,844	37,844	
Ratio of FAS public sector jobs versus total FAS Employment	OIA	51%	51%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	
		18,680	18,636	19,041	19,041	18,950	18,915	18,800	
		36,513	36,865	37,844	37,844	37,844	37,844	37,844	
Percent of FAS employment attributable to OIA Grants and Programs	OIA	36%	39%	36%	36%	35%	35%	35%	
		13,246	14,233	13,486	13,486	13,400	13,350	13,250	
		36,513	36,865	37,844	37,844	37,844	37,844	37,844	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percent of FAS employee compensation attributable to OIA grants and programs	OIA	31%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	29%	
		102,065	103,086	109,742	109,742	109,000	108,500	107,000	
		331,988	348,882	367,746	367,746	367,746	367,746	367,746	
Average FAS private sector wage rate as a percentage of average FAS central government wage rate	OIA	41%	42%	42%	42%	42%	42%	42%	
		19,873	20,963	21,738	21,738	21,800	22,000	22,100	
		48,984	50,284	52,076	52,076	52,076	52,076	52,076	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Office of Insular Affairs

- Execute financial assistance agreements with the Freely Associated States in line with Compacts of Free Association.
- Implement the 2010 Palau Compact Review Agreement.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Office of Insular Affairs								
Federal Services	---	---	2,818	2,818	2,798	2,636	2,636	
Enewetak	---	---	500	500	497	473	473	
Palau Compact Extension	---	---	13,147	13,147	13,058	---	---	
Marshall Islands Compact	---	---	65,410	66,625	70,079	71,349	72,289	
Federated States of Micronesia Compact	---	---	87,123	86,388	88,877	90,721	92,086	
Judicial Training	---	---	365	370	361	367	367	
Total	---	---	169,363	169,848	175,670	165,546	167,851	

Mission Area 5: Protecting Our People and the Border

Mission Area 5: Protecting Our People and the Border

Goal #1: Ensure Emergency Preparedness & DOI Law Enforcement Staffing Addresses Public Safety Risks

Strategy #1: Ensure public safety on our lands

Program Performance Overview: The Department works to provide visitors and other users to our lands and facilities with a safe environment. Accordingly, the Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES) provides program direction and oversight on law enforcement policy, border security, drug enforcement, training at the national academy, internal affairs, victims assistance, program compliance, and inspections as well as emergency deployment of the Department's law enforcement resources. The Security Program provides oversight and compliance of the Department's physical, personnel, and national security programs, in addition to the protection of critical infrastructure such as dams, national monuments, and icons. The Office coordinates with other federal, state and local agencies (including the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Central Intelligence Agency, etc.) on all law enforcement and security issues. In addition, the Department coordinates with law enforcement and security partners to assist in the protection of assets that the Department does not own, including infrastructure on the Outer Continental Shelf, the Trans-Alaska pipeline, and gas transmission lines. The Intelligence Program, through the Federal Senior Intelligence Coordinator (FSIC), maintains situational awareness both internationally and domestically, manages the mandated Insider Threat Program, coordinates with the Intelligence Community on matters affecting the Department, and is a partner on the National Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Public Benefit: Inherent in our management of public lands is the obligation to protect DOI employees and visitors to those public lands. Ensuring employee and public safety is complex and requires the resources of multiple bureaus and offices. The Department's Law Enforcement Program has the third largest contingent of federal law enforcement officers in the Executive Branch. Depending on the season, approximately 3,500-4,000 law enforcement officers, rangers, and other employees patrol vast acres of public lands, national parks, wildlife refuges, and Indian communities and protect natural, cultural, and heritage resources from illegal activities.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Ensure public safety on our lands									
Percent of agencies with a current law enforcement staffing plan	OLES	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	30	50	50	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percent of criminal offenses solved by arrest (Part 1 Offense Clearance Rate)	BIA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	40%	40%	40%	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8,400	8,400	8,400	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	21,000	21,000	21,000	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

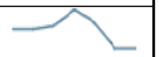
Office of Law Enforcement and Security

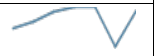
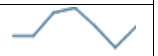
- Each bureau will determine the effective level and distribution of law enforcement staffing for each of its programs on a unit-by-unit basis.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

- Initiate the upgrade of current GL-8 and GL-9 police officer and supervisory police officer positions to attract and retain qualified personnel and ensure the effective level and distribution of staffing.
- Distribute resources to assist tribally run programs to implement the same goal.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Indian Affairs								
Law Enforcement	325,696	328,296	347,976	353,556	325,965	326,649	329,649	
Bureau of Land Management								
Resource Protection and Law Enforcement	25,325	25,325	25,495	26,616	25,708	24,166	24,166	
Bureau of Reclamation								
Water and Related Resources	117,490	110,560	115,760	113,760	112,988	115,810	114,760	

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
National Park Service								
Operation of the National Park System	324,562	329,033	336,676	340,029	341,105	310,851	338,358	
Construction (and Major Maintenance)	7,489	7,495	7,495	7,495	7,444	7,439	6,929	
Subtotal	332,051	336,528	344,171	347,524	348,549	318,290	345,287	
Total	800,562	800,709	833,402	841,456	813,210	784,915	813,862	

Mission Area 5: Protecting Our People and the Border

Goal #1: Ensure Emergency Preparedness & DOI Law Enforcement Staffing Addresses Public Safety Risks

Strategy #2: Prepare DOI to respond to and recover from emergencies and incidents

Program Performance Overview: The Department plays a vital role in supporting the Federal Emergency Management Agency in its disaster response mission. Within the Department, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) promotes all-hazard preparedness and response; ensures continuity of the Department to perform essential functions during catastrophic events; and assists communities during imminent threats. To assess its readiness to perform its mission, the OEM has established a readiness index measure that assesses each bureau across four components and then averages the result for the Department. Since 2014, the readiness index has improved slightly.

Public Benefit: The Department's All-Hazards Baseline Operational Plan provides the baseline guidance for how the Department prepares for and responds to emergencies, regardless of type or cause. The OEM leads the efforts for preparedness and response, and leads coordination and information sharing among the emergency management, communications, public health, environmental health, wildlife health, integrated pest management, invasive species, and occupational safety and health mission areas across the Department's bureaus and offices.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

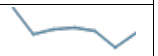
Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Prepare DOI to respond to and recover from emergencies and incidents									
DOI average I-READ index	PEM	89	88	89	89	90	90	90	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Office of Emergency Management

- Support the five National Planning Frameworks (Protection, Prevention, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery) and their related five Federal Interagency Operational Plans, the National Incident Management System, and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan while continuing the Department's mission to protect natural and cultural resources.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
National Park Service								
Operation of the National Park System	83,163	85,108	87,663	88,368	87,067	79,077	85,955	
Construction (and Major Maintenance)	7,739	745	745	745	740	675	677	
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	8,200	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Total	99,102	85,853	88,408	89,113	87,807	79,752	86,632	

Mission Area 5: Protecting Our People and the Border

Goal #2: Support Securing Our Southern Continental US Border

Strategy #1: Support securing our southern continental US border

Program Performance Overview: The Department supports the Administration's plan to secure our borders and protect our citizens and resources along the border. The Department continues collaboration efforts by searching for opportunities to share resources and balance efforts. This is accomplished by routine interagency coordination, participating in local Border Management Task Force (BMTF) meetings, interagency training, an annual interagency border forum, and law enforcement specific operations.

The US Border Patrol is the main partner agency responsible for patrolling Department lands adjacent to the US/Mexican Border. The Department works with US Border Patrol in decreasing illegal immigration on DOI-managed public lands through collaborative efforts with partnering agencies.

Public Benefit: The Department manages lands adjacent to 41% of the southwest border of the continental US, 14% of its northern border, and 31% of the southeast border, totaling 1,900 miles along the three borders. With an estimated 500 million visitors a year and over 500 million acres to manage, the Department's managers in the field are faced with tough decisions on how to best utilize their law enforcement assets. One way is by adopting a whole government approach. Through partnering, federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies working in proximity to each other have been able to address critical issues like illegal immigration, and the natural resource impacts often associated with it.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Support securing our southern US continental border									
Number of apprehensions on DOI-managed lands (BLM, FWS, NPS)	OLES	N/A	N/A	N/A	51,989	Reduce Annually	Reduce Annually	Reduce Annually	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Office of Law Enforcement and Security

- Continue interagency coordination by participating in local Border Management Task Force (BMTF) meetings, interagency training, and law enforcement specific operations.

Mission Area 5: Protecting Our People and the Border

Goal #3: Manage Wildland Fire to Reduce Risk and Improve Ecosystem and Community Resilience

Strategy #1: Assess, protect against, and address risk of wildfire

Program Performance Overview: The Department is working to update its forest and rangeland management practices to address the increased frequency, severity, and cost of wildland fires. Uncontrolled wildfire kills people, destroys property, and harms fish and wildlife. The Department's Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) program strives to achieve a risk-based, cost-effective, technically efficient, and scientifically grounded wildland fire management program that safely meets fire and resource management goals. The guiding principles and priorities of the OWF program are to restore and maintain fire-resilient landscapes, promote fire-adapted communities, reduce unplanned human-caused ignitions, and safely and effectively respond to wildfires, through direct program activities and strong federal, tribal, state, and local collaboration. The Department faces challenges from the uncertainties and risk of impacts of natural effects, of increasing risks to firefighters, communities and their assets (e.g., water supplies, recreation areas, infrastructure, etc.) and the increasing need to protect and conserve America's federal and tribal lands. Natural effects such as higher temperatures, spread of invasive plants that burn relatively easily, and earlier arrival of spring make for drier soils, increased likelihood of drought, and a longer wildland fire season.

OWF aligns programs, budgets, and performance to implement the intergovernmental National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, a science-based and innovative, collaborative approach to mitigating wildfire risk. The Department sustained its performance at existing levels over the past five years with only minor year-to-year variance for acres in desired condition and initial response strategy success. The measure for treatments has been more variable due to changes in available funding and the set of projects undertaken in a given year.

The Department achieved its targets on one of the three wildland fire measures in FY 2017 and experienced only small deviations from planned targets for the other two measures despite a challenging fire season.

The DOI is developing new wildland fire management performance measures to better articulate and determine the efficacy of Department and Administration resources in achieving desired resource conditions that reduce the intensity, severity or negative effects of wildfire. As part of this effort, the Department has established a working group among the four DOI wildland fire bureaus, as well as the U.S. Forest Service, which will explore the feasibility of concepts and principles in wildfire risk mitigation and examine the value of the strategic placement of fuels treatments as informed by a risk assessment and mitigation plan. This group will develop recommendations for a) establishing outcome-based targets, and b) annually evaluating the performance of the program in meeting the

desired objectives of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. When completed, the DOI will incorporate the new performance measures into its Strategic Plan implementation.

Public Benefit: Preparedness activities provide the foundation for a safe and effective strategic response to unplanned ignitions and enable land managers to develop collaborative efforts to achieve fire-adapted communities and landscapes that are resilient to the effect of wildfire. Fuel treatments improve the integrity of the forests and rangelands while reducing the risks of high severity wildfires and the impacts of such fires to people, communities, and natural and cultural resources located near or adjacent to federal or tribal lands. Rehabilitation of the most severely damaged lands from high impact wildfires minimizes future threats to life, property, natural and cultural resources to stabilize and prevent unacceptable degradation to these key values. The Department works collaboratively with other federal, tribal, state, and local governments to help protect life and property, limit damages to natural and cultural resources during wildfire response and reduce program and management duplication.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Assess, protect against, and address risk of wildfire									
Percent of DOI-managed landscape acres that are in a desired condition as a result of fire management objectives	OWF	36.0%	36.2%	35.8%	35.6%	35.8%	35.8%	34.0%	
		161,237,140	161,982,762	160,224,280	159,635,707	160,510,000	160,400,000	152,450,000	
		447,806,489	447,806,489	447,806,489	447,806,489	447,806,489	447,806,489	447,806,489	
Percent of DOI-managed treatments that reduce risk to communities that have a wildland fire mitigation plan	OWF	68%	89%	91%	93%	92%	93%	93%	
		1,655	1,979	2,508	2,319	2,300	2,230	2,100	
		2,417	2,234	2,768	2,488	2,500	2,400	2,260	
Percent of wildfires on DOI-managed landscapes where the initial strategies fully succeeded during the initial response phase	OWF	97.2%	97.2%	96.7%	96.2%	96.6%	96.9%	96.8%	
		5,593	6,182	5,858	7,238	6,310	6,240	5,880	
		5,757	6,362	6,061	7,527	6,530	6,440	6,075	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Office of Wildland Fire

- Foster an integrated approach ensuring that wildland fire management principles and concepts are a fundamental component of resource programs throughout the Department.
- Work collaboratively with federal, tribal, state, and local entities to ensure a coordinated approach to wildland fire response that work across boundaries to manage wildfire risk at a landscape scale and improve ecosystem and community resilience.
- Facilitate shared stewardship of land management by enabling protection responsibilities and resources to be leveraged to gain economic efficiency, reduce management duplication, and meet resource management objectives.
- Develop and implement policies to manage wildland fires to meet safety and protection objectives, manage risk, and achieve resource management objectives.
- Maintain, improve, and implement fire management plans that allow shared interagency resources in training, prevention, and detection to facilitate appropriate responses to wildfire in accordance with land-use plan objectives.
- Identify and conduct fuels treatments to improve the resiliency of Departmental and tribal lands; contribute to community adaptation to fire; and improve the ability to safely and appropriately respond to wildfire.
- Prioritize the Secretary's Wildland Fire Directive to better incorporate active fuels management into resource management planning to reduce the spread, intensity, and/or severity of wildfire. This includes targeted fuels management efforts along the southern border that support national security objectives carried out by the Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection and address the threat of wildfire.
- Provide training, resources, and other program support to ensure that firefighters can safely and effectively perform the full range of their work, including fuels management, prescribed fire, and wildfire response.
- Support community assistance in the form of community education, prevention (to reduce human caused ignitions), and collaborative planning to reduce wildfire risk.
- Support wildland firefighting assistance to rural fire departments, volunteer fire departments, rangeland fire protection associations, and other similar organizations aiding in wildfire response.
- Rehabilitate and restore lands degraded and damaged by wildfire.
- Support the use and integration of cost-effective technology advancements, such as Unmanned Aircraft Systems, in wildfire operations.
- Manage an interagency information technology enterprise portfolio of fire applications and systems to improve wildland fire planning, preparedness, and response.
- Continue to strengthen oversight of wildland fire management program spending and accountability through improved performance and the use of risk management principles to guide decision-making at the strategic and program level.

- Coordinate internal and external communication on the Department's wildland fire management programs and priorities to stakeholders, including the media, Congress, and other partners.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Office of Wildland Fire								
Preparedness	281,928	318,970	323,685	332,784	322,179	322,179	309,292	
Suppression Operations	285,878	291,657	291,673	395,000	389,406	388,135	383,657	
Fuels Management	145,024	164,000	170,000	180,000	149,466	149,466	123,808	
Burned Area Rehabilitation	22,935	18,035	18,970	20,470	9,467	9,467	3,000	
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund	42,000	29,000	177,000	65,000	---	---	---	
Total	777,765	821,662	981,328	993,254	870,518	869,247	819,757	

Mission Area 5: Protecting Our People and the Border

Goal #4: Provide Science to Safeguard Communities from Natural Hazards

Strategy #1: Monitor and assess natural hazards risk and response planning

Program Performance Overview: USGS replaced most performance measures in FY 2017 with index measures that capture and portray more information than the previous measures. The index measures represent two or more individual measures from years past. Overall, program performance improved slightly from FY 2016 to FY 2017, with four of five measures improving performance or remaining level, while funding increased marginally. This level of performance indicates that critical natural hazard knowledge and tools are being developed and provided to land managers and policy makers to inform decision making.

Public Benefit: The USGS provides scientific information to emergency responders, policy makers, and the public to reduce the risk of losses from a wide range of natural hazards, including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, landslides, magnetic storms, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, and wildfires.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Monitor and assess natural hazards risk and response planning									
Percent completion of targeted natural hazards assessments of very high and high-threat regions of the Nation (Index; 2022 target = 63% of targeted natural hazards assessments completed)	USGS	3%	3%	5%	7%	7%	3%	3%	
Percent completion of targeted landslide hazard research (Index; 2022 target = 85% of targeted landslide hazard research completed)	USGS	12%	11%	13%	14%	9%	8%	6%	
Percent completion of coastal and marine hazards and subsidence research (Index; 2022 target = 96% of targeted coastal	USGS	N/A	N/A	94%	94%	91%	89%	78%	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
and marine hazards and subsidence research completed)									
Percent progress towards optimal monitoring capability for natural hazards situational awareness (Index; 2022 target = 48% of optimal monitoring network capacity)	USGS	53%	54%	54%	55%	55%	48%	44%	
Percent of the National Streamflow Network (NSN)	USGS	87%	87%	88%	88% (E)	88%	88%	88%	
Streamgages that are fully		8,150	8,160	8,260	8,260 (E)	8,260	8,260	8,260	
operational		9,360	9,360	9,360	9,360 (E)	9,360	9,360	9,360	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Monitor and assess natural hazards risk and response planning								
Percent completion of next generation National Data Water Infrastructure (NWDI) strategy	USGS	N/A	N/A	N/A	10%	30%	50%	70%
Number of studies and scientific investigations initiated with benefits to Western water management of extreme hydrologic events such as droughts and floods	BOR	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	3	3
Number of Reclamation activities developing or applying science for water management of extreme hydrologic events (e.g. droughts and / or floods) that involve partnerships or stakeholders	BOR	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8	8	8

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

U.S. Geological Survey
Hazards Program (HAZ):

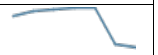
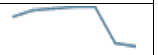
- Monitor the nation's earthquakes via the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS) and through support to several regional seismic networks operated by State and university partners; provide 24x7 reporting on domestic and global earthquakes; deliver rapid earthquake impact and situational awareness products to support emergency response; and develop improved methods for continued improvement in the quality and timeliness of real-time earthquake information.
- Deliver real-time earthquake data to NOAA, supporting tsunami monitoring in the Pacific Rim and tsunami disaster alerting in Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, California, and U.S. Territories in the Western Pacific and Caribbean.
- Communicate earthquake information to the public and to key stakeholders, including federal and state emergency response agencies, disaster relief organizations, operators of utilities and lifelines, and communities at risk.
- Improve the USGS National Seismic Hazard Model, which describes the likelihood and potential impacts of earthquakes nationwide, and which serves as the basis of seismic provisions in building codes; revise as needed a model update with input from the Building Seismic Safety Council, which develops building code updates; and maintain associated databases and tools that are widely used by engineers for site-specific engineering design and seismic risk analysis.
- Conduct applied field, laboratory and theoretical research on the causes, characteristics and effects of earthquakes, including investigations of earthquakes related to wastewater disposal and other industrial activities. Support relevant research by expert partners in academia, state agencies and the private sector via competitive grants and cooperative agreements.
- Conduct field investigations of Very-High-Threat volcanoes and generation of volcanic hazard assessments for these volcanoes.
- Finish work on hardening the Alaska Volcano Observatory Operations Room with a new emergency generator to maintain situational awareness and monitoring capability even during power failures caused by human or natural causes.
- Convert 30 analog seismometers and analog telemetry nodes at Alaska monitoring stations to digital seismometers with digital data telemetry to make progress on compliance of monitoring networks with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) restrictions on radio frequency utilization.
- Partner with USGS 3-DEP initiative and other Federal and State agencies to leverage resources towards acquiring high-resolution light distance and ranging (LiDAR) data over Very-High-Threat and High-Threat volcanoes.
- Conduct field, laboratory, and modeling studies of landslide initiation and mobility processes in cooperation with federal, state, academic, and private sector partners to develop, test, and advance tools and methods for landslide monitoring, hazard assessment, and forecasting.
- Provide post-wildfire debris-flow hazard assessments for major wildfires to Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Teams, State Geological Surveys, federal, state, and local emergency management and the public.

- Collect observations, conduct studies, and test methods and models to expand the NOAA-USGS partnership for post-wildfire debris-flow early warning beyond the prototype area in southern California to other parts of the western United States.
- Conduct marine geological and geophysical investigations to provide federal, state, and local users with improved assessments of hazard sources (earthquakes, tsunami, and submarine landslides) and their potential impacts on offshore operations, coastal communities and infrastructure.
- Provide regional real-time forecasts of erosion and inundation due to coastal storms, including hurricanes; and long-term forecasts of the likelihood of future coastal change and inundation due to storms, erosion and sea-level rise.
- Conduct field and laboratory studies with other federal and academic partners to characterize marine methane systems and associated sea-bed processes to enhance understanding of their substantial energy resource potential, the risk they represent to offshore operations, and their role in the global carbon system and marine ecological productivity.
- Contribute analyses and expertise to delineate the U.S. Extended Continental Shelf consistent with international law and apply unique USGS expertise to understanding the occurrence and potential of deep-sea mineral resources.

Groundwater and Streamflow Information Program (GWSIP):

- Collect, manage, and disseminate high quality and reliable integrated hydrologic information in real time and over the long term for flood and drought planning, warnings, and forecasting; designing water infrastructure; operating waterways for power production and navigation; managing water rights issues; and assessing safety conditions for water recreational activities.
- Maintain a unified National Streamgage Network of more than 8,200 real-time streamgages, including 3,460 Federal Priority Streamgages that support strategic Federal responsibilities.
- Develop, refine, and apply hazard information and tools to minimize loss of life and property, such as Rapid Deployment Gages (RDG's), Storm Tide Sensors, and Wave Height Sensors.
- Improve data collection and dissemination during hydrologic hazards (floods, droughts, hurricanes) and deploy information tools for water resource managers to minimize loss of life and property.
- Support improvement of flood forecast predictions, drought management, and development of National water prediction capabilities.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Reclamation								
Water and Related Resources	---	---	---	---	828	828	828	
U.S. Geological Survey								
Contaminant Biology	9,647	10,197	10,197	10,197	10,128	---	---	
Toxic Substances Hydrology	9,967	11,248	11,248	11,048	10,973	---	---	
Natural Hazards	116,202	121,164	123,798	124,675	123,732	97,621	94,172	
Groundwater and Streamflow Information Program	62,134	62,934	63,434	65,158	64,436	64,436	63,568	
Subtotal	197,950	205,543	208,677	211,078	209,269	162,057	157,740	
Total	197,950	205,543	208,677	211,078	210,097	162,885	158,568	

Mission Area 6: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Mission Area 6: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Goal #1: Align DOI Organizational Structure to Improve Partnership Engagement and Mission Delivery

Strategy #1: Ensure effective alignment of DOI organizational structure in the field and with partners

Program Performance Overview: The DOI has established unified regional boundaries for its bureaus in 2018 and will further develop this approach in 2019. The goal is to improve overall operations, internal communications, customer service, and stakeholder engagement. Aligning geographic areas across the DOI will enhance coordination of resource decisions and policies and will simplify how citizens engage with the DOI.

Organizing bureaus with common geographic areas will allow for more integrated and better coordinated decision making across bureaus. Previously, the DOI's bureaus had regions different geographic boundaries. This complicates coordination and hampers the DOI's ability to get things done expeditiously. Having unified regions will help streamline operations and in doing so, provide better service to the American people. Bureaus within a region will focus on common issues, taking a comprehensive approach versus a bureau-centric approach. This culture shift will help us work better together to accomplish one vision.

To improve customer service and reduce operational costs, sharing functions at field locations has already begun. For several years, the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture's US Forest Service (USFS) have pooled resources, conducted joint projects, and shared services under Service First agreements where field locations are near each other. Service First authority promotes partnering across agency boundaries to develop joint solutions to common problems and to address federal land management issues in an integrated way.

Public Benefit: The Department is improving its organizational model to determine how to best achieve its mission of serving the American public, honoring our tribal and fiduciary trust responsibilities, and managing and protecting our land, water and natural resources for the next 100 years.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
National Park Service								
Operation of the National Park System	---	---	---	---	---	---	5,300	

Mission Area 6: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Goal #1: Align DOI Organizational Structure to Improve Partnership Engagement and Mission Delivery

Strategy #2: Improve strategic hiring, placement and retention efforts to ensure mission-critical service delivery through data driven processes and increased employee engagement efforts

Program Performance Overview: To facilitate strategic human capital planning, the Department will leverage automation to improve employee performance and training opportunities and examine additional data to determine if operational efficiencies can be gained while minimizing redundancies under the current organizational design.

Public Benefit: The Department is committed to managing America's vast natural and cultural resources with a 70,000-strong and 350 occupation-plus workforce that exemplifies high performance, customer service and accountability.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Improve strategic hiring, placement and retention efforts to ensure mission-critical service delivery through data driven processes and increased employee engagement efforts									
Employee engagement index for DOI in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey	PHR	61	62	63	66	68	70	72	
DOI's ranking among large agencies in the Partnership for Public Services' Best Places to Work report	PHR	12	13	11	9	8	7	6	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Office of Human Resources

The Office of Human Resources will analyze organizational data and recommend strategies for improvement from:

- Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (e.g., employee engagement)
- Geographic Representation of Bureau Mission Critical Occupations
- Geographic Representation of Administrative and Support Services
- Customer Service data
- Benchmarking cost allocations for administrative and support functions
- DOI Human Capital Framework Evaluations
- Accountability drivers on performance, labor management, EEO, etc.
- Bureau plans in response to the Department-wide Workplace Environment Survey

Mission Area 6: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Goal #2: Reduce Administrative and Regulatory Burden

Strategy #1: Evaluate and improve the net benefits of regulatory reform initiatives and policies, and identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification.

Program Performance Overview: On February 24, 2017, President Trump signed Executive Order (EO) 13777, entitled "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda," to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens placed on the American people. The Executive Order provides direction to identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification that eliminate jobs, inhibit job creation, are outdated, unnecessary, ineffective, impose costs that exceed benefits, or rely on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility. In accordance with Executive Order 13771 entitled, "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs," the costs of the regulatory and deregulatory actions are measured as the opportunity costs or cost savings to society, as defined in OMB Circular A-4.

In 2017, the Department established a Regulatory Reform Task Force, which is guiding implementation of regulatory reform to alleviate unnecessary burdens placed on the American people. Periodically, the Department will review the written input to the Federal Rulemaking Portal: www.regulations.gov to determine whether additional regulations should be targeted for review and considered for suspension, revision, or rescission. The DOI achieved cumulative net savings of $1.15B (net present value) from its deregulatory actions in FY 2017. Goals for subsequent years will be established as the DOI completes its review of target regulations.

Public Benefit: The Department strives to be prudent and financially responsible in the expenditure of funds. In addition to the management of the direct expenditure of taxpayer dollars through the budgeting process, it is essential to manage the costs associated with the governmental imposition of private expenditures required to comply with Federal regulations. The Administration's policy is that for every new regulation issued, at least two prior regulations be identified for elimination, and that the cost of planned regulations be prudently managed and controlled through a budgeting process.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Evaluate and improve the net benefits of regulatory reform initiatives and policies, and identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification.									
Total incremental cost of all EO 13771 regulatory actions and EO 13771 deregulatory actions (in millions; includes costs or cost savings carried over from previous fiscal years).	DOI	N/A	N/A	N/A	(1,150.3)	(2,800.0)	(3,118.2)	tbd	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Evaluate and improve the net benefits of regulatory reform initiatives and policies, and identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification.								
Number of evaluations to identify potential deregulatory actions that included opportunity for public input and/or peer review	DOI	N/A	N/A	N/A	11	28	11	tbd
Number of deregulatory actions recommended by the Regulatory Reform Task Force to the agency head, consistent with applicable law	DOI	N/A	N/A	N/A	11	28	11	tbd
Number of deregulatory actions issued that address recommendations by the Regulatory Reform Task Force	DOI	N/A	N/A	N/A	11	28	11	tbd
Number of deregulatory actions issued	DOI	N/A	N/A	N/A	11	28	11	tbd
Number of regulatory actions issued	DOI	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	1	tbd

Mission Area 6: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Goal #2: Reduce Administrative and Regulatory Burden

Strategy #2: Improve transparency and timeliness of the infrastructure permitting process.

Program Performance Overview: Compliance with permitting requirements is often unnecessarily prolonged and expensive. As outlined in the President's Executive Order "Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure," and the corresponding Secretarial Order 3355, a significant opportunity exists to decrease the time required to complete environmental review and authorization for infrastructure projects. The Department believes this can best be achieved through streamlined processing, and unified regional boundaries that focus executive attention on the intersecting bureau issues within the same geography.

Secretarial Order 3355 implementation guidance issued in April 2018 identified the Department's plans to streamline and collaborate on National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) compliance efforts. In addition to reducing the time and page limits for environmental review documents, the guidance is expected to significantly improve the overall timeliness of major right-of-way applications for water and energy infrastructure projects.

Public Benefit: America needs increased infrastructure investment to strengthen our economy, enhance our competitiveness in world trade, create jobs and increase wages for our workers, and reduce the costs of goods and services for our families. The poor condition of America's infrastructure has been estimated to cost typical American household thousands of dollars each year. Inefficiencies in current infrastructure project decisions, including management of unnecessarily expensive and prolonged environmental reviews and permit decisions or authorizations, have delayed infrastructure investments, increased project costs, and blocked the American people from enjoying improved infrastructure that would benefit our economy, society, and environment. More efficient and effective federal infrastructure decisions can transform our economy, so the Federal Government must change the way it processes environmental reviews and authorization decisions.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Improve transparency and timeliness of the infrastructure permitting process									
Average amount of time to process and administratively	BLM	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	90	90	90	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
complete Applications for Permit to Drill									
Average amount of time to issue a decision on major right-of-way applications	BLM	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	48	48	41	
Average amount of time to process and administratively complete a grazing permit	BLM	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Percent of formal Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultations addressed in a timely manner	FWS	79%	77%	82%	82%	83%	78%	73%	
		713	737	838	774	750	718	693	
		900	959	1,020	948	900	926	954	

Mission Area 6: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Goal #3: Prioritize DOI Infrastructure Needs and Reduce Deferred Maintenance Backlog

Strategy #1: Maintain critical DOI infrastructure and facilities to ensure effective operations and service delivery

Program Performance Overview: Real property assets are integral to the success of the Department's mission. The Department's real property inventory includes approximately 43,000 buildings and 80,000 structures with a replacement value of approximately $300 billion, across six bureaus. Management of deferred maintenance is a Departmental priority to ensure completion of needed repairs and prevent further deterioration and unsafe conditions. The Administration's Public Lands Infrastructure Initiative will go a long way toward addressing the deferred maintenance of our National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, and Indian schools. The Department will address deferred maintenance/repair needs with priority given to those that support critical mission activities and manage risk to improve the condition of assets. Across the Department, there are currently 51,000 buildings and structures considered highest priority. The Facility Condition Index (FCI) and Asset Priority Index (API) performance measures are key indicators for managing the portfolio in support of the Department's diverse missions. The Bureau of Indian Affairs employs a Service Level Index to determine the conditions of the roads and bridges in tribal communities. The overarching goal is to maximize the efficient use of real property and to optimize expenditures on the real property portfolio.

A significant factor impacting a sustainable portfolio of constructed assets is the aging infrastructure. Many assets already exceed original design life, and this trend continues to increase maintenance demands. Furthermore, the Department's objective is to maintain heritage assets in perpetuity for the benefit of future generations. The Department must continue to maintain and repair these aging assets and cannot simply divest these assets as is typically done in private industry. These examples illustrate why the backlog of deferred maintenance continues to increase, now more than $16 billion.

The Department conserves the Nation's cultural and heritage sites that reflect a rich and diverse history. The Department safeguards our heritage for the generations that follow, to better understand our country's present and learn from our past. Many challenges exist in protecting and maintaining historic and archeological sites, especially with the impacts of weather on fragile sites and structures. Sites are exposed to changing weather conditions that cause damage and deterioration of the structures and sites, and some locations are vandalized or accidentally damaged by visitors to federal lands.

The BIA Road Construction Program maintains and operates the 29,000 miles of BIA-owned roads and bridges. These roads and bridges serve as the primary access points to tribal communities, without which critical resources and services would not reach tribal members. The Department will continue to improve and provide safe, functional, energy efficient, and universally accessible BIA

facilities. The Department is also working to improve its Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded schools and improve the learning environment of BIE students.

Public Benefit: The Department manages the full life-cycle requirements of nearly every type of constructed asset, including visitor centers, dams, schools, health clinics, power generating facilities, housing, hotels, fire stations, campgrounds, roads, water and wastewater treatment plants, offices, and more. Many of these assets have historic or cultural significance that not only support the Department's mission, but also are important to our Nation's heritage. Improving our infrastructure means we can better accomplish our mission for the American people.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Maintain critical DOI infrastructure and facilities to ensure effective operations and service delivery									
Percent of priority assets in acceptable condition (i.e. meet investment objective)	PAM	N/A	N/A	N/A	80.6%	81.0%	82.0%	82.0%	
Percent of students in BIE school facilities that are in acceptable condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index (FCI)	AS-IA	77%	72%	62%	69%	62%	63%	65%	
		140	128	111	123	111	113	116	
		182	179	179	179	179	179	179	
Amount of priority deferred maintenance (repair) needs/activities addressed (in billions)	PAM	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	$1.00	$1.00	$1.00	
Value of NPS deferred maintenance work orders closed ($000)	NPS	$492,000	$508,000	$854,000	$664,000	$623,000	$662,000	$630,000	
Percent of historic structures on DOI inventory in good condition	DOI	57%	65%	56%	56%	56%	48%	48%	
		14,942	16,932	14,370	13,179	14,619	12,495	12,529	
		26,269	26,200	25,685	23,639	26,089	26,086	26,087	
	BIA	36%	31%	31%	31%	31%	32%	32%	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
		93	90	90	90	89	92	91	
		259	291	288	288	288	285	287	
	BLM	51%	51%	51%	50%	50%	49%	49%	
		221	218	216	199	199	196	195	
		431	429	425	400	400	400	399	
	FWS	11%	12%	11%	11%	11%	10%	10%	
		243	251	259	263	244	233	233	
		2,154	2,171	2,309	2,350	2,307	2,307	2,307	
	NPS	61%	70%	61%	61%	61%	52%	52%	
		14,385	16,373	13,805	12,627	14,087	11,974	12,010	
		23,425	23,309	22,663	20,601	23,094	23,094	23,094	
Percent of museum collections on DOI inventory in good condition	DOI	57%	66%	63%	68%	66%	66%	65%	
		576	664	692	798	768	779	765	
		1,005	1,000	1,106	1,179	1,169	1,175	1,171	
	BIA	70%	73%	75%	80%	59%	69%	62%	
		109	117	119	122	90	108	97	
		156	161	159	153	153	157	156	
	BLM	84%	85%	87%	84%	84%	84%	84%	
		132	135	144	142	142	144	144	
		158	159	165	170	170	172	172	
	BOR	66%	76%	77%	77%	77%	77%	76%	
		51	54	53	53	54	54	51	
		77	71	69	69	70	70	67	
	FWS	14%	41%	36%	55%	56%	55%	55%	
		40	115	140	256	251	246	245	
		288	281	384	463	447	447	447	
	NPS	75%	74%	72%	69%	70%	69%	69%	
		244	243	236	225	231	227	228	
		326	328	329	324	329	329	329	

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Percent of archaeological sites on DOI inventory in good condition	DOI	65%	65%	66%	67%	63%	61%	63%	
		113,050	117,096	122,883	130,018	100,369	100,119	105,178	
		173,200	179,168	185,927	194,014	159,611	164,410	167,510	
	BIA	78%	78%	79%	79%	81%	79%	78%	
		52	52	53	53	54	53	52	
		67	67	67	67	67	67	67	
	BLM	85%	85%	86%	86%	87%	83%	86%	
		68,588	72,267	77,412	83,942	56,948	56,600	61,500	
		80,685	84,788	90,259	97,063	65,701	68,600	71,700	
	FWS	23%	24%	23%	23%	13%	13%	13%	
		3,557	3,660	3,659	3,668	1,547	1,516	1,508	
		15,366	15,504	15,679	15,799	11,843	11,843	11,843	
	NPS	53%	52%	52%	52%	51%	50%	50%	
		40,853	41,117	41,759	42,355	41,820	41,950	42,118	
		77,082	78,809	79,922	81,085	82,000	83,900	83,900	
Maintain a completion rate of 95% for Safety of Dam recommendations	BOR	N/A	N/A	N/A	95%	95%	95%	95%	
Percent of BIA miles of road in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	BIA	17%	16%	15%	14%	13%	13%	12%	
		4,985	4,541	4,450	3,942	3,850	3,750	3,575	
		28,893	28,989	29,400	29,047	29,100	29,100	29,100	
Percent of BIA bridges in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index	BIA	68%	66%	68%	69%	69%	69%	67%	
		625	607	639	642	691	691	670	
		919	918	937	926	1,000	1,000	1,000	

Supporting Performance Measures

Supporting Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target
Strategy: Maintain critical DOI infrastructure and facilities to ensure effective operations and service delivery								
Cost per mile of BIA owned roads maintained in acceptable condition	BIA	$4,639	$5,175	$6,571	$7,646	$7,864	$7,551	$7,741
		$23,126,909	$26,286,253	$27,057,533	$30,142,239	$30,277,627	$28,318,000	$26,318,000
		4,985	5,079	4,118	3,942	3,850	3,750	3,400
Percent of cultural landscapes in DOI inventory in good condition (NPS)	NPS	51%	51%	51%	51%	51%	43%	43%
		386	386	401	417	404	344	345
		762	762	781	821	793	799	799
Percent of law enforcement detention facilities that are in acceptable condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index	AS-IA	92%	83%	75%	80%	87%	82%	83%
		46	50	45	48	52	49	50
		50	60	60	60	60	60	60
Percent of funding going to actual construction or repair of housing (HIP)	BIA	86%	89%	87%	90%	87%	87%	87%
		9,776,283	6,730,742	6,738,485	6,527,627	6,523,182	6,523,182	6,523,182
		11,395,076	7,589,958	7,731,557	7,278,564	7,467,131	7,467,131	7,467,131
Percent of construction schedules met within the established project timeframe (HIP)	BIA	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%
		N/A	N/A	N/A	87	87	87	87
		N/A	N/A	N/A	87	87	87	87

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Fish and Wildlife Service

- Complete compliance audits and inspections on dams, bridges, and facilities with seismic risk as required by law. Any deficiencies uncovered are identified for maintenance, deferred maintenance, or line-item construction.
- Continue maintenance and improvements to visitor facilities, including parking areas, kiosks, interpretive signs, trails, and boardwalks.
- Provide safe and accessible facilities for visitors to view/photograph/learn about archaeological sites, historic structures, and historical collections.
- Invest in the Service's aviation program to maintain the DOI fleet and improve pilot safety.

National Park Service

- Maintain efforts to preserve and protect cultural resources, including but not limited to stabilization and preservation of historic and prehistoric structures, protection of archaeological sites, and preservation of museum objects and archival collections.
- Provide focused investments in park resources and projects to document and preserve history in parks. Make competitive grants (via the Historic Preservation Fund) for the preservation of these resources nationwide.
- Strive towards the goals and objectives identified in the NPS Cultural Resource Challenge that provides focus for NPS stewardship and partnership responsibilities for America's cultural heritage. The Challenge promotes collaboration with American Indian Tribes, states, local governments, nonprofit organizations, historic property owners, educational institutions, and others.
- Protect and preserve lands within authorized park boundaries containing irreplaceable resources for the enjoyment of current and future visitors.

Bureau of Land Management

- Continue to ensure that BLM's management approach fully incorporates the Cultural Resource Program. The program is responsible for the diverse, culturally significant, and scientifically important aggregation of archaeological sites, historic structures, and paleontological resources on public lands.
- Prioritize Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement projects, emphasizing projects that create jobs in local communities, those that improve recreation access, and those that enhance visitor safety.
- Work closely with the Federal Highway Administration on Federal Lands Transportation Program, Federal Lands Access Programs, and Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads to complete high-priority projects will increase public access to BLM lands.
- Protect life, critical infrastructure, and natural and cultural resources through the BLM's Fire and Aviation Program. This will be accomplished by utilizing mitigation, education, and community assistance programs to partner with local entities, homeowners, and business owners on projects to protect homes and the public. The BLM will partner with Rangeland Fire Protection Associations and rural fire departments to protect livelihoods, working landscapes, and local economies by conducting fuels management projects and collaborative efforts to create fuel breaks and reduce flammable vegetation to protect homes, communities, and the public in wildland-urban interface areas.

Bureau of Reclamation

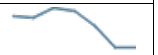
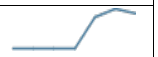
- Complete facility conditions assessments and continue maintenance of museum property management activities for the inventory of fine artwork, archaeological and cultural museum items.

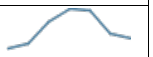
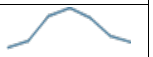
- Assess accountability and control issues related to museum property collections. This includes collections of museum properties, natural history, and art that are cataloged, preserved, and inventoried in accordance with Federal statutes and Departmental directives.
- Maintain the environment (temperature & humidity) inside the museum to protect the artifacts from degradation over time.
- Develop and establish a mitigation strategy for factors that may have negative impacts on the collection's condition.
- Engage law enforcement and install surveillance protections on a continuous basis to prevent theft, destruction, and vandalism of artwork collections and archaeological and cultural resources, especially in facilities not managed by Reclamation.

Indian Affairs

- Continue to assure compliance with applicable cultural resource statutes such as the National Historic Preservation Act, Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).
- Work with repositories to designate and train staff to be responsible for and to improve the day-to-day management of museum collections, to ensure the preservation of the collections in perpetuity.
- Continue to catalog and assess the condition of museum objects in all repositories.
- Identify areas of risk with the deferred maintenance and annual work plans.
- Acquire Transportation Facility Maintenance Management Software that will assist program field units engaged in road maintenance activities.
- Continue to update the BIA Roads Maintenance Manual and reassess its applicability to limited field resources.
- Develop guidance for BIA regions and tribal contractors performing the level of service road maintenance assessments for deferred maintenance reporting as well as to implement a uniform assessment schedule for field units.
- Support tribes that are operating their Road Maintenance program through contracts and agreements by increasing capacity through technical assistance, improved guidance, and performance reporting.
- Continue to monitor the installation of signs addressing load posting deficiencies on BIA-owned bridges.
- Develop the BIA Bridge Inspection handbook, improvement plan, and implementation plan regarding the bridge inspection program.

Key Funding Sources

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Bureau of Indian Affairs								
Road Maintenance (TPA)	24,303	26,461	26,693	30,307	28,148	28,317	26,318	
EQ Program (TPA)	256	256	256	256	256	2,613	256	
Education Construction	55,285	74,501	138,245	133,257	80,187	72,851	52,851	
Public Safety and Justice Construction	11,306	11,306	11,306	11,306	10,416	10,421	11,421	
Subtotal	91,150	112,524	176,500	175,126	119,007	114,202	90,846	
Bureau of Land Management								
Cultural Resources Management	15,131	15,131	16,131	16,131	16,365	15,383	15,383	
Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvements	26,995	26,995	31,387	29,201	26,474	24,886	24,886	
Annual Maintenance and Operations Cost	38,637	38,637	38,942	39,125	36,344	33,613	33,613	
Annual Maintenance and Operations	10,063	9,517	9,602	9,628	6,087	---	---	
Subtotal	90,826	90,280	96,062	94,085	85,270	73,882	73,882	
Bureau of Reclamation								
Water and Related Resources	---	---	---	---	1,097	1,409	1,232	
National Park Service								
Operation of the National Park System	709,622	718,885	767,804	806,371	804,564	689,025	715,554	
Centennial Challenge	---	6,000	9,000	12,000	11,918	---	---	
National Recreation and Preservation	18,175	18,236	18,237	18,237	18,113	16,881	15,273	
Historic Preservation Fund	23,462	23,463	23,462	23,962	23,800	13,467	---	

Key Funding Sources (dollars in thousands)	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Request	2019 Request	2020 Request	2014 - 2020 Trend
Construction (and Major Maintenance)	102,588	105,614	149,343	173,113	165,384	200,056	162,595	
Subtotal	853,847	872,198	967,846	1,033,683	1,023,779	919,429	893,422	
Total	1,035,823	1,075,002	1,240,408	1,302,894	1,229,153	1,108,922	1,059,382	

Mission Area 6: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Goal #3: Prioritize DOI Infrastructure Needs and Reduce Deferred Maintenance Backlog

Strategy #2: Provide dependable and efficient information technology

Program Performance Overview: Information Management Technology (IMT) supports every facet of the Department's diverse mission. Employees, volunteers, and the public require modern, reliable, secure, and agile IMT services delivered in a cost-effective and transparent manner. The increasing sophistication of cyber-attacks demand increased situational awareness, risk-based implementation of technology, demonstrated resilience in critical technologies, and a dynamically trained cybersecurity workforce. The Department implements many of the capabilities through the Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) program which provides the capabilities and tools that identify, prioritize, and mitigate cybersecurity threats and risks in near real-time. The Department must also implement a multitude of security controls to protect its mission-critical High Value Assets (HVAs) information systems. Key priorities for the Department will be to strengthen the cybersecurity resiliency of these assets by eliminating vulnerabilities and isolating HVA assets from the rest of the network.

The Department's employees and customers desire a computing experience that allows the user to seamlessly access, integrate, analyze, and capture data without sacrificing security. Securing mobile devices is essential for employees and customers to access Departmental data and information from any device. The Department is expanding the number of mobile platforms and devices supported while protecting and securing the data. Departmental users expect a personalized IT experience that is standardized, compatible, and interoperable. With this goal in mind, the Department is developing standard computing and IMT provisioning practices for laptops and mobile devices which enables portability of devices.

The Department also seeks to provide services at a lower cost by consolidating and standardizing IMT services and systems. The OMB's Data Center Optimization Initiative (DCOI) aims to reduce annual costs associated with federal data centers by 25 percent by the end of FY 2018, resulting in $2.7 billion in cost savings and avoidance. Some of these savings will be used to optimize the IMT services provided by the remaining data centers, enabling more cloud computing services and improving public access to information. A primary focus for consolidation is the Department's hosting strategy. The goal is to build a ubiquitous computing environment where IMT and Cloud services are provided seamlessly and on-demand to the customer. The Department will continue to take advantage of federal-wide contracts for optimizing telecommunications and network services.

The Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) was enacted to clarify executive responsibilities and establish accountability for the acquisition and management of resources. Successful implementation of FITARA will lead to more

effective management of IMT assets and, in turn, improve the government's ability to serve the public. It will also increase the number of successful federal technology programs and accountability of trust in using public funds.

Public Benefit: Implementing the Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) program and ensuring the protection of the Department's high value assets will greatly enhance the ability to protect any Personally Identifiable Information (PII) that is collected and stored as well as increase the dependability and survivability of the information technology that provides essential services to the public. Improving network connectivity and expanding the use of mobile devices will allow our employees to more easily obtain the tools and data they need to efficiently and effectively perform their mission to serve the public. The Department exchanges information with a wide range of the public, from scientists working in remote areas to the family planning their next trip to a national park. Today, every government organization and program depend upon the effective and efficient use of IMT assets to securely deliver services and manage internal operations.

Strategic Plan Performance Measures

Strategic Plan Performance Measures	Bureau	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Target	2019 Target	2020 Target	2014-2020 Trend
Strategy: Provide dependable and efficient information technology									
Percent of unclassified network hardware and software assets appropriately authorized and managed	PIO	N/A	N/A	N/A	65%	66%	73%	81%	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	195,624	198,332	219,850	205,117	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	299,356	299,356	299,356	254,402	
Percent completion of DOI's Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Implementation Plan	PIO	N/A	N/A	N/A	50%	100%	100%	100%	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	11	22	22	22	
		N/A	N/A	N/A	22	22	22	22	

Strategic Actions Planned through FY 2020

Office of the Chief Information Officer

- Implement Department of Homeland Security Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation capabilities resulting in automated network monitoring, real-time analysis of critical security-related information, and enhanced risk-based decision-making.
- Protect high value information assets by isolating these assets from the shared computing environment.
- Improve connectivity, with an emphasis on broadband in remote areas and standardized and streamlined Wi-Fi capabilities.
- Optimize Data Centers by reducing the total number of data centers, using Trusted Internet Connections, and promoting

standard services.

- Establish accountability, compliance and risk management functions for improving management of IMT resources.

Appendix A - Major Management Challenges

The following table provides APP&R page references, corresponding action offices, and performance measures that correspond with topics in the DOI Office of Inspector General's (OIG) Report on Major Management Challenges (also referenced in the DOI Agency Financial Report).

MAJOR MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE	AREA OF CONCERN	CORRESPONDING GOAL or STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	PAGES IN APP&R	BUREAU OR OFFICE	STRATEGIC PLAN PERFORMANCE MEASURES
Energy Management	Revenue collection, verification, and distribution Reduced Offsetting Collections Aging Offshore and Onshore Infrastructure Renewable energy development	Ensure accurate and timely accounting and collection of energy revenues Ensure accurate and timely management of fiduciary trust assets Promote safe and robust oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy resource development Provide hydropower	60-62 85-91 45-52 53-55	• ONRR • BOEM • BSEE • OST • BLM • BOR	• Percent of federal and Indian oil and gas revenues disbursed on a timely basis per statute ($ Billions) • Percent of oil royalty meters (identified as high-risk using a risk-based methodology) where meter provings will be observed • Percent of oil and gas revenue transmitted by ONRR recorded in the Trust Funds Accounting System within 24 hours of receipt • Percent of high priority fluid mineral cases that have completed inspection during the year. • Percent of (offshore) high risk production and facilities operations inspected. • Percent of hydropower facilities in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating. • Percent of time that Bureau of Reclamation hydroelectric generating units are available to the interconnected Western electrical system during daily peak demand periods. • Number of megawatts of approved capacity authorized on public land and the Outer

					Continental Shelf for renewable energy development while ensuring compliant environmental review • Amount of hydropower capability (in megawatts) installed from 2018 through 2022
Public Safety and Disaster Response	Safety and Security on Public Lands Disaster Response Preparedness and Management Infrastructure Challenges to Safety and Services	Ensure public safety on our lands Prepare DOI to respond to and recover from emergencies and incidents Maintain critical DOI infrastructure and facilities to ensure effective operations and service delivery Manage water resources and delivery	103-105 106-107 127-134 29-33	• OLES • BIA • BIE • BLM • BOEM • BOR • BSEE • FWS • NPS • OSMRE • OWF • USGS	• Percent of agencies with an updated law enforcement staffing plan • Percent of criminal offenses solved by arrest (Part 1 Offense Clearance Rate • Average Interior Readiness (I-READ) Index score for emergency preparedness across DOI Bureaus/Offices • Percent of DOI-managed landscape acres that are in a desired condition as a result of fire management • Percent of DOI-managed treatments that reduce risk to communities that have a wildland fire mitigation plan • Percent of wildfire on DOI-managed landscapes where the initial strategy(ies) fully succeeded during the initial response phase • Percent completion of targeted natural hazards assessments of very high and high-threat regions of the Nation (Index) • Percent completion of targeted landslide hazard research • Percent completion of coastal and marine hazards and subsidence research (Index) • Percent progress towards optimal monitoring capability for natural hazards situational awareness (Index)

					• Percent of the National Streamflow Network (NSN) streamgages that are fully operational • Percent of priority assets in acceptable condition (i.e. meet investment objective) • Amount of priority deferred maintenance (repair) needs/activities addressed • Maintain a completion rate of 95% for Safety of Dam recommendations • Percent of miles of BIA road in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index • Percent of BIA bridges in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index • Percent of students in BIE school facilities that are in acceptable condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index • Percent of water infrastructure in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating (FRR) [high- and significant-hazard dams]
Information Technology	Adoption of Revised Security Standards Resolution of Audit Findings and Recommenda-tions Recurring Findings in Vulnerability Scanning Implementation of Continuous	Provide dependable and efficient information technology	135-137	• PIO • BIA • BLM • BOEM • BOR • BSEE • FWS • NPS • OSMRE	• Progress and plans for effective management of IT is discussed using narrative; includes *Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (*FITARA) implementation and addressing cybersecurity. • Percent of unclassified network hardware and software assets appropriately authorized and managed • Percent completion of DOI's Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Implementation Plan

	Monitoring and Mitigation Programs Cloud Computing Contingency Planning and Data Backup				
Water Programs	Extreme Drought Rural Water Systems Expanding Water Demand Rehabilitation and Replacement	Manage DOI water storage and delivery to resolve conflicts and expand capacity Apply science to land, water, and species management	29-33 13-17	• BOR • USGS • BIA	• Amount of acre feet of water conservation capacity enabled to help address drought • Percent of projects completed in support of water management, planning, and pre-development. • Percent completion of targeted land and water management research actions • Millions of people living in targeted watersheds covered by completed water quality models • Percent completion of water quality sampling of the Nation's groundwater, streams and rivers • Percent completion of the USGS National Water Census baseline • Percent completion of U.S. aquifer groundwater availability baseline studies • Percent of water infrastructure in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating (FRR) [high- and significant-hazard dams]
Responsibility to American Indians and Insular Areas	Administration of the Land Buy-Back Program	Fulfill fiduciary trust	85-91	• AS-IA • OST • BIA	• Since its inception, the Land Buy-Back program has paid landowners approximately $900 million and restored the equivalent of

	Energy development and management Indian Country schools Financial management in the Insular Areas	Strengthen Indian education Strengthen island economies	92-93 97-99	• BIE • OIA	nearly 1.7 million acres of land to tribal trust ownership. • Total average gain in earnings of participants that obtain unsubsidized employment through Job Placement Training programs for tribes submitting P.L. 102-477 related reports • Percent of active, supervised Individual Indian Monies (IIM) case records reviewed in accordance with regulations • Increase in the percentage of submitted land-into-trust beneficiaries' accounts • Percent of timeliness of financial account information provided to trust beneficiaries • Percent of students attending BIE-funded schools completing high school with a regular diploma within four years of their 9th grade entry date • Difference in the mean GDP per capita in the 4 US territories compared to the mean GDP per capita in the US • Difference in the residential cost per kilowatt hour for power from the national average • Percent of Freely Associated States (FAS) employment attributable to Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) grants and programs • Percent of FAS employee compensation attributable to OIA grants and programs
Acquisition and financial assistance	Public Law 93-638 Contracts Staff Training and Retention	Support tribal self-governance and self-determination	82-84	• AS-IA • BIA • PAM	• Percent of P.L. 93-638 Title IV contracts (Title IV compact agreements) with clean audits. • Percent of Single Audit Act reports submitted during the reporting year for which management action decisions on audit

					or recommendations are made within 180 days.
Climate Effects	Wildland Fire Costs and Strategy Impact on American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes Water scarcity Impact on Insular Areas	Manage wildland fire to reduce risk and improve ecosystem and community resilience Manage DOI water storage and delivery to resolve conflicts and expand capacity	110-113 29-33	• OWF • BIA • BOR • USGS • OIA	• Percent of DOI-managed landscape acres that are in a desired condition as a result of fire management objectives • Percent of DOI-managed treatments that reduce risk to communities that have a wildland fire mitigation plan • Percent of wildfire on DOI-managed landscapes where the initial strategy(ies) fully succeeded during the initial response phase • Percent of (tribal water) projects completed in support of water management, planning, and pre-development. • Amount of acre feet of water conservation capacity enabled to help address drought • Percent of projects completed in support of water management, planning, and pre-development. • Percent completion of targeted land and water management research actions • Number of people living in targeted watersheds covered by completed water quality models • Percent completion of water quality sampling of the Nation's groundwater, streams and rivers • Percent completion of the USGS National Water Census baseline • Percent completion of U.S. aquifer groundwater availability baseline studies

Operational Efficiencies	Hiring, Training, and Retaining Staff Park Fees and Concessions Deferred Maintenance and Repair	Improve strategic hiring, placement and retention efforts to ensure mission-critical service delivery through data driven processes and increased employee engagement efforts Ensure effective collection and application of recreation fees Prioritize DOI infrastructure needs and reduce deferred maintenance backlog	121-122 63-64 127-134	• PHR • BIA • BIE • BLM • BOEM • BOR • BSEE • FWS • NPS • OSMRE • USGS	• Improvement in the employee engagement index for DOI in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey • Improvement in DOI's ranking among large agencies in the Partnership for Public Services' Best Places to Work report • Percent of priority assets in acceptable condition (i.e. meet investment objective) • Amount of priority deferred maintenance (repair) needs/activities addressed • Value of deferred work orders retired ($000) • Percent of historic structures on DOI inventory in good condition as measured by the Facility Condition Index • Percent of museum collections on DOI inventory in good condition • Percent of archaeological sites on DOI inventory in good condition • Maintain a completion rate of 95% for Safety of Dam recommendations • Percent of miles of BIA road in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index • Percent of BIA bridges in acceptable condition based on the Service Level Index • Percent of students in BIE school facilities that are in acceptable condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index • Percent of water infrastructure in good condition as measured by the Facility Reliability Rating (FRR) [high- and significant-hazard dams]

Workplace culture and ethics		Improve strategic hiring, placement and retention efforts to ensure mission-critical service delivery through data driven processes and increased employee engagement efforts	121-122	• PHR • BIA • BIE • BLM • BOEM • BOR • BSEE • FWS • NPS • OSMRE • USGS	• Employee engagement index for DOI in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey • DOI's ranking among large agencies in the Partnership for Public Services' Best Places to Work report

Appendix B – Program Evaluations

Program evaluations are an important tool in analyzing the effectiveness and efficiency of the Department's programs, and in evaluating whether the programs are meeting their intended objectives. The Department's programs are evaluated through a variety of means, including performance audits, financial audits, management control reviews, and external reviews from Congress, OMB, GAO, OIG, and other organizations, such as the National Academy of Public Administration and the National Academy of Sciences. The Department uses self-assessments to verify that performance information and measurement systems are accurate and support the Department's strategic direction and goals. Data collection and reporting processes are further reviewed and improved using customer and internal surveys.

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Bureau: BSEE
Title of Program Evaluated: National Academy of Public Administration - Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement: Strategic Organizational Assessment

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Managing Use of the Nation's Resources

Purpose of Program Evaluation: Review BSEE's organizational structure, relationships, systems, policies, and processes; assess results; and present recommendations to build on the progress BSEE has made since its reorganization in FY 2012.

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: NAPA developed a set of recommendations to assist BSEE in in improving operation of a sustainable and effectively functioning bureau. Most of the recommendations are associated with areas where correction and/or mitigation are within the control of BSEE. Several recommendations, however, require heightened awareness and action by the Department of the Interior, the Office of Management and Budget, and Congress. NAPA's recommendations are listed below.

Recommendations:

1. Maintain a Deconflicted Mission
2. Complete the Inventory and Updating of Bureau Guidance
3. Support the Environmental Compliance Mission
4. Maintain Alignment with BOEM
5. Elevate Decommissioning Issues
6. Improve Alignment with the National Program Manager Model
7. Complete the Environmental Compliance National Program Design

8. Improve Utilization of the Engineering Technology Assessment Center
9. Strengthen Data Stewardship with Knowledge Management
10. Reactivate the Strategic Plan Working Group
11. Continue the Foresight Initiative
12. Enhance Annual and Multi-Year Planning
13. Expand Understanding and Use of Enterprise Risk Management
14. Conduct Targeted Succession Planning for Senior Leadership
15. Increase Integration of Training Programs
16. Increase Fees and Collections
17. Budget for Renewable Energy Compliance and Enforcement
18. Budget for Decommissioning
19. Implement a Change Management Strategy

Action taken: Several the NAPA recommendations are being implemented in conjunction with bureau work to close related Government Accountability Office (GAO) and Office of Inspector General (OIG) audit recommendations. The Change Management Initiative, instituted in mid FY 2017 by BSEE's new Director, also includes actions that address some of the NAPA recommendations. NAPA recommendations that fall outside the work scope of GAO/OIG audit recommendations and the Change Management Initiative are being reviewed by BSEE leadership for potential implementation.

For Copy Contact: (Name, Email, Telephone): Molly Madden, molly.madden@bsee.gov 202-219-7271

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Bureau: BSEE

Title of Program Evaluated: Government Accountability Office - Stronger Leadership Commitment Needed at Interior to Improve Offshore Oversight and Internal Management

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Managing Use of the Nation's Resources

Purpose of Program Evaluation: The GAO audit examined efforts BSEE leadership has made in implementing key strategic initiatives to improve its (1) offshore safety and environmental oversight and (2) internal management.

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: GAO found that BSEE leadership has started several key strategic initiatives to improve its offshore safety and environmental oversight, but its limited efforts to obtain and incorporate input from within the bureau have hindered its progress. Additionally, BSEE leadership has started several key strategic initiatives to improve its internal management, but none have been successfully implemented, in part, because of limited leadership commitment. Without higher-level oversight within Interior addressing leadership commitment deficiencies within BSEE, the bureau is unlikely to succeed in implementing internal management initiatives.

Recommendations:

1. The Secretary of the Interior should direct the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, who oversees BSEE, to establish a mechanism for BSEE management to obtain and incorporate input from bureau personnel and any external parties, such as Argonne National Laboratory, that can affect the bureau's ability to achieve its objectives.
2. The Secretary of the Interior should direct the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, who oversees BSEE, to address leadership commitment deficiencies within BSEE, including by implementing internal management initiatives and ongoing strategic initiatives (e.g., Enterprise Risk Management and performance measure initiatives) in a timely manner.
3. The Secretary of the Interior should direct the BSEE Director to address trust concerns that exist between headquarters and the field. BSEE should expand the scope of its employee engagement strategy to incorporate the need to communicate quality information throughout the bureau.
4. The Secretary of the Interior should direct the BSEE Director to increase organizational trust in Integrity and Professional Responsibility Advisor (IPRA) activities. BSEE should assess and amend IPRA guidance to clarify (1) severity threshold criteria for referring allegations of misconduct to the IG and (2) its reporting chain.

Actions taken: BSEE is taking and has completed the following actions to address the GAO recommendations.

1. This recommendation is being addressed with human capital strategic actions, public affairs communication plans, employee engagement handbook, and outreach efforts through a change management initiative.
2. Program offices will consider a revised risk management strategy in FY18 and make adjustments, as necessary, for implementation in FY19. Regarding performance measures, BSEE will integrate vital statistics and performance measurement framework efforts in FY18, and make adjustments, as appropriate, for implementation in FY19.
3. This recommendation is being addressed with human capital strategic actions, public affairs communication plans, employee engagement handbook, and outreach efforts through a change management initiative.
4. BSEE updated case reporting requirements for the IPRA by issuing an Information Memorandum to bureau staff on May 18, 2017, that clarifies applicable guidance on what to do and how to report allegations of employee misconduct. The May 18, 2017, guidance memorandum supersedes the Case Reporting Requirements Information Memorandum

dated October 19, 2015. The updated guidance eliminates the previous requirement for review and assessment by the IPRA Board, composed of the IPRA, the head of Human Resources, and the Deputy Director. Instead, the IPRA is responsible for investigating allegations of serious misconduct involving any employee not accepted for investigation by the OIG. The IPRA manages the process by which allegations of misconduct are reported to the IPRA and investigated, and the dissemination of results to the appropriate officials.

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS) Propagation Program Analysis

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Purpose of Program Evaluation: Outcome Evaluation - To evaluate key NFHS propagation programs to determine their effectiveness in meeting objectives for restoration and recovery.

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: Findings for Lake Trout and Lahontan Cutthroat Trout propagation programs were the basis of the following actions: 1) Lake trout restoration stocking was discontinued in Lake Superior (as natural reproduction was successfully restored), and 2) Lahontan Cutthroat Trout propagation will continue its significant contribution to recovery efforts.

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: Business Management Operations – Denver

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Purpose of Program Evaluation: External Annual Financial Audit - The objective of an audit of consolidated financial statements is the expression of an opinion as to whether the presentation of the consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, which have been

prepared by management with the oversight of those charged with governance, conforms to U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: Corrective Action Plans are developed and implemented for all Notices of Findings and Recommendations (NFR) issued by the auditors.

- NFR 2016-403 Manual Journal Voucher Review
- NFR-2016-002R Timeliness of Property, Plant, and Equipment Additions and Disposals
- NFR-2016-401 Grant Accrual

For Copy Contact: (Name, Email, Telephone): Michael Sciortino, Michael_Sciortino@fws.gov 703-358-2054

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: Business Management Operations – Contracting and General Services

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Purpose of Program Evaluation: OMB A-123 Appendix A Review Internal controls that Management has determined to be properly designed must be tested to determine whether they are operating effectively. The following sub-process is a program that BMO is responsible for: Acquisition Management Review.

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: Corrective Action Plans are developed and implemented for all Summaries of Findings and Recommendations drafted by staff that completed the current year's testing cycle.

For Copy Contact: (Name, Email, Telephone): Kristin Young, Kristin_Young@fws.gov 703-358-2176

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: Business Management Operations – Contracting and General Services

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Purpose of Program Evaluation: OMB A-123 Appendix A Review internal controls that Management has determined to be properly designed must be tested to determine whether they are operating effectively. The following sub-process is a program that BMO is responsible for: Personal Property (including Fleet), Space Leasing, and Quarters Management. Annual reviews (remote and on-site) are performed to evaluate Regional and Headquarters' compliance with property management policies.

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: Corrective Action Plans are developed and implemented for all Summaries of Findings and Recommendations drafted by staff that completed the current year's testing cycle.

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: Business Management Operations – Contracting and General Services

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Purpose of Program Evaluation: FY 2017 Government Accountability Office (GAO) review of the DOI Heavy Equipment property management inventory and processes.

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: GAO report is not yet final. FWS expects findings for incomplete acquisition justification documents. Corrective action plan has already been initiated via updated policy and guidance.

For Copy Contact: (Name, Email, Telephone): Kristin Young, Kristin_Young@fws.gov 703-358-2176

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: Business Management Operations – Contracting and General Services

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Purpose of Program Evaluation: FY 2017 DOI Office of the Inspector General (OIG) review of the DOI Fleet property management inventory and processes.

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: OIG evaluation is ongoing.

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Conserving Our Land and Water; Generating Revenue and Utilizing Our Natural Resources; Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Purpose of Program Evaluation: Independent Auditors' Biennial Report on the Audit of Expenditures and Obligations Used by the Secretary of the Interior in the Administration of the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs Improvement Act of 2000 for Fiscal Years 2015 through 2016 Report No. 2016-FIN-074. The objective of our work was to determine whether expenditures and obligations used by the Secretary as reported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in administering the Act for FYs 2015 and 2016 were appropriate, adequately supported by appropriate documentation, and complied with administrative requirements of the Act. This performance audit did not constitute an audit of financial statements in accordance with government auditing standards. The Joachim Group was not engaged to and did not render an opinion on the Department of the Interior's or FWS's internal controls over financial reporting or over financial management systems (for purposes of the Office of Management and Budget's Circular No. A-127, *Financial Management Systems,* dated July 23, 1993, as revised).

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation:

1. Internal controls were not operating effectively to ensure that non-payroll costs were accurately recorded. In particular:
    - One of 108 transactions sampled for 2015 for non-payroll transactions was posted to the wrong grant program.
    - Three of 108 transactions for travel for 2015 were not allocated between the appropriate grant programs.
    - One of 108 transactions for travel for 2015 was posted to the wrong grant program.
    - Two of 118 transactions for travel for 2016 were not allocated between the appropriate grant programs.
    - Two transactions for travel for 2016 were posted to the wrong grant programs.

2. Policy and procedures were not effective to ensure full compliance with Act provisions and to ensure that funds for WR/SFR programs would be used only for purposes allowable by the Act. We identified these instances of non-compliance:
    - FWS's practice for charging personnel time did not fully comply with provisions of the Act. These provisions limit personnel who can charge time to the Act to only full-time staff members who spend 100 percent of their time managing the Act or part-time staff members who do so for at least 20 hours a week (repeat finding).

- $559 allocated to the Act for support costs was not allowed because the funds were not directly attributable to administering the Act.
- $332,952 allocated to the Act for overhead by regions was not allowed because the funds were either already assessed or should have been assessed to the Act by FWS HQ through its cost allocation methodology process.
- $2,075 in travel costs were not allowed because they did not directly relate to managing WR/SFR grants.
- $38,231 in travel costs was not appropriate because they included personal travel at government expense.

FWS continued its efforts to strengthen controls and comply with the Act's provisions through training, monitoring, and other management initiatives. Continued diligence is required for full compliance and to ensure that funds for the programs are used only for purposes allowable by the Act.

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: Ecological Services

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Conserving Our Land and Water

Purpose of Program Evaluation: The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to review deadline litigation brought under Section 4 of the ESA. The report examines (1) the number and scope of deadline suits filed against the Services during fiscal years 2005 through 2015 under Section 4 of the ESA, and (2) the outcomes of these suits and the effect, if any, the suits had on the Services' implementation of our Section 4 programs. GAO-17-304

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: FWS has initiated several changes to help improve Section 4 program implementation, including developing a 7-year work plan that prioritizes the order for completing overdue actions and revising information requirements for listing petitions.

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: Ecological Services

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Conserving Our Land and Water

Purpose of Program Evaluation: To help improve FWS's ability to evaluate the effectiveness of its compensatory mitigation strategies and ensure that the agency appropriately plans the obligations necessary for this purpose. GAO-17-154

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will establish a timetable with milestones for modifying the RIBITS database to incorporate FWS's in-lieu fee program information.

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Fulfilling our Trust and Insular Responsibilities

Purpose of Program Evaluation: To fulfill the secretarial order's directive that FWS manage Midway in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), to ensure that the public, including key parties that have previously expressed interest in historic preservation issues on Midway, are notified about future FWS undertakings that may have an adverse effect on historic properties so that they have an opportunity to provide comment and input. GAO-16-382

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: The FWS Cultural Resources Team, as part of their responsibilities in support of NHPA, developed and will maintain a database of historic resources that tracks maintenance/preservation actions, dates, costs, and participants.

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Bureau: FWS

Title of Program Evaluated: Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program

Strategic Plan Mission Area: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

Purpose of Program Evaluation: To improve transparency in the grant merit-review process

Findings / Actions Taken/Planned in Response to Evaluation: The Service issued an update to the 'Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Template' that all programs use for developing program-specific NOFOs. Also, developed new guidance 'Establishing Written Application Review and Selection Procedures' that ensures discretionary programs include all the required elements from 2 **********CFR 200, Departmental policy, and other best practices in their written procedures.

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Appendix C – Acronym List

21CSC	21st Century Conservation Service Corps	DOE	Department of Energy
AAR	After Action Report	DOI	Department of the Interior
AGO	America's Great Outdoors	DOL	Department of Labor
APD	Application for Permit to Drill	DRR	Dam Reliability Rating
API	Asset Priority Index	EHP	Earthquake Hazard Program
APIPA	Association of Pacific Island Public Auditors	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
APP	Annual Performance Plan	ERP	Energy Resource Program
APP&R	Annual Performance Plan and Report	ESP	Environmental Studies Program
APR	Annual Performance Report	FASS-CMS	Financial Assistance and Social Services – Case Management System
ARPA	Archeological Resources Protection Act		
ARRA	America Recovery and Reinvestment Act	FCI	Facilities Condition Index
AS-IA	Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs	FELD	Forum on Economic and Labor Development
AS-PMB	Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and Budget	FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
		FLETC	Federal Law Enforcement Training Center
AYP	Adequate Yearly Progress	FPPS	Federal Personnel Payroll System
BEA	U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis	FRPP	Federal Real Property Profile
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs	FRR	Facility Reliability Rating
BIE	Bureau of Indian Education	FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service
BIMD	Biological Information and Management Delivery	GAM	Geographic Analysis and Monitoring
		GAO	Government Accountability Office
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	GDP	Gross Domestic Product
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	GIS	Geographic Information System
BOEMRE	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement	GLAS	Guaranteed Loan Accounting System
		GPRA	Government Performance Results Act
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation	GPS	Global Positioning System
BSEE	Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement	GRP	Groundwater Resources Program
		GSN	Global Seismographic Network
CA	Commoditization Agreement	HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
CBRS	Coastal Barrier Resources System	HIP	Housing Improvement Plan
CCS	Cuts, Consolidations, and Savings	HMA	Herd Management Area
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	HPPG	High Priority Performance Goal
		ICQS	Incident Qualification Certification System
CFR	Comprehensive Facility Review	ICWA	Indian Child Welfare Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	IGFOA	Island Government Finance Officers' Association
CFS	Cubic Foot per Second		
CHF	Central Hazardous Materials Fund	IIM	Individual Indian Money
CLEO	Conservation Law Enforcement Officer	ILCO	Indian Land Consolidation Office
CMGP	Coastal and Marine Geology Program	ILCP	Indian Land Consolidation Program
CNMI	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	IMARS	Incident Management Analysis Reporting System
COP	Construction and Operations Plan		
CR	Continuing Resolution	I-READ	Interior Readiness
CSC	Climate Science Center	JOA	Job Opportunity Announcement
CTM	Comprehensive Trust Management	JP&T	Job Placement and Training
CWP	Cooperative Water Program	LCC	Landscape Conservation Cooperative
CWS	Community Water Systems	LEO	Law Enforcement Officer
LH	Labor Hours	OSMRE	

LHP	Landslide Hazard Program		Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
LIDAR	Light Detection And Ranging	OST	Office of Special Trustee
LRS	Land Remote Sensing	OWFM	Office of Wildland Fire Management
LTRO	Land Title and Records Office	OMT	Operations Management Tool
MCO	Mission Critical Occupation	ONRR	Office of Natural Resources Revenue
MMBF	Million Board Feet	OPM	Office of Personnel Management
MR&R	Major Rehabilitations and Replacements	PAM	Office of Acquisitions and Property Management
MRP	Mineral Resource Program		
MTS	Mineral Tracking System	PEP	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act	PFM	Office of Financial Management
NAWQA	National Water Quality Assessment Program	PFR	Periodic Facility Review
		PG	Priority Goal
NCCWSC	National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center	PHR	Office of Human Resources
NCGMP	National Geologic Map Database	PIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
		PNH	Office of Native Hawaiian Relations
NCLB	No Child Left Behind Act of 2001	PYGO	Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act	R&D	Research and Development
NERC	North American Electric Reliability Corporation	REA	Rapid Eco-regional Assessment
NFHS	National Fish Hatchery System	RO&M	Review of Operation and Maintenance
		ROW	Right of Way
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act	RP	Revised Program
NIBRS	National Incident Based Reporting System	SMART	Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow
NIMS	National Incident Management System		
NLCD	National Land Cover Database	SMCRA	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration		
NPS	National Park Service	STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
NREL	National Renewable Energy Lab	T&E	Threatened and Endangered
NSIP	National Streamflow Information Program	T&M	Time and Materials
NTTP	National Technical Training Program	TAOS	Technical Assessment & Operations Support
NWRS	National Wildlife Refuge System	TFAS	Trust Financial Accounting System
O&C	Oregon and California	TLOA	Tribal Law Enforcement Act
O&M	Operations and Maintenance	USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
OCS	Outer Continental Shelf	USERRA	Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act
OEPC	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance		
OIA	Office of Insular Affairs	USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
		VHP	Volcano Hazard Program
OIG	Office of the Inspector General	VRM	Visual Resource Management
OJS	Office of Justice Services	WECC	Western Electricity Coordinating Council
OLES	Office of Law Enforcement and Security	WRIA	Water Resource Inventory Analysis
OMB	Office of Management and Budget	WUI	Wildland-Urban Interface

From: Dermody, Matthew

To: Alan Mikkelsen; Alex Hinson; Alex Sterhan; Andrea Travnicek; Appel, Elizabeth; Aurelia Skipwith; Benjamin Cassidy; Billy Dove; Brenda Burman; Cally Younger; Cara Macdonald; Caroline Boulton; Casey Hammond; Casey Stemler; Catherine Gulac; Christina Summers; Daniel Jorjani; David Bernhardt; Debrah McBride; Doug Domenech; Edward Keable; Eli Nachmany; Elinor Werner; Evan Wilson; Faith Vander Voort; Gareth Rees; Gary Lawkowski; Heather Swift; Hubbel Relat; James Reilly; James Voyles; Jim Cason; Joe Balash; John Bockmier; John Tahsuda; John Tanner; Juliette Lillie; Karen Budd-Falen; Kate MacGregor; Kathleen Benedetto; Katie Mills; Kerry Rae; Lacey Smethers; Lisa Pelstring; Lori Mashburn; Mariagrazia Caminiti; Marshall Critchfield; Matthew Dermody; Maureen Foster; Melissa Beaumont; Micah Chambers; Michael Argo; Moody, Joan; Nikolao Pula; Richard Myers; Ronald Klawitter; Russell Newell; Samantha Hebert; Sarah Jorgenson; Sarah Spaulding; Scott Cameron; Scott Hommel; Shelby Hagenauer; Steve Wackowski; Susan Combs; Tara Sweeney; Tim Petty; Tim Williams; Todd Willens; Todd Wynn; Wendy Fink; Zack Gambill

Subject: Weekly Report to the Secretary November 25-December 1

Date: Wednesday, November 21, 2018 2:15:27 PM

Attachments: Weekly Report to the Secretary November 25-December 1.docx

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All,

Attached is the Weekly Report to the Secretary in both Word and Google Doc formats.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks and have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Matthew Dermody
Special Assistant
Office of the Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
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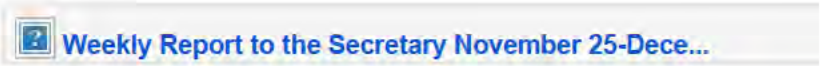
NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.



WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NOVEMBER 25-DECEMBER 1, 2018

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Chief of Staff Scott Hommel will be in the office.

Deputy Chief of Staff Katharine MacGregor will be out of the office on travel November 26 and will return on November 27th. She will be staffing the Secretary in California.

Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations Michael Argo will be in the office.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Deputy Director Russell Newell will be in the office

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

John Tanner, Director, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill all week.

Micah Chambers, Deputy Director will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill all week.

Reports to Congress and Congressional Testimony:

1. **PUBLIC LANDS INFRASTRUCTURE FUND/RESTORE OUR PARKS ACT:** DOI continues the ongoing process of supporting the Public Lands Infrastructure Fund, which was included in both the President's FY19 Budget and the Infrastructure proposals. The House Committee on Natural Resources conducted a business meeting to mark up this legislation ON Wednesday, March 12, 2018. On March 6, 2018, DOI testified at a House Natural Resources oversight hearing on the maintenance issue, highlighting the need for maintenance updates on public lands. On March 7, the Secretary joined Senators Alexander, Daines, Capito, Gardner and Tillis to introduce language that was built off of the FY19 Budget proposal, the National Parks Restoration Act. The bill has bipartisan, bicameral support. On March 20, 2018, the NPS Deputy Director, Daniel Smith testified before the House Natural Resources Federal Lands Subcommittee on the bill. On April 17, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to Examine Deferred Maintenance and Operational Needs of the National Park Service. A compromise between the two competing bills on park maintenance was reached and a new bill, Restore Our Parks Act, was introduced in the Senate. OMB and the Department support the constructs of the text and testified on July 11, 2018 before the Senate Energy committee in support of the legislation. Chairman Bishop, Ranking Member Grijalva and Rep. Simpson

introduced companion legislation in the House on July 25, 2018. On Sept 13, 2018 H.R. 6510 was reported out of the House Natural Resources Committee by voice vote with no recorded "no" votes. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources held a markup for S. 3172 on Tuesday. The bill was reported out of Committee with a vote of 19-4. OCL is working with House and Senate committees and the Secretary is reaching out to congressional leadership to ensure this bill is enacted before the end of the year.
Timing: Ongoing
Contact: Micah Chambers, Deputy Director, Congressional and Legislative Affairs

2. **CONGRESSIONAL ACTION TO IMPROVE FOREST MANAGEMENT AND HELP PREVENT WILDFIRES**
The House-passed Farm bill includes a provision that would create a categorical exclusion to expedite timber salvage operations in response to catastrophic events on public lands. The Senate's version of the Farm bill did not include anything related to timber salvage. The conference committee for the Farm bill is working on their report and the timber salvage language has not been agreed to. OCL is working with Congressional committees on Agriculture, Congressional leadership, and White House office of Legislative Affairs to ensure the House-passed timber catex language is included in the final package that will be voted on by Congress.
Timing: Ongoing
Contact: John Tanner, Director, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

3. **SUSAN COMBS, NOMINEE FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLICY MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET:** Ms. Combs' nomination to this position was announced on July 10, 2017. She was reported favorably out of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on Aug 3, 2017. Her nomination was returned to the President on January 3, 2018. She was re-nominated on January 8, 2018 and reported favorably out of committee again on January 30. She has been awaiting full Senate action since then. Senator Nelson from Florida has a hold on this confirmation; he has indicated that he does not intend to lift his hold until after the Proposed Plan for the national offshore continental shelf oil and gas-leasing program is released. Nelson's office is not responding to phone calls.
It has been 498 days since her nomination was first announced.
Timing: Ongoing until confirmation
Contact: John Tanner, Director, Congressional and Legislative Affairs

4. **DAVID VELA, NOMINEE FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE:** Mr. Vela's nomination was sent to the Senate on September 6. He spent the month of September meeting with Senators prior to his confirmation hearing. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources held a hearing on November 15. OCL sent back his written responses to questions from the Committee on Nov 20.
It has been 75 days since his nomination was received in the Senate.
Timing: Ongoing until confirmation
Contact: John Tanner, Director, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

5. **Aurelia Skipwith, Nominee for the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service:** On November 13, President Donald J. Trump nominated Aurelia Skipwith to be the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Skipwith currently serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks in the Department of the Interior. The Senate Committee for Environment and Public Works will hold a hearing for Ms. Skipwith in early 2019. OCL is working with the nominee to prepare her for the hearing.
   It has been 7 days since she has been nominated.
   Timing: Ongoing until confirmation
   Contact: John Tanner, Director, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Todd Wynn, Director, will be
Ben Cassidy, Senior Deputy Director, will be

Tim Williams, Deputy Director, will be in the office all week.

OFFICE OF RECREATION

Rick May, Senior advisor, will be on personal leave until December 3.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Deputy Secretary David Bernhardt will be in the office all week.

Assistant Deputy Secretary Todd Willens will be in the office all week.

Associate Deputy Secretary Jim Cason will be in the office all week..

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

The Deputy Secretary will sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Defense to implement the Memorandum of Understanding signed in September to expand the role of the DOD liaison at DOI to include all DOD related issues at Interior. Once the MOA is signed by both departments, the liaison will be housed in the Deputy Secretary hallway.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Julie Lillie will be out of the office from Weds. afternoon, November 21 thru Friday, November 23.

Bivan Patnaik will be in the office and Acting for Julie from Wednesday, November 21 thru Friday, November 23.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

- Interagency Reviews Under E.O. 12866—DOI received for comment the following documents that are undergoing E.O. 12866 review at OMB:

  - OPM's final rule on General Schedule Locality Pay Areas-Comments due to OMB by Monday, November 19th.
  - US Forest Service's proposed rulemaking on it's National Environmental Policy Act requirements (RIN 0595-AD31)-Comments due to OMB by Monday, November 26th.
  - CEQ's White Paper on EIS Timelines-Comments due to OMB by Tuesday, November 27th.

- Secretary's Order No. 3371, "The Department of the Interior Freedom of Information Act Program," signed November 20, 2018. This Order designates the Solicitor as the Chief Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer; creates the position of Deputy Chief FOIA Officer (DCFO); establishes a reporting relationship for the Departmental FOIA Officer and Bureau FOIA officers with the DCFO; and creates a team to provide strategic direction for selected FOIA requests that impact Department-level interests.

Committee Meetings:

Made in America Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee - Committee is scheduled to meet via teleconference on November 30, 2018.

National Park System Advisory Board - Board is scheduled to meet on December 5, 2018 in Washington, DC.

Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission - Commission is scheduled to meet on December 7, 2018 in Washington, DC.

FOIA Litigation Awareness Reviews

Here are the likely cases to go into awareness review in the next two weeks:
Environmental Defense Fund (Benjamin Levitan) [1:18-cv-01116/ OS-2017-00541 and OS-2018-00232] Materials concerning Waste Prevention Rule

New Jersey Attorney General (Gurbir Grewal) [1:18-cv-02338/ OS-2018-00986] Materials and FOIA requests concerning 2019-2024 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program

American Oversight (Austin Evers) [1:18-cv-00656/ OS-2018-00344] Resumes and SF-50s for SES personnel

Joel Clement)

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

NON-LITIGATION MATTERS:

BSEE Well Control Rule. BSEE gave an updated version of portions of the rule package to SOL for surname review on November 6. BSEE sent the remaining portions on November 14. SOL will provide its edits and comments by November 20. The BSEE Director has scheduled a surname event with the Deputy Secretary and ASLM on November 29.

BSEE/BOEM FONSI for Pacific Programmatic Environmental Assessment on Drilling Activities. SOL-DMR is reviewing in the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) for future well drilling activities in the Pacific. The PEA and FONSI are currently scheduled to publish on December 4, but this timing and plan may be reconsidered in light of the *EDC v. BOEM* decision (that held a PEA and FONSI for well stimulation activities was immediately challengeable as a final agency action, among other issues).

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

From November 26-30, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Andrea Travnicek will be in the office.

From November 26-30, Deputy Assistant Secretary Aurelia Skipwith will be in the office.

From November 26-30, Deputy Assistant Secretary Ryan Hambleton will be in the office.

From November 26-30, NPS Acting Director Dan Smith will be in the office.

On November 26-30, FWS Principal Deputy Director Margaret Everson will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

NEW ITEMS

On or about November 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice reopening the comment period for the proposal to list the West Coast Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of fisher as a threatened species. The proposed DPS boundary includes northern California, Oregon, and Washington. This notice is not expected to be controversial; however, there are many parties interested in the potential listing including landowners, agencies, tribes,

environmental organizations, and congressionals. Planned outreach includes a regional press release and notifications to congressionals and stakeholders. FWS is required by a court order to submit the final listing determination to the *Federal Register* by March 22, 2019, therefore, the target date for submitting this comment period reopening is November 30.

On December 6, Ft. Niobrara NWR will host a meeting with the NPS to begin a planning effort to colocate Niobrara National Scenic River and Ft. Niobrara NWR operations in Nebraska. The effort will combine office space, visitor services, and law enforcement at one location on refuge land near the Niobrara River. Currently, NPS occupies GSA space in town, and FWS has an old office building and visitor contact station that needs to be replaced. The effort is expected to result in cost savings by combining operations at one facility. The NPS has contracted an architectural and engineering firm to prepare concept drawings to support this effort. (11/21/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

During the week of November 26, FWS will publish in the *Federal Register* a proposed list of revisions to the List of Migratory Birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) - also known as the 10.13 list. The proposed revisions will add 66 species to the list and remove 7, to bring the total number of protected species to 1,085. The proposed update is based on taxonomic changes, or new evidence of natural occurrence in the United States or U.S. territories. The list was last updated in 2013. If-asked talking points will be available. (Updated 11/21/2018)

During the week of November 26, FWS will publish in the *Federal Register*, a list of bird species that are found in the U.S. and its territories, but that are not protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). This list, which consists of nonnative, human-introduced species, is required under the Migratory Bird Treaty Reform Act of 2004. It was last updated in 2005. If-asked talking points will be available. (Updated 11/21/2018)

During the week of November 26, FWS plans to make a final determination on a proposed reclassification of the southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou by defining the entire Southern Mountain Caribou population as a distinct population segment (DPS) and listing it as endangered. In 2012, FWS designated critical habitat for the southern Selkirk Mountains population, which will remain unchanged. Several non-governmental organizations (International Fund for Wildlife, Kettle Range Conservation Group, Selkirk Conservation Alliance, Kootenai Environmental Alliance, Center for Biological Diversity, Idaho Conservation League) will likely view our final determination favorably. The Pacific Legal Foundation (and Bonner County as represented by PLF) is likely to challenge the determination. Idaho may view the listing of the DPS and endangered determination unfavorably. Outreach includes a regional news release, social media, emails, and phone calls. This package has cleared DOI. (Updated 11/21/2018)

During the week of November 26, FWS plans to make a final listing determination for the meltwater lednian stonefly and the western glacier stonefly, located in Montana and

Wyoming. Interested stakeholders include WildEarth Guardians, Xerces Society, Center for Biological Diversity, and the states of Montana and Wyoming. Wyoming has expressed opposition to the listing. Planned outreach will include a regional news release, web updates, and congressional/stakeholder notifications. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/21/2018)

During the week of November 26, FWS plans to propose to designate a nonessential experimental population of California condor in northern California and Oregon to help meet recovery goals for the species. This action is being taken in concert with the NPS and the Yurok Tribe in support of recovery goals for the condors. The condors would be reintroduced at Redwood National Park. The primary state agencies -- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and California Department of Parks and Recreation -- have expressed interest in condor recovery through participation in an MOU. There is a possibility that there may be some localized opposition to condor reintroduction in the area, but FWS does not foresee concerted opposition given California's action banning the use of lead ammunition effective in 2019. There will be a 60-day public comment period for the proposed rule. The Northern California California Condor Restoration Program Environmental Assessment will also be made available for public review and comment. Public meetings will be held in California and Oregon. Planned outreach will include a regional news release and notification to stakeholders, tribes, and members of Congress. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/21/2018)

During the week of November 26, FWS plans to make a final listing determination for the trispot darter, a fish that occurs in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee, propose a 4(d) rule, and propose critical habitat for the darter. In total, approximately 181 river miles and 16,735 acres in the Coosa River system in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee fall within the boundaries of the proposed critical habitat designation. These actions are not controversial. Stakeholders include the Center for Biological Diversity; the states of Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee; and local landowners. The statutory deadline for publication of the final listing rule was October 4. Planned outreach will include notifications to stakeholders and relevant members of Congress and a news release to regional media. This package is pending DOI clearance.(Updated 11/21/2018)

During the week of November 26, FWS plans to announce the availability of 26 draft recovery plan amendments for 42 species across the United States. These 26 draft recovery plan amendments are a subset of a larger effort under way to revise up to 182 recovery plans for up to 305 listed species in order to achieve a Department of the Interior goal of having all recovery plans contain quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species by September 30, 2019. FWS does not anticipate controversy or opposition to the plans, however, there may be some locally controversial species (i.e., Hawaiian petrel, Newell's Townsend's shearwater, and Sacramento prickly poppy). Planned outreach will include a national news release, regional news releases, and notification to stakeholders and partners. Plans will also be posted to web. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/21/2018)

During the week of November 26, FWS plans to propose critical habitat for the Sonoyta mud turtle in Arizona. The proposed designation includes approximately 12 acres in one unit on National Park Service land. As the proposed designation is limited to a small area within National Park Service lands, it is not expected to be controversial. Planned outreach includes a regional news release. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/21/2018)

During the week of November 26, FWS plans to make a proposed listing determination for the Franklin's bumble bee, an invertebrate native to Oregon and California. FWS has also determined that critical habitat designation for this species is not prudent. This action is not expected to be opposed, and media coverage is expected to be neutral. Interested stakeholders include the Xerces Society (the petitioner), U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and local landowners. A regional news release to all interested parties and the media is planned. (Updated 11/21/2018)

During the week of November 26, FWS will publish a notice calling for nominations for individuals to be considered to fill at least two vacancies in the membership of the International Wildlife Conservation Council. The Council advises the Secretary of the Interior on issues including anti-poaching programs, wildlife trafficking, and efforts to increase awareness of the conservation and economic benefits of United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. This notice could be controversial due to ongoing litigation pertaining to the Council and because international wildlife conservation through trophy hunting is a controversial subject nationwide. No outreach is planned. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On or around November 26, FWS and NOAA Fisheries plan to send to OMB the draft final revised regulations pertaining to interagency cooperation pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (50 CFR 402) and the procedures for listing of species and designation of critical habitat pursuant to section 4 of the act (50 CFR 424). They will also send the draft final withdrawal of the blanket 4(d) rule for newly listed threatened species (50 CFR 17) to recognize the difference between endangered and threatened species and align with NOAA Fisheries' current practice. The comment period opened on July 25; it closed September 24. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On or around November 26, FWS will post a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for a request for an incidental take permit in Lewis County and Thurston County, Washington. The applicant, Skookumchuck Wind Energy LLC, is requesting a 30-year permit under the ESA for take of threatened marbled murrelets incidental to operation and maintenance of a new 38-turbine wind energy facility. The applicant also requested incidental take authorization for bald eagles and golden eagles under the Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act in the same the same permit. FWS anticipates take of up to 85 murrelets, 146 bald eagles, and 50 golden eagles over the 30-year term of the permit. Following a public comment period, FWS will evaluate public input, finalize the EIS, and determine whether to issue the permit. This item is potentially controversial. Planned outreach will include a targeted bulletin to local media and notifications to stakeholders and relevant members of Congress.(Updated 11/21/2018)

On or around November 26, FWS will invite tribes and interested parties to comment on a draft environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes a scientific take permit application from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to take common ravens in association with a scientific experiment. This experiment would assess the effects of removing ravens on sage-grouse population recovery in the Baker Priority Area of Conservation, just east of Baker City, Oregon. There will be a 30-day public comment period. There may be some controversy from conservation groups in Oregon. In addition to tribes and interested parties, FWS will notify congressionals of the draft EA. No media outreach is planned. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On or about November 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice announcing the availability of comprehensively revised boundaries for the second batch of Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) units included in the Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project, affecting 310 units in six states: Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York (Long Island), Rhode Island, and Virginia. The notice will announce a 120-day public comment period and also advise of upcoming public meetings to be held via webcast. Landowners, state, and local officials will likely support the removal of certain areas from the CBRS and similarly oppose the addition of such areas to the CBRS. Taxpayer groups, recreational interest groups, and conservation groups will likely support the additions to the CBRS. Outreach will include a news release; letters to Congress, NGOs and federal, state, local, and tribal officials; social media; and a stakeholder outreach toolkit available to local officials. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/21/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

On or around November 26, a proposed change to the implementing regulations for the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) is expected to clear DOI. The rule: 1) defines the scope of the MBTA as it applies to conduct resulting in the injury or death of protected migratory birds and 2) reduces permitting burdens by modifying existing permit exceptions and proposing new ones. This proposed regulation will be consistent with the Department Solicitor's Opinion M–37050. After clearing DOI, the rule has to go to OMB-OIRA for interagency review, which usually takes 90 days. FWS will coordinate with DOI regarding outreach. (Updated 11/14/2018)

On November 30, FWS will host information webinars outlining next steps in developing a 12-month finding on a petition to list the monarch butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. Attendees include state agency directors and tribal staff. FWS was petitioned to list the monarch in 2014 and issued a positive 90-day finding indicating the petition was substantial. FWS is now finalizing a species status assessment and evaluating the monarch conservation database and other information to determine whether listing the monarch is warranted. The 12-month finding is due June 30, 2019. (Updated 11/14/2018)

On November 30, FWS plans to release a draft comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment (CCP/EA) for Ruby Lake NWR, located in northeastern Nevada. The draft CCP/EA describes and evaluates alternatives for management and use of

Ruby Lake NWR for the next 15 years. The region will host a public open house in Elko, Nevada, on December 11 to share information and receive input on the draft plan. The plan is a bit controversial locally because any change to water levels may affect the fishing. The refuge is working to address this concern. (11/14/2018)

On or around November 30, FWS anticipates opening the 45-day public comment period for the draft National Bison Range comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and environmental impact statement (EIS). This will permit FWS to publish the final EIS by April 26, 2019, in compliance with Secretarial Order 3355. The draft CCP and EIS detail three alternatives that would guide management of the refuge, located in western Montana, during the next 15 years. Outreach, including a news release and public meetings, will be sent to DOI for approval following feedback from the November 2 briefing about the EIS with the Mountain-Prairie Regional Director and DOI. (Updated 10/31/2018)

On or around December 1, FWS plans to publish the FY 2016 Recovery Report to Congress. The Recovery Report provides an update on the progress of federally protected species toward recovery between October 1, 2014, and September 30, 2016 (fiscal years 2015 and 2016). FWS does not anticipate controversy or opposition to the report. Planned outreach will include congressional notifications and posting the report to the web. (Updated 11/07/2018)

National Park Service

NEW ITEMS

On or around November 30, a contract will be awarded for a report summarizing public comment received on the Alaska Sport Hunting and Trapping proposed rule. On November 16, the NPS issued a solicitation for vendors to submit proposals for content analysis of this public comment. (11/21/2018)

On or after November 30, Olympic National Park expects to begin a 30-day public scoping period for a proposed road relocation and rehabilitation project. The road is the Olympic Hot Springs Road in the Elwha Valley in Olympic National Park. An environmental assessment will be prepared for the project, which will be released for public review in March or April 2019. A public meeting is scheduled to held in Port Angeles, Washington, on December 13. (11/21/2018)

By December 1, National Register staff will return documentation for the Water Avenue Historic District in Selma, Alabama, to the nominating authority. This submission updates the existing 2005 National Register listing and proposes expansion of the district's boundary to include archeological resources along the banks and on the bottom of the Alabama River as well as the Edmund Pettus Bridge. The proposed changes were supported by the Alabama State Historic Preservation Officer and state review board, who forwarded letters of opposition from Alabama State Senator Jim McClendon and from a sport diver, raising concerns regarding restriction of access to submerged resources. Listing the National Register does not affect public access to submerged sites, and the state of Alabama issues

permits that grant access to wrecks and submerged sites by sport and recreational divers, provided they do not excavate or remove artifacts from the site. (11/21/2018)

On December 3, Ninety Six National Historic Site in South Carolina will host a public meeting to discuss the park's Environmental Assessment and Equestrian Use Management Plan. The draft environmental assessment will be released to the public for a 30-day comment period on November 19. (11/21/2018)

On December 3, a press release will announce changes to Jewel Cave National Monument's visitor center hours and days of operation, which will be temporarily reduced from December 17 through February 2019. This change coincides with the scheduled closure of the cave in order to make necessary improvements for visitor safety. (11/21/2018)

On or around December 6, the Northeast Regional Director will sign the Hopewell Furnace National Historical Site Trail Plan Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The selected action will improve wayfinding and signage throughout the park and add a 0.8 mile hiking trail to connect the western and eastern areas of the park. The improvements will include signage, which will allow the trail users to move seamlessly from adjacent public land to the park land, provide clarity of trail use, and ensure the safety of trail users. The availability of the signed FONSI will be announced through the park website, park social media, and a press release to local newspapers. (11/21/2018)

On December 7, Padre Island National Seashore is set to release Novillo Line Camp: Natural, Cultural, and Visitor Use Enhancements Environmental Assessment (EA) for a 30-day comment period. The EA analyzes the environmental effects to develop an Interpretive Trail and Boardwalk. The boardwalk would provide visitors access to the seashore to see the historic features and to learn about the island's ranching history. Construction through the dunes will mitigate the visual impact of the boardwalk within the historic landscape and will avoid impacts from construction in wetlands. (11/21/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

On November 30, George Washington Memorial Parkway will begin work on the third and final phase of the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial rehabilitation project. This phase will improve infrastructure, lighting and landscaping. This work complements the recent rehabilitation of the memorial, which included adding new engravings. The NPS will plan a formal celebration with the U.S. Marine Corps at the end of the project, sometime in 2019. This project was made possible by a $5.37 million donation by David Rubenstein. The Notice to Proceed was issued on November 9. Originally scheduled for October 9, the issuance was delayed because the contractor was unable to provide several deliverables necessary to proceed. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On December 3**,** Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park will open a 30-day public review period for the draft Environmental Assessment to reconstruct, raise and stabilize the historic stone wall and one-mile stretch of towpath from McMahon's Mill to Lock 42 in Williamsport, Maryland. The project will reduce the impacts of high water, which

deteriorates historic features of the towpath and degrades the park visitor experience. (Updated 11/21/2018)

Between December 7-10, Arlington Memorial Bridge will be closed to all traffic. The closure is scheduled to begin at 9 p.m. on Friday, December 7, and end at 5 a.m. on Monday, December 10. The closure will allow workers to transfer the weight of the former draw span to temporary supports. Workers will also begin cutting the former draw span and preparing it for removal. The date of this work may change if there is bad weather or if workers encounter unexpected complications. (Updated 11/21/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

During the month of November and the first half of December, the South Florida NPS units will sponsor three Marine Protected Area (MPA) managers/scientists from Indonesia through the DOI International Technical Assistance Program. They will shadow NPS staff to learn about the various activities required to set up and manage MPAs in south Florida. Throughout their trip NPS will coordinate meetings and field trips to interact with our Federal, State, University, and non-profit partners. (Updated 10/31/2018)

On November 26, Grand Teton National Park will initiate a 30-day public comment period on a Mountain Goat Management Plan/Environmental Assessment. Mountain goats are not native to the park. Without immediate intervention, the mountain goat population is expected to grow rapidly and could contribute to the potential extirpation of the native bighorn sheep herd within the park. The plan analyzes three alternatives; 1) no action, 2) lethal removal, and 3) lethal and nonlethal removal (preferred alternative). The preferred alternative includes several tactical options that allow for capture and translocation activities with other federal and state wildlife agencies, accredited zoos, and/or other authorized entities in acquiring goats, as well as lethal removal. A public open house in Jackson, Wyoming, will be held during the comment period. There is no stated opposition at this time, but possible interest from animal rights organizations and hunters is anticipated. Local and regional media attention is also likely. (Updated 1/14/2018)

On or after November 26, the NPS will announce the award of six Battlefield Land Acquisition grants, funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The grants will be awarded to Government sponsors, in partnership with non-profits, for battlefield protection through fee simple and easement purchase. The grants will total $1,528,318.83 and protect 396 acres at five Civil War battlefields: Averasborough, NC; Bentonville, NC; Fisher's Hill, VA; Opequon, VA; and Summit Point, WV. (11/14/2018)

Between November 26-30, the Deputy Director Exercising the Authority of the Director will issue a letter congratulating six tribes in Virginia that received Federal recognition via H.R. 984, the Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2017. The six new federally recognized tribes are: Chickahominy Indian Tribe, Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., Chickahominy Indian Tribe - Eastern Division, Upper Mattaponi Tribe, Nansemond Indian Tribe, and the Monacan Indian Nation. (Updated 11/14/2018)

Between November 26-30, the NPS will release an environmental assessment for safety improvements for Memorial Circle area of the George Washington Memorial Parkway for a 30-day public review. The purpose of this project is to improve transportation safety at and near the circle, reduce risks at key locations within the corridor and reduce conflicts among trail, walkway, and roadway users, while maintaining the memorial character of the area. The review will be announced via news release. (11/07/2018)

Between November 26 - December 7, Manassas National Battlefield Park is planning a 35-45 acre controlled burn. In addition to maintaining the park's cultural landscape and improving wildlife habitat, the burn takes a proactive planned approach to fire management. The park successfully completed its first-ever controlled burn in April 2018. A burn scheduled for September 2018 was postponed because of especially wet weather conditions. (Updated 10/31/2018)

On November 28, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area will meet with the Navajo Nation and representatives from their Department of Justice to discuss future operations at Antelope Point Marina, proposed amendments to the 1970 Quadrilateral Agreement, the 1994 Memorandum of Understanding and 2003 Bridge Agreement – all of which expire in 2020. The Quadrilateral Agreement was signed by the BIA, BOR, NPS, Secretary of the Interior, and Navajo Nation. The agreement provides a mechanism for the administration, development and management of commercial and recreational facilities along the shared GLCA/Navajo Nation boundary. The 1994 MOU was signed by the NPS, BIA, and Navajo Nation concerning the development concept plan (DCP) for Antelope Point, and is tiered from the Quadrilateral Agreement. The 2003 Bridge Agreement between the Navajo Nation and the NPS details the administration of the Antelope Point area. This agreement also tiers off the Quadrilateral Agreement and 1994 MOU. This meeting is a follow up to continue discussions that began during a May 23, 2018, meeting. (Updated 11/14/2018)

On November 28, the 400 Years of African-American History Commission will hold its first meeting at Fort Monroe, Virginia. Authorized by Public Law 115-102, the purpose of the commission is to develop and carry out activities throughout the United States to commemorate the arrival of enslaved Africans in the English colonies in 1619. (11/14/2018)

Through November 30, at night, workers will close several lanes on roads that pass under the east and west ends of Arlington Memorial Bridge. The closures will occur on Washington Boulevard, the northbound lanes of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. The contractor will detour drivers during the closures. The closures are necessary in order to remove granite balustrades from the bridge. (11/07/2018)

On November 30, the 30-day comment period will close for the for the General Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement for Point Reyes National Seashore and the north district of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The park will host public meetings on November 14 and 15. (Updated 11/07/2018).

On November 30, the Made in America Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee will be holding a teleconference to discuss draft recommendations on how the DOI reorganization can be structured and implemented to encourage public-private partnerships and expanded recreational opportunities. (10/17/2018)

In late November, Golden Gate National Recreation Area will begin setup by artists of the exhibit *Future IDs at Alcatraz*. As part of the park's Arts in Parks program this exhibit highlights the history of incarceration at Alcatraz, and a perspective from incarcerated persons into the challenges and opportunities of reentry into society. Works/performances of artists who have been incarcerated have been displayed on Alcatraz in the past, offering an opportunity to reflect on today's stories and experiences of systems-impacted individuals while reflecting on Alcatraz Island's history. (11/07/2018)

Until December 2, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site will commemorate the 150th anniversary of Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer's attack on the sleeping village of noted Cheyenne Peace Chief Black Kettle. Events will begin on November 24. On November 27, the actual anniversary date, there will be a special sunrise ceremony and then Cheyenne Public School students will join later in the day through the work of our Teacher Ranger Teacher program. On December 1, the park will host a commemoration event. Representative Frank Lucas will participate as well as community and tribal leaders and state officials. The event will include a ground-breaking ceremony for new accessible facilities. (11/14/2018)

On December 2, the Old Stone House at Rock Creek Park will partially reopen with the rest opening in 2019 following upgrades to exhibits. To welcome the community back to the renovated facility, the park will host a public holiday open house (weather-permitting) on December 15. The site has been closed since late October 2017 for a fire suppression system installation and structural rehabilitation. Old Stone House - built in 1765 - is the oldest intact building in Washington, DC. (11/16/2018)

On or after December 3, NPS will release the Joshua Tree National Park's Cottonwood Area Visitor Center/Environmental Assessment for a 30-day public review and comment. The document addresses proposed facility improvements to visitor use management at Joshua Tree National Park. The project is situated in the Cottonwood area in the southeast portion of the park. The plan addresses immediate and long-term issues concerning resource protection, visitor use, and administration of the Cottonwood Springs visitor center area and associated trails. The plan provides guidance on improvements to areas including the visitor center, and associated trails, as well as improvements to supporting NPS operational facilities such as the maintenance area buildings, fee station, staff housing, and staff offices. DSC is providing project management support to develop and release the EA, in coordination with the region and the park personnel. (11/14/2018)

Between December 4-18**,** the acting National Capital Regional Director is expected to sign a Finding of No Significant Impact for the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Arlington County and Vicinity Boathouse Environmental Assessment FONSI (Plan/EA). The plan/EA evaluates the proposed construction and operation of a non-motorized boathouse on lands

administered by the George Washington Memorial Parkway along the Potomac River along with a series of low-impact access points to the river to accommodate canoes and kayakers. While originally scheduled for early November, a delay in the state historic preservation office pushed back the signing. (Updated 10/31/2018)

On December 5, the National Park System Advisory Board will be holding its meeting in Washington, DC. The Board advises the NPS Director and the Secretary on matters relating to the NPS, the National Park System, and programs administered by the NPS. (10/03/2018)

On December 7, the NPS Southeast Region is requesting to schedule a briefing for the Executive Review Team in order to release the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (BISO) Contaminated Mine Drainage Mitigation and Treatment System Plan for publication. The briefing is required by Step 5 of the DOI NEPA Document Clearance Process. The administrative draft, draft record of decision, and briefing materials will be submitted to the Review Team no less than one week prior to the scheduled briefing, as requested. Expected participants, in addition to the Review Team, are listed on the briefing request form that was submitted. (11/14/2018)

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

NEW ITEMS

By December 28, FWS will award up to $200,000 in small ($25,000 or less) grants for white-nose syndrome (WNS) communications and research, administered by the Wildlife Management Institute. The grants will be awarded to non-federal government applicants addressing three priority topics: outreach, education programs, and tools for communicating about WNS; gaps in knowledge of bat life history, habits, and ecological interactions relevant to managing WNS; and tools and strategies to improve survival rates for bats vulnerable to WNS. No news release is planned. FWS will coordinate with grant recipients for individual outreach. (11/21/2018)

On or around December 14, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice announcing a six-month extension of the final determination of whether to list the Panama City crayfish, found in Florida, as a result of substantial scientific disagreement concerning the species. This notice will also reopen the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days. The Panama City crayfish listing is controversial, but filing a six-month extension is not expected to be controversial. Stakeholders include St. Joe's Development Company, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and city and county governments. In addition, U.S. Representative Neal Dunn has expressed opposition to the proposed listing of the species. The statutory deadline for publication of the extension notice is January 3, 2019; therefore, FWS plans to submit it to the *Federal Register* by December 14.

On or around December 14, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice of availability (NOA) announcing the availability of a second batch of 29 draft recovery plan amendments for 42 species across the United States. These recovery plan amendments are a subset of a larger effort under way to revise up to 182 recovery plans for up to 305 listed species in order to achieve the Department of the Interior Agency Priority Performance Goal: "By September 30, 2019, 100% of all Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plans will have quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species." FWS does not anticipate controversy or opposition to the plans; however, there may be some locally controversial issues. Planned outreach includes a national news release, with regional news releases and notification of stakeholders and partners. Plans will also be posted to the web.

UPDATED ITEMS

On or around December 10, FWS and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team will announce completion of the final recovery plan for the jaguar. The plan sets goals for improving the species' status through its entire 19-country range and provides a framework for achieving recovery. The recovery plan focuses on the cat's population in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States – recommending site-specific conservation actions and borderland dispersal corridors such that the population can most effectively rebound and contribute to the entire species' recovery. Recovery team and cooperating partners have been advised. Planned outreach includes news release, social media, and emails to congressional offices and stakeholders. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On or around January 10, FWS plans to publish a proposed rule to allow the baiting of brown bears on Kenai NWR, which is permitted under Alaska state hunting regulations. The rule would also allow the discharge of firearms along the Kenai and Russian rivers during certain times of the year; allow the use of snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and utility task vehicles on certain lakes when there is adequate snow and ice cover; and increase access to the refuge by bicycle and game cart. This proposed rule would be available for a 60-day public comment period and is likely to be strongly opposed by those who believe that baiting of wildlife for hunting is unethical or who oppose hunting (particularly of large predatory mammals). FWS plans to notify stakeholders directly by email and issue a news release to Alaska media announcing the proposed rule and public comment period. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On or around January 18, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed delisting determination on the Borax lake chub, an endemic fish species in Oregon, due to recovery. The primary threats to the chub have been reduced or eliminated. Potential stakeholders include the state, The Nature Conservancy, and the Bureau of Land Management. This action is not controversial. FWS does not anticipate negative reaction from environmental groups. This action will likely receive the most interest at the local and regional level. Planned outreach includes a regional news release and communication with congressional offices, local, and state officials, and invested stakeholders. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On or around January 18, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed delisting determination on the running buffalo clover, located in Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio,

Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. FWS has developed a regional news release, a Flickr site for images, social media, fact sheet, and FAQs. Stakeholders include members of Congress and recovery partners, including state agencies. Some NGOs could question the delisting proposal because one of the delisting criterion was not met in the exact manner specified in the recovery plan. (Updated 11/21/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

On or around December 5, FWS will release a draft habitat conservation plan and environmental assessment for a 30-day public comment period for North Allegheny Wind LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Duke Energy Renewables Inc. The company prepared a habitat conservation plan at its 35-turbine North Allegheny Wind facility in Blair and Cambria counties, Pennsylvania, for the long-term conservation of the endangered Indiana bat. The plan would cover 25 years of operation and includes measures to avoid and minimize impacts to Indiana bats, primarily through feathering turbines during high-risk periods. A local news release is planned. (Updated 11/14/2018)

On or around December 14, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final rule revising the nonessential experimental population (NEP) of red wolves in North Carolina under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act. FWS anticipates opposition from North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and the North Carolina Farm Bureau, as they have officially requested the termination of this NEP. While some nearby landowners favor the previous rule, others are in favor of the revised rule. The governor's office has expressed support for maintaining the existing NEP. Although national and local environmental groups will support the continuation of an NEP in North Carolina, they will likely oppose any alternative that does not provide full protection under the Endangered Species Act. Interested stakeholders include Defenders of Wildlife, the Red Wolf Coalition, Red Wolf Species Survival Plan cooperators, and other non-governmental organizations that support red wolf conservation. Planned outreach includes a news release, social media, emails, and phone calls to congressional offices and stakeholders. FWS is a defendant in a lawsuit brought by the Red Wolf Coalition challenging previous red wolf actions. (Updated 11/14/2018)

On or around December 14, FWS plans to publish the FY 2017 Federal and State Endangered and Threatened Species Expenditures Report to Congress. This report provides a compilation of reasonably identifiable expenditures for the conservation of listed species reported independently by federal and state agencies. Expenditures are reported for species that were listed during FY 2017 through September 30, 2017. FWS does not anticipate controversy or opposition to the report. Planned outreach includes congressional notifications and posting the report to the FWS website. (Updated 11/07/2018)

On or around December 14, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to delist the gray wolf due to recovery. This proposed rule does not have any effect on the separate listing of the Mexican wolf as endangered under the ESA. This proposal will replace the June 13, 2013, proposed rule to delist the gray wolf in the contiguous United States and Mexico. The ESA listing status of the gray wolf in the United States will continue to garner a high level of interest from states, tribes, sportsmen, and non-governmental organizations. This

action is expected to be controversial. FWS expects that a rulemaking resulting in delisting gray wolves will be litigated by one or more opposing stakeholders. Planned outreach includes a national news release, social media, emails, and phone calls. (Updated 10/31/2018)

On or around December 14, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* 12-month findings on petitions to list 13 species: Cedar Key mole skink, Florida sandhill crane, Fremont County rockcress, Frisco buckwheat, Ostler's peppergrass, Frisco clover, MacGillivray's seaside sparrow, Ozark pyrg, pale blue-eyed grass, San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly, striped newt, Tinian monarch, and Tippecanoe darter. FWS does not anticipate these actions to be controversial. Planned outreach will include news releases, with supporting FAQs as needed, and notifications to stakeholders and members of Congress. FWS is required by settlement agreement to submit the finding for MacGillivray's seaside sparrow to the *Federal Register* by December 14.

On or around December 14, FWS will announce availability of the draft recovery plan for the eastern massasauga rattlesnake for a 30-day comment period. The snake was listed in 2016 as threatened. FWS has worked with state agencies and other experts to develop the plan, which outlines management actions and criteria needed to achieve delisting. Among management actions are habitat protection and management, population management and monitoring, education and outreach, and research. A news release is planned. FWS will have some key messages to address any possible controversy that this recovery plan promotes the recovery of a venomous snake. (Updated 11/14/2018)

By December 14, FWS plans to publish a proposed rule for the 2019 spring/summer Alaska subsistence migratory bird harvest for a 30-day public review and comment period. In order for the 2019 spring/summer subsistence migratory bird hunting to occur legally, the final rule must be published by April 2. Only administrative changes are being proposed, and the publication of both the proposed and final rules is not controversial. FWS will distribute a press release to Alaska media and send email notification to stakeholders when both the proposed and final rules are published. (10/24/2018)

On or around January 4, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to designate critical habitat of approximately 36 stream miles and 3,100 acres of occupied habitat for the meltwater lednian stonefly and approximately 6.5 stream miles and 643 acres of occupied habitat for the western glacier stonefly. All populations of western glacier stonefly and all but one population of meltwater lednian stonefly occur on federal land (NPS and U.S. Forest Service). One population of meltwater lednian stonefly occurs on tribal land. All populations of both species are located in Montana and Wyoming and occur in wilderness or areas managed as wilderness. Planned outreach will include a regional news release, web updates and congressional/stakeholder notifications. (Updated 11/14/2018)

On or around January 4, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed critical habitat designation for the Texas hornshell in New Mexico and Texas. The proposed designation includes 463 river miles. FWS is considering the exclusion of 345 river miles of the proposed critical habitat designation due to a current Candidate Conservation Agreement

and Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances, and national security concerns. Interested stakeholders include water users (e.g., river authorities or agricultural industry), congressional delegations, and the state game and fish agencies. Planned outreach includes a news release and FAQs. (Updated 11/14/2018)

On or around January 11, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed listing determination and proposed critical habitat designation for the Wright's marsh thistle, a plant native to New Mexico. FWS will propose 64 acres of critical habitat. This action is not expected to be opposed, and media coverage is expected to be neutral. Interested stakeholders include WildEarth Guardians (the petitioner), U.S. Forest Service, Mescalero Apache Tribe, the State of New Mexico, and local landowners. A regional news release to all interested parties and the media is planned. (Updated 11/14/2018)

On or around January 11, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed listing determination and proposed 4(d) rule on the Hermes copper butterfly, located in San Diego County, California, and Baja California, Mexico. FWS will also propose critical habitat for the species in California. The proposed critical habitat designation covers approximately 35,200 acres in San Diego County, California. Approximately 30 percent of the designation is on federal land, 15 percent is on state land, and the remainder is on local or privately owned land. FWS is exempting 2,389 acres of land from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. These actions are not expected to be controversial. Stakeholders include the State of California, federal and state agencies, tribes, the Center for Biological Diversity, San Diego Natural History Museum, Xerces Society, U.S. Marine Corps, and local landowners. Planned outreach will include a regional news release, Congressional notifications, and stakeholder outreach to local governments, including county agencies, tribes, the public, scientific entities, and conservation groups. (Updated 11/14/2018)

National Park Service

NEW ITEMS

(CLOSE HOLD) During the week of December 10, the NPS will announce the contract award for food & beverage services and other associated services at Stinson Beach within Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The new 10-year contract will offer similar services as the existing contract. (11/21/2018)

The NPS first nationwide fee-free day will occur on January 21, 2019, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The other fee free days will be April 20, First Day of National Park Week/National Junior Ranger Day; August 25, National Park Service Anniversary; September 28, National Public Lands Day; November 11, Veterans Day. The public announcement was made on November 19. (11/21/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

On January 18, the prospectus for glacier landing air taxis and scenic tours at Denali will close. The Alaska Region issued the prospectus on November 8. By November 15, the

Alaska Region will issue a prospectus for glacier landing air taxis and scenic tours at Denali National Park and Preserve. This solicitation is for four concession contracts, with a 10-year term of January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2029. (Updated 11/21/2018)

ONGOING

During December, the District of Columbia's Department of Energy and the Environment will release a Feasibility Study for the Anacostia River Sediments Project. This study was originally planned for release in late September / early October but has been delayed. The Feasibility Study is an evaluation of alternatives to remediate contamination within the river sediments that include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, polychlorinated biphenyls, pesticides, and metals. The National Park Service is a co-lead on this effort due to our jurisdiction over the bed of the Anacostia River using the NPS Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act authority. The release of the study will be followed by a 30-day comment period. (09/26/2018)

On December 10-11, Lake Mead National Recreation Area will hold public meetings for the General Management Plan Amendment/Low-Water Plan (EA). The plan provides a long-term strategy for addressing operational needs to maintain lake access and provide safe and diverse recreational opportunities at lake elevations above 950 feet. (10/31/2018)

On December 11, the public comment period closes for development concept ideas for the residence area of Jimmy Carter National Historic Site. The effort would guide park management in decisions about future cultural and natural resource conditions, as well as visitor experience opportunities for the structures, facilities and gardens associated with the Carter home. (11/14/2018)

On December 14, the NPS Southeast Region is scheduled to brief the Executive Review Team in order to release the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Big Cypress National Preserve Backcountry Access Plan and Wilderness Study for public review. This briefing is required by Step 4 of the DOI NEPA Document Clearance Process. The administrative draft and briefing materials will be submitted to the Review Team one week prior to the scheduled briefing. The request letter was sent the week of November 5. (11/21/2018)

On or about January 5, the NPS will assume front desk operations at the First Ladies National Historic Site (FILA) in Canton, Ohio, from the nonprofit partner that has been providing that service. This is another step in the partnership transition. The on-site non-profit partner, the National First Ladies Library (NFLL), will now focus on building a philanthropic program, creating volunteer opportunities, developing research education programs, networking with other sites and organizations that share the park mission, and advocating for the National Historic Site. The NPS will be responsible for Site management, maintenance, preservation, and operations. (10/31/2018)

On or around April 2019, the NPS will display an exhibit on Treasured Landscapes at the United Nations Headquarters in New York for the annual kickoff of the upcoming General

Assembly. The request was made through the office of UN Ambassador Nikki Haley. (Updated 09/05/2018)

Awareness

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

NEW ITEMS

FWS has received complaints that a veterinarian associated with an FWS-permitted Manatee Rescue, Rehabilitation and Release program (MRP) improperly treated manatees under the authority of the MRP. FWS approved the program under the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act and U.S. Endangered Species Act. In response to the information in the complaints, FWS is requiring that MRP-associated zoos prohibit the veterinarian from undertaking any activity with manatees while FWS evaluates the situation more fully. The affected zoos are ZooTampa, Homosassa, and Jacksonville Zoo. ZooTampa and Homassasa, where incidents allegedly occurred, have received letters from FWS notifying them that the veterinarian is prohibited from activities involving manatees. Jacksonville Zoo, for which no incidents have been reported to FWS, received a similar letter. (11/21/2018)

In 1993, under U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act authority, FWS placed a young polar bear called Yupik on permanent loan with a Mexican zoo via a Letter of Authorization (LOA). On November 13, an NGO shared with FWS a Mexican news report that Yupik had died. Subsequently, on November 13, FWS received a letter from the zoo that provided notification of Yupik's death and information required as a condition of the LOA. A group of NGOs previously alleged poor treatment of the bear by the zoo and evaluation of the allegations by FWS resulted in a September 28 proposed revocation of the LOA. Those same NGOs are now calling for repatriation of the bear’s body. FWS is working with the Solicitor's office to determine its next steps. (11/21/2018)

The Woolsey Fire in California burned significant portions of the Santa Monica Mountains, impacting habitat for several federally listed species and consuming 83 percent of NPS land in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Species impacted by the Woolsey Fire may include California red-legged frogs, least Bell’s vireos, southwestern willow flycatchers, Coastal California gnatcatchers, and several plants including the Santa Monica Mountains dudleya, Conejo dudleya, Marcescent dudleya, Lyon’s pentachaeta, Braunton’s milkvetch, and Santa Cruz Island fringepod. When deemed safe, FWS will work with NPS and other land managers to survey portions of burned areas to gain a better understanding of the impacts and recovery strategies for listed species. (11/21/2018)

Migrant caravans are expected to arrive in the San Diego region over the next several days and request asylum in the United States. FWS anticipates higher Customs and Border Protection (CBP) activity along the shoreline of Border Field State Park and Tijuana Slough NWR during this time as operations are increased in anticipation of the arrival of migrant caravans. The caravans are expected to go to the San Ysidro Port of Entry. If the Port of Entry closes or is overwhelmed with processing requests for asylum, CBP indicated the

potential for mass excursions of migrants into Border Field State Park, and by extension, into Tijuana Slough NWR, which is approximately one mile north from the U.S.-Mexico border. (11/21/2018)

National Park Service

NEW ITEMS

On November 15, Point Reyes National Seashore was notified by the Stewart Horse Camp concession operator that they will not be able to fulfill their contract to operate during 2019. The park is working to identify potential options to maintain operations at this location. There is strong interest in this issue from the equestrian community and they have conducted a letter writing campaigns urging the park to keep equestrian services available to the public. (11/21/2018)

On or after November 20 (pending DOI approval), the NPS will announce the award of nine grants to State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices for the recovery of historic sites damaged by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. The grants total $48,500,000. Funds were appropriated as emergency supplemental funding from the Historic Preservation Fund.

ONGOING ITEMS

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument continues to see a presence of individuals claiming affiliation with Veterans on Patrol (VOP). The VOP leader is a self-described veterans' rights activist turned advocate for those impacted by the migrant sex trafficking trade. VOP was connected with the Malheur Refuge occupation and the Bundy standoff. VOP members conduct "patrols" in areas accessible to the public that are situated along the United States/Mexico international border. VOP members practice the open carry of firearms while within the Monument. Information gained from recent contacts with VOP indicate their intentions to be in the area for a sustained period of time (approximately three months). NPS law enforcement personnel remain in close communication with the NPS Investigative Services Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Border Patrol and Pima County Sheriff's Office regarding the aforementioned activities. (11/7/2018).

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs (AS-IA) Tara Sweeney will be in the office. On November 28, 2018, she will address the BIA Providers Conference by video from Washington, DC to address her framework for Indian Affairs to empower Indian Country.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs (PDAS-IA) John will be in Anchorage, Alaska, to meet with Tribes on Friday, November 30 to discuss the unique history, challenges, and opportunities faced by Alaska Native Tribes recognized under the 1936

amendments to the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) and how the amendments impact BIA services to them.

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Economic Development (DAS-PED) Mark Cruz will be in the office.

Acting Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Director Darryl LaCounte will be in the office.

BIA Deputy Director – Field Operations Jim James will be in the Albuquerque office.

Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Director Tony Dearman will be teleworking this week.

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary–Management (DAS-M) Jason Freihage will be in the office.

Acting Chief of Staff Rich Myers will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

UPDATED ITEMS

AS-IA is expected to approve the following Tribal-State gaming compact amendments this week: Osage Nation, Kaw Nation, Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, Santa Ynes, Dry Creek, Karuk Tribe, Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians, La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians, Mechoopda Indian Tribe, San Pasqual Band, Torrez Martinez Desert Cahilla Indians, and Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians.

On December 5 - 6, 2018, Indian Affairs will hold the last two of five tribal consultation sessions in Bethel and Kotzebue, Alaska, to discuss how it might better implement the Alaska IRA's federal acknowledgement provisions and the legal authority of the Secretary to take land into trust in Alaska, per the Dear Tribal Leader and Dear Alaska Native Corporation CEO letters dated July 2, 2018.

ONGOING ITEMS

November 24, 2018, is the due date for approval of Seminole Tribe of Florida's amendments to its Revenue Allocation Plan to allow per capita payments away from a set dollar amount to a percentage allocated among a range of categories. The Amendment provides the Tribe with flexibility in annual budgetary needs and dispenses with the need for the Tribe to amend the RAP twice a yearly (once based on the annual budget projection and again based on actual expenses).

On November 30, 2018, PDAS-IA Tahsuda will lead a listening session with Tribal leaders

and Alaska Native Corporations on the Alaska amendment to the Indian Reorganization Act.

Early December is the Office of Indian Gaming's target date for briefing PDAS-IA Tahsuda on the Redding Rancheria's application to acquire land in trust in Shasta County, California, in order to relocate its existing Win River gaming facility. The Department signed an agreement with the Tribe to close its existing casino prior to opening the new casino.

December 2, 2018, is the due date for approval of Tunica-Biloxi Indian Tribe's amendments to its Revenue Allocation Plan to resume limited per capita payments to minor tribal members and provide for enhanced services for elderly tribal members' healthcare and housing assistance. The Amendment also creates a permanent endowment fund to provide support and stability to tribal programs and services. The Tribe has requested a meeting with ASIA in mid-October.

December 2-4, 2018, BIA Chief of Division of Facilities, Maintenance, and Construction will participate in the National Council for School Facilities annual meeting in Washington, DC.

December 3, 2018, the AS-IA Senior Policy Advisor will attend the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Inter-Tribal Work Group (ITWG) meeting in Palm Springs, California.

December 4, 2018, the AS-IA Senior Policy Advisor will present at the Tribal Law & Order Act (TLOA), Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse (IASA), Tribal Action Plan Work Group (TAP) workshop called Essentials for Developing a Community-Driven Tribal Action Plan.

December 5, 2018, is the due date for approval of the Kaw Nation's modification to its Off-Track Wagering Compact, which has been in effect since May of 2001. The existing Compact specified a location for Off-Track Wagering in Newkirk, Oklahoma. The Tribe and the State negotiated a modification to change the location to the Tribe's trust land in Braman, Oklahoma, which is eligible for gaming. The Office of Indian Gaming recommends that the Amendment be approved. If approved, ASIA will sign a Federal Register Notice and approval letters to the Osage Nation and the Governor of Oklahoma, as well as the Compact Amendment. This compact amendment makes no substantive changes to the underlying Off-Track Wagering Compact approved by AS-IA on May 25, 2001.

December 5, 2018, the AS-IA Senior Policy Advisor will participate on a SAMHSA Opioid panel workshop to discuss TLOA IASA activities related to Interior.

December 5, 2018, is the tentative date for a Senate Committee on Indian Affairs oversight hearing for BIE and BIA to provide an update on the status of addressing GAO's recommendations for Indian energy and the BIE.

The final approval letter for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan's Revenue Allocation Plan Amendment is pending AS-IA signature. The Tribe is revising their educational requirements, instituting grace periods, and including the ability to receive a minor's trust fund at 20 years old.

The final approval letter for the San Pasqual Band's Revenue Allocation Plan Amendment is pending SOL surname. The Tribe is incorporating the 2014 Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act and prior RAP approvals into the original document.

The Office of Indian Gaming is processing a request for AS-IA review from the Wyandotte Nation (Oklahoma/Kansas) to acquire in trust for gaming a 10.53-acre parcel of land in Park City, Sedgwick County, Kansas, (Park City parcel), overturning the denial of its previous application by the Assistant Secretary in 2014 (mandatory trust acquisition).

Indian Affairs' internal workgroup continues to work on developing a plan for decoupling BIE and BIA in the FY 2020 budget. The workgroup includes representatives of BIA, BIE, DAS-M (including IT, CFO), the AS-IA Office and Interior PMB.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

NEW ITEMS

December 9-14, 2018, BIA will present a poster summarizing the final chapter of the 4th National Climate Assessment (NCA4), entitled *Tribes and Indigenous Peoples*, for the American Geophysical Union conference in Washington, DC.

UPDATED ITEMS

The week of December 3, 2018, BIA will be holding a Superintendents Leadership Course for BIA agency superintendents. The agenda will include presentations on harassment in the workplace, litigation assistance, orders of succession, procurement processes, ethics, and a number of other topics.

The week of December 3, 2018, the Division of Property Management plans to provide property management training to class attendees at the BIA Superintendent Orientation Class 7 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

By early December, BIA, the Office of Regulatory Affairs & Collaborative Action (RACA) and the Office of the Solicitor plan to finalize a new handbook addressing how BIA Realty staff processes mortgages of leasehold interests held in trust or restricted status.

ONGOING ITEMS

November 26-29, 2018, BIA is hosting its BIA Providers Conference for Tribes at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center in Anchorage, Alaska.

November 28-29, 2018, the Indian Energy Service Center (IESC) Executive Management Group (EMG) will meet in Lakewood, Colorado. This meeting is rescheduled from the previous date of November 6, 2018.

Bureau of Indian Education

UPDATED ITEMS

On December 4-6, 2018, the Bureau of Indian Education Standards, Assessments, and Accountability Negotiated Rulemaking Committee will hold a meeting in Arlington, Virginia, per the Federal Register notice published August 2. The next meeting will be held in person in Spring 2019.

ONGOING ITEMS

On November 30, 2018, BIE, alongside its comprehensive center partners, will present the Strategic Direction and its accountability monitoring system to the Department of Education as well as report on progress for the first quarter of work.

On November 30, 2018, On November 30, 2018, the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute's Office of Institutional Research, Effectiveness and Planning will begin distributing reporting forms for the American Indian Higher Education Consortium's American Indian Measures of Success report.

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

NEW ITEMS

December 11, 2018, Assistant Secretary Sweeney plans to host a Tribal roundtable with the Secretary in the Office of the Secretary at Main Interior.

December 31, 2018, is the due date for approval of a Tribal-State gaming compact between the Nooksack Tribe and the State of Washington. The compact is currently in review with the Office of Indian Gaming.

ONGOING ITEMS

Early December is the Office of Indian Gaming's target date for briefing PDAS-IA Tahsuda on the Coquille Tribe's application to acquire land into trust for gaming within the City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon.

On December 12, 2018, Indian Affairs will hold the last of five tribal consultation sessions by teleconference, to discuss how it might better implement the Alaska IRA's federal acknowledgement provisions and the legal authority of the Secretary to take land into trust in Alaska, per the Dear Tribal Leader and Dear Alaska Native Corporation CEO letters dated July 2, 2018.

December 20, 2018, is the deadline for submitting written comments, by midnight EST and via email, on the how Interior might better implement the Alaska IRA's federal acknowledgement provisions and the legal authority of the Secretary to take land into trust in Alaska, per the Dear Tribal Leader and Dear Alaska Native Corporation CEO letters dated July 2, 2018.

On January 22, 2019 through January 25, 2019, the Self-Governance Advisory Committee meeting will place at the Embassy Suites DC Convention Center, 900 10th Street, NW, Washington, DC. Representatives of the Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs are invited to attend on the morning of Friday, January 25, 2019.

AS-IA is reviewing a request from Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Indian Reservation (Wyoming) to place land in trust for gaming. ASIA will determine whether to accept approximately 6.3 acres of land in trust for the Arapaho Tribe under the authority of a statute specific to the Tribe. The Office of Indian Gaming recommends that ASIA also determine that the Tribe's request meets the requirements of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act's "within reservation boundaries exception." The property is located within the exterior boundaries of the Wind River Reservation and is currently being used for gaming, a convenience store, a smoke shop and retail fuel sales. Because there is no change in use, this trust acquisition is subject to a Categorical Exclusion under NEPA.

Hannahville Indian Community submitted amendments to its Revenue Allocation Plan for approval to allow for per capita deductions for child support and debts owed to the Tribe.

Indian Affairs expects to issue an updated National Policy Memorandum (NPM) on Real Property Leasing Space Utilization and Space Request Policy. The original NPM expired in June 2018. The updated NPM references the IA Facilities Investment Review Board (FIRB), which will provide oversight of the real property leasing program and ensure that real property leases comply with applicable laws, policies, and procedures. The FIRB charter is in the process of being approved, and once it has been signed, the program will move forward with surnaming the NPM.

Indian Affairs expects to issue a new Indian Affairs Manual (IAM) chapter regarding corrective deeds and affidavits to provide the process to correct a deed on Indian land.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

ONGOING ITEMS

December 10-12, 2018, BIA Office of Justice Services senior managers will be receiving training and meeting with senior managers from the U.S. Department of Justice to discuss law enforcement issues at the Indian Country Leadership Summit, in Columbia, South Carolina.

On December 11-12, 2018, the BIA Realty Specialist for Mineral Leasing will provide

training on the BIA portion of the onshore energy and mineral lease management interagency standard operating procedures at the Denver Business Center.

December 17-20, 2018, BIA Office of Justice Services will host Opioid Community Awareness Meetings at Yurok Tribe, Cahto Tribe, and Bishop-Paiute Tribe, respectively.

The final rule updating BIA's operation of Indian Electric Power Utilities (25 CFR 175) is currently in surname pending AS-IA signature. This rule revises regulations addressing electric power utilities of the Colorado River, Flathead, and San Carlos Indian irrigation projects to use plain language, update definitions, lengthen a regulatory deadline, and make other minor changes. The comment period on the proposed rule closed on February 27, and BIA received no relevant comments on the rule.

Bureau of Indian Education

NEW ITEMS

December 6-7, 2018, BIE will participate in the U.S. Department of Education 2018 Combined Federal Programs Meeting in Washington DC.

Through January 20, Dr. Daniel Wildcat will be serving as Acting President of Haskell University. Dr. Venida Chenault will be teleworking during that time.

On January 29, 2019, the BIE Associate Deputy Director for Bureau-Operated Schools will host a meeting of all off-reservation Bureau-operated boarding schools at Sherman Indian School to address urgent needs and long-term planning.

Through May 2019, BIE will be hosting a series of safety webinars to address: Winter Safety, Winter Driver Safety & Environmental Compliance (Paint, Ballasts and Bulbs), Safety – 3607 Purpose and Process & OSHA Logs, Collateral Duty Safety Officers & Safety Committees, and topics determined by a three-month trending.

ONGOING ITEMS

BIE is working with BIA Office of Indian Services to review and update their memorandum of agreement on Public Law 93-638 contract administration for BIE programs, to clarify the respective responsibilities of BIE and BIA, identify training opportunities for BIE staff in FY19, and further evaluate BIE delegated authority for 638 awarding officials.

BIE is developing a report entitled "Bureau Operated Schools' Site Visits and Recommendations on Native American Language, History, and Culture" that will compile current qualitative and quantitative data on Native American language, history, and culture. Site visits are necessary at the two schools remaining for inclusion.

December 12-14, 2018, BIE Special Education staff and technical assistance providers will meet to develop a revised technical assistance plan for the special education unit to meet

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements and demonstrate continuous improvement.

Through December 14, 2018, BIE is conducting the Indian School Equalization Program (ISEP) monitoring for General Education, Special Education, English Language Learners, Native Language Learners and Gifted and Talented.

By January 7, 2019, BIE expects to announce the availability of 21st Century Community Learning Centers Draft Application for the 2019-2022 cohort to BIE owned and operated schools, and expects to establish an application deadline of March 1, 2019.

Awareness

Bureau of Indian Affairs

NEW ITEMS

The Camp Fire burned 630 trust acres on the Chico Rancheria and the Berry Creek Rancheria is under evacuation. It is unknown at this time how the fire has impacted the Mooretown Rancheria.

ONGOING ITEMS

BIA's Office of Indian Services, Division of Human Services (DHS) is partnering with the Department of Justice and the BIA's Office of Justice Services to expand the Justice Department's Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP): the federal government's essential program that provides Tribes with access to national crime information databases. TAP offers federally recognized tribes the ability to access and exchange data with national crime information databases for both civil and criminal purpose, which allows tribes to more effectively serve and protect their communities by ensuring the exchange of critical data.

Bureau of Indian Education

ONGOING ITEMS

Retrocession of Borrego Pass: A review of the retrocession checklist was completed to ensure that the areas for School Operations had reasonable timeframes and staff accountable to carry out the efforts to ensure training and processes are shared with the school for a clean transition.

Pine Hill progress update: The Project Manager confirmed that the Contractor is completing site mobilization and performing a more detailed building-by-building assessment to complete the work plan for the lightning protection systems. The Contractor is on site and proceeding according to the schedule.

Staff at Haskell Indian Nations University (Haskell) are working with the Office of the Solicitor, Office of Civil Rights, and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) staff on final drafts of a new policy implementing the Executive Order, "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Race, Sex, Color, National Origin, Disability, Religion, Age, Sexual Orientation, and Status as a Parent in Federally Conducted Education and Training Programs and a new policy on consensual relationships between employees and students.

BIE is in the process of analyzing the Child Count – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C Child Count for the BIE. To date, BIE has received 112 applications IDEA Part B applications for the 2018-19 school year. BIE senior leadership is working with the three Area Directors' special education staff to ensure schools complete their applications for funding.

BIE received a notice from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), that OSEP selected BIE for an on-site visit, based on the relative number of intensive and targeted areas across all States. Next week BIE will schedule a call to discuss the DMS notice and the upcoming visit. A formal letter from OSEP will be forwarded to the BIE Director and discussion will take place regarding the visitation date(s).

ASSISTANT SECRETARY INSULAR AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel for the upcoming week, November 25 –December 1

TRAVEL

AS-IIA Domenech has no planned travel.

OIA Director Pula has no planned travel.

INT Director Karen Senhadji has no planned travel.

Senior Advisor Sarah Jorgenson has no planned travel.

Oceans Program Coordinator Liza Johnson has no planned travel. Note that Liza will be out on maternity leave from mid-December to April 1.

Immediate Announcements and Actions within 14 days

NEW ITEMS

OIA Western Governors' Association Annual Meeting: OIA staff are compiling briefing documents for the Deputy Secretary in advance of his attendance at the Western Governors' Association annual meeting in Honolulu, HI from December 11-13. The meeting focus will

be on biosecurity and invasive species, and representatives from the insular areas as also expected to be in attendance.

INT Launch Event in South Africa: DOI-ITAP will participate in launch event meetings from December 1- 7, in Cape Town, South Africa, with Western Cape Government representatives and selected contractors, to mark the beginning of technical assistance to improve state of readiness for large-scale shale gas development in the rural area of the Central Karoo, in South Africa. This work is funded by the U.S. State Department.

OCEANS Ocean Policy Committee Meeting: The second Ocean Policy Committee meeting of the Subcommittee Co-Chairs and agency senior policy contacts will occur on Wednesday December 5th at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. Assistant Secretary Domenech and the Ocean, Great Lakes, and Coastal Program Coordinator will attend. Agenda items include presentation and discussion on the Ocean Science and Technology Subcommittee priority research and technology needs, a briefing on the soon-to-be-released Science and Technology for America's Oceans: A Decadal Vision, Ocean Resource Management Subcommittee data product and report on regional data needs, and discussion of other potential interagency initiatives.

OCEANS DOI Senior Ocean Policy Team and Regional Ocean Contacts Meeting: On December 5, the DOI Senior Ocean Policy Team and the Regional Ocean Contacts will meet jointly to discuss implementation of actions in support of Executive Order 13840: *Regarding Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security, and Environmental Interests of the United States*, the FY19 Oceans Working Capital Fund activities, and other ocean, Great Lakes, and coastal actions to be jointly undertaken across DOI bureaus and regions.

OCEANS Extended Continental Shelf Executive Committee Meeting: The Executive Committee of the Extended Continental Shelf (ECS) Task Force will meet on December 6. The Ocean, Great Lakes, and Coastal Program Coordinator will attend representing DOI as the Vice Chair of the Executive Committee. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and decide upon the updated ECS Project Plan and timeline.

UPDATED ITEMS

OIA Appointment of Open Associate Justice of American Samoa Position: Seven applicants were vetted for this vacancy. UPDATE: Acting Solicitor Jorjani and OIA Director Pula have completed the second series of telephone interviews with the candidates. A memo of recommendation is being compiled, and will be sent to the Secretary to assist him in making the appointment.

OIA INDOPACOM Liaison: OIA is working with INDOPACOM to finalize an MOU to fill an OIA liaison to INDOPACOM, a full-time position housed in Honolulu. UPDATE: It is expected that INDOPACOM will send an updated memo to OIA this week.

OIA Parole Visa Policies Relating to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and Guam: UPDATE: DHS held a conference call with Federal partners to

discuss the overview of the parole visa issue. It was noted on this call that before the Federal Register notice moves forward, OMB is waiting for CNMI to recover from the recent typhoon to the point that the Governor of CNMI is able to travel to DC for a meeting. At this time, no meeting is scheduled.

OIA Meeting with NSC on IndoPacific Strategy: AS-IIA has been working with NSC and the interagency to update and to finalize an IndoPacific strategy, which encompasses some of OIA's work and objectives in the territories and freely associated states. UPDATE: A follow-up meeting is tentatively scheduled for the end of next week.

ONGOING ITEMS

OIA Region 12 Facilitator for DOI Reorg: OIA Director Pula is the Facilitator for Region 12, which consists of Hawaii and the U.S. Territories in the Pacific. Mr. Pula and the other regional facilitators continue to work through the six mission functions to populate information in the focused areas of Collaborative Conservation, Recreation, Permitting, Information Technology, Human Resources Management, and Procurement.

OIA FAS Trust Funds Quarterly Meeting: OIA Director Pula will attend and chair the Trust Fund Committee meetings for the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia in Washington, D.C., the week of November 26.

OIA Island Government Finance Officers' Association Meeting: On December 4-6, the Winter Island Government Finance Officers' Association meeting will take place in Honolulu. OIA Director Pula is planning to attend. Participation is expected from the heads of finance for each insular government as well as permanent staff members with a work-related focus on finance office performance measurements and audit improvement initiatives within each finance office. OIA funds two participants from each of the seven insular areas to attend this meeting.

OIA White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders: OIA staff continue to work on action items for the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, which seeks to work to improve the quality of life for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders across the nation through increased access to, and participation in, federal programs in which they may be underserved. It focuses on four cross-cutting ideas: data disaggregation, language access, capacity building, and workforce diversity.

OIA November and December OIA Leadership and Audit Training: OIA-funded government oversight and audit training continue to take place in USVI and Florida:
-December 2: USVI Executive leadership program in Tampa, Florida
-December 3-7: Writing and communicating audit results and contract/procurement auditing in St. Thomas, USVI.

OIA DHS Public Charge Rule: The Ambassadors of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Palau have voiced their concern with the implications of the proposed changes to the DHS rules addressing *public charges*, that is, aliens entering the

United States who are unable to care for themselves without becoming a *public charge*. The rule is currently out for public comment until December 10, after which there may be additional revisions. Questions surround travel by eligible citizens of the freely associated states (FAS), since it is not clear how a traveler would be determined to be a *public charge* as FAS citizens visa-free under the Compact. Palau Ambassador Kyota asked about the possibility of an exception for FAS citizens and requested intervention by the Secretary of State with the Secretary of Homeland Security.

OIA Economic Reports on the Freely Associated States: Economic reports on the three freely associated states are being compiled and are all expected to be completed by the end of December. The Marshall Islands report is expected next at the end of November.

INT Fish Passage Barrier Field Assessment in Vietnam: DOI-ITAP is conducting a field assessment of fish barriers in the Ho Chi Minh City area through November 27. The activity is under DOI-ITAP's Smart Infrastructure for the Mekong and is funded by USAID.

INT Ashland Oregon Forensics Lab and Washington DC Visit: DOI-ITAP will host a high level delegation from the Philippines to tour the DOI/Fish & Wildlife Service's National Wildlife Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon, and Washington DC, December 2-8. During the Ashland visit, the delegation will learn about the benefits such a facility can bring to the Philippines and Southeast Asia in general as well as the equipment and technical capacity needed to manage a forensics lab. The delegation will also meet with their counterparts in Washington, DC. This work is funded by USAID/Philippines.

INT Marine Protected Areas Exchange: Through December 22, DOI-ITAP will facilitate a professional learning exchange for five Marine Protected Areas (MPA) and sustainable fisheries experts from the Indonesian provinces of Maluku and West Papua to travel to the U.S. to learn from NPS and FWS about DOI approaches to MPA management. This work is funded by USAID.

INT Potential USGS Meeting with Pakistani Ambassador: Pakistan's Ambassador to the U.S. requested a meeting with the USGS Director to discuss hazards and other topics of mutual interest. The State Department's Pakistan Desk is supportive of USGS taking this meeting. The meeting date has not been confirmed but is expected to take place in November.

INT Coordinate Intra-Agency and Interagency International Activities in Support of the DOI Mission and U.S. Foreign Policy: INT is developing a searchable spreadsheet of all international agreements and organizations in which DOI participates. So far, there are about 300 initial entries, and INT is compiling additional information to support these entries (points of contact, upcoming related meetings, etc.) to be provided by bureaus.

INT Modernize International Travel Clearance System, Passport and Visa Operations: INT staff have been working to develop a standard international travel clearance system for all of DOI, and updated guidance for DOI staff to follow for international travel. In addition, INT staff continue to automate passport and visas procedures for more efficient processing.

OCEANS U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) Watershed Partnership Initiative Interagency Working Group: On November 28, EPA and NOAA will host the Watershed Partnership Initiative Working Group to continue discussions on development of sustainability plans for the three USCRTF priority watershed sites and share lessons learned to watersheds across the seven U.S. coral reef jurisdictions. The Ocean, Great Lakes, and Coastal program coordinator will attend and represent DOI.

OCEANS U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) Restoration Working Group: On November 29, the CNMI and NOAA will host a meeting of the Restoration Working Group to discuss implementation of USCRTF Resolution 40.1 on Coral Reef Restoration, development of a framework for action and workplan, discuss restoration efforts in each of the 7 U.S. coral reef jurisdictions, and share lessons learned. The Ocean, Great Lakes, and Coastal program coordinator will attend and represent DOI.

OCEANS Ocean Reporting Tool Briefing for OSTP, CEQ and ORM Staff: On November 29, NOAA's National Ocean Service is briefing OSTP and CEQ on the Ocean Reporting Tool and NOS's next generation of products for the aquaculture industry and coastal management community. The Ocean Reporting Tool web-based, report-centric tool for coastal and ocean planners. It provides summary statistics and interpretive analysis for five main topics: general information, energy and minerals, natural resources and conservation, transportation and infrastructure, and economics and commerce. The Ocean Resource Management Subcommittee (ORM) staff will attend, including the Ocean, Great Lakes, and Coastal Program Coordinator.

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

NEW ITEMS

OIA Gubernatorial Inaugurations in Territories: Guam and the Virgin Islands will be swearing in their respective governors on Monday, January 7, 2019. Governor-elect Lou Leon Guerrero will be sworn in as Guam's first female governor, and the Virgin Islands will swear in the winner of the November 20, 2018 run-off election between incumbent Governor Kenneth Mapp and candidate Albert Bryan. CNMI Governor Ralph Torres, who succeeded Governor Eloy Inos upon his death in office, will be sworn in for his first term on Monday, January 14, 2019. It is possible that Assistant Secretary Domenech will attend some of the Gubernatorial Inaugurations.

INT Secretarial Trip to Israel: INT is coordinating with the Office of Scheduling and Advance, U.S. Embassy Israel, the Israel desk at the Department of State and Israeli counterparts to prepare for a Secretarial visit, which is scheduled to occur January 28-31, 2019. During the visit, the Secretary will sign a Memorandum of Understanding to expand cooperation on conservation, natural and cultural resource management, and protected areas. He will also meet with senior level officials from the Israeli government to discuss the bilateral relationship.

ONGOING ITEMS

OIA 2019 Interagency Group on Insular Areas (IGIA) Senior Plenary Session: OIA will send out to all Federal stakeholders a *save the date* notification for the 2019 IGIA Senior Plenary Session to be held on February 25, 2019, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. at The White House.

OIA Graduate School USA Activities in January: OIA's funded Graduate School USA, contracted and supported by OIA's Technical Assistance Program, is supporting multiple activities focused on financial education, oversight, and accountability for the CNMI, RMI, and FSM in January 2019:
-Saipan, CNMI; January 2019: *TBD if Typhoon Yutu will impact the timing of this event at this time.
-Majuro, RMI; January 14-18, 2019: The New Uniform Grant Guidance, Majuro, RMI. This course offers a high-level overview of the changes in grants management regulations in *The Uniform Guidance: Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.*
-Pohnpei, FSM; January 21-25, 2019: The New Uniform Grant Guidance, Pohnpei, FSM. This course offers a high-level overview of the changes in grants management regulations in *The Uniform Guidance: Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.*
-Majuro, RMI; January 28-31, 2019: Developing Interim Procurement Regulations, Majuro, RMI.

OIA Census Compact Surveys: With funding from OIA, the U.S. Census has begun its work in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) as part of the next five-year enumeration of migrants from the freely associated states (FAS) in Hawaii, Guam, the CNMI and American Samoa, as required by the Compact of Free Association (Public Law 108-188). The enumeration is used as the basis for distributing $30 million provided under the Compact to help offset the economic and social impact of migrants from the FAS in the affected jurisdictions. Surveys have begun and are expected to be completed by spring 2019. OIA and Census Officials plan to meet with staff on the Hill to give an update on the status of the enumeration.

OIA U.S. Government-Wide Comprehensive Report on Federal Grants to the Insular Areas: OIA staff are working to take over an existing database from HHS and to gather information from across the Federal Government on Federal grants to the insular areas. Completion is targeted for March 2019.

INT Coral Triangle Initiative Senior Officials' Meeting, Philippines: DOI-ITAP will participate in the annual Senior Officials' Meeting of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF), to be held in Manila, December 10-14. This annual priority-setting meeting of the marine and fisheries conservation coalition of the six Coral Triangle Countries will set out the 2019 goals for the organization and its Regional Secretariat, which receives DOI-ITAP technical support. The work is funded by USAID.

INT Lithium Scoping Mission, Argentina: A DOI-ITAP team consisting of five USGS experts will travel to Salta, Argentina, and the surrounding area, from Dec 12-22, to assess the availability of lithium and evaluate extraction protocols. The group will work with Ministry counterparts. The work is part of DOI-ITAP global energy program and is funded by the Department of State.

INT Education and Interpretation Workshop, Indonesia: A DOI-ITAP team, consisting of one NPS and two FWS experts, will travel to Jakarta, Indonesia, from January 4-19, to deliver education and interpretation training to counterparts, under the USAID funded Indonesia Terrestrial Protected Areas project. Activity is funded by USAID/Indonesia.

INT Roundtable Tribal Discussions: Indian Affairs is in the early planning stages for a possible series of cross-border discussions between U.S. Tribes and Canadian/Mexican indigenous communities. Discussions will address violence against indigenous women, trafficking, and other issues that Tribes wish to discuss. These roundtable discussions will inform the ongoing annual trilateral working group meetings between the U.S., Canadian, and Mexican governments to address violence against indigenous women and girls. INT is supporting Indian Affairs to ensure coordination with State Department and the Canadian and Mexican governments.

INT Coordination of DOI Review of Description of Environmental Cooperation in North America: At the request of USTR, INT is coordinating review within DOI of brief factual summaries of environmental cooperation and trade-related transboundary environmental issues among the three countries that are parties to the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), the successor agreement negotiated to the NAFTA. The summaries will be part of the informational materials accompanying the text of the USMCA when the Administration sends it to Congress.

INT Repatriation Ceremony with Embassy of Mexico: INT is working with NPS, DHS, State, Mexico's Foreign Affairs Ministry (SRE), and others to plan the repatriation of 500+ arrowheads and other artifacts that were illegally smuggled from Mexico into Big Bend National Park and confiscated there in April 2016. INT is working on a scheduling request shortly to determine Secretary Zinke's interest/availability in participating in a repatriation ceremony, likely to be held at the Mexican Embassy sometime late this year or early next.

AWARENESS

OIA USVI Gubernatorial Runoff Election: Since no candidate received a majority of the vote in the November 6 Gubernatorial election, a runoff election is being held on November 20 between former island Labor Commissioner Albert J. Bryan, Jr. (Democratic) and current Governor Kenneth E. "Ken" Mapp (Independent).

OIA CNMI Postponed Election Results: Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Independent) won reelection receiving 9,150 votes out of a total 14,349 votes cast. Governor Ralph Torres (Republican) also won reelection with 8,992 votes out of a total 14,342 votes cast.

OIA Typhoon Yutu: Recovery efforts led by FEMA and DOD continues. Due to rapid improvement on the typhoon recovery in Tinian, Tinian Mayor Joey San Nicolas announced that efforts will now begin focusing on long-term recovery. The typhoon damaged or downed 1,141 power poles, 676 transformers, and 671,220 linear feet of conductors on Saipan, and on Tinian, there are 797 downed or damaged power poles, 105 transformers, and 507,015 linear feet of conductors. In addition, while the Saipan International Airport opened back up to commercial operations, it can only accommodate a limited closed commercial flights, so many tourism locations, including the Imperial Pacific Casino, have closed until more tourists can reach the island.

OIA Guam GDP: The Bureau of Economic Analysis released estimates of gross domestic product for Guam for 2017, which show that real GDP increased 0.2. Percent in 2017 after increasing 0.3 percent in 2016. The growth in the Guam economy reflected an increase in consumer spending, which rose for the 7th year in a row. Overall, investment spending contributed negatively to the economy. Although territorial government spending on construction and equipment increased, this growth was offset by a decline in construction activity on defense and private sector projects. Exports of services, which consists primarily of spending by tourists, decreased after increasing for three years. Although total arrivals increased slightly, tourism spending decreased, reflecting declines in average spending by visitors.

OIA USVI Students Win First Place in HP Competition: Five University of the Virgin Islands students won the 2nd Annual Hewlett Packard HBCU Business Challenge competition on November 12. The competition is designed to inspire future talent, foster emerging careers in technology, and increase student business acumen. The students worked as a team to develop business plans tackling real-world challenges that are core to HP's business, including Personal Computer (PC) Services Innovation and Office Print Relevance.

INT Upcoming Official Senior Travel and Significant Meetings:

PETTY: Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Tim Petty will travel to Vancouver, Canada to participate in the DOS-led Columbia River Treaty negotiations from December 10-13.

Additional International Travel and Meetings:

FWS		
11/25/18	Japan	Jerome Ford, Ken Richkus, Nanette Seto, Peter Ward
11/26/18	Iceland, Denmark, China	Cynthia Jacobson
12/1/18	China	Richard Lanctot
12/1/18	Indonesia	Robert Register
NPS		
11/26/18	United Kingdom	Moss Rudley

11/26/18	Mozambique	Michelle Gray, Meredith Hardy, and David Morgan
11/27	Mozambique	Dave Conlin
12/1	Italy	Diana Allen

USGS

11/18/18	Indonesia	Jeremy Dale Pesicek
11/19/18	China	Stephen DeLong and Rufus Catchings
11/21/18	Costa Rica	Saud Amer
11/24/18	Brazil	Laura DeCicco, Lindsay Renee Carr, and Matthew Miller
11/24/18	Saudi Arabia	Ned Field
11/24/18	Egypt, Zambia	Jeff Doebrich
11/24/18	Costa Rica	Wayne Belcher
11/24/18	Indonesia	Sarah Ogburn
11/24/18	Japan	James Hein
11/26/18	Colombia	Sylvia Wilson
11/26/18	Japan	Maria-Richetta Hopkins
11/26/18	Australia	Dale Robertson
11/27/18	Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, Philippines, Laos	Matthew Andersen
11/28/18	China	Steven Labahn
11/30/18	China	Brennan Nowak, Dennis Helder, and Christopher Engebretson
11/30/18	Italy	Kimberlie Perkins
11/30/18	Afghanistan	Robert Seal
12/01/18	Burma, Laos	Nina Burkhardt

INT International Memoranda of Understanding and Documents Under Development for Signature:

-Australia: Letter of Intent on critical minerals (addressing existing MOU), in development. Requested by the Secretary and his counterpart Minister Canavan. INT is working with USGS and Australian counterparts to finalize language and specify additional cooperative activities to be undertaken on critical minerals. We are awaiting further review from the Australians (they are currently reviewing the latest draft) as well as information about the Minister's availability.

-Israel: MOU to strengthen cooperation on biodiversity conservation, protected areas, and cultural and historical heritage, in development. Requested by Israeli government and recommended by U.S. Embassy Jerusalem, for signature by Secretary Zinke during a visit to Israel January 28-31. INT is coordinating review and clearance with relevant Israeli and State Department counterparts.

-The Netherlands: MOU on offshore wind energy cooperation, in surname. Requested by BOEM and Dutch counterparts, for signature in conjunction with a potential visit to the U.S. by the Dutch Prime Minister early 2019. INT is supporting BOEM as needed.

-New Zealand: MOU on wildland fire cooperation, in development. Requested by DOI and USDA to update existing wildfire arrangement, and continue mutual assistance on wildfires as needed, for signature by the U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand in early 2019 by U.S. Embassy New Zealand. INT is coordinating with Office of Wildland Fire, as they work with New Zealand counterparts and the Departments of Agriculture and State.

-Norway: MOU on energy cooperation, in development. Requested by DOI Energy Counselor and Deputy Chief of Staff, for Secretarial signature when the Norwegian counterpart travels to Washington, DC, early 2019. INT is supporting BOEM as needed, and BOEM is working with Norwegian counterparts and Department of State.

-Vietnam: MOU to strengthen cooperation on law enforcement to combat wildlife trafficking, in development. Requested by FWS law enforcement, Department of State, and Vietnamese counterpart, for senior-level signature when the Vietnamese counterpart travels to Washington, DC, early 2019. INT is coordinating with FWS Office of Law Enforcement.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

ASLM Joe Balash will be in Washington, D.C. attending regularly scheduled meetings.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Casey Hammond will be in Washington, D.C. attending regularly scheduled meetings.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Gary Lawkowski will be in Washington, D.C. attending regularly scheduled meetings.

BSEE Director Scott Angelle will be on annual leave on 11/26

BLM Deputy Director Brian Steed will be in Washington, D.C. attending regularly scheduled meetings.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

Bureau of Land Management

NEW ITEMS

November 28. BLM-WY. The Casper Field Office will offer for sale by competitive bid 300,178 tons of leonardite from 151 acres of land in Converse County, Wyoming, with a contract lasting a maximum of 10 years. The BLM will sell the material in one lot. Leonardite is a mineral used in drilling mud and as an amendment to agricultural fields. Interested parties may submit bids in person at the field office. The sale is not controversial, and the BLM does not anticipate media interest. (11/16/18)

November 30. The Oregon State Office plans to issue a decision regarding Ascot Resources' application to conduct hardrock mineral prospecting at Goat Mountain in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in Washington. The BLM is responsible for issuing the prospecting permits. The Forest Service consented to issuance of the prospecting permits on April 13, 2018. The proposal is to drill 63 less-than-3-inch holes from 23 pad sites. All drill sites are within or adjacent to existing USFS forest roads or decommissioned former logging and mineral exploration roads. Minerals applied for are copper, molybdenum, silver, gold, and associated minerals. This issue is controversial and has generated significant media and Congressional attention over the years. (10/15/18)

November 30. BLM-CO. The Colorado River Valley Field Office will release a draft business plan for public review as an initial step to modifying its campground fee structure. Currently, only two of its six campgrounds charge fees for camping - $10 per night. Under the proposal, all six campgrounds would charge $20 per night for camping, and a new $5 day-use fee would be charged at the popular Wolcott boat ramp on the Eagle River. The fees are needed to fund the necessary maintenance and improvements at these facilities. Following the public comment period, the Field Office will present the proposal to the State and Washington offices. Recreation fee increases must also be approved by the Northwest Resource Advisory Council, which will consider the proposal at a future meeting in 2019. Before implementing any new recreation fees, the Western Slope No Fee Coalition, will likely oppose the fee proposal. If approved, the Field Office anticipates implementing the new fees in summer 2020. (11/16/18)

November 30. BLM-CO. The San Luis Valley Field Office plans to post the Environmental Assessment and Decision Record (DR) for the acquisition of the Treasure Pass Diversion Ditch. A 30-day appeal period will commence before the field office closes on the property. The property will be acquired with $2.76 million appropriated by Congress in Fiscal Year 2016 under the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The acquisition will include a water right, a ditch easement across land managed by the U.S. Forest Service and a constructed ditch infrastructure. The water supply will be used to support wetlands management objectives and recreational/sportsmen use at the Blanca Wetlands Area of Critical Environmental Concern. (11/16/18)

November 30. BLM-UT. The Price Field Office will release for public review and comment an Environmental Assessment for the North Huntington Grazing Permit Renewal. The field office is processing grazing permit renewal application from Hatch Livestock Company for 46 AUMs on 1,300 acres of public land north of Huntington in Emery County. The comment period will run for 15 days. This proposal may garner interest from Western Watersheds Project. (11/16/18)

November 30. BLM-UT. The Price Field Office will release for public review and comment an Environmental Assessment for the Swasey Boat Ramp Extension Project. The Field Office has completed the EA to improve the boat ramp to reduce safety hazards for approximately 6,500 annual river users in Desolation and Gray Canyons. The comment period will run for 15 days. (11/16/18)

December 5 and 6. BLM-NM will hold an oil and gas lease sale for 114 nominated parcels administered by BLM-NM throughout New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas totaling 89,320 acres. The parcels are within the jurisdictions of the Rio Puerco, Roswell, Carlsbad, Oklahoma and Farmington Field Offices. (11/16/18)

UPDATED ITEMS

Mid- Late November. BLM-AK anticipates publishing a Federal Register notice to revoke seven Public Land Orders (PLOs) issued in 1972 by the Department of the Interior. The package is currently with the ASLM for review (DTS Lands 186). This order will affect 1,153,609 acres of BLM-managed land withdrawn near the Fortymile area of Alaska. The action will open those acres to surface entry, mining and mineral leasing, subject to valid existing rights. The PLOs were issued pursuant to Sec. 17(d)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). Over the years, ANCSA Sec. 17(d)(1) withdrawals have been amended, modified, or corrected, and the Eastern Interior Fortymile Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision, finalized in 2016, recommended partial revocation of these withdrawals. ASLM Plans to sign the PLOs in mid November (7/20/18)

November 28. BLM-MT and BLM-WY will publish Notices of Intent to prepare Supplemental EISs and potential amendments for the BLM-MT Miles City and BLM-WY Buffalo approved RMPs in response to a court order. In March 2018, the U.S. District Court of Montana found the two RMPs violated NEPA and the Administrative Procedures Act with respect to range of alternatives for coal leasing and air quality cumulative effects analysis. The Court ordered the BLM to complete supplemental EISs by November 29, 2019. The BLM anticipates hiring a contractor to assist with NEPA writing and administrative record preparation. The NOIs were approved by the DOI Internal Review Team and are scheduled for publication on November 28. (10/12/18)

November 30. BLM-ID. The Boise District anticipates submitting to the DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management a new Record of Decision for the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Bruneau-Owyhee Sage-Grouse Habitat (BOSH) Project. The Final EIS, which was developed in cooperation with state and federal agencies, analyzes the removal of encroaching Western juniper on 726,000 acres of sagebrush steppe in Owyhee County. This project builds on proactive land management policies and practices to conserve the region's remaining sagebrush habitat, which supports significant economic activity such as ranching and recreation, as well as abundant wildlife including mule deer, elk, pronghorn antelope and golden eagles. (2/21/18)

Early December. BLM-WY plans to release the Final EIS for the Riley Ridge to Natrona Pipeline project (RRNP), pending approval by the DOI Internal Review Team. The RRNP is a FAST-41 project that consists of three right-of-way applications: two for a 240-mile long underground pipeline and one for a 230-kV transmission line. The project also includes proposals for two hydrogen sulfide injection wells and other project components like roads, valves and flow lines. WO/DOI canceled the original October 26 briefing and has tentatively scheduled a new briefing for November 30. (10/16/18)

Late-November. BLM-CA anticipates signing a Decision Record for the Keystone Exploratory Drilling Project. NPS is a cooperating agency and will issue a separate decision, because of water rights to a spring and an existing water pipeline that crosses the Park. All drilling would occur outside the National Park and would be supported by existing roads and pads, with several of the drill sites on existing road surfaces. Less than one acre of new disturbance is anticipated. By regulation, the area in which the project lies requires a plan modification rather than a notice; while a plan already existed, modifications were significant enough to warrant an EA to analyze potential effects. This project may draw attention from environmental organizations. (4/20/18)

Early December. BLM-ID. The BLM expects to publish the the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Notice of Availability for the proposed Caldwell Canyon Mine by early December pending the outcome of the NEPA Review Team briefing on November 20. (8/10/18)

Ongoing. BLM-CA. The BLM Litchfield Corrals facility has received 653 wild horses gathered by the Modoc National Forest from its Devil's Garden Herd Territory. Gather operations have concluded with 932 wild horses removed. Horses received at Litchfield will be available for private placement through BLM's adoption and sales programs.

Late November. The BLM-AZ State Office submitted a Notice of Proposed Withdrawal Extension to extend Public Land Order No. 7384 in order to withdraw 1,988 acres from surface entry and mining for an additional 20-years. This extension would protect the Bureau of Reclamation's Lake Pleasant New Waddell Dam investment, which is a component of the Central Arizona Project's (CAP) Regulatory Storage Division. Publication of the notice also provides an opportunity to comment on the application and to request a public meeting. The timing for this extension is critical because the existing withdrawal expires on April 19, 2019, at which time the area will be open to the general land laws, including location and entry under the United States Mining Law. To extend the PLO prior to the April 19, 2019 expiration date and allow for the required 90-day public comment period, the Notice of Withdrawal Extension needs to be approved and published in the Federal Register as soon as possible. The package is under review in Washington DC. (8/17/18) DTS L190

Early December. BLM-CO. The Uncompahgre Field Office has prepared the Notice of Proposed Supplementary Rules for Travel Management on Public Lands in Montrose, Delta, San Miguel, and Ouray counties. The Uncompahgre Field Office is planning for publication in the Federal Register in mid-November (pending WO and DOI approval) and the Federal Register package is currently under review in Washington. (8/21/18) DTS2294

Late November. BLM-OR/WA. Lakeview District will brief DOI on the Tucker Hill Perlite Mine Expansion FEIS this week (Nov. 13-16) and expects the FEIS and ROD with EPA on Dec 7

Late November. BLM-WY. The Rock Springs Field Office will release the North Dutch John Well #1 EA, FONSI and DR. Public interest in the pending decision likely will be high because the proposed well is located in the Greater Little Mountain Area, a popular hunting and fishing destination. The proposed action includes drilling a single well, constructing a well pad, upgrading a two-track road and building an access road. The proponent has committed to several mitigation measures including moving the well ped location, applying timing restrictions for crucial mule deer winter range, installing erosion control devices, burying associated pipelines and managing weeds. The BLM determined the impacts to the area would be minimal due to the mitigation measures agreed on by the proponent. (10/23/18)

December 7. BLM-MT/DK. The anticipated publication date in the Federal Register of a Notice of Availability for the Lewistown Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been set. The Draft RMP/EIS will address management of 651,200 surface acres and 1,196,800 acres of federal mineral interests in central Montana for the next 10-15 years. Key issues include travel management, access, oil and gas leasing, and timber sales. (6/15/18) DTS 2231 / FRN at DTS 2233

December 7. BLM-MT/DK. The anticipated publication date in the Federal Register of a Notice of Availability for the Missoula Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been set. The Draft RMP/EIS will address management of 163,000 surface acres and 268,000 acres of federal mineral interests in northwestern Montana for the next 10-15 years. Key issues raised in public meetings conducted by the Missoula Field Office include recreation along the popular Blackfoot River, forestry management, hunting, and access to public lands. The RMP will incorporate regional fish and wildlife conservation strategies for species such as the grizzly bear and Canada lynx, as well as new information related to recreation uses, land acquisitions, and forest health. (6/15/18) DTS 2230/FRN at DTS 2232

December 14. BLM-ID plans to issue final decisions for the Rockville Grazing Allotment that address protests received on the proposed decisions. BLM-ID State Office and Boise District Office staff briefed the BLM Director on these decisions on November 7. (3/23/18)

December 14. BLM-ID. BLM-Idaho expects to issue 22 Curlew Grazing Permit Renewal decisions after completion of the Environmental Assessment, Determination, and Finding of No Significant Impact. (7/27/18)

ONGOING ITEMS

November 26. BLM-CO. The White River Field Office will release a preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA) of a trailhead expansion proposal from the U.S. Forest Service for the White Creek Trail, a popular hiking and horseback trail, particularly for hunters. The majority of the trail is on National Forest lands, but the beginning of the trail crosses a 40-acre parcel of BLM land. The Forest Service has applied for a right-of-way to expand the parking area pull-out to accommodate more vehicles and horse trailers and to

address current safety concerns. At present, visitors park their vehicles along a county road. (11/9/18)

November 28. BLM-CO. The Little Snake Field Office is hosting a public hearing to receive comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for Peabody Twentymile Coal LLC's Coal Lease-by-Application, fair market value and maximum economic recovery. The notice for the hearing and the 30-day public comment period published in the Federal Register on Nov. 6. The public comment period will close December 6, 2018. (5/29/18)

November 29. BLM-ES will hold a sealed-bid competitive coal lease sale at the Southeastern States District Office in Flowood, Mississippi. A 160-acre Federal coal tract will be offered in Jefferson County, Alabama, adjacent to the existing Narley Mine No. 3. This Federal coal is being offered for sale after careful review by the BLM-Eastern States (BLM-ES) in response to a coal Lease by Application (ALES-55199) filed by the Best Coal Company. The BLM completed an Environmental Assessment for this coal lease sale following a public hearing on November 20, 2014, and issued a Decision Record and a Finding of No Significant Impact on February 16, 2015. This lease was offered for sale April 14, 2016, however, bids received at that time did not meet the Fair Market Value. As the Federal coal vein is accessible in a currently operating mine, jobs may be lost if it cannot be developed.

November to Early December. The BLM-CA State Office submitted a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Developmental Briefing Scheduling Request on November 5 to the Department Review Team to discuss the summary of public comments received on the Bakersfield Field Office's Notice of Intent to prepare a supplemental EIS and potential Resource Management Plan amendment on the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing during new oil and gas production. This planning effort is in response to a 2017 settlement agreement. The briefing request is in preparation for public release of the scoping report in early December. (10/30/18)

December. BLM-AK anticipates releasing the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the public. Publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register begins a 45-day public comment period. BLM-Alaska plans to hold public meetings on the Draft EIS in Anchorage, Arctic Village, Fairbanks, Fort Yukon, Kaktovik, Utqiaġvik, Venetie, and Washington, D.C. (9/20/18)

Late November. WO-200 & BLM-CA/NV/ID/UT/WY/CO/OR. The seven states plan to publish Final Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) and Proposed Plan Amendments for the seven states associated with Greater Sage-Grouse/sagebrush conservation plans adopted in 2015. The target publication date for these documents and the associated Notices of Availability (NOAs) may need to be adjusted to allow state government partners and the Department of the Interior time to develop Memorandums of Agreement that address DOI's new policy on compensatory mitigation. (10/12/18)

Late November. BLM-CO. The Grand Junction Field Office is preparing a Notice of Realty Action to convey 188.04 acres to the Grand Junction Regional Airport to accommodate a

second runway at the airport. The conveyance is in conformance with the Grand Junction RMP and the Field Office is planning for a publication in the Federal Register in late November. (9/11/18)

November 26. BLM-NV. The public comment period ends for the Las Vegas Field Office's proposed recreation and public purposes lease of approximately 15 acres of public land to the Clark County School District for an elementary school and related facilities. The proposed elementary school is located in the southwest area of the Las Vegas Valley. The 15 acres would include five school buildings, parking for school staff, public parking, busing with pick-up and drop-off points for students, elementary classrooms, fenced-off play area, areas for basketball courts, ball fields, bike racks, shaded rest areas, turf play area, playgrounds, tetherball court area, and utilities.

Late November. BLM-OR/WA. Lakeview District is responding to public comments regarding a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) analyzing the potential effects of a wild horse gather and fertility control plan for the 399, 714-acre Beatys Butte Herd Management Area. The document is expected to be signed by the end of November 2018, and a gather scheduled in the fall of 2019. (10/23/18)

Late November. BLM-AK is preparing a Federal Register notice providing constructive notice of a decision approving 84.05 acres for conveyance to Chugach Alaska Corporation, the Alaska Native Regional Corporation for the Chugach Region. Chugach Alaska Corporation will receive title to the surface and subsurface estates of certain lands under Sec. 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). Conveyance of the lands being approved will move Chugach Alaska Corporation further in completing its entitlement under ANCSA. There is no action associated with this Notice other than providing constructive notice and it is not expected to be controversial. (10/26/18)

Late November. BLM-CA. The Environmental Services Associates (ESA), an environmental consulting firm under contract with the Santa Margarita Water District, will submit a SF299 ROW application and other necessary information to the BLM for a water pipeline right-of-way (ROW) in the Cadiz Valley, within San Bernardino County. ESA representatives met with the BLM California State Office staff in October to discuss the next steps, which include submitting the ROW application along with the necessary resource surveys, establish a Cost Recovery Account, support the permitting process, including potentially providing funding for a third party contractor to develop the necessary ESA, NHPA, and NEPA compliance documentation. The Needles FO is awaiting these actions from ESA. The project is highly controversial. The Department and the BLM have received a number of letters in both support and opposition for the project, including from Cadiz Inc., labor unions, water districts, and environmental organizations. Senator Feinstein (D-CA) is also opposed to the project. A bill to prevent the project was introduced in the state legislature and advanced, but did not pass. (Originally entered 9/18/18; updated with next steps 10/19/18))

Late November. BLM-NV. The Mount Lewis Field Office will be issuing the Record of Decision (ROD) for the 3 Bars Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration Project—a

programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) proposing to treat up to 127,000 acres of sagebrush steppe, riparian habitat, pinyon juniper woodland, and aspen groves within a 749,810-acre area in part of the field office. The Notice of Availability for the Final EIS was published October 18, 2016. (8/24/18)

Late November. BLM-UT. The St. George Field Office and Utah State Office have been working with Utah Aspen Development, LLC, and Green Springs Aspen, LLC, on the purchase of two parcels of land totaling 165 acres. These parcels are located in the Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area (NCA) and will be managed consistent with the objectives of the NCA management plan. The appraisals are complete and a preliminary title opinion has been requested. Following approval of the title, the BLM will accept the title transfer from the respective entities via Warranty Deeds in accordance with the approved escrow instructions. A final Certificate of Inspection and Possession will then be completed and the final title opinion obtained. (10/9/18)

Late November. BLM-WY. The Buffalo Field Office will issue the I-90 Corridor Travel Management Plan (TMP) EA, following approval by WO/DOI. WO/DOI paused this effort while they review the Draft TMP. The planning area contains 108,437 acres of BLM-administered land along I-90 between Buffalo and Gillette, Wyoming. Most of the planning area is in Johnson County, with the southeastern portion in Campbell County. The I-90 corridor has a high density of oil and gas wells and associated infrastructure at or near the end of production. As required by regulation, once the wells reach the end of their life cycle, the well pads, roads and other infrastructure must be reclaimed or left in place to maintain public access. BLM-WY analyzed alternatives that would keep certain oil and gas roads open and sought input on the alternatives during three public scoping meetings in June. During the scoping period, local landowners expressed their desire for the roads identified in the alternatives to be closed, as these roads primarily provide access only to private lands or isolated parcels of public lands. Environmental groups created controversy by proposing that the BLM was allowing oil and gas operators to neglect reclamation obligations by leaving these roads open. Therefore, the BLM selected an alternative that addresses the concerns raised by the public and that will allow operators to continue their reclamation obligations, closing 521 miles out of a total 624 miles of oil and gas-related roads. The roads remaining open will provide the increased level of access desired by local landowners, as identified during the scoping period. (10/12/18)

Late November. BLM-NV. The Battle Mountain District, Mount Lewis Field Office will publish the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Eureka Moly-Mount Hope Project. On December 28, 2016, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit partially reversed and vacated the BLM's decision with respect to certain aspects of the agency's air quality and cumulative air impacts analysis. The court also remanded to the BLM to clarify the status of any public water reserves (PWR). The Supplemental EIS will provide updated information and discussion regarding certain air quality data and analysis used in the original EIS, and will provide clarifying language regarding PWRs potentially impacted by the project. The district is currently preparing briefing materials and will be sending up a briefing request in mid-November. (8/24/18)

Late November. BLM-ID. The Shoshone Field Office anticipates a Notice of Realty Action to publish in the Federal Register identifying certain public lands (13.78 acres) in Lincoln County as suitable for classification for conveyance to Lincoln County under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP). Lincoln County proposes to use the land for operating and maintaining a municipal solid waste transfer station that accepts only non-hazardous waste for transfer to the Milner Butte Landfill. In 2015, Lincoln County applied to acquire up to 30 acres of BLM-managed public lands under the R&PP Act for the purpose of operating and maintaining an existing solid waste transfer station, which was mistakenly constructed on public lands in 1993-94 without authorization. The BLM and Lincoln County have agreed to resolve the unauthorized use through a Memorandum of Understanding until the public lands are conveyed to the County. Conveyance of the public land via the R&PP Act for uses outlined in the R&PP Plan of Development will allow Lincoln County to continue utilizing the existing waste transfer station in its current location to accept only non-hazardous and household hazardous waste as permitted by Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (8/28/18)

Late November. BLM-AK. The proposed Ambler Road project would provide an all-season industrial access road to promote exploration, development, and production of mineral resources in the Ambler mineral belt in northwest Alaska's Kobuk Valley. BLM is the lead Federal agency for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and is currently anticipating not receiving full funding from the proponent to complete the EIS process until late November. The schedule depends on the applicant's decision to continue to fund the cost-recovery agreement with the BLM and to fund the third-party contractor to begin drafting the EIS. A Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS must be published by December 30 for the project to be in accordance with the timelines outlined in Secretarial Order #3355, which require a Record of Decision for the EIS be signed in April 2019. The EIS process dates will be revised once funding is received from the applicant. (9/28/18)

November 26. BLM-NV. The Ely District, Caliente Field Office plans to begin the Silver King Herd Management Area (HMA) wild horse helicopter gather to remove up to 980 wild horses. The gather is necessary due to over-population, the presence of Greater Sage-Grouse, public safety, and private lands issues. The gather is part of the approved 2018 National Gather Schedule dated May 25, 2018, but was pushed back into FY19 due to higher-priority emergency gathers. The appropriate management level for the HMA is 60-128, and the current population is estimated at 1,224 animals. (9/4/18)

November 28. BLM-UT. The BLM-Utah will hold a competitive sale of federal coal on approximately 2,114 acres 30 miles south of Panguitch near Alton, Utah. The tract contains approximately 40.9 million tons of in-place coal and an estimated 30.8 million tons of recoverable coal. The sealed bid opening will take place at the Utah State Office in Salt Lake City. The BLM anticipates that the sale will be considered controversial but is not aware of any planned protests. The BLM will publish a legal notice for three weeks in the legal section of newspapers in Kanab (Kane County) where the tract is located and St. George (Iron and Washington Counties) where the largest population in the area resides. (9/11/18) DTS 2345

November 29. BLM-OR/WA. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is conducting a meeting with the Cooperating Agencies (including BLM) on the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline Project in Portland, Oregon. The FERC recently issued a notice of schedule anticipating the issuance of a final order on November 29, 2019. This is a FAST-41 and a One Federal Decision project. The proposed Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline is a 235-mile, 36-inch-diameter high-pressure natural gas transmission line that would traverse the state of Oregon. If constructed, the pipeline would have the capacity to move approximately one billion cubic feet of natural gas per day. Approximately 41 miles of the project would cross BLM public lands and approximately 30 miles of the project would cross national forest system lands managed by three national forests. (10/9/18)

November 29. BLM-AZ. The public comment period ends for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Proposed Ten West Link Transmission Line Project and draft amendments to the Yuma Field Office Resource Management Plan and California Desert Conservation Area Plan. The next step will be to evaluate the comments and prepare the Final EIS. (7/20/18)

November 30. BLM-AZ. The public comment period ends for the Kingman Travel Management Plan and associated environmental assessment (EA) for BLM-managed public lands near the communities of Kingman, Wikieup, Bullhead City, Dolan Springs, Meadview, and Golden Valley in Mohave County.

Early December. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office has prepared a Notice of Realty Action on its proposal to convey approximately 43.09 acres of public land under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act to the Town of Lake City. The land is located about one mile south of Lake City. The Lake City Ski Hill community ski area would continue to operate under the conveyance. The field office is planning for a December publication in the Federal Register (pending WO and DOI approval).(4/24/18) DTS2329

Early December. BLM-ID. The Four Rivers Field Office is working with the City of Caldwell regarding the Mallard Park Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) patent. The City of Caldwell currently holds an R&PP lease with the BLM and is seeking patent of those lands, which total 29.57 acres. Developments constructed since the lease was instituted include sidewalks, parking lots, vault toilets, multiple gazebos, sports courts, an amphitheater and landscaping. The park has widespread support. This project is expected to be completed as soon as the environmental site assessment is completed. The patent will be issued to the City of Caldwell in December. (10/16/18)

Early December. BLM-OR/WA. The Burns District plans to begin conducting research to evaluate the safety, complication rate, and feasibility of ovariectomy via colpotomy (spay) on wild horse mares at Oregon's Wild Horse Corral Facility. Since the release of the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for this research (June 29, 2018), very strong activist campaign has arisen in opposition. The Cloud Foundation, American Wild Horse Campaign and Animal Welfare Institute jointly filed on September 21, 2018 for Injunctive Relief in the District of Oregon against the spay research. The complaint is specific to the spay procedures and does not involve the pending gathering of wild horses (expected to begin October 2)

from the Warm Springs Herd Management Area, which was also part of the EA. The complaint focuses heavily on alleged violations of First Amendment rights to observe and document the research, even though in-person observation from less than fifteen feet away is allowed, along with photography/filming. All public observation opportunities were developed with the safety of the horses, handlers, veterinarians, and public in mind. (9/25/2018)

Early December. BLM-ES. The BLM-Eastern States anticipates publishing a Federal Register notice for the solicitation of bids for a competitive 10-year renewable lease of the Equestrian Facility at the Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) near Lorton, Virginia. (4/20/18)

Early December. BLM-ES expects to publish in the Federal Register a Public Land Order for the U.S. Coast Guard's relinquishment of Lot 22 of the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (ONA) in Florida. (4/11/18)

Early December. BLM-ES. The BLM-Eastern States proposes transfer by quiet title deed a former railroad right-of-way (ROW) to the Village of Forsyth in Macon County, Illinois. The transfer was requested by the Village of Forsyth for use as a recreational trail, under authority of the National Trails System Act. The ROW is 200 feet wide and totals approximately 18 acres. This action has been reviewed by the Pittsburgh Field Solicitor's Office and the Washington Solicitor's Office. The transfer is supported by Congressman Rodney Davis (R-13-IL). (4/20/18)

Early December. BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District anticipates releasing the Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed expansion of the Coeur Rochester and Packard Mines in the Federal Register. The silver mine currently employs about 302 people and is located approximately 26 miles northeast of Lovelock, in Pershing County, Nevada. (10/30/18)

Early December. BLM-WY expects to publish in the Federal Register the Notice of Availability for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Moneta Divide Oil and Gas Development Project. Publication will begin a 90-day public comment period. Located near Lysite, Wyoming, the proposed project could recover up to 18 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and 254 million barrels of oil over its estimated 65-year lifespan and could support approximately 6,400 jobs during its 15-year development phase. The Draft EIS analyzes: amendments to the Casper Resource Management Plan, including establishment of a Production Area and increased protections for the Cedar Ridge Traditional Cultural Property and potential impacts to approximately 1.2 million acres of Greater sage-grouse Priority Habitat Management Areas. The Review Team briefing for this project is scheduled for November 30. (6/22/18)

Early December. BLM-CO is preparing a Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Transfer of Jurisdiction of two isolated BLM-managed parcels totaling 120 acres in Mesa County to the National Park Service's Colorado National Monument. The parcels are adjacent to the National Monument and are not contiguous with other BLM lands. The Colorado National

Monument's 2005 General Management Plan identified the two parcels as important for improving public access to popular trailheads. The notice would segregate the lands from location and entry under the mining laws for two years while studies are completed to recommend a 50-year withdrawal and transfer of jurisdiction. The segregation would not close the lands to mineral or geothermal laws, or mineral material laws. BLM-CO is planning for a December 2018 publication in the Federal Register(pending WO and DOI approval). (7/20/18)

Early December. BLM-ID. The Burley Field Office will issue a decision on the proposed modification of an existing mining Plan of Operations submitted by Sawtooth Stone LLC. The proposed modification would expand current operations by 33 acres to facilitate the quarrying of "Oakley Stone," a locatable mineral that has been determined to be an uncommon variety of micaceous quartzite. A 30-day scoping period for the plan of operations began in late October and a decision anticipated early December. (10/16/18)

Early December. BLM-NV will be requesting to brief the Review Team on the Draft EIS Development for the Yellow Pine Solar Project. In 2016, Yellow Pine Solar, LLC requested an amended right-of-way authorization for the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of a 250-megawatt photovoltaic power plant.

Early December. BLM-CO. BLM Colorado will close on its purchase of Eagle County Open Space's Two Bridges site (16.98 acres) along the Upper Colorado River for $500,000 through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The appraised fair market value of the property (located in the Colorado River Valley Field Office) is $850,000. The acquisition supports perpetual river access throughout the Upper Colorado River Special Recreation Management Area for fishing and other water-related recreation. The SRMA is heavily used throughout the year. (10/9/18)

Early December. BLM-CO will close on its purchase of Eagle County Open Space's State Bridge site (11.5 acres) along the Upper Colorado River for $1 million through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The appraised fair market value of the property is $1,425,000. The acquisition supports perpetual river access throughout the Upper Colorado River Special Recreation Management Area for fishing and other water-related recreation. The SRMA is heavily used throughout the year. (10/9/18)

December 4. BLM-AZ. The Hassayampa Field Office will hold a public meeting regarding a proposed Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act lease of a 1,046-acre parcel of public land in the Vulture Mountains for recreation development by Maricopa County. Under the proposal, the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department would develop a variety of recreation facilities at the site, including a visitors center, picnic tables and shelters, archery range, equestrian facilities, nature playground, restrooms with showers, campgrounds and interpretive kiosks. Portions of the Vulture Mine Road would also be improved and realigned by the Maricopa County Department of Transportation in order to improve access to the area. BLM has prepared an environmental assessment (EA). The EA provides analysis of the direct, indirect and cumulative effects of the R&PP lease and the right-of-way for the road improvements. The meeting will be held in Wickenburg, Ariz., and include presentations by

the BLM and Maricopa County. A 30-day public review period will also run from Nov. 20 until Dec. 19. (11/9/18)

December 6. The BLM-ES will participate in a second conference call with DoD and other parties who have an interest in energy development, and the gas storage agreements currently in place for Ft. Knox. An initial conference call was held on October 18, 2018, with personnel from the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy and Sustainability, Fort Knox, and BLM Southeastern States District Office. Discussion was centered on data sharing for 26 legacy gas wells. One of the topics for the December 6 call will be the development of an Implementation Plan for the newly enacted legislation addressing oil and gas development. The BLM is working in coordination with Fort Knox, Louisiana Gas & Electric, and the state of Kentucky to implement the new legislation and facilitate the successful execution of each entity's mission, including DoD's goal to achieve energy resilience at Fort Knox. (10/26/18)

December 10-13. BLM-NV. The Navy will host public meetings to discuss land withdrawals associated with the Fallon Naval Air Station expansion. The meetings will be held at the following locations: Hawthorne and Gabbs on December 10; Austin and Eureka on December 11; Fallon on December 12; Lovelock and Reno on December 13. These public meetings are pursuant to Public Land Order 7873, published in the Federal Register August 31, 2018: https://bit.ly/2qhEhHz (DTS 2127) (10/29/18)

December 10. BLM-UT. The Salt Lake Field Office, in coordination with the Utah State Office, plans to submit to the BLM Washington Office a recommendation to extend a 20-year withdrawal of 2,714.22 acres of public land from location and entry under the U.S. mining laws to protect aspects of the Central Utah Project. The existing withdrawal is located in the Uinta Wasatch Cache National Forest, in Utah County, and will expire in December 2019. The Central Utah Project is administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science. The project's Diamond Fork System consists of pipelines, tunnels, power plants, transmission lines, access roads, and other related structures that convey water from Strawberry Reservoir to the Wasatch Front. The Utah County Commission and the Governor's Office (via the Public Lands Policy Coordination Office) have expressed support for the withdrawal extension. (5/18/18)

December 11. BLM-WY plans to offer three parcels totaling 720 acres in its quarterly competitive oil and gas lease sale. The BLM originally planned to offer 581 parcels in this sale, but delayed leasing 579 parcels until February to comply with a District Court order mandating longer public input periods for lease sales in sage-grouse habitat. (11/9/18)

December 12. BLM-AK is scheduled to hold an oil and gas lease sale for the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A). The BLM received nominations for 254 available tracts (approximately 2.9 million acres) for lease. Currently, there are 196 authorized leases in the NPR-A covering 1,384,352 acres. This lease sale is the 14th since 1999 and will be the second to occur via video livestream. The Federal Register package with the Notice of the Sale published November 9. (10/5/18) DTS 2370

December 12-13. BLM-AK. The Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group invited BLM-Alaska to present an update on the Ambler Road Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) at the 2018 meeting in Anchorage. On June 18, 2018, the Working Group submitted a letter to Central Yukon Field Manager Tim LaMarr requesting that the Ambler Road EIS not be subject to the NEPA page and time limits imposed by Executive Order 13807 and Secretarial Order 3355. The group asked that the BLM also address its concerns at the December meeting. The group includes subsistence users, Alaskan hunters, reindeer herders, hunting guides, transporters, and conservationists. The Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Project is a proposal from the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (a state economic development agency) to build a 211-mile long gravel industrial road connecting the Ambler Mining District with the Dalton Highway. The Ambler Road project will cross through the Western Arctic Caribou Herd range. (10/5/18)

December 13. BLM-CO will hold its quarterly oil and gas lease sale. The BLM is offering 23 parcels totaling approximately 8,347 acres in the Colorado River Valley, Grand Junction, Kremmling, Little Snake, Royal Gorge and White River field offices. BLM Colorado submitted a memo on October 2, 2018, to move parcels in Greater Sage-Grouse, big game habitat and parcels in the North Fork Valley to a later sale. BLM Colorado is assessing the October 18, U.S. District Court of Colorado opinion on the Colorado River Valley Field Office Resource Management Plan, and its potential impacts on the field office's parcels for the upcoming sale. The sale's protest period closed Nov. 5. (11/9/18)

December 14. BLM-ID. The Bruneau Field Office anticipates issuing two proposed grazing decisions to renew grazing permits, restore riparian areas, protect cultural resources, and incorporate range improvement projects across 187,537 acres of BLM-administered lands in the Big Springs Allotment. The lands affected lie entirely within a Greater Sage-Grouse Priority Habitat Management Area and contain Wilderness Areas and Wild and Scenic River segments. The Environmental Assessment (EA) was released on August 30, 2017, for public review, and the field manager has been meeting with permittees, state and federal agencies, and other interested publics to address comments on the EA before issuing any decisions. There is no anticipated reduction in Animal Unit Months as a result of the forthcoming decisions. Three environmental groups (Wilderness Watch, Western Watersheds Project, and WildLands Defense) are expected to protest and appeal the decisions. (2/7/18)

Mid-December. BLM-NM. The Las Cruces District Office plans to publish the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Copper Flat Copper Mining Project. The New Mexico Copper Corporation submitted a proposed mining plan of operations (MPO) that would re-establish the Copper Flat Copper Mine, a poly-metallic mine and processing facility near Hillsboro, N.M., that would produce copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum. If approved, the project is expected to provide 170-270 jobs over the 12-to-16-year life of the mine. The proposed MPO is based on the plan of development the Quintana Mineral Corporation used in its 1982 Copper Flat mining operation. The MPO includes upgrades and modifications based on current engineering designs and regulations and was intentionally developed to re-use the existing foundations, production wells, and water pipeline that were used by the Quintana operation. (5/25/18)

Mid-December. BLM-NV. The Battle Mountain District, Tonopah Field Office will publish the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Gemfield Mine Project.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

UPDATED ITEMS

By late-November, BOEM expects to submit the Final Rule updating its air quality regulations related to oil, gas, and sulfur operations on the OCS to OMB for interagency review. This Final Rule significantly decreases the regulatory burden on industry compared to the Proposed Rule, while still meeting BOEM's statutory responsibilities under the OCSLA. A narrative describing the reduction to costs as compared to the proposed rule (Reduction to Costs Narrative) and the rule text are currently with the Department for review. (8/2/18, DTS #2280 (Rule), DTS #2454 (Reduction to Costs Narrative))

BOEM has prepared multiple Calls for Information and Nominations (Calls) for lease sales proposed for 2019 and 2020 in the 2019-2024 Draft Proposed Program. The GOM Multisale Call (DTS #2378) is in surnaming with ASLM and expected to publish in early December concurrently with the Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS. The Mid-Atlantic Call (DTS #2257), the South Atlantic Call (DTS #2258), the Southern California Call (DTS #2388), and the Chukchi Sea Call (DTS #2385) are currently being held pending direction on the National Program. (9/21/18)

ONGOING ITEMS

By late-November, BOEM expects to publish a Request for Competitive Interest for an area proposed to be used for a right-of-way (ROW) project called Atlantic Link. This is a proposed project connecting onshore wind and hydro power in Canada to the Massachusetts market via a 350 mile HvDC submarine cable traversing the OCS. The notice is in surnaming. (DTS #1773)

In Late November, BOEM expects to publish a Request for Competitive Interest for an area proposed to be used for a right-of-way (ROW) project from Anbaric Development Partners (ADP). The application is for the New York and New Jersey Ocean Grid, an HVDC submarine system which would collect and distribute power generated from existing offshore wind leases to up to six terrestrial landings at locations from Long Island, New York to Cardiff, New Jersey. BOEM has qualified ADP and has posted the application to its website. (10/15/18, DTS #2208)

On November 28, BOEM is holding a meeting of the New York Bight Intergovernmental Task Force in New York City. The focus of the meeting will be to discuss draft Wind Energy Areas prior to BOEM's finalization of the Area ID process. BOEM's Acting Director plans to attend. (10/15/18)

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

ONGOING ITEMS

Well Control Rule (WCR) (AA39) - The AA39 proposed rule comment period closed on August 6. Publication in the Federal Register is anticipated for mid to late January, 2019. Submission to OMB is anticipated scheduled for December, 2018. A surnaming event has been scheduled by the Deputy Secretary on Thursday, November 29 at 2:30pm.

The Arctic Rule: BSEE and BOEM continue to make arrangements for the Tribal consultation meetings (targeted for **December 3 thru December 14**). On September 20, 2018, BSEE's and BOEM's Alaska Regional Directors signed the invitation letters, which were then mailed to the potentially affected tribes, ANCSA Corporations, and municipalities. A total of 27 letters were mailed to these entities. During the week of **October 29,** BSEE-AK and BOEM-AK continued their outreach to the tribes, corporations, and municipalities to confirm their interest in this rulemaking and agree on a time to meet. Aside from the Tribal consultation arrangements, the bureaus continue to have internal discussions regarding the key policy options and the data needs for the economic, environmental, and information collection analyses that will support the proposed regulations.

Consideration of Pilot Program for ACT Program (Accelerating Compliance Together) Document was approved by the Deputy Secretary. BSEE is anticipating a **January 1, 2019** implementation for the pilot program. The rollout plan is under development by the Gulf of Mexico region and identifies the required program components and communication materials.

<u>Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement</u>

NEW ITEMS

Illinois' Diversion of Abandoned Mined Land (AML) Funds: OSMRE was informed this week by Illinois program officials that the enactment of a new state law, Public Act 100-1107, authorizes the State Treasurer to divert monies from various trust funds for utilization and investment by the State. As we were informed and have confirmed, sometime during the month of October, the State of Illinois "statutorily transferred" $50 million out of the State's AML "Set-Aside" fund. These funds provided to the State for the purpose of treating acid and toxic drainage from abandoned mined lands is funded through AML grants issued by OSMRE. This is not the first time Illinois has similarly inappropriately diverted AML funds, having previously done so in 2005 and 2008. On both previous occasions, OSMRE informed the State that those diversions were considered an inappropriate diversion of federal funds from their intended use and the funds were returned. OSMRE is currently discussing taking a similar action here. Additionally, we were told by Illinois program officials that they believed this "statutory transfer" impacted other Department of the Interior funds from other bureaus as well. We, however, have not yet been able to confirm that occurrence. (11/7/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

Notice of Intent to File Suit: On or about September 7, 2018, the Secretary and the Acting Director received a Notice of Intent to File Suit over an alleged failure to perform an alleged mandatory duty under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act from the WildEarth Guardians (WEG). WEG alleges that the agency failed to "promptly promulgate regulations to limit toxic blasting emissions at coal mines after granting a petition for rulemaking." SMCRA allows OSMRE 60 days to respond to the NOI before an action can be filed. The Solicitor's Office has provided OSMRE with options to consider in response to the NOI. OSMRE sent response letter to WEG on November 6, 2018, indicating that OSMRE would publish its decision in the *Federal Register* within 90 days. (10/18/2018)

Mason Coal (KY): The Kentucky Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement (KYDMR) informed OSMRE that on or about October 25, 2018, it became aware that Mason Coal was operating an underground coal mine and surface facility without a valid mining permit. The operation employs approximately 15-22 employees and estimated production is approximately 100,000 to 110,000 tons per year. Despite the KY requirements and KYDMR's reminders to the operator, Mason failed to renew its mining permit as required. Due to the permit not being renewed, KYDMR notified Mason that the permit had expired and that the company was required to immediately cease mining operations. On or about October 26, 2018, KYDMR received a Restraining Order (Civil Action No. 18-CI-00697; Floyd Circuit Court, Division No. I) enjoining KYDMR "from enforcing the Mine Inspection Report issued by Defendants on or about October 25, 2018, or taking any other action to prevent Plaintiff from continuing its mining operations on the site permitted under surface coal mining and reclamation operation Permit No. 836-5625." KYDMR conducted a follow-up inspection on October 29, 2018, and discovered that the Company was actively mining on an invalid permit. KYDMR informed OSMRE that, due to the court order, it had no other enforcement options and requested technical assistance in determining how to prohibit Mason from illegally conducting surface mining activities without a valid surface mining permit.

Upon notification, OSMRE reviewed the matter, engaged the Office of the Solicitor and concluded that Mason was conducting surface mining activities without a valid mining permit. Pursuant to 30 CFR 843.11(a)(2), the issuance of a Federal Imminent Harm Cessation Order (IHCO) was required. OSMRE issued an IHCO to Mason on November 1, compelling the company to cease coal mining operations. Mason complied with the IHCO and ceased coal production upon receipt of the order. Mason has also filed an application for a new mining permit with the KYDMR. OSMRE is working with Mason and the Office of the Solicitor on further, appropriate abatement options. On November 7, 2018, OSMRE signed a Settlement Agreement (SA) with Mason agreeing not to oppose Mason's request for temporary relief from the IHCO, under the terms of the SA. (11/2/2018)

Rosebud Mine (MT): The OSMRE Western Region is jointly preparing an EIS with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. The EIS will be used to support a recommendation on the mining plan for Area F of the Rosebud Mine. A draft Final EIS is currently under review by the Office of the Solicitor and the OSMRE Western Region expects to submit its Notice of Availability for the Final EIS to the EPA on or around November 19, 2018, for publication in the Federal Register by Friday, November 30, 2018. The DOI notice

release briefing occurred on Friday, November 9, 2018. The Record of Decision will be issued within 30 days after publication in the *Federal Register*. (9/20/2018)

Coyote Creek Mining (ND): The public scoping period concluded on October 29, 2018. On October 30, 2018, the project conducted a site visit and issues identification meeting at Coyote Creek Mine outside Beulah, ND. Attendees included representatives from OSMRE, BLM, ND Public Service Commission, Otter Tail Power Company, USFWS, and Coyote Creek Mining Company as well as the DOI solicitor. After walking through preliminary issues to be considered for analysis, additional data requests from resource specialists were submitted to the contractor. (10/31/18)

Pollyanna #8 (OK): On July 10, 2018, OSMRE received approval from BLM of the Resource Recovery and Protection Plan and the coal lease modification for the Pollyanna #8 mine. OSMRE held a meeting with OSMRE HQ on August 8 for a kickoff meeting. Georges Colliers Inc. Pollyanna #8 mine is an underground coal mine expected to use room and pillar retreat mining methods. The mine, located in LeFlore County, OK, consists of 3.37 million tons of recoverable coal overlain by 520 private surface acres. The state regulatory authority approved the revision with conditions on July 25, 2018. A call from the contractor on July 24, 2018, working for Georges Colliers Inc. informed OSMRE that the company will complete mining the remaining panels in approximately 2 weeks with an additional 3-4 weeks of retreat mining before completion. Based on issues with BLM's subsidence analysis, however, OSMRE has had to complete a supplemental EA to adequately analyze the impacts of subsidence. OSMRE is scheduled to initiate the public review period on the draft EA and FONSI, on November 20, 2018. Public notice will include posting the two draft documents on the agency's website and electronic notification to interested parties as well as publication in a newspaper of local distribution. The public comment period will close on December 20, 2018. (9/26/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

On or about October 2, 2018, the Secretary and the OSMRE Regional Director, Western Region, received a **Notice of Intent to File Suit** over an alleged failure to perform a mandatory duty under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, Administrative Procedures Act, and National Environmental Policy Act, from the WildEarth Guardians (WEG). WEG alleges that the agency failed to "prepare mining plan modifications for expansions of Areas A and B of the Rosebud Mine in Rosebud, Montana, and an associated NEPA analyses." SMCRA allows OSMRE 60 days to respond to the NOI before an action can be brought. The Solicitor's Office is reviewing the NOI. (10/18/2018)

Justice Companies' Bevins Branch Mine: On October 10, 2018, Kentucky Department of Natural Resources (KYDNR) formally requested technical assistance from OSMRE in assessing the flooding problems reported in Pike County, Kentucky, which purportedly, was being caused by the Kentucky Fuel Corporation's, Bevins Branch Mine, which is owned by the Justice Companies. KYDNR believed the mining operation had contributed to the off-site impacts to the citizens and the environment. After conducting an on-site inspection with the State, OSMRE issued an Imminent Danger/Imminent Harm Cessation Order (IDCO/IHCO), with an abatement date of October 17. OSMRE staff, along with a KYDMR

inspector, went to the site on the October 17, to see if the permittee had started abating the violations. The permittee had moved 3 pieces of equipment to the site. After observing the site, the reclamation specialists determined that the IDCO/IHCO should be modified to extend the abatement times and include the notice and abatement requirements of other non-compliant conditions discovered after analyzing the information and findings from last week's technical assistance visit. Based on further review of the technical information, permit requirements, and inspection findings, and after consultation with the Solicitor's Office, OSMRE vacated the original IDCO/IHCO and replaced it with a new IDCO/IHCO. The new IDCO/IHCO more clearly addresses the required abatement and the non-compliance conditions that contributed to the flooding event. In addition, a new off-site impact (slide) was observed and cited. The replacement IDCO/IHCO was completed on October 18, and service of process initiated on Friday, October 19, 2018. The company's remedial measures to satisfy the IHCO were not met. A package of alternative enforcement or other measures was referred to the Knoxville Solicitors for consideration. On November 7, 2018, the Knoxville Field Solicitor's Office submitted the draft package to OSMRE (field office directors, financial office, AVS office, and the Regional Director), SOL DMR, and Deputy Solicitor EMR for review and comment. In order to facilitate timely review and communication, the recipients were asked to consider the package concurrently. Once the Knoxville Field Solicitor's Office receives and incorporates any suggested edits, the package will be elevated to the Acting Director for review and to the Principal Deputy Solicitor for review and approval. (10/16/2018)

Evans-McCurtain Mine is a proposed new coal mine operation located in the State of Oklahoma on approximately 1,300 acres. An OSMRE mining engineer and hydrologist are working with BLM staff on development of the leasing NEPA document. This NEPA document will analyze both the leasing and mining plan decision document effects. This collaboration will reduce the time frames after the lease is issued and the mining plan decision document can begin. The remaining reserves on the proposed lease are recoverable only by underground methods. BLM expects a final decision on the leasing by late November 2018.

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

Bureau of Land Management

NEW ITEMS

Mid-December. BLM-CO. BLM anticipates finalizing a consent order with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to address groundwater contamination from a closed landfill near Fairplay. The landfill, which lies on BLM land, was leased to Park County under a Recreation and Public Purposes lease from the early 1970s to the early 1990s. The landfill was not closed in compliance with solid waste disposal regulations. Groundwater monitoring in several wells in the area (including two residential wells) indicated the presence of a potential carcinogen in levels that exceed regulatory limits. (11/16/18)

December 28. BLM-NM. The Carlsbad Field Office anticipates publishing the Notice of Availability (NOA) for its Proposed Final Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. The Plan outlines the BLM's long-term landscape-level plans and goals for public lands in Lea, Chaves, and Eddy Counties. The planning area includes approximately 2.1 million acres of federal surface land and 3 million acres of BLM-managed mineral estate in Chaves, Eddy, and Lea Counties. (11/16/18)

UPDATED ITEMS

December 11. BLM-MT/DK will offer 23 nominated parcels, covering 12,517 acres at the December 2018 oil and gas lease sale. The preliminary parcel worksheet was posted on July 6 for the 15-day scoping period. Parcels impacted (76 lease parcels covering 54,207 acres) by the Preliminary Injunction in Western Watersheds Project v. Zinke (D. Idaho September 21, 2018) were moved to the March 2019 lease sale. A total of 20 parcels (10,586) were moved from the December 2018 sale. The updated Environmental Assessment and final sale notice was posted October 23 for a 10-day protest period. Two protests were received. The 23 parcels/12,517 acres to be leased are located in the Butte Field Office (Lewis and Clark County), Havre Field Office (Blaine, Glacier and Toole counties), and the Miles City Field Office (Big Horn, Dawson and Sheridan counties). (10/16/18)

December 13. BLM-ES will offer 18 parcels totaling 3,195.12 acres at a competitive online oil and gas lease sale. Eight parcels of public domain minerals underlying private surface are in Stone and Cleburne Counties, Arkansas; one privately owned surface parcel overlying public domain minerals is in Muskegon County, Michigan; seven parcels are within the Manistee National Forest, Muskegon County, Michigan; and two parcels are within the Wayne National Forest, Monroe County, Ohio. The sale notice was posted to ePlanning following internal review October 26. The 10-day protest period ended November 5. The Center for Biological Diversity filed a timely protest for the two parcels in the Wayne National Forest. BLM-ES is reviewing and preparing the draft response for SOL review. (10/19/18)

December 14. BLM-CO. The 30-day public comment period for the environmental analyses for BLM-CO's March 2019 oil and gas lease sale will close. BLM is considering offering 26 parcels totaling approximately 14,052 acres in the Colorado River Valley, Grand Junction, Kremmling, Little Snake, Royal Gorge and White River field offices. (11/9/18)

Mid-December. BLM-UT anticipates publishing a Federal Register Notice to announce the Milford Flat Solar Energy Zone competitive lease sale. The BLM responded to substantive comments in the Final Environmental Assessment (EA). Changes were made to the EA and Decision Record to alleviate some of the identified concerns, including deferring one parcel (Parcel D) from the current lease sale. A Decision Record was signed on July 23, 2018 to approve offering three parcels of public land in Beaver County, totaling 4,836 acres. No appeals were received on the decision. Bids will be accepted for a 30-day period concluding in late December. (2/21/18)

Mid-December. BLM-ID. Tri-State Fuel Breaks Project: BLM Idaho expects to request a BLM Director's Office and Review Team briefing regarding publication of a Notice of Availability of a DEIS for a comprehensive system of fuel breaks in southwest Idaho, southeast Oregon and northern Nevada. These fuel breaks will be designed to provide firefighters with safe areas to engage fire, reducing the likelihood of large wildland fires that may spread across hundreds of thousands of acres, impacting sage-grouse habitat and the grazing economy for many years. This effort involves coordination among the Boise, Vale, Winnemucca and Elko BLM Districts. (11/1/18)

Mid-December. BLM-UT. The BLM anticipates publishing a Federal Register Notice to announce the Milford Flat Solar Energy Zone competitive lease sale. The BLM responded to substantive comments in the Final Environmental Assessment (EA). Changes were made to the EA and Decision Record to alleviate some of the identified concerns, including deferring one parcel (Parcel D) from the current lease sale. A Decision Record was signed on July 23, 2018 to approve offering three parcels of public land in Beaver County, totaling 4,836 acres. No appeals were received on the decision. Bids will be accepted for a 30-day period concluding in late December. (2/21/18)

Late December. BLM-NV. The Humboldt River Field Office plans to publish the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Marigold Mine Mackay Optimization Project. The proposal includes expanding an existing gold mine to combine existing open pits into three larger pits and extend mine life by up to 10 years, to 2037. (10/29/18)

ONGOING ITEMS

Mid-December. BLM-ID. The Boise District anticipates publishing a Notice of Exchange Proposal announcing 31,026 acres (11 parcels) of federal lands being exchanged for the 23,878 acres (40 parcels) of state land. The Owyhee Land Exchange was proposed for the purpose of acquiring State-owned lands located within or abutting wilderness areas in Owyhee County that were designated by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. The BLM is consulting with the tribes and will soon be working with the State Historic Preservation Office and part of the clearance process. The Boise District anticipates at least some local media interest once a notice is issued. (10/30/18)

Mid- December. BLM-NV. The Black Rock Field Office anticipates releasing the draft of the Burning Man Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). (10/1/18)

Bureau of Offshore Energy Management

NEW ITEMS

BOEM received notice on November 6, 2018, that the Assistant Secretary of Commerce had sent a letter to the Secretary of the Interior requesting consultation on the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (FGBNMS) proposed expansion. BOEM has not yet seen the letter. Under Section 4 of Executive Order (EO) 13795, Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy, BOEM must respond within 60 days of a consultation request with

a determination of the potential impact of the proposed expansion on the development of oil and gas, renewable, and marine mineral resource potential in the area of proposed expansion. (11/16/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

On December 13, BOEM will be holding a public meeting on the California Offshore Wind Call for Information and Nominations in San Luis Obispo, California. The meeting will be open house format with a short presentation on the Call process and overview of the information BOEM is looking to obtain during the comment period. A laptop station will be available for the public to offer comments on Regulations.gov. The comment period closes on January 28, 2019. (11/5/2018)

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

ONGOING ITEMS

West Elk Mine (CO): In coordination with the Regional Solicitors Office, OSMRE Western Region will delay the previously scheduled October 22nd submission of a Record of Decision (ROD) and a notice of adoption clearance briefing form to the DOI Review Team for OSMRE's adoption of the 2017 U.S. Forest Service's West Elk Mine Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Federal Coal Lease Modifications COC-1362 & COC-67232. On September 26, an Initial Action Notice brief was provided. No oral briefing was requested by the DOI Review Team. The cause of the delay is attributed to OSMRE's decision to consider the findings of an imminent report that will be provided by the West Elk Mine to the BLM in accordance with the stipulations of their lease regarding the feasibility of methane capture and flaring. OSMRE is coordinating with the BLM regarding an expedited review and concurrence finding on the report. While OSMRE does not expect the report will change the findings of the ROD, in coordination with counsel, OSMRE agrees that incorporating the findings of the report will be beneficial to the defensibility of the decision. At this time, a date certain for the DOI Review Team notice of adoption clearance briefing and publishing of the notice of adoption in the Federal Register is not known.

Awareness

Bureau of Land Management

Fall 2018. The Biomass Research and Development Board is seeking agency concurrence on the Bioeconomy Initiative Plan (Plan) to be approved by DOI. The Plan lays out the strategy for interagency coordination on bioeconomy research designed to accelerate innovative technologies that harness America's biomass resources. The Board is chaired by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of Energy (DOE). USDA and DOE have the majority of the responsibility for the Plan. BLM sits on the Biomass Research and Development Board. BLM provides biomass from public domain lands; one power plant in Northern California co-produces energy from geothermal resources and biomass harvested from BLM lands.

Bureau of Offshore Energy Management

The BOEM MOU with The Netherlands on offshore wind cooperation has been cleared by the Department. BOEM is currently in discussions with representatives from the government regarding the details of a signing event. Additionally, BOEM has received edits back from the Norwegian energy ministry regarding the draft MOU with DOI on offshore energy and mineral resources cooperation. The Norway MOU is expected to begin the clearance process within DOI by late November. (11/16/18)

BOEM is currently reviewing a draft document related to the London Protocol, entitled "Revision of the Specific Guidelines for Assessment of Platforms or Other Man-Made Structures at Sea" document. BOEM and BSEE comments will be combined and provided to the Department for review by late November. (11/8/18)

The World Ocean Assessment (WOA) is a process established by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly to provide an overall assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects. The first WOA (WOA-I) was released in 2015 and subsequent WOAs are expected to be generated every five years in order to document trends in the state of the marine environment. WOA-I is comprised of 57 chapters and a technical summary. BOEM contributed to WOA-I at various levels (including co-authoring two chapters: *Chapter 49: Salt Marshes* and *Chapter 22: Other Marine-Based Energy Industries*). The second round of the WOA (WOA-II) plans to build on the first round to provide an updated assessment of the state of the marine environment. WOA-II is expected to include more than thirty chapters plus a technical summary. The Department of State (DOS) is coordinating WOA-II engagement in the United States. The DOS coordinator discussed the WOA-II nomination process at a Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology (SOST) meeting and requested federal agencies to circulate the information. BOEM has been requested to provide support on multiple chapters (including: *Chapter 20: Changes in Hydrocarbon Exploration and Extraction* and *Chapter 22: Development in Renewable Energy Sources*). (11/8/18)

BOEM submitted a final Biological Assessment to NMFS for the Gulf of Mexico Geological and Geophysical Programmatic Endangered Species Act Consultation in July 2013. BOEM received a copy of the draft Biological Opinion (BiOp) from NMFS on Friday June 22, 2018. BOEM submitted a summary response of substantive issues with the BiOp to NMFS on September 13, 2018, along with the more detailed track changes comments in the draft BiOp.

NMFS will not meet the original November 1, 2018, deadline or the February 1, 2019, deadline extension for issuance of a final BiOp pursuant to the NRDC litigation. BOEM and NMFS staff initiated a bi-weekly meeting to address and resolve issues and comments in the BiOp. A completion date remains unclear. NOAA has informed BOEM that they will request an extension from the court beyond the February 1, 2019, deadline to issue a final BiOp pursuant to the NRDC litigation. (6/29/18)

On October 22, BOEM submitted a conference approval package to ASLM for 2019 meetings of the National Academies Committee on Offshore Science and Assessment (COSA). BOEM is also planning to contract with the NAS to peer review the BOEM air quality study of the Gulf of Mexico, but is holding moving forward with the peer review pending verbal approval by ASLM (no written authorization is needed). The peer review is particularly time-sensitive because the review should be completed within the term of the underlying study contract. (10/15/18, DTS #2244).

BOEM has finalized its FY19 National Studies List for the Environmental Studies Program (ESP). This list covers both new studies starts, as well as on-going studies. Mandated by Section 20 of the OCSLA, ESP develops, funds, and manages rigorous scientific research specifically to inform policy decisions on the development of energy and mineral resources on the OCS. Research covers physical oceanography, atmospheric sciences, biology, protected species, social sciences and economics, submerged cultural resources and environmental fates and effects. One study on the list (*Atlantic Marine Assessment Program for Protected Species III*) will require additional ASLM approval due to the fact that it will be a new procurement with individual project costs projected to exceed $3,000,000 (pursuant to requirements in Departmental Manual 218). This study is an *Inter-agency Agreement* with NOAA to collect broad scale and long-term data on protected species in the Atlantic OCS. The cost of the study is $6.4 million over 5 years. The request for approval of this study is with ASLM (DTS# 2424). (9/28/18)

BOEM's Pacific Region has accepted the Multi-Obligee Performance Bonds from Beta Operating Company LLC. These bonds will replace the existing surety bonds for decommissioning purposes presently on file with BOEM. On September 28, BOEM sent a letter to the trustee directing it to release the funds from the Trust Account that are being replaced by the new bond. Following receipt of the letter, Aera (the predecessor lessee) requested a meeting with the Regional Director. On October 5, Aera filed an emergency motion in an attempt to block distribution of the funds. On October 10, BOEM was notified that the bank had released all but $1 million of the funds. The $1 million was retained in case there is a lawsuit. On October 30, AERA, Shell, Noble, and Exxon met with the BOEM Acting Director. A follow up meeting was held on November 15. On October 31, the District Court affirmed the ruling of the bankruptcy court's decision that allowed BOEM to direct the Trustee to release the funds. (8/13/18)

Well Stimulation Litigation (Environmental Defense Center & Santa Barbara Channelkeeper, Center for Biological Diversity and Wishtoyo Foundation, and State of California): There were three lawsuits filed in Nov and Dec 2017 that have been consolidated into one case. The claims can be summarized as follows: (A) There are several flaws and faults in the

programmatic EA (released in May 2016) for well stimulation treatments, (B) The California Coastal Commission has had no opportunity to review the activities for consistency with the Coastal Zone Management Act, (C) The government was required but failed to comply with the Endangered Species Act with regard to approval of well stimulation treatments. American Petroleum Institute, ExxonMobil Corporation, and DCOR, LLC, are intervenors. The hearing was held Nov 5 in Los Angeles; the judge concluded that Interior satisfied its obligations under NEPA but did not satisfy its obligations under CZMA and ESA. (11/16/2018)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLICY, MANAGEMENT, AND BUDGET

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Susan Combs, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the authority of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, will be on leave Monday and in the office the rest of the week.

Scott Cameron, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

On December 7, Susan Combs is attending the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission in Washington, DC.

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

UPDATED ITEMS

The FY 2019 reprogramming action regarding FWS' proposal to reorganize administrative functions is pending before the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee. The 30 day review period ends November 29. (11/20/2018)

The Office of Budget is in the process of submitting the FY 2019 reprogramming package to Congress to implement proposed changes in the Office of Policy, Management and Budget organization chart. The letter discloses the proposed changes for two existing Deputy Assistant Secretary positions. (11/20/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

OMB is targeting the week of November 27 to transmit or passback their FY 2020 funding decisions. Once the passback decisions are received, agencies will have a limited number of days in which to submit appeals. (10/19/2018)

On December 7, the FY 2019 Continuing Resolution providing ongoing appropriations for DOI (with the exception of Bureau of Reclamation and CUPCA) is set to expire. The Office

of Human Capital is updating the OS Contingency Plan employee list for exempt, excepted and non-excepted employees. (11/20/2018)

The Office of Budget is compiling information on estimated damages from hurricanes and other major events (volcanoes) this season to inform Departmental leadership. The Appropriations Committees have requested information. There has been no formal request for this information from OMB. (11/14/2018)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services (DAS PRE)

NEW ITEMS

From December 4-7, Inter-agency Borderland Coordinator (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) is conducting interagency field visits in CA at scheduled Border Patrol (BP) replacement fence projects. At the request of the BP, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) will focus on the San Diego and El Centro sectors to discuss replacement projects in San Diego, Tecate, and Calexico. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) will coordinate with representatives from BP, EPA, FWS and BLM. (11/20/2018)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Policy and Environmental Management (PEM)

NEW ITEMS

On December 7, the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) Executive Board will meet to review and discuss the recommended funding amounts for the Department's natural resource damage assessment cases for Calendar Year 2019. The total amount of funding requested is $3.6 million for damage assessment activities, which includes requests from 23 ongoing cases, 49 cases planning to continue using carryover funds from previous years, and 3 requests for new cases. If approved, the funding will be distributed to case teams during the month of January. The Executive Board is comprised of career senior executives from bureaus and offices affected by NRDAR. (11/20/2018)

Chief Human Capital Officer & Deputy Assistant Secretary - Human Capital and Diversity

UPDATED ITEMS

On November 29, DOI's response to Executive Order 13839: Promoting Accountability and Streamlining Removal Procedures Consistent with Merit System Principles is due to OPM. DOI will report on employee misconduct and performance cases. (11/20/2018)

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services (DAS PRE)

ONGOING ITEMS

From December 11-13, Office of Wildland Fire Director Jeff Rupert will attend the Intertribal Timber Council (ITC) quarterly meeting in Portland, OR where he will provide an update on DOI priorities and initiatives to the ITC Fire Subcommittee. (10/24/2018)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Policy and Environmental Management (PEM)

NEW ITEMS

On December 14, Michaela Noble, the Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) Director, will present to the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) on the Department's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) streamlining initiatives at CEQ's quarterly NEPA Inter-agency Contacts meeting. (Washington, DC; no press) (11/20/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

The Office of Policy Analysis (PPA) is collaborating with the Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) on the implementation of a pilot to address fuels treatment, based on PPA's analysis. The expected timeframe to complete a pilot for one wildfire is by the end of December. (11/20/2018)

Chief Human Capital Officer & Deputy Assistant Secretary - Human Capital and Diversity

NEW ITEMS

By January 31, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) will submit the DOI's No Fear Report for the 1st quarter of FY19, pursuant to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (the No Fear Act). The report provides summary statistical data pertaining to complaints of employment discrimination filed against the Department by employees, former employees and applicants for employment. (11/20/2018)

By January 31, the Office of Human Capital will issue the revised Departmental policy on developing efficient, effective, and cost-reducing approaches to collective bargaining and use of taxpayer funded union time in light of August 2018 District Court decision that enjoined several provisions of the Executive Orders (13836, 13837, and 13839) on civil service reforms. The policy will continue to highlight the overarching principles and themes intended by the Executive Orders, while following the court's decision. (11/20/2018)

Awareness

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

NEW ITEMS

GAO recently met with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service in an entrance conference to discuss "Looting and Trafficking of Native American Cultural Items" in response to requests from the Chairman of the House

Judiciary Committee; Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations; and Congressman Pearce. (Washington DC, no press) (11/20/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

The FY 2018 Agency Financial Report was issued on time on November 15th. DOI received its 22nd consecutive unmodified (clean) audit opinion. Two prior year significant deficiencies related to controls over Accounts Payable and Information Technology were remediated. One significant deficiency remains related to General Property, Plant, and Equipment. (11/20/2018)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Policy and Environmental Management (PEM)

NEW ITEMS

For DOI's Reorganization, a list of recommended locations for regional hubs and possible bureau headquarters is currently under review by PMB leadership. (11/20/2018)

PMB is evaluating the costs/benefits to the DOI of the Interior Business Center (IBC). The Office of Policy Analysis (PPA) completed a paper that evaluated IBC's activities and provided some next steps; this paper was provided to PMB decision makers on 11/9/18. A quantitative assessment of the costs and benefits of IBC within DOI is not possible given the lack of readily available data. (11/20/2018)

Chief Human Capital Officer & Deputy Assistant Secretary - Human Capital and Diversity

NEW ITEMS

The Office of Human Capital is meeting with the Veterans Administration on capabilities of the DOI HR SMIS system and possibilities for collaboration. VA is interested in utilizing DOI's SMIS system for their organization including injury and illness records; data reporting; and inspection and abatement system. (11/20/2018)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR WATER AND SCIENCE

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

For the week of November 25, Assistant Secretary Tim Petty is in the DC office with routine, mostly internal, meetings. On Friday, November 30, he is hosting a meet-and-greet, inviting a number of congressional staff who work on Water & Science related issues to get to know our bureau congressional affairs staff and other team members.

On November 25, Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman is scheduled to be on vacation for the Thanksgiving holiday. From November 26 – 30 Commissioner Burman will be in San

Diego attending the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) conference, for which she will be a keynote speaker on Thursday, November 29.

On November 25 - December 1, USGS Director Jim Reilly will be in Reston, Va./Washington, D.C. On November 27, Director Reilly will attend the State of Education Luncheon in Falls Church, where USGS is a finalist for the 2018 Workforce Development Partner of the Year. On November 28, Director Reilly will tour the National Reconnaissance Office Foundation Lab, Chantilly, VA.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

NEW ITEMS

On November 28, Reclamation plans to release the Coordinated Operations Agreement Environmental Assessment (EA) for a one-week public review and comment period. The EA follows Reclamation's Notice of Negotiation letter, issued this August. The Coordinated Operations Agreement outlines how Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) coordinate operation of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, both located in California. Reclamation and DWR began reviewing the agreement in June 2016 and held numerous stakeholder meetings to solicit input throughout the process. Media attention is anticipated, and it will be an item of discussion at the Association of California Water Agencies conference the week of November 26. (11/19/2018)

On November 30, Reclamation plans to release for public review the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Mendota Pool Group (MPG) 20-Year Exchange Program. The proposed project would allow MPG farmers in the Mendota Pool area (California) to continue to pump up to 26,250 acre-feet per year of groundwater of suitable quality to the Mendota Pool for exchange of up to 25,000 acre-feet per year of Central Valley Project water delivered to Westlands via the San Luis Canal for use by MPG farmers. (11/19/2018)

On December 5, Reclamation plans to hold a public meeting for the Bonny Reservoir Resource Management Plan and Environmental Assessment as part of a 30-day public comment period that began in November. Bonny Reservoir is located in eastern Colorado on the Republican River, which flows into Kansas and Nebraska. In 2011, Colorado decided to drain the reservoir in order to comply with the 1943 Republican River Compact between Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska. (11/19/2018)

On December 6, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the draft Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment on the Clipper Center Lateral Pipeline Project located in Delta County, Colorado. The project would replace approximately 4.3 miles of open irrigation ditch with buried pipe. The purpose of the project is to prevent seepage and reduce salinity loading in the Colorado River Basin. Local media interest is anticipated. (11/19/2018)

Between December 10-14, Reclamation plans to submit a report to Congress and governors of the seven Colorado River Basin States regarding the Operations of Glen Canyon Dam (Arizona) for water years 2017 and 2018. The report is prepared and submitted annually in accordance with provisions of the 1992 Grand Canyon Protection Act (Public Law 102-575) (GCPA). Five agencies within the Department of the Interior have responsibilities and undertake actions pursuant to the GCPA and have submitted sections for this report. No news release is anticipated and media interest is expected to be light. (11/19/2018)

Between December 10-14, Reclamation plans to submit a recommendation from the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG) for consideration by the Secretary. The AMWG is a federal advisory committee tasked with providing the Department of the Interior with input and recommendations on the operation of Glen Canyon Dam (Arizona). The AMWG recommends, by consensus, continued implementation of the Adaptive Management Program triennial budget and work plan for fiscal years 2018 through 2020. The Secretary's decision regarding the recommendation will be distributed to AMWG members, other relevant stakeholders, and to the five Department agencies with associated responsibilities. No news release is anticipated and media interest is expected to be moderate. (11/19/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

Between November 25 and December 14, Reclamation plans to announce the projects selected to receive Title XVI, Water Reclamation and Reuse funding. Reclamation provides funding through the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program for projects that reclaim and reuse municipal, industrial, domestic or agricultural wastewater and naturally impaired ground or surface waters. (09/10/2018)

Between November 25 and November 30, Reclamation plans to provide the FY 2019 WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant evaluation criteria for a 30-day public review and comment period. (09/10/2018)

Between November 25 and November 30, Reclamation plans to release the final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed extension of the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program. The Program, which is a collaborative effort between the Department of the Interior and the states of Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska, provides Endangered Species Act compliance for Reclamation projects along the North and South Platte Rivers in those states. Following the planned release of the EA and FONSI, Reclamation will work with the Department on a Secretarial decision memorandum regarding the program's extension. Congressional authorization will also be required for the proposed extension. (10/29/2018)

Between November 25 and November 30, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is planned for the Final Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) on Horsetooth, Carter, Pinewood and Flatiron Reservoirs (Colorado). The proposed RMP will update the current 2007 RMP. Larimer County has managed the public recreation

associated with these Colorado-Big Thompson Project facilities since 1954. The current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Reclamation and Larimer County was executed in 1997. (09/04/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

On November 28, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing a 30-day public scoping period in preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) addressing public safety in the area southwest of the Third Power Plant, known as Geezer Beach. Geezer Beach is located along the shoreline of Lake Roosevelt, the reservoir behind Grand Coulee Dam in Washington. The EA will analyze the potential effects of a range of alternative actions including: no action, restricting physical access to vehicles on the shoreline, or closing the shoreline to fishing and recreation. The draft EA is scheduled to be available for public comment in February 2019. (11/13/2018)

On November 29**,** Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the release of a final Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment on the Delta Irrigation Canal Salinity Control Piping Project located in Delta County, Colorado. The project would replace approximately 6.1 miles of open irrigation ditch with buried pipe. The purpose of the project is to prevent seepage and reduce salinity loading in the Colorado River Basin. (11/08/2018)

On November 29**,** Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the release of a final Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment on the East Side Lateral Piping Project, Phase 9 in Delta and Montrose Counties, Colorado. The project would replace approximately 20.4 miles of open irrigation ditch with buried pipe. The purpose of the project is to prevent seepage and reduce salinity loading in the Colorado River Basin. (11/08/2018)

On November 29**,** Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the release of a draft Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment on the Aspen Canal Piping Project located in Delta County, Colorado. The project would replace approximately 5.6 miles of open irrigation ditch with buried pipe. The purpose of the project is to prevent seepage and reduce salinity loading in the Colorado River Basin. (11/08/2018)

From November 27-30, the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) will hold its fall conference, "Investing Today for Water Tomorrow," in San Diego, California. Commissioner Brenda Burman and regional directors are scheduled to attend. Commissioner Burman is scheduled to deliver a keynote speech to attendees on November 29. ACWA is the nation's largest statewide coalition of public water agencies with 430 public agency members responsible for 90 percent of the water delivered to California cities, farms and businesses. Media interest is expected. (11/13/2018)

U.S. Geological Survey

NEW ITEMS

On November 27, the Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools will hold the State of Education Luncheon in Falls Church, Va. where the winners of the 2018 Partner of the Year awards will be announced. The U.S. Geological Survey is one of five finalists for the 2018 Workforce Development Partner of the Year award for its work with Chantilly and South Lakes High School and the STEP program for students with disabilities. Local media will be on hand to report on the awards and USGS Director Jim Reilly will attend the luncheon ceremony. (11/15/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

On November 23, a new high-visibility USGS Scientific Investigations Report titled, "Federal Lands Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sequestration: Estimates 2005-14" will be published and available online in the USGS Publications Warehouse. The report and accompanying data set and webmap provide the first-of-its-kind estimates of the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the extraction and end-use combustion of fossil fuels produced on Federal lands as well as ecosystem carbon emissions and sequestration on those same lands. The estimates included in this report can provide context for future energy decisions as well as a basis to track change in the future. The report is similar to the EPA Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks, but at the State level and only for Federal lands. While USGS is not planning to announce this report, there is already media interest and coverage by mainstream media outlets is expected. (10/2/2018)

On November 29 the NPS will announce the release of a joint National Park Service Resource Report titled "The State of Olympic National Park – The Natural Resource Condition Assessment" The Natural Resource Condition Assessment (NRCA), jointly written by USGS and NPS scientists, is an evaluation report on a subset of important natural resources in U.S. national parks. The Olympic National Park NRCA is the first for this park and concentrates on 12 resources aligned with one of five guiding questions of primary interest to park managers. Researchers evaluated specific measures of Roosevelt elk, riparian vegetation, river geomorphology, salmonid stocks, razor clams, Olympic marmots, sea stars, amphibians, barred/northern spotted owls, balsam woolly adelgid/subalpine fir, invasive non-native plants/native plants, and air quality and contaminants. These resources were identified by USGS and NPS scientists as issues of concern in Olympic National Park related to ecosystem integrity and maintenance of biodiversity. The NRCA identifies emerging issues and information needs and is intended to serve as a platform for natural resource managers to use in developing future resource stewardship priorities and planning. This report is jointly funded by the USGS and the NPS NRCA Program. (10/23/2018)

On December 6, the USGS plans to announce a new geologic-based assessment of undiscovered, technically recoverable continuous oil and gas resources for the Wolfcamp Shale and Bone Spring Formation of the Delaware Basin, Permian Basin Province, of west Texas and southeast New Mexico. The announcement will include links to a USGS Fact Sheet and data release. In 2016, the USGS released an assessment for the Wolfcamp Shale in the Midland Basin portion of the Permian Basin Province, which is the largest assessment of

continuous oil that the USGS has ever announced. Briefings are being scheduled and a news release is planned. (11/5/2018)

In November/December, the USGS will announce a recently published paper that describes new evidence of frequent and large tsunamis along one of the Earth's largest faults, the Alaska-Aleutian megathrust. The paper, titled "Evidence for frequent, large tsunamis spanning locked and creeping parts of the Aleutian megathrust," was published in the *Geological Society of America Bulletin* and a statewide news release is planned. Collaborators on this paper include the University of Rhode Island; University of Nevada, Reno; East Carolina University. (9/6/2018)

In November/December, the USGS will announce a recently published paper that describes the presence of human bacteria and viruses from sewage in some Milwaukee area streams. From April 2009 to March 2011, fecal pollution from human sources was spatially quantified by measuring two human-associated indicator bacteria (HIB) and eight human-specific viruses (HSV) at six stream locations in the Menomonee River watershed in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Of the eight HSV only three were detected, present in up to 38% of the 228 stream samples, while at least one HSV was detected in all water reclamation facility (WRF) influent samples. HIB occurred significantly more often with higher concentrations than the HSV in stream and WRF influent samples. A negative HSV yield from the most downstream sub-watershed of the Menomonee River, and in contrast, a positive HIB yield from this same sub-watershed emphasizes the complexity in fate and transport properties between HSV and HIB. This study demonstrates the utility of analyzing multiple pathogens for a complete assessment of fecal contamination at the watershed level. A news release is being planned. (10/1/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

In November, the USGS will announce a new USGS Fact Sheet that summarizes the groundwater quality of the Mississippi embayment-Texas coastal uplands aquifer system. Scientists tested for hundreds of water-quality constituents and characteristics in samples of untreated groundwater from 89 public-supply wells throughout the aquifer. Sample test results were compared to human-health benchmarks. These results show one or more inorganic constituents present at high concentrations in groundwater in about 5 percent of the study area. This aquifer is an important source of drinking water for parts of Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Missouri, Kentucky, Illinois and Alabama. A technical announcement is planned. (10/29/2018)

In November, the USGS will announce a new USGS Fact Sheet that summarizes the groundwater quality of the Floridan aquifer system. Scientists tested for hundreds of water-quality constituents and characteristics in samples of untreated groundwater from 60 public-supply wells throughout the aquifer. Sample test results were compared to human-health benchmarks. These results show one or more inorganic constituents present at high concentrations in groundwater in about 14 percent of the study area. This aquifer is an important source of drinking water for all of Florida and parts of Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama. A technical announcement is planned. (10/29/2018)

In November, the USGS will announce a new paper that demonstrates that certain well construction attributes are influential in predicting arsenic concentrations in drinking water. Smaller distances between the top of the well screen and overlying aquitard, and shorter well screen lengths, were each associated with higher probabilities of elevated arsenic concentration. Chronic exposure to arsenic via drinking groundwater is a human health concern worldwide, and Minnesota commonly has elevated arsenic concentrations in well water. This study describes a new, novel, and important finding from an arsenic probability model: Controllable well construction choices (not just location or depth) influence arsenic concentrations in drinking water. The paper will be published in *Water Resources Research* and a technical announcement is planned. (7/23/2018)

In November, the USGS will announce a new online service that provides stakeholders and the public access to groundwater quality information for California. In partnership with the California State Water Resources Control Board, researchers have developed a new California Groundwater-Quality Results Web Map showing how groundwater conditions have changed over time and assessments of groundwater used for both public and domestic drinking supply to evaluate geochemical differences in deep and shallow aquifers. A statewide news release is planned. (10/23/2018)

In late November, the USGS will announce a new Open-File Report that examines mercury methylation and bioaccumulation in striped bass within the lower section of Lake Powell, Utah and Arizona. In 2012, elevated mercury monitoring results led to a Utah/Arizona fish consumption advisory for the lower 100 km of Lake Powell. In 2014 and 2015, USGS researchers collected chemical, physical, and biological data during two synoptic sampling trips on Lake Powell to test three hypotheses associated with a conceptual model developed to explain the observed geographic concentration gradient of mercury in fish tissue samples. Partners include the State of Utah and NPS. A regional news release is planned. (11/5/2018)

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

UPDATED ITEMS

On or about December 30, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for public review and comment related to the proposed Area S Resource Management Plan. The draft EA will evaluate resource management on this small isolated tract of Reclamation land near Fort Klamath, Oregon; including grazing, forest and habitat management, and range improvements. Targeted communication is planned. Media interest is not expected. (11/13/2018)

In January 2019, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Cottonwood Creek Daylighting project in Boise, Idaho. The final EA and FONSI follow the WaterSMART grant awarded to the Boise River Enhancement Network for their proposal to

restore the natural function of the last 440 feet of Cottonwood Creek. The project supports additional spawning, rearing, and over-wintering fish habitat, all of which are currently limited in the Boise River fishery. (11/13/2018).

ONGOING ITEMS

Between December 10 and 14, Reclamation plans to release the 2019 Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for Colorado River System Reservoirs. It has been finalized and is currently under leadership review. The AOP serves as a single, integrated reference document required by section 602(b) of the Colorado River Basin Project Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-537) regarding past and anticipated operations. In particular, the 2019 AOP contains the projected plan of operation of Colorado River reservoirs for 2019 based on the most probable runoff conditions. The 2019 AOP was prepared by Reclamation in consultation with the seven Colorado River Basin States Governors' representatives, representatives from Mexico, the Upper Colorado River Commission, Native American tribes, appropriate Federal agencies, and a variety of additional stakeholders. If approved, the 2019 AOP will be transmitted by the Secretary of the Interior to Congress and the seven Colorado River Basin States. No news release is anticipated and media interest is expected to be moderate. (11/13/2018)

Around December 10, Reclamation plans to issue a news release for the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed modernization of generating units 19-21 in the Third Power Plant at Grand Coulee Dam, Washington. The modernization would ensure continued, reliable hydropower production for 40 years and ensure Reclamation would meet contractual obligations for power generation. Reclamation is issuing a 14-day public comment on the draft EA. (11/13/2018).

On December 12-14, Reclamation staff plan to participate in the annual Colorado River Water Users Association Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. (11/13/2018)

During the month of November, Reclamation is planning to begin negotiating an update to replace the Garrison Diversion Conservation District's (GDCD) Master Contract in North Dakota to reflect the current project. While this process is ongoing, progress on the Basis of Negotiation (BON) for the Central Dakota Project may be delayed while each party discusses the proposal. (11/13/18)

U.S. Geological Survey

NEW ITEMS

In December, a new USGS paper titled "Dynamic flood modeling essential to assess the coastal impacts of climate change" will be published in *Scientific Reports*. The paper summarizes a decade-long research effort to assess the vulnerability of the California coastal population and infrastructure to hazards (e.g. coastal flooding, beach erosion and cliff retreat) associated with a range of future climate change scenarios. In collaboration with agencies and academics across the world, the USGS developed the state-of-the-art Coastal Storm Modeling System (CoSMoS) to incorporate total water levels during storms and the dynamic

response of the coast into present-day and future hazards assessments. Applied to the urbanized coast of California, with a population of 24 million, this dynamic approach shows that three times more of the population could be exposed to flooding over the 21st century when compared to static approaches that only consider sea level rise. A USGS news release is being considered. (11/19/2018)

Awareness

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

NEW ITEMS

On November 18, Reclamation reported that teams have recovered two bodies from Strawberry Reservoir, Utah, after their canoe capsized. They were fishing near Chicken Creek West on November 12 when they were tossed into 38-degree water. The State Medical Examiner's Office will determine an official cause of death, but it appears the pair drowned. This is being reported by local media. (11/19/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

U.S. Geological Survey

NEW ITEMS

USGS recently received approval for a new ASTM International standard titled "Practice for Determination of Uncertainty in Coal Resource Assessments." This standard was based on research and methodology recently developed by the USGS Coal Resources and Reserves Assessment Project. The new standard replaces the traditional measured, indicated, and inferred coal resource categories that provided measurement of uncertainty and was used in all previous USGS coal assessments. (11/19/2018)

On November 27-30, USGS researchers will discuss their work at the 12th biennial Wind Wildlife Research Meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota. The talk titled "Assessing standardization in studies of wind energy impacts on birds and bats: limitations and recommended best practices" is based on a review of nearly 500 reports of wind energy impacts to wildlife and will discuss limitations in interpreting existing data and future research needs. Another talk titled "Where carcasses land – and why it matters" will present a recent preliminary finding that spatial distribution of bat carcasses varies according to wind speed. USGS will also lead a half-day workshop training professionals on how to use the new open source software package GenEst, a generalized estimator of mortality. Participants will have the opportunity to work with example datasets and discuss the models and software with GenEst developers. (11/19/2018)

On November 27-30, staff with the Alaska Climate Adaptation Science Center will host a climate communication workshop at the Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management (ATCEM) in Anchorage, AK. The ATCEM, organized by the Alaska Native

Tribal Health Consortium, is an annual gathering that brings together Tribes, non-profits, and state and federal organizations, for a week of environmental conversations. The discussions focus on finding and implementing solutions to address the unique environmental concerns facing Alaskan communities. (11/20/2018)

On December 2-7, USGS scientists will present at the 2018 American Exploration and Mining Association Annual Meeting in Spokane, WA. Presentations will include an update on the "3DEEP" critical minerals mapping initiative, and progress on the USGS Mineral Deposit Database (USMIN) project in updating and augmenting databases on domestic critical minerals including tin and tungsten, cobalt and platinum group elements, and lithium; and mine locations and characteristics digitized from historical USGS topographic maps. (11/20/2018)

On December 3, the Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Center (CASC) in partnership with the Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative, the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group, and the Tulalip Tribes to hold a "Deep Dive" workshop on Managing Western Washington Wildfire Risk in a Changing Climate. This workshop is geared towards emergency managers, land managers, local governments, land use planners and permitting agencies, Conservation Districts, and forestry extension. (11/20/2018)

On December 3-7, 2018 USGS Landsat Ground Station Operators Working Group (LGSOWG) will be meeting in Sanya, China, to discuss preparations for the December 2020 launch of Landsat 9. LGSOWG meetings provide an opportunity for the Landsat International Cooperator (IC) Network (organizations that receive and distribute data from Landsat satellite missions) to gather with USGS representatives to discuss topics relevant to the delivery, management, and distribution of Landsat data. This meeting will also include special collaboration topics such as analysis ready data, data cubes, data processing enhancements, collection management, cloud processing, and interest for future missions. The Landsat IC Network currently includes 19 certified Landsat 8 ground stations and 7 certified Landsat 7 ground stations–with several more currently going through the certification process. (11/20/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

Executive Order 13817/Secretarial Order 3359 milestones: The Department of Commerce is preparing to transmit a whole-of-government strategy to the White House, including major contributions by USGS and BLM in coordination with BOEM. Once transmitted to the White House, the strategy is to be sent for clearance by agencies and key White House components (Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), Office of Management and Budget, Council on Environmental Quality, and Office of the U.S. Trade Representative). USGS and BLM anticipate receiving further direction at the next meeting of the OSTP-led interagency National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Subcommittee on Critical and Strategic Mineral Supply Chains (CSMSC). The next meeting of the NSTC Subcommittee is on hold pending transmittal of the strategy. The meeting is expected to focus on planning for implementation of the strategy's recommendations, including responsibilities, tracking, and deliverables. Future interagency work through the NSTC Subcommittee is expected to

include review and clearance of a set of more detailed appendixes to the strategy, further supporting interagency implementation efforts. The appendices will likely be published at a later date, potentially as FY2019 products of the NSTC CSMSC. These appendices are expected to include an interagency plan for mapping subsurface mineral resources, based on the USGS-led plan delivered to the Secretary in April; an interagency report on permitting, based on the BLM recommendations delivered to the Secretary in March; an overview of existing trade dependencies for critical minerals, developed in part from USGS data; and an overview of recycling and reprocessing technologies, including brief discussion from USGS on the geologic composition of above-ground resources such as mine wastes, some of which are currently used for production of byproduct critical minerals. (2/9/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) is conducting final reviews before releasing a National Science and Technology Council (NSTC)-coordinated interagency plan on how to identify and address current research gaps in understanding the health effects of low levels of emerging contaminants in the Nation's drinking water. This plan was requested by Congress in the FY2018 OSTP appropriations language. The plan identifies a number of research gaps and specific roles for USGS Water and Environmental Health Mission Areas, including development of new or improved methods to sample and analyze low levels and complex mixtures of emerging contaminants in drinking water as it is taken from surface or groundwaters and treated, as it transits through municipal water distribution systems and building plumbing, and as it is taken from the tap; helping understand, model, and predict exposures to emerging contaminants in the context of their environmental and water treatment infrastructure drivers; and helping health agencies develop improved tools to enhance assessment of health risks posed by emerging contaminants under realistic exposure scenarios. The other agencies highlighted in the plan include Environmental Protection Agency, National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and National Science Foundation. (10/2/2018)

Secretarial Order 3352 milestones: The reprocessing of vintage 2-D seismic data acquired in the mid-1980s over the Section 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) is nearing completion. The USGS is very pleased with the quality of initial time-processing results from the 2D seismic data reprocessing effort. However, the USGS made extensive comments and suggestions based on the depth processing, which will result in additional work to achieve a desired result. A three-week no-cost extension has been agreed to for completing the project, with a final deadline now set for November 30. The USGS continues efforts on resource assessments on Alaska's North Slope to accelerate the evaluation of the Central North Slope (CNS) lands situated between ANWR and the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A). SAExploration, which has formed a partnership with the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation and the Village of Kaktovik, has submitted a permit application to conduct a 3-D seismic survey on the ANWR coastal plain (1002 Area). SAExploration has indicated that the survey will not be conducted as a consortium but will instead be acquired as a speculative survey open for licensing. Recently, licenses were obtained for two new 3D seismic surveys on CNS State lands and the data were received. The 3D seismic surveys will

be used to prepare an updated assessment of undiscovered conventional oil and gas resources of the CNS scheduled for completion in first quarter of FY 2020. In addition, on October 23-24,the USGS conducted a two-day core workshop at the USGS Core Research Center in Denver for Armstrong Oil and Gas, Oil Search, and Repsol, who are partners in the discovery and upcoming development of significant oil accumulations on Alaska's North Slope. In addition to examining Alaska cores from the USGS archive, the core workshop included cores from seven exploration wells drilled by the partnership, including discovery wells in the Nanushuk and Alpine reservoirs. During the past two years, the partnership has provided the USGS oil and core samples, ancillary data, and access to proprietary cores from multiple wells, thereby enhancing our understanding of the petroleum systems of northeastern National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska and adjacent Alaska state lands. The partners agreed to continue collaborating with the USGS by providing oil and rock samples and ancillary data from delineation wells to be drilled during the 2018-2019 winter drilling season. In addition to these expected data, the USGS has received extended diamondoid data for numerous oil samples that indicate a definite geochemical signature of an oil, condensate, and gas charge from offshore (Beaufort Sea) to onshore (Barrow Arch), which indicates that this high-thermal-maturity charge is partly from Triassic and partly from Jurassic source rocks. These data will inform the USGS assessment of the Central North Slope, which is expected to be completed in December 2019; and will support BLM's management of Federal oil and gas resources in the 1002 Area. In addition, this information will be presented to BOEM next week and will directly inform their 5-year plan for the Beaufort Sea Planning Area; on November 12, USGS, BOEM, and BLM will meet in Anchorage to plan for regional collaborations to inform BOEM's new five-year plans for both the Beaufort and the Chukchi Planning Areas. (5/2/2018)

In support of Executive Order 13807 and Secretarial Order 3355, the Department is seeking to streamline permitting of seismic stations on public lands in California, Oregon and Washington to support earthquake early warning (EEW). Strong bipartisan support in Congress is driving implementation of this capability for the U.S. West Coast, which will allow rapid earthquake detection that can provide alerting in advance of destructive ground shaking. Life-saving applications include slowing trains, halting surgeries, opening fire station doors to prevent jamming, and giving school children time to take cover under desks. The Assistant Secretary for Water and Science is working with counterparts overseeing the relevant land management bureaus to make streamlined EEW station permitting a high priority in order to expedite installations in support of public safety. The initial phase of this initiative focuses on DOI land management bureaus, and a second phase will expand that focus to engage with the Department of Agriculture to expedite permitting on U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands. These DOI and USFS managed lands are critical because they cover large areas in all three states and provide long-term ownership stability needed for permanent stations. (6/1/2018)

Upcoming USGS Publications

A new USGS-Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center co-authored paper titled "Provenance is a mixed predictor of invader dynamics in a disturbed wetland ecosystem" will be published and is currently available online in *NeoBiota*. Researchers found that in

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore wetland complex, the habit, origin, and invasiveness of species contributes to diversity responses in a scale- and context-dependent fashion. Next, they compared the presence and abundance of native and exotic invaders with changes in wetland plant species diversity over a 28-year period by resurveying 22 ponds in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore to identify factors correlated with observed changes. Co-authors are from The College at Brockport and Brown University. (11/20/2018)

On November 23, USGS co-authored sections including the executive summary and the agriculture chapter of the *Second State of the Carbon Cycle Report* will be published by the U.S. Global Change Research Program. The Second State of the Carbon Cycle Report (SOCCR-2) discusses North American carbon stocks, fluxes, sources, and processes, and how they interact with global carbon budgets and climate change. Both managed (e.g., agriculture systems), unmanaged, terrestrial, and aquatic systems are evaluated. The first SOCCR was published in 2007 and SOCCR-2 focuses on advances in knowledge since SOCCR-1. (11/19/18)

In November USGS will publish a data release titled "Golden Eagle International Radio Tracking Data, North America, 1992-1999." From 1992-1997, the Department of Defense, Boise State University, and BLM's Raptor Research and Technical Assistance Center - which merged into the USGS - collected telemetry data from 21 golden eagles using the Argos satellite system. This tracking system was used to document local and migratory movements of the golden eagles to better understand their long-term and wide-ranging movements and behaviors. The USGS Data-at-Risk (DaR) Team is preserving and releasing the raw data in an accessible format. (11/19/2018)

In November/December a new USGS paper titled "Mixed-Chemical Exposure and Predicted Effects Potential in Wadeable Southeastern USA Streams" will be published in the *Science of the Total Environment*. Streams in the Southeast U.S. contain complex mixtures of chemicals, including pesticides and pharmaceuticals. 265 of the 475 compounds measured were detected in at least one sample from the 54 streams investigated. The average (median) number of compounds detected in a stream was 83; the maximum number detected was 153. Multiple lines of evidence indicated the potential for risk to aquatic communities in urban streams from widespread exposure to extensive and variable mixtures of pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and wastewater indicator compounds. Overview and Progress of the Pallid Sturgeon Assessment Framework Redesign Process. (11/19/2018)

In November a new USGS paper titled "Recent trends in nutrient and sediment loading to coastal areas of the conterminous U.S. (2002-2012)" will be published in the *Science of the Total Environment*. Evaluation of trends from 2002 to 2012 in loading of nitrogen and phosphorus species and sediment to coastal water around the United States. The study found that, although there have been some decreases in nitrogen loading--particular urban watersheds--nitrogen loading remains elevated relative to historical levels. There was no clear pattern in phosphorus trends. These results likely reflect regulatory actions to reduce point-source nutrient loading in urban areas and the difficulty in reducing nutrient loading from diffuse non-point sources. (11/19/2018)

In November a new USGS paper titled "Effects of Antecedent Streamflow and Sample Timing on Trend Assessments of Fish, Invertebrate, and Diatom Communities" will be published in the *Journal of the American Water Resources Association*. This study found that the amount of flow in a stream and when a biological sample was collected both affected the biological endpoints measured for biological communities. This means that natural variability in streamflow or sample date likely caused all or part of perceived trends in biological endpoints in many cases. Failure to account for this variability may lead to under- or overestimating the likelihood of a trend estimate and/or misdiagnosing potential causes. (11/19/2018)

A new USGS study titled "Introduction and dispersal of non-native bullseye snakehead (*Channa marulius* [Hamilton, 1822]), in the canal system of southeastern Florida, USA" has been accepted for publication in *BioInvasions Records*. More than 160 non-native fish species have been reported in freshwater bodies in Florida, including the bullseye snakehead. Native to Asia, the snakehead has been present in Florida's southeastern canal system for at least 18 years, however, there is no report on the fish's overall distribution. Using records from the USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database and collection data from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, USGS scientists created a timeline for the introduction and dispersion of the bullseye snakehead. The USGS NAS program monitors, analyzes, and records sightings of non-native aquatic plant and animal species throughout the U.S. The program was created in response to the passage of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Species Control and Prevention Act of 1990. Partners include Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. (11/19/2018)

A new USGS study titled "Interannual snow accumulation variability on glaciers derived from repeat, spatially extensive ground-penetrating radar surveys" has been accepted for publication and is available online in *The Cryosphere Discussions*. Measuring the amount and spatial pattern of snow on glaciers is essential to monitoring glacier mass balance and quantifying the water budget of glacierized basins. Using repeat radar surveys for five consecutive years at Gulkana and Wolverine Glacier, researchers found that the spatial pattern in snow distribution is stable over the majority of the glacier and scales with the glacier-wide average. Study findings support the concept that sparse stake networks effectively measure interannual variability in the amount of snow accumulation on glaciers rather than interannual variability in the pattern of snow accumulation on glaciers. (11/19/2018)

In late December a new USGS co-authored paper titled, "Financing agricultural drought risk through ex-ante cash transfers" will be published in *Science of the Total Environment*. Severe food insecurity currently affects some 76 million people, or about one out of every 100 people on the planet. Despite great advances in drought early warning technology, forecast information is only rarely used for triggering and financing early action, such as cash transfers. This study evaluates the cost-effectiveness of forecast-based cash transfers, and suggests that disbursing cash transfers before maize harvesting can often be more cost-effective than initiating ex-post cash transfer after harvesting. (11/20/2018)

In November/December a new USGS-National Climate Adaptation Science Center paper titled “Practical tips to establish an actionable science portfolio for climate adaptation” will be published in *Science and Public Policy*. The paper provides practical suggestions to establish productive dialogue between resource managers and scientists, and broker that conversation as they work side-by-side toward agreed-upon common objectives. These useful tips stem from experience developing and establishing actionable science portfolios (science products and services to inform resource management decisions) within the CASC network and may prove valuable to similar entities committed to delivering climate adaptation science to address resource management concerns. (11/20/2018)

From: Dermody, Matthew
To: Alan Mikkelsen; Alex Hinson; Alex Sterhan; Andrea Travnicek; Appel, Elizabeth; Aurelia Skipwith; Benjamin Cassidy; Billy Dove; Brenda Burman; Cally Younger; Cara Macdonald; Caroline Boulton; Casey Hammond; Casey Stemler; Catherine Gulac; Christina Summers; Daniel Jorjani; David Bernhardt; Debrah McBride; Doug Domenech; Edward Keable; Eli Nachmany; Elinor Werner; Evan Wilson; Faith Vander Voort; Gareth Rees; Gary Lawkowski; Heather Swift; Hubbel Relat; James Reilly; James Voyles; Jim Cason; Joe Balash; John Bockmier; John Tahsuda; John Tanner; Juliette Lillie; Karen Budd-Falen; Kate MacGregor; Kathleen Benedetto; Katie Mills; Kerry Rae; Lacey Smethers; Lisa Pelstring; Lori Mashburn; Mariagrazia Caminiti; Marshall Critchfield; Matthew Dermody; Maureen Foster; Melissa Beaumont; Micah Chambers; Michael Argo; Moody, Joan; Nikolao Pula; Richard Myers; Ronald Klawitter; Russell Newell; Samantha Hebert; Sarah Jorgenson; Sarah Spaulding; Scott Cameron; Scott Hommel; Shelby Hagenauer; Steve Wackowski; Susan Combs; Tara Sweeney; Tim Petty; Tim Williams; Todd Willens; Todd Wynn; Wendy Fink; Zack Gambill
Subject: Weekly Report to the Secretary December 2-8
Date: Thursday, November 29, 2018 2:41:27 PM
Attachments: Weekly Report to the Secretary December 2-8.docx

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All,

Attached is the Weekly Report to the Secretary in both Word and Google Doc formats. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Matthew Dermody
Special Assistant
Office of the Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-513-7778 (office)
202-570-5029 (cell)

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

Weekly Report to the Secretary December 2-8.docx

WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DECEMBER 2-8, 2018

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Chief of Staff Scott Hommel will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office through Thursday, December 6. He will be staffing the Secretary on Friday, November 7.

Deputy Chief of Staff Katharine MacGregor will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations Michael Argo will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Director John Bockmier will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

Deputy Director Russell Newell will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Todd Wynn, Director, will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4

Ben Cassidy, Senior Deputy Director, will be on annual leave December 3 - 7.

Tim Williams, Deputy Director, will be in Casper, WY for Wyoming Stockgrowers on December 1, will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 in Albuquerque, NM for New Mexico Stockgrowers on December 5 and in Las Vegas, NV on December 7 and 8 for Western Caucus.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days

The OEIA team continues to engage external partners and state and local officials on reorganization, the National Park's deferred maintenance backlog, and big game migration corridors.

The OIEA team continues outreach to Western Governors to finalize Sage Grouse plans and is working with their office to provide quotes for press releases

ASLM, BLM and Scheduling continue to coordinate with OIEA on a Grazing and Timber round tables.

The OIEA team is developing an outreach and engagement plan and materials for newly elected officials for December and January in order to proactively reach out to state elected officials.

The OIEA team is continuing outreach and engagement on the state fish and wildlife agency management authority memorandum.

The OIEA team is working with NPS and other departments regarding grants towards Youth Programs as well as upcoming cooperative agreements being signed with external partners relating to youth engagement and internship programs.

OFFICE OF RECREATION

Rick May, Senior advisor, will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4, and in the office the rest of the week.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Deputy Secretary David Bernhardt will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4, and will be on official travel December 5-8.

Assistant Deputy Secretary Todd Willens will be in the office all week.

Associate Deputy Secretary Jim Cason will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

The Deputy Secretary will sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Defense to implement the Memorandum of Understanding signed in September to expand the role of the DOD liaison at DOI to include all DOD related issues at Interior. Once the MOA is signed by both departments, the liaison will be housed in the Deputy Secretary hallway.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Julie Lillie will be in the office this week.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

● Interagency Reviews Under E.O. 12866—DOI received for comment the following documents that are undergoing E.O. 12866 review at OMB:

○ US Forest Service's proposed rulemaking on it's National Environmental Policy Act requirements (RIN 0595-AD31)-Comments due to OMB by Monday, November 26th.
○ CEQ's White Paper on EIS Timelines-Comments due to OMB by Tuesday, November 27th.
○ HUD's Proposed Guidance on Applying the Fair Housing Act to Decide Whether a Person's Request to Have an Animal as a Reasonable Accommodation Should Be Granted-Comments due to OMB by Monday, December 3rd.

Committee Meetings:

National Park System Advisory Board - Board is scheduled to meet on December 5, 2018 in Washington, DC.

Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission - Commission is scheduled to meet on December 7, 2018 in Washington, DC.

Congressional Document Production

Production on November 27, 2018 of documents for the May 31, 2018 request from the Surveys and Investigations Division, House Committee on Appropriations, on the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Program. This thirteenth production consists of 195 documents.

FOIA Litigation Awareness Reviews

Here are the likely cases to go into awareness review in the next two weeks:

Sierra Club (Marta Darby) [4:18-cv-03799/ OS-2018-00959] Materials concerning FOIA policies since January 20, 2017

American Oversight (Austin Evers) [1:18-cv-01216/ OS-2018-00570 & OS-2018-00843] Communications with Congressional and Gubernatorial staff regarding offshore drilling

New Jersey Attorney General (Gurbir Grewal) [1:18-cv-02338/ OS-2018-00986] Materials and FOIA requests concerning 2019-2024 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program

Matthew Allen [1:17-cv-02656/ OS-2018-00077] Materials concerning himself

WildEarth Guardians (Jeremy Nichols) [1:18-cv-00232/ OS-2017-00804 et al.] All communications for the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Vincent DeVito and Katherine MacGregor

Sierra Club (Ellen Richmond) [1:18-cv-01308/ OS-2017-01308] All external communications with multiple IOS personnel

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

No updates to report this week.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

From December 2-4, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Andrea Travnicek will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC . On December 5-6, she will speak at the North Dakota Water Users Convention in Bismarck; on December 7-8, she will speak at the Western Caucus Foundation in Las Vegas.

From December 3-4, Deputy Assistant Secretary Aurelia Skipwith will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4; she will be in the office the remainder of the week.

From December 2-4, Deputy Assistant Secretary Ryan Hambleton will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC; he will be in the office the remainder of the week.

From December 3-4, NPS Acting Director Dan Smith will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC ; on December 5, he will be at the National Park System Advisory Board meeting; he will be on leave on December 6 (½ day) and 7.

From December 3-4, FWS Principal Deputy Director Margaret Everson will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC; she will be in the office the remainder of the week.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

UPDATED ITEMS

During the week of December 3, FWS plans to make a final determination on a proposed reclassification of the southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou by defining the entire Southern Mountain Caribou population as a distinct population segment (DPS) and listing it as endangered. In 2012, FWS designated critical habitat for the southern Selkirk Mountains population, which will remain unchanged. Several non-governmental organizations (International Fund for Wildlife, Kettle Range Conservation Group, Selkirk Conservation Alliance, Kootenai Environmental Alliance, Center for Biological Diversity, Idaho Conservation League) will likely view our final determination favorably. The Pacific Legal Foundation (and Bonner County as represented by PLF) is likely to challenge the determination. Idaho may view the listing of the DPS and endangered determination unfavorably. Outreach includes a regional news release, social media, emails, and phone calls. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/28/2018)

During the week of December 3, FWS plans to make a final listing determination for the meltwater lednian stonefly and the western glacier stonefly, located in Montana and Wyoming. Interested stakeholders include WildEarth Guardians, Xerces Society, Center for Biological Diversity, and the states of Montana and Wyoming. Wyoming has expressed opposition to the listing. Planned outreach will include a regional news release, web updates, and congressional/stakeholder notifications. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/28/2018)

During the week of December 3, FWS plans to propose to designate a nonessential experimental population of California condor in northern California and Oregon to help meet recovery goals for the species. This action is being taken in concert with the NPS and the Yurok Tribe in support of recovery goals for the condors. The condors would be reintroduced at Redwood National Park. The primary state agencies -- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and California Department of Parks and Recreation -- have expressed interest in condor recovery through participation in an MOU. There is a possibility that there may be some localized opposition to condor reintroduction in the area, but FWS does not foresee concerted opposition given California's action banning the use of lead ammunition effective in 2019. There will be a 60-day public comment period for the proposed rule. The Northern California California Condor Restoration Program Environmental Assessment will also be made available for public review and comment. Public meetings will be held in California and Oregon. Planned outreach will include a regional news release and notification to stakeholders, tribes, and members of Congress. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/28/2018)

During the week of December 3, FWS plans to make a final listing determination for the trispot darter, a fish that occurs in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee, propose a 4(d) rule, and propose critical habitat for the darter. In total, approximately 181 river miles and 16,735 acres in the Coosa River system in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee fall within the boundaries of the proposed critical habitat designation. These actions are not controversial. Stakeholders include the Center for Biological Diversity; the states of Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee; and local landowners. The statutory deadline for publication of the final listing

rule was October 4. Planned outreach will include notifications to stakeholders and relevant members of Congress and a news release to regional media. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/28/2018)

During the week of December 3, FWS plans to announce the availability of 26 draft recovery plan amendments for 42 species across the United States. These 26 draft recovery plan amendments are a subset of a larger effort under way to revise up to 182 recovery plans for up to 305 listed species in order to achieve a Department of the Interior goal of having all recovery plans contain quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species by September 30, 2019. FWS does not anticipate controversy or opposition to the plans, however, there may be some locally controversial species (i.e., Hawaiian petrel, Newell's Townsend's shearwater, and Sacramento prickly poppy). Planned outreach will include a national news release, regional news releases, and notification to stakeholders and partners. Plans will also be posted to web. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/28/2018)

During the week of December 3, FWS plans to propose critical habitat for the Sonoyta mud turtle in Arizona. The proposed designation includes approximately 12 acres in one unit on National Park Service land. As the proposed designation is limited to a small area within National Park Service lands, it is not expected to be controversial. Planned outreach includes a regional news release. DOI has cleared this package. (Updated 11/28/2018)

During the week of December 3, FWS plans to make a proposed listing determination for the Franklin's bumble bee, an invertebrate native to Oregon and California. FWS has also determined that critical habitat designation for this species is not prudent. This action is not expected to be opposed, and media coverage is expected to be neutral. Interested stakeholders include the Xerces Society (the petitioner), U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and local landowners. A regional news release to all interested parties and the media is planned. (Updated 11/28/2018)

During the week of December 3, FWS will publish a notice calling for nominations for individuals to be considered to fill at least two vacancies in the membership of the International Wildlife Conservation Council. The Council advises the Secretary of the Interior on issues including anti-poaching programs, wildlife trafficking, and efforts to increase awareness of the conservation and economic benefits of United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. This notice could be controversial due to ongoing litigation pertaining to the Council and because international wildlife conservation through trophy hunting is a controversial subject nationwide. No outreach is planned. (Updated 11/21/2018)

During the week of December 3, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice announcing the availability of comprehensively revised boundaries for the second batch of Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) units included in the Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project, affecting 310 units in six states: Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York (Long Island), Rhode Island, and Virginia. The notice will announce a 120-day public

comment period and also advise of upcoming public meetings to be held via webcast. Landowners, state, and local officials will likely support the removal of certain areas from the CBRS and similarly oppose the addition of such areas to the CBRS. Taxpayer groups, recreational interest groups, and conservation groups will likely support the additions to the CBRS. Outreach will include a news release; letters to Congress, NGOs and federal, state, local, and tribal officials; social media; and a stakeholder outreach toolkit available to local officials. This package is pending DOI clearance. (Updated 11/28/2018)

During the week of December 3, FWS plans to publish the FY 2016 Recovery Report to Congress. The Recovery Report provides an update on the progress of federally protected species toward recovery between October 1, 2014, and September 30, 2016 (fiscal years 2015 and 2016). FWS does not anticipate controversy or opposition to the report. Planned outreach will include congressional notifications and posting the report to the web. (Updated 11/28/2018)

On or about December 14, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice reopening the comment period for the proposal to list the West Coast Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of fisher as a threatened species. The proposed DPS boundary includes northern California, Oregon, and Washington. This notice is not expected to be controversial; however, there are many parties interested in the potential listing including landowners, agencies, tribes, environmental organizations, and congressionals. Planned outreach includes a regional press release and notifications to congressionals and stakeholders. FWS is required by a court order to submit the final listing determination to the *Federal Register* by March 22, 2019. (Updated 11/28/2018)

On December 19, FWS will host information webinars outlining next steps in developing a 12-month finding on a petition to list the monarch butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. Attendees include state agency directors and tribal staff. FWS was petitioned to list the monarch in 2014 and issued a positive 90-day finding indicating the petition was substantial. FWS is now finalizing a species status assessment and evaluating the monarch conservation database and other information to determine whether listing the monarch is warranted. The 12-month finding is due June 30, 2019. (Updated 11/28/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

On or around December 10, FWS and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team will announce completion of the final recovery plan for the jaguar. The plan sets goals for improving the species' status through its entire 19-country range and provides a framework for achieving recovery. The recovery plan focuses on the cat's population in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States – recommending site-specific conservation actions and borderland dispersal corridors such that the population can most effectively rebound and contribute to the entire species' recovery. Recovery team and cooperating partners have been advised. Planned outreach includes news release, social media, and emails to congressional offices and stakeholders. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On or around December 14, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice announcing a six-month extension of the final determination of whether to list the Panama City crayfish, found in Florida, as a result of substantial scientific disagreement concerning the species. This notice will also reopen the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days. The Panama City crayfish listing is controversial, but filing a six-month extension is not expected to be controversial. Stakeholders include St. Joe's Development Company, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and city and county governments. In addition, U.S. Representative Neal Dunn has expressed opposition to the proposed listing of the species. The statutory deadline for publication of the extension notice is January 3, 2019; therefore, FWS plans to submit it to the *Federal Register* by December 14. (11/21/2018)

On or around December 14, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice of availability (NOA) of a second batch of 29 draft recovery plan amendments for 42 species across the United States. These recovery plan amendments are a subset of a larger effort under way to revise up to 182 recovery plans for up to 305 listed species in order to achieve the Department of the Interior Agency Priority Performance Goal: "By September 30, 2019, 100% of all Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plans will have quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species." FWS does not anticipate controversy or opposition to the plans; however, there may be some locally controversial issues. Planned outreach includes a national news release, with regional news releases and notification of stakeholders and partners. Plans will also be posted to the web. (11/21/2018)

On or around December 14, FWS plans to publish the FY 2017 Federal and State Endangered and Threatened Species Expenditures Report to Congress. This report provides a compilation of reasonably identifiable expenditures for the conservation of listed species reported independently by federal and state agencies. Expenditures are reported for species that were listed during FY 2017 through September 30, 2017. FWS does not anticipate controversy or opposition to the report. Planned outreach includes congressional notifications and posting the report to the FWS website. (Updated 11/07/2018)

On or around December 14, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* 12-month findings on petitions to list 13 species: Cedar Key mole skink, Florida sandhill crane, Fremont County rockcress, Frisco buckwheat, Ostler's peppergrass, Frisco clover, MacGillivray's seaside sparrow, Ozark pyrg, pale blue-eyed grass, San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly, striped newt, Tinian monarch, and Tippecanoe darter. FWS does not anticipate these actions to be controversial. Planned outreach will include news releases, with supporting FAQs as needed, and notifications to stakeholders and members of Congress. FWS is required by settlement agreement to submit the finding for MacGillivray's seaside sparrow to the *Federal Register* by December 14. (11/21/2018)

By December 14, FWS plans to publish a proposed rule for the 2019 spring/summer Alaska subsistence migratory bird harvest for a 30-day public review and comment period. In order for the 2019 spring/summer subsistence migratory bird hunting to occur legally, the final rule must be published by April 2. Only administrative changes are being proposed, and the publication of both the proposed and final rules is not controversial. FWS will distribute a

press release to Alaska media and send email notification to stakeholders when both the proposed and final rules are published. (10/24/2018)

On or around December 15, FWS will announce availability of the draft recovery plan for the eastern massasauga rattlesnake for a 30-day comment period. The snake was listed in 2016 as threatened. FWS has worked with state agencies and other experts to develop the plan, which outlines management actions and criteria needed to achieve delisting. Among management actions are habitat protection and management, population management and monitoring, education and outreach, and research. A news release is planned. FWS will have some key messages to address any possible controversy that this recovery plan promotes the recovery of a venomous snake. (Updated 11/14/2018)

National Park Service

NEW ITEMS

By December 6, Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument will release the Tassi Ranch Site Management Environmental Assessment (EA) for a 30-day public review. The project is located in the westernmost edge of the park near Grand Wash Bay. The plan addresses immediate and long-term issues concerning rehabilitation, restoration, and long term care of Tassi Ranch and the surrounding cultural landscape. (11/28/2018)

On December 7, the Southeast Region will brief the DOI Executive Review Team in order to release the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area Contaminated Mine Drainage Mitigation and Treatment System Plan. This briefing is required by Step 5 of the Departmental NEPA Document Clearance Process. The administrative draft and briefing materials will be submitted to the Review Team at least one week prior to the scheduled briefing. (11/28/2018)

On December 8, Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site will reopen after being closed for over a year while the park installed a new fire suppression system. The park plans to celebrate the house's reopening during Black History Month in February 2019. (11/28/2018)

On or around December 10, the Northeast Regional Director is expected to sign the Assateague National Seashore Finding of No Significant Impact for relocation of a recreational beach managed by the NPS within the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. The national wildlife refuge is managed by the FWS, however, both bureaus share management responsibilities for the recreational beach under a Memorandum of Understanding. The new facilities will be more sustainable, resilient, and adaptable to storm events so that the beach will continue to support the local tourism-based economy. (11/28/2018)

On or around December 10, Mississippi National Recreational River and Recreation Area will release a newsletter updating the public on the ongoing planning process for the

Coldwater Springs area of the park. A small group has claimed the area to be sacred, and there is public and tribal interest in this project. (11/28/2018)

On or around December 12, the Northeast Regional Director is expected to approve and sign the Cape Cod National Seashore Shorebird Management Plan Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The approved plan maintains visitor access at high visitation areas through flexible management of nesting shorebirds paired with increased shorebird protection in other areas. The availability of the signed FONSI will be announced via press release, on the park web page, through Facebook, and by notifying the town managers within the Seashore boundary. (11/28/2018)

On December 12, a task force composed of the Blue Ridge Parkway's three non-profit partner organizations is meeting to continue discussing opportunities for collaboration and potential consolidation. These three groups (the Blue Ridge Parkway Association, the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation and Friends of the Blue Ridge Parkway) are responding to the park superintendent's request that they identify ways to enhance collaboration, and have chosen to explore potential consolidation. This past week, the superintendent sent an email to park staff, formal and informal park partners and local congressional offices to inform them of a potential consolidation among the park partners. (11/28/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

On December 3-14, Manassas National Battlefield Park is planning a 35-45 acre controlled burn. In addition to maintaining the park's cultural landscape and improving wildlife habitat, the burn takes a proactive planned approach to fire management. The park successfully completed its first-ever controlled burn in April 2018. A burn scheduled for September 2018 was postponed because of especially wet weather conditions. (Updated 11/28/2018)

On December 11, Death Valley National Park will release the draft Rogers Peak Multi-Use Instrumentation and Communication Facility Environmental Assessment (EA) for a 30-day public comment period. The document analyzes right-of-way applications for a proposed 28-foot-diameter radome (Navy), a replacement tower up to 99 feet tall (Caltrans), and a new tower up to 99 feet tall (AT&T mobility/cellular). Two communications towers already exist on Rogers Peak, serving Southern California Edison and multiple federal, state, and county agencies. The proposed cell site is expected improve cell service in areas including designated wilderness, and as a result is likely to be opposed by wilderness advocates who believe cell phones impair wilderness character. (Updated 11/28/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

During the first half of December, the South Florida NPS units will wrap up six weeks of hosting three Marine Protected Area (MPA) managers/scientists from Indonesia through the DOI International Technical Assistance Program. They will shadow NPS staff to learn about the various activities required to set up and manage MPAs in south Florida. Throughout their trip NPS will coordinate meetings and field trips to interact with our Federal, State, University, and non-profit partners. (Updated 10/31/2018)

On December 3**,** Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park will open a 30-day public review period for the draft Environmental Assessment to reconstruct, raise and stabilize the historic stone wall and one-mile stretch of towpath from McMahon's Mill to Lock 42 in Williamsport, Maryland. The project will reduce the impacts of high water, which deteriorates historic features of the towpath and degrades the park visitor experience. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On or after December 3, the NPS will release the Joshua Tree National Park's Cottonwood Area Visitor Center/Environmental Assessment for a 30-day public review and comment. The document addresses proposed facility improvements to visitor use management at Joshua Tree National Park. The project is situated in the Cottonwood area in the southeast portion of the park. The plan addresses immediate and long-term issues concerning resource protection, visitor use, and administration of the Cottonwood Springs visitor center area and associated trails. The plan provides guidance on improvements to areas including the visitor center, and associated trails, as well as improvements to supporting NPS operational facilities such as the maintenance area buildings, fee station, staff housing, and staff offices. (11/14/2018)

On December 3, Ninety Six National Historic Site in South Carolina will host a public meeting to discuss the park's Environmental Assessment and Equestrian Use Management Plan. The draft environmental assessment will be released to the public for a 30-day comment period on November 19. (11/21/2018)

On December 3, a press release will announce changes to Jewel Cave National Monument's visitor center hours and days of operation, which will be temporarily reduced from December 17 through February 2019. This change coincides with the scheduled closure of the cave in order to make necessary improvements for visitor safety. (11/21/2018)

Between December 4-18**,** the acting National Capital Regional Director is expected to sign a Finding of No Significant Impact for the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Arlington County and Vicinity Boathouse Environmental Assessment FONSI (Plan/EA). The plan/EA evaluates the proposed construction and operation of a non-motorized boathouse on lands administered by the George Washington Memorial Parkway along the Potomac River along with a series of low-impact access points to the river to accommodate canoes and kayakers. While originally scheduled for early November, a delay in the state historic preservation office pushed back the signing. (Updated 10/31/2018)

On or around December 6, the Northeast Regional Director will sign the Hopewell Furnace National Historical Site Trail Plan Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The selected action will improve wayfinding and signage throughout the park and add a 0.8 mile hiking trail to connect the western and eastern areas of the park. The improvements will include signage, which will allow the trail users to move seamlessly from adjacent public land to the park land, provide clarity of trail use, and ensure the safety of trail users. The availability of the signed FONSI will be announced through the park website, park social media, and a press release to local newspapers. (11/21/2018)

On December 7, Padre Island National Seashore is set to release Novillo Line Camp: Natural, Cultural, and Visitor Use Enhancements Environmental Assessment (EA) for a 30-day comment period. The EA analyzes the environmental effects to develop an Interpretive Trail and Boardwalk. The boardwalk would provide visitors access to the seashore to see the historic features and to learn about the island's ranching history. Construction through the dunes will mitigate the visual impact of the boardwalk within the historic landscape and will avoid impacts from construction in wetlands. (11/21/2018)

On December 7, the NPS Southeast Region is requesting to schedule a briefing for the Executive Review Team in order to release the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (BISO) Contaminated Mine Drainage Mitigation and Treatment System Plan for publication. The briefing is required by Step 5 of the DOI NEPA Document Clearance Process. The administrative draft, draft record of decision, and briefing materials will be submitted to the Review Team no less than one week prior to the scheduled briefing, as requested. Expected participants, in addition to the Review Team, are listed on the briefing request form that was submitted. (11/14/2018)

Between December 7-10, Arlington Memorial Bridge will be closed to all traffic. The closure is scheduled to begin at 9 p.m. on Friday, December 7, and end at 5 a.m. on Monday, December 10. The closure will allow workers to transfer the weight of the former draw span to temporary supports. Workers will also begin cutting the former draw span and preparing it for removal. The date of this work may change if there is bad weather or if workers encounter unexpected complications. (Updated 11/21/2018)

(CLOSE HOLD) During the week of December 10, the NPS will announce the contract award for food & beverage services and other associated services at Stinson Beach within Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The new 10-year contract will offer similar services as the existing contract. (11/21/2018)

On December 10-11, Lake Mead National Recreation Area will hold public meetings for the General Management Plan Amendment/Low-Water Plan. The plan provides a long-term strategy for addressing operational needs to maintain lake access and provide safe and diverse recreational opportunities at lake elevations above 950 feet. (10/31/2018)

On December 11, the public comment period closes for development concept ideas for the residence area of Jimmy Carter National Historic Site. The effort would guide park management in decisions about future cultural and natural resource conditions, as well as visitor experience opportunities for the structures, facilities and gardens associated with the Carter home. (11/14/2018)

On or before December 10, the NPS Pacific West Regional Director will submit a scheduling request to the Department for a January 11, 2019, DOI Review Team briefing on the development of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan Amendment at Point Reyes National Seashore and the north district of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. This briefing is required by Step 3 of the DOI NEPA Document Clearance

Process memorandum. Per the memorandum, briefing materials will be submitted to the Review Team five days before the scheduled briefing. (11/28/2018)

On December 14, the NPS Southeast Region is scheduled to brief the Executive Review Team in order to release the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Big Cypress National Preserve Backcountry Access Plan and Wilderness Study for public review. This briefing is required by Step 4 of the DOI NEPA Document Clearance Process. The administrative draft and briefing materials will be submitted to the Review Team one week prior to the scheduled briefing. The request letter was sent the week of November 5. (11/21/2018)

On December 17, the NPS Pacific West Regional Director will submit scheduling request to the Department for a January 25, 2019, DOI Review Team briefing in order to release the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Saline Valley Warm Springs Management Plan in Death Valley National Park. This briefing is required by Step 5 of the DOI NEPA Document Clearance Process memorandum. Per the memorandum, the administrate drafts of the FEIS and Record of Decision will be submitted to the Review Team five days before the scheduled briefing.(11/28/2018)

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

NEW ITEMS

On or around January 2, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final listing determination on the Barrens topminnow, a fish found in Tennessee. This listing determination is not expected to be controversial. Planned outreach includes a regional news release, notifications on social media, congressional and stakeholder notifications, a fact sheet, and FAQs. The statutory deadline for publication of the final determination is January 4; therefore, FWS plans to submit it to the *Federal Register* by January 2. (11/28/2018)

By January 28, FWS and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) will announce the final allocations for the first round of Delaware River Basin Conservation Act grants, appropriated by Congress in FY2018. More than $6.4 million in grant applications was received and the review committee of partners named in the Act approved a final slate of $4.1 million with a non-federal match of $7.5 million. The grants will restore 626 acres of wetland habitat and 549 acres of floodplain; increase public access on 1,794 acres; create 32 new jobs; and leverage more than 3,000 volunteers in project delivery. NFWF conducted fiscal notifications to Congress on November 16, with a 30-day response time. FWS and NFWF will notify grantees and coordinate a rollout event in January. (11/28/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

By December 28, FWS will award up to $200,000 in small ($25,000 or less) grants for white-nose syndrome (WNS) communications and research, administered by the Wildlife Management Institute. The grants will be awarded to non-federal government applicants addressing three priority topics: outreach, education programs, and tools for communicating about WNS; gaps in knowledge of bat life history, habits, and ecological interactions relevant to managing WNS; and tools and strategies to improve survival rates for bats vulnerable to WNS. No FWS news release is planned. FWS will coordinate with grant recipients for individual outreach. (11/21/2018)

On or around January 10, FWS plans to publish a proposed rule to allow the baiting of brown bears on Kenai NWR, which is permitted under Alaska state hunting regulations. The rule would also allow the discharge of firearms along the Kenai and Russian rivers during certain times of the year; allow the use of snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and utility task vehicles on certain lakes when there is adequate snow and ice cover; and increase access to the refuge by bicycle and game cart. This proposed rule would be available for a 60-day public comment period and is likely to be strongly opposed by those who believe that baiting of wildlife for hunting is unethical or who oppose hunting (particularly of large predatory mammals). FWS plans to notify stakeholders directly by email and issue a news release to Alaska media announcing the proposed rule and public comment period. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On or around January 18, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed delisting determination on the Borax lake chub, an endemic fish species in Oregon, due to recovery. The primary threats to the chub have been reduced or eliminated. Potential stakeholders include the state, The Nature Conservancy, and the Bureau of Land Management. This action is not controversial. FWS does not anticipate negative reaction from environmental groups. This action will likely receive the most interest at the local and regional level. Planned outreach includes a regional news release and communication with congressional offices, local, and state officials, and invested stakeholders. (Updated 11/21/2018)

On or around January 18, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed delisting determination on the running buffalo clover, located in Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. FWS has developed a regional news release, a Flickr site for images, social media, fact sheet, and FAQs. Stakeholders include members of Congress and recovery partners, including state agencies. Some NGOs could question the delisting proposal because one of the delisting criterion was not met in the exact manner specified in the recovery plan. (Updated 11/21/2018)

National Park Service

NEW ITEMS

On December 16, the annual birthday celebration for Dr. Carter G. Woodson will be held near the Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site. This year's event will highlight Woodson's work during World War II as well as the NPS progress made at the site during 2018. (11/28/2018)

On or around December 17, Hot Springs National Park expects to release the Pullman Avenue Trail Connector Environmental Assessment (EA) to the public for a 30-day review. The park proposes to create a new trail (0.65 miles) across park lands to connect city streets to the City of Hot Springs' new Cedar Glades park mountain biking trail network. The EA is the first step to allow mountain biking on this new connector trail. If it is determined mountain biking should be allowed, a new special regulation would also be necessary. (11/28/2018)

(CLOSE HOLD) During the week of December 17, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area will announce the contract award for passenger ferry service to Alcatraz Island. The new 15-year concession contract (effective May 9, 2019) will offer passenger ferry service to Alcatraz and Angel Islands, a park cruise, food and beverage service, charter transportation service, and associated visitor services to the public. (11/28/2018)

On December 31, the current General Agreement between Steamtown National Historic Site and the Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority (PNRRA) that defines terms of rail use by both parties expires. Negotiations have been underway for the past 24 months that have included DOI Solicitors, the park, and Northeast Regional staff. Correspondence from PNRRA on November 8, 2018, stated they "are prevented from entering into this new [general] agreement." This potentially places rail operations in and through the park at risk in 2019. The NPS is currently developing options in case an agreement is not reached. This issue may attract congressional attention. (11/28/2018)

ONGOING

On or about January 5, the NPS will assume front desk operations at the First Ladies National Historic Site (FILA) in Canton, Ohio, from the nonprofit partner that has been providing that service. This is another step in the partnership transition. The on-site non-profit partner, the National First Ladies Library, will now focus on building a philanthropic program, creating volunteer opportunities, developing research education programs, networking with other sites and organizations that share the park mission, and advocating for the National Historic Site. The NPS will be responsible for Site management, maintenance, preservation, and operations. (10/31/2018)

On January 18, the prospectus for glacier landing air taxis and scenic tours at Denali will close. The Alaska Region issued the prospectus on November 8. By November 15, the Alaska Region will issue a prospectus for glacier landing air taxis and scenic tours at Denali National Park and Preserve. This solicitation is for four concession contracts, with a 10-year term of January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2029. (Updated 11/21/2018)

The NPS first nationwide fee-free day will occur on January 21, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The other fee free days will be April 20, First Day of National Park Week/National Junior Ranger Day; August 25, National Park Service Anniversary; September 28, National Public

Lands Day; November 11, Veterans Day. The public announcement was made on November 19. (11/21/2018)

On or around April, the NPS will display an exhibit on Treasured Landscapes at the United Nations Headquarters in New York for the annual kickoff of the upcoming General Assembly. The request was made through the office of UN Ambassador Nikki Haley. (Updated 09/05/2018)

Awareness

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

NEW ITEMS

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and FWS are proposing to translocate up to 50 deer from Tenasillahe Island, a part of the Julia Butler Hansen Refuge for the Columbian White-tailed Deer, to a 935-acre property owned by Columbia Land Trust. Columbian white-tailed deer are listed as threatened under ESA. The current population of these deer on Tenasillahe Island exceeds the management goal. The translocation would help establish a new subpopulation, one of the requirements for possible delisting. Translocation would occur from December 2018 to March 2019 and December 2019 to March 2020. BPA, Oregon and Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife, Cowlitz Tribe and Columbia Land Trust support the translocation. This is not expected to be controversial. (11/28/2018)

On November 23, National Elk Refuge in Wyoming alerted hunters that it will require a mandatory sample of all elk harvested on the refuge for the remainder of the 2018 hunt season. This is just one of several responses to a recent confirmed case of chronic wasting disease in a mule deer that was road-killed within Grand Teton National Park and adjacent to the refuge boundary. Wyoming Game & Fish Department and NPS issued new releases and will plan a meeting with other agency partners (including FWS and the U.S. Forest Service) to discuss a coordinated response. Besides the mandatory testing, the refuge plans increased monitoring for symptomatic animals in the field; immediate euthanasia of symptomatic animals; and implementation of biosecurity protocols, including strict use of personal protective equipment, appropriate disinfection, and safe disposal of potentially infected animal carcasses. (11/28/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

On November 8, FWS received an update from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Kootenai National Forest that a draft biological assessment (BA) for terrestrial species for Section 7 consultation with USFS for Hecla's Mining Company projects in northwest Montana would be forthcoming to FWS within the next 30 days. FWS will review the draft BA and provide comments back to the USFS as soon as possible. Once FWS receives a complete and final biological assessment, it will prepare a response within 135 days. (Updated 11/28/2018)

By the end of December, FWS will submit a "Request to Secure Water" for year 2019 to the Chief Engineer of the Kansas Department of Agriculture/Department of Water Resources as part of work to address the negative impact to of the Quivira NWR senior water right by junior groundwater wells. The Groundwater Management District #5 continues to develop a conceptual Local Enhanced Management Area proposal to remedy impairment. A draft proposal drew many negative responses regarding various aspects of the plan, and a new draft and comment period is expected. Letters from local school boards, county commissioners, and the Kansas Farm Bureau Office expressed concern regarding the potential impact of the plan on the local economy. Four Kansas congressional representatives also submitted a letter requesting from Secretary Zinke technical assistance with augmentation engineering. (Updated 11/28/2018)

National Park Service

NEW ITEMS

On November 21, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) determined that the NPS proposed rulemaking, *Demonstrations and Special Events on the National Mall and Memorial Parks*, was significant under Executive Order 12866 due to its "novel legal or policy issues." As a result, the final rule will be reviewed by OMB for up to 90 days. The proposed rulemaking modifies how the NPS processes permit applications for demonstrations and special events. The rulemaking also identifies locations where activities are allowed, not allowed, or allowed but subject to restrictions. During the 60-day public comment period, which closed on October 15, the NPS received 140,652 comments. (11/28/2018)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs (AS-IA) Tara Sweeney will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs (PDAS-IA) John will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3, and on December 4 will be traveling to Alaska for the remainder of the week to lead Tribal consultations in Bethel and Kotzebue on the Department's implementation of the Alaska amendment to the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) and fee-to-trust in Alaska.

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Economic Development (DAS-PED) Mark Cruz will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

Acting Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Director Darryl LaCounte will be in the office.

BIA Deputy Director – Field Operations Jim James will be in the office.

Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Director Tony Dearman will travel to Austin, Texas, for a Building State Capacity and Productivity Center meeting on December 5-6 and will return to Washington, DC, of Friday, December 7, 2018. Travel plans will be amended if a GAO hearing is scheduled for December 5, 2018, in Washington, DC.

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary–Management (DAS-M) Jason Freihage will be in the office.

Acting Chief of Staff Rich Myers will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

NEW ITEMS

On December 5, 2018, AS-IA Sweeney and BIA Director LaCounte will participate in a meeting with other Federal agencies and the White House on 477 to defend the current appeals process.

UPDATED ITEMS

December 5, 2018, is the due date for approval of the Kaw Nation's modification to its Off-Track Wagering Compact, which has been in effect since May of 2001. The existing Compact specified a location for Off-Track Wagering in Newkirk, Oklahoma. The Tribe and the State negotiated a modification to change the location to the Tribe's trust land in Braman, Oklahoma, which is eligible for gaming. The compact is currently pending surname in the AS-IA office.

This week, AS-IA Sweeney will review the Tribal-State gaming compact amendment for the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians. A final approval decision was due on November 14, 2018 but the Office of the Solicitor (SOL) advised that AS-IA may affirmatively approve after that deadline. The amendment modifies Video Lottery Terminal definition, requires the Tribe to submit internal controls for the State's approval before new VLT's play, reaffirms the location of the Tribes' Gaming Facility, increases the number of VLTs the Tribe may operate from 800 to 1,200, and increases the wager limits for table and counter games.

This week, AS-IA will sign notifications that amendments to Tribal-State gaming compacts for the following Tribes are deemed approved as of November 19, 2018: Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians, La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians, Mechoopda Indian Tribe, San Pasqual Band, Torrez Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, and Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians. The amendments are pending SOL review.

Mid-December is the Office of Indian Gaming's target date for briefing PDAS-IA Tahsuda

on the Redding Rancheria's application to acquire land in trust in Shasta County, California, in order to relocate its existing Win River gaming facility. The Department signed an agreement with the Tribe to close its existing casino prior to opening the new casino.

Mid-December is the Office of Indian Gaming's target date for briefing PDAS-IA Tahsuda on the Coquille Tribe's application to acquire land into trust for gaming within the City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon.

ONGOING ITEMS

AS-IA is expected to review the following Tribal-State gaming compact amendments this week for affirmative approval or deemed approval: Osage Nation, Santa Ynez, Dry Creek, Karuk Tribe, Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake,

December 2, 2018, is the due date for approval of Tunica-Biloxi Indian Tribe's amendments to its Revenue Allocation Plan to resume limited per capita payments to minor tribal members and provide for enhanced services for elderly tribal members' healthcare and housing assistance. The Amendment also creates a permanent endowment fund to provide support and stability to tribal programs and services.

December 2-4, 2018, BIA Chief of Division of Facilities, Maintenance, and Construction will participate in the National Council for School Facilities annual meeting in Washington, DC.

December 3-5, 2018, the AS-IA Senior Policy Advisor will attend the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Inter-Tribal Work Group (ITWG), present at the Tribal Law & Order Act (TLOA), Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse (IASA), Tribal Action Plan Work Group (TAP) workshop, and participate on a SAMHSA Opioid panel workshop to discuss TLOA IASA activities related to Interior.

December 5, 2018, is the tentative date for a Senate Committee on Indian Affairs oversight hearing for BIE and BIA to provide an update on the status of addressing GAO's recommendations for Indian energy and the BIE.

On December 5 - 6, 2018, Indian Affairs will hold Tribal consultation sessions in Bethel and Kotzebue, Alaska, to discuss how it might better implement the Alaska IRA's federal acknowledgement provisions and the legal authority of the Secretary to take land into trust in Alaska, per the Dear Tribal Leader and Dear Alaska Native Corporation CEO letters dated July 2, 2018.

December 11, 2018, Assistant Secretary Sweeney plans to host a Tribal roundtable with the Secretary in the Office of the Secretary at Main Interior.

On December 12, 2018, Indian Affairs will hold the last of five tribal consultation sessions by teleconference, to discuss how it might better implement the Alaska IRA's federal acknowledgement provisions and the legal authority of the Secretary to take land into trust in Alaska, per the Dear Tribal Leader and Dear Alaska Native Corporation CEO letters dated

July 2, 2018.

The final approval letter for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan's Revenue Allocation Plan Amendment is pending AS-IA signature. The Tribe is revising their educational requirements, instituting grace periods, and including the ability to receive a minor's trust fund at 20 years old.

The final approval letter for the San Pasqual Band's Revenue Allocation Plan Amendment is pending SOL surname. The Tribe is incorporating the 2014 Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act and prior RAP approvals into the original document.

The Office of Indian Gaming is processing a request for AS-IA review from the Wyandotte Nation (Oklahoma/Kansas) to acquire in trust for gaming a 10.53-acre parcel of land in Park City, Sedgwick County, Kansas, (Park City parcel), overturning the denial of its previous application by the Assistant Secretary in 2014 (mandatory trust acquisition).

Indian Affairs' internal workgroup continues to work on developing a plan for decoupling BIE and BIA in the FY 2020 budget. The workgroup includes representatives of BIA, BIE, DAS-M (including IT, CFO), the AS-IA Office and Interior PMB.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

NEW ITEMS

December 9-16, 2018, BIA Southwest and Navajo Regional Directors will be providing support to Acting Solicitor Dan Jorjani for his tour through New Mexico and Arizona, including coordinating a tour of Chaco Canyon cultural site with BLM, NPS, and SOL.

December 10-12, 2018, BIA Office of Justice Services senior management will attend the Indian Country Leadership Summit at the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) National Advocacy Center in Columbia, South Carolina. The Summit is a joint presentation of DOJ, FBI's Indian Country Crimes Unit and BIA Office of Justice Services and focuses on topics of interest for DOJ, BIA, and Tribal communities.

By the December 16, 2018, deadline established by the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016, BIA plans to submit its report on Indian dam safety and its report on Indian irrigation projects to Congress. The reports are currently in surname and provide status updates on accomplishments and remaining programmatic needs.

UPDATED ITEMS

The Indian Energy Minerals Steering Committee (IEMSC) meeting initially scheduled for November 2018 has been rescheduled to February 2019, to be held in Lakewood, Colorado. BIA Division of Real Estate Services Chief plans to attend.

ONGOING ITEMS

The week of December 3, 2018, BIA will be holding a Superintendents Leadership Course for BIA agency superintendents. The agenda will include presentations on harassment in the workplace, litigation assistance, orders of succession, procurement processes, ethics, and a number of other topics.

The week of December 3, 2018, the Division of Property Management plans to provide property management training to class attendees at the BIA Superintendent Orientation Class 7 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

By early December, BIA, the Office of Regulatory Affairs & Collaborative Action (RACA) and SOL plan to finalize a new handbook addressing how BIA Realty staff processes mortgages of leasehold interests held in trust or restricted status.

December 9-14, 2018, BIA will present a poster summarizing the final chapter of the 4th National Climate Assessment (NCA4), entitled Tribes and Indigenous Peoples, for the American Geophysical Union conference in Washington, DC.

December 10-12, 2018, BIA Office of Justice Services senior managers will be receiving training and meeting with senior managers from the U.S. Department of Justice to discuss law enforcement issues at the Indian Country Leadership Summit, in Columbia, South Carolina.

On December 11-12, 2018, the BIA Realty Specialist for Mineral Leasing will provide training on the BIA portion of the onshore energy and mineral lease management interagency standard operating procedures at the Denver Business Center.

Bureau of Indian Education

ONGOING ITEMS

On December 4-6, 2018, the Bureau of Indian Education Standards, Assessments, and Accountability Negotiated Rulemaking Committee will hold a meeting in Arlington, Virginia, per the Federal Register notice published August 2.

December 6-7, 2018, BIE will participate in the U.S. Department of Education 2018 Combined Federal Programs Meeting in Washington DC.

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

UPDATED ITEMS

December 31, 2018, is the due date for approval of a Tribal-State gaming compact between the Nooksack Tribe and the State of Washington. The compact is currently in review with SOL.

ONGOING ITEMS

December 20, 2018, is the deadline for submitting written comments, by midnight EST and via email, on the how Interior might better implement the Alaska IRA's federal acknowledgement provisions and the legal authority of the Secretary to take land into trust in Alaska, per the Dear Tribal Leader and Dear Alaska Native Corporation CEO letters dated July 2, 2018.

On January 22, 2019 through January 25, 2019, the Self-Governance Advisory Committee meeting will place at the Embassy Suites DC Convention Center, 900 10th Street, NW, Washington, DC. Representatives of the Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs are invited to attend on the morning of Friday, January 25, 2019.

AS-IA is reviewing a request from Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Indian Reservation (Wyoming) to place land in trust for gaming. AS-IA will determine whether to accept approximately 6.3 acres of land in trust for the Arapaho Tribe under the authority of a statute specific to the Tribe.

Hannahville Indian Community submitted amendments to its Revenue Allocation Plan for approval to allow for per capita deductions for child support and debts owed to the Tribe.

Indian Affairs expects to issue an updated National Policy Memorandum (NPM) on Real Property Leasing Space Utilization and Space Request Policy. The original NPM expired in June 2018. The updated NPM references the IA Facilities Investment Review Board (FIRB), which will provide oversight of the real property leasing program and ensure that real property leases comply with applicable laws, policies, and procedures. The FIRB charter is in the process of being approved, and once it has been signed, the program will move forward with surnaming the NPM.

Indian Affairs expects to issue a new Indian Affairs Manual (IAM) chapter regarding corrective deeds and affidavits to provide the process to correct a deed on Indian land.

<u>Bureau of Indian Affairs</u>

ONGOING ITEMS

December 17-20, 2018, BIA Office of Justice Services will host Opioid Community Awareness Meetings at Yurok Tribe, Cahto Tribe, and Bishop-Paiute Tribe, respectively.

<u>Bureau of Indian Education</u>

NEW ITEMS

January 7-11, 2019, BIE Strategic Direction team members will meet in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to work on implementation of goals. Senior leaders will also have a separate face-to-face meeting this week.

On January 15-17, 2019, the Bureau of Indian Education Standards, Assessments, and Accountability Negotiated Rulemaking Committee is tentatively scheduled to hold its fourth face-to-face meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, pending the Secretary's approval.

January 16-18, 2019, the BIE Advisory Board for Exceptional Children will meet in Albuquerque, New Mexico. All Associate Deputy Directors have been invited.

UPDATED ITEMS

Through January 20, Dr. Daniel Wildcat will be serving as Acting President of Haskell University. Dr. Venida Chenault will be detailed to a special assignment for BIE in order for senior leadership to fully review the Office of Inspector General report issued on November 16, 2018.

ONGOING ITEMS

December 12-14, 2018, BIE Special Education staff and technical assistance providers will meet to develop a revised technical assistance plan for the special education unit to meet Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements and demonstrate continuous improvement.

Through December 14, 2018, BIE is conducting the Indian School Equalization Program (ISEP) monitoring for General Education, Special Education, English Language Learners, Native Language Learners and Gifted and Talented.

By January 7, 2019, BIE expects to announce the availability of 21st Century Community Learning Centers Draft Application for the 2019-2022 cohort to BIE owned and operated schools, and expects to establish an application deadline of March 1, 2019.

On January 29, 2019, the BIE Associate Deputy Director for Bureau-Operated Schools will host a meeting of all off-reservation Bureau-operated boarding schools at Sherman Indian School to address urgent needs and long-term planning.

Through May 2019, BIE will be hosting a series of safety webinars to address: Winter Safety, Winter Driver Safety & Environmental Compliance (Paint, Ballasts and Bulbs), Safety – 3607 Purpose and Process & OSHA Logs, Collateral Duty Safety Officers & Safety Committees, and topics determined by a three-month trending.

BIE is working with BIA Office of Indian Services to review and update their memorandum of agreement on Public Law 93-638 contract administration for BIE programs, to clarify the respective responsibilities of BIE and BIA, identify training opportunities for BIE staff in

FY19, and further evaluate BIE delegated authority for 638 awarding officials.

BIE is developing a report entitled "Bureau Operated Schools' Site Visits and Recommendations on Native American Language, History, and Culture" that will compile current qualitative and quantitative data on Native American language, history, and culture. Site visits are necessary at the two schools remaining for inclusion.

Awareness

Bureau of Indian Affairs

ONGOING ITEMS

The Camp Fire burned 630 trust acres on the Chico Rancheria and the Berry Creek Rancheria is under evacuation. It is unknown at this time how the fire has impacted the Mooretown Rancheria.

BIA's Office of Indian Services, Division of Human Services (DHS) is partnering with the Department of Justice and the BIA's Office of Justice Services to expand the Justice Department's Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP): the federal government's essential program that provides Tribes with access to national crime information databases. TAP offers federally recognized tribes the ability to access and exchange data with national crime information databases for both civil and criminal purpose, which allows tribes to more effectively serve and protect their communities by ensuring the exchange of critical data.

Bureau of Indian Education

UPDATED ITEMS

Haskell Indian Nations University (Haskell) staff are working with BIA Office of Justice Services to explore options for improving safety and security of the campus.

ONGOING ITEMS

Retrocession of Borrego Pass: A review of the retrocession checklist was completed to ensure that the areas for School Operations had reasonable timeframes and staff accountable to carry out the efforts to ensure training and processes are shared with the school for a clean transition.

Pine Hill progress update: The Project Manager confirmed that the Contractor is completing site mobilization and performing a more detailed building-by-building assessment to complete the work plan for the lightning protection systems. The Contractor is on site and proceeding according to the schedule.

Staff at Haskell are working with the SOL, the Office of Civil Rights, and Southwestern

Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) staff on a new policy implementing the Executive Order, "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Race, Sex, Color, National Origin, Disability, Religion, Age, Sexual Orientation, and Status as a Parent in Federally Conducted Education and Training Programs" and a new policy on consensual relationships between employees and students.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY INSULAR AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel for the upcoming week, December 2 –December 8

TRAVEL

AS-IIA Domenech will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4.

OIA Director Pula will travel to Honolulu, HI for the Winter Island Government Finance Officers' Association meeting taking place December 4-6.

INT Director Karen Senhadji has no planned travel.

Senior Advisor Sarah Jorgenson will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4. On December 5, she will attend her graduation ceremony with the Air Command and Staff College.

Oceans Program Coordinator Liza Johnson has no planned travel. Note that Liza will be out on maternity leave from mid-December to April 1.

Immediate Announcements and Actions within 14 days

UPDATED ITEMS

OIA INDOPACOM Liaison: OIA is working with INDOPACOM to finalize an MOU to fill an OIA liaison to INDOPACOM, a full-time position housed in Honolulu. UPDATE: INDOPACOM sent an updated MOU to OIA and OIA Director Pula is working with the Solicitor's office to finalize it.

OIA Meeting with NSC on IndoPacific Strategy: AS-IIA has been working with NSC and the interagency to update and to finalize an IndoPacific strategy, which encompasses some of OIA's work and objectives in the territories and freely associated states. UPDATE: A follow-up meeting is expected to take place the week of December 2, giving meeting participants time to read feedback and initial analysis from all agencies involved in the working group.

OIA White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders: OIA staff continue to work on action items for the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (WHIAAPI), which seeks to work to improve the quality of life for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders across the nation through increased access to, and

participation in, federal programs in which they may be underserved. It focuses on four cross-cutting ideas: data disaggregation, language access, capacity building, and workforce diversity. UPDATE: The next WHIAAPI Interagency Working Group meeting will take place at the Department of Education on December 5. OIA's Technical Assistance Division Director will attend.

OIA FAS Trust Fund Quarterly Meeting: UPDATE: OIA Director Pula will attend and chair the Trust Fund Committee meeting for the Federated States of Micronesia in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, December 12 (this is rescheduled from the week of November 26). The fund balance is currently $636 million.

OIA Economic Reports on the Freely Associated States: Economic reports on the three freely associated states are being compiled and are all expected to be completed by the end of December. UPDATE: The reports on the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands have been completed and the report on Palau is expected in December.

ONGOING ITEMS

OIA Appointment of Open Associate Justice of American Samoa Position: No change. Seven applicants were vetted for this vacancy. Acting Solicitor Jorjani and OIA Director Pula have completed the second series of telephone interviews with the candidates. A memo of recommendation is being compiled, and will be sent to the Secretary to assist him in making the appointment.

OIA Island Government Finance Officers' Association Meeting: No change. On December 4-6, the Winter Island Government Finance Officers' Association meeting will take place in Honolulu. OIA Director Pula will attend. Participation is expected from the heads of finance for each insular government as well as permanent staff members with a work-related focus on finance office performance measurements and audit improvement initiatives within each finance office. OIA funds two participants from each of the seven insular areas to attend this meeting.

OIA Western Governors' Association Annual Meeting: OIA staff are compiling briefing documents for the Deputy Secretary in advance of his possible attendance at the Western Governors' Association annual meeting in Honolulu, HI from December 11-13. The meeting focus will be on biosecurity and invasive species, and representatives from the insular areas as also expected to be in attendance.

OIA Interagency Group on Insular Areas (IGIA) Subgroup Meeting: OIA is coordinating and convening a meeting between various Federal departments and agencies to discuss the challenges that the Insular Area governments are having in successfully executing the financial accountability, operational management, and programmatic outcome requirements of federal grant programs. This subgroup meeting is planned for December 13, 2018, to inform future IGIA activities and the agenda for the 2019 Annual IGIA meeting (more details listed below).

OIA Region 12 Facilitator for DOI Reorg: No change. OIA Director Pula is the Facilitator for Region 12, which consists of Hawaii and the U.S. Territories in the Pacific. Mr. Pula and the other regional facilitators continue to work through the six mission functions to populate information in the focused areas of Collaborative Conservation, Recreation, Permitting, Information Technology, Human Resources Management, and Procurement.

OIA November and December OIA Leadership and Audit Training: No change. OIA-funded government oversight and audit training continue to take place in USVI and Florida:
-December 2: USVI Executive leadership program in Tampa, Florida
-December 3-7: Writing and communicating audit results and contract/procurement auditing in St. Thomas, USVI.

OIA DHS Public Charge Rule: The Ambassadors of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Palau continue to voice their concern with the implications of the proposed changes to the DHS rules addressing *public charges*, that is, aliens entering the United States who are unable to care for themselves without becoming a *public charge*.

OIA Parole Visa Policies Relating to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and Guam: Before the draft Federal Register notice regarding the rescission of discretionary parole visa policies relating to nationals of the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation seeking entry into Guam and/or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands moves forward, DHS/OMB is waiting for CNMI to recover from the recent typhoon to the point that the Governor of CNMI is able to travel to DC for a meeting to discuss this issue. CNMI has written the President requesting formal Section 902 consultations on the issue. At this time, no meeting is scheduled.

INT Launch Event in South Africa: No change. DOI-ITAP will participate in launch event meetings from December 1- 7, in Cape Town, South Africa, with Western Cape Government representatives and selected contractors, to mark the beginning of technical assistance to improve state of readiness for large-scale shale gas development in the rural area of the Central Karoo, in South Africa. This work is funded by the U.S. State Department.

INT Ashland Oregon Forensics Lab and Washington DC Visit: No change. DOI-ITAP will host a high level delegation from the Philippines to tour the DOI/Fish & Wildlife Service's National Wildlife Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon, and Washington DC, December 2-8. During the Ashland visit, the delegation will learn about the benefits such a facility can bring to the Philippines and Southeast Asia in general as well as the equipment and technical capacity needed to manage a forensics lab. The delegation will also meet with their counterparts in Washington, DC. This work is funded by USAID/Philippines.

INT Marine Protected Areas Exchange: No change. Through December 22, DOI-ITAP will facilitate a professional learning exchange for five Marine Protected Areas (MPA) and sustainable fisheries experts from the Indonesian provinces of Maluku and West Papua to travel to the U.S. to learn from NPS and FWS about DOI approaches to MPA management. This work is funded by USAID.

INT Coral Triangle Initiative Senior Officials' Meeting, Philippines: No change. DOI-ITAP will participate in the annual Senior Officials' Meeting of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF), to be held in Manila, December 10-14. This annual priority-setting meeting of the marine and fisheries conservation coalition of the six Coral Triangle Countries will set out the 2019 goals for the organization and its Regional Secretariat, which receives DOI-ITAP technical support. The work is funded by USAID.

INT Lithium Scoping Mission, Argentina: No change. A DOI-ITAP team consisting of five USGS experts will travel to Salta, Argentina, and the surrounding area, from Dec 12-22, to assess the availability of lithium and evaluate extraction protocols. The group will work with Ministry counterparts. The work is part of DOI-ITAP global energy program and is funded by the Department of State.

INT Coordinate Intra-Agency and Interagency International Activities in Support of the DOI Mission and U.S. Foreign Policy: No change. INT is developing a searchable spreadsheet of all international agreements and organizations in which DOI participates. So far, there are about 300 initial entries, and INT is compiling additional information to support these entries (points of contact, upcoming related meetings, etc.) to be provided by bureaus.

INT Modernize International Travel Clearance System, Passport and Visa Operations: No change. INT staff have been working to develop a standard international travel clearance system for all of DOI, and updated guidance for DOI staff to follow for international travel. In addition, INT staff continue to automate passport and visas procedures for more efficient processing.

OCEANS Ocean Policy Committee Meeting: No change. The second Ocean Policy Committee meeting of the Subcommittee Co-Chairs and agency senior policy contacts will occur on Wednesday December 5th at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. Assistant Secretary Domenech and the Ocean, Great Lakes, and Coastal Program Coordinator will attend. Agenda items include presentation and discussion on the Ocean Science and Technology Subcommittee priority research and technology needs, a briefing on the soon-to-be-released Science and Technology for America's Oceans: A Decadal Vision, Ocean Resource Management Subcommittee data product and report on regional data needs, and discussion of other potential interagency initiatives.

OCEANS DOI Senior Ocean Policy Team and Regional Ocean Contacts Meeting: No change. On December 5, the DOI Senior Ocean Policy Team and the Regional Ocean Contacts will meet jointly to discuss implementation of actions in support of Executive Order 13840: *Regarding Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security, and Environmental Interests of the United States*, the FY19 Oceans Working Capital Fund activities, and other ocean, Great Lakes, and coastal actions to be jointly undertaken across DOI bureaus and regions.

OCEANS Extended Continental Shelf Executive Committee Meeting: No change. The Executive Committee of the Extended Continental Shelf (ECS) Task Force will meet on

December 6. The Ocean, Great Lakes, and Coastal Program Coordinator will attend representing DOI as the Vice Chair of the Executive Committee. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and decide upon the updated ECS Project Plan and timeline.

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

NEW ITEMS

OIA Oceania Way Forward: OIA is working with the NSC and others in the intelligence community to identify a date in January to meet in Washington, DC on issues relating to the Oceania region, which includes the three freely associated states as well as American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

OIA USVI Gubernatorial Runoff Election: On November 20, Governor Kenneth "Ken" Mapp (Independent) lost to former island Labor Commissioner Albert J. Bryan, Jr. (Democrat). The vote tally was 11,796 to 9,766, making Mapp the third governor in U.S. Virgin Islands history to be defeated after the first term (the others were in 1998 and 1974).

OIA Gubernatorial Inaugurations in Territories: The inaugurations for the new territorial governors will occur as follows:
-January 7: Guam. Governor-elect Lou Leon Guerrero (D) will be sworn in as Guam's first female governor.
-January 7: U.S. Virgin Islands. Governor-elect Albert J. Bryan (D) will be sworn in (see above).
-January 14: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. CNMI Governor Ralph Torres (R), who succeeded Governor Eloy Inos upon his death in office, will be sworn in for his first term.
OIA expects to have representation at all inaugurations. In addition, AS-IIA is preparing to send letters congratulating the governors-elect and to inform them of open grants that OIA is funding in their respective territories.

ONGOING ITEMS

OIA 2019 Interagency Group on Insular Areas (IGIA) Senior Plenary Session: OIA will send out to all Federal stakeholders a *save the date* notification for the 2019 IGIA Senior Plenary Session to be held on February 25, 2019, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. at The White House. The Secretary will co-chair the event.

OIA Graduate School USA Activities in January: No change. OIA's funded Graduate School USA, contracted and supported by OIA's Technical Assistance Program, is supporting multiple activities focused on financial education, oversight, and accountability for the CNMI, RMI, and FSM in January 2019:
-Saipan, CNMI; January 2019: *TBD if Typhoon Yutu will impact the timing of this event at this time.
-Majuro, RMI; January 14-18, 2019: The New Uniform Grant Guidance, Majuro, RMI. This course offers a high-level overview of the changes in grants management regulations in *The*

Uniform Guidance: Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.
-Pohnpei, FSM; January 21-25, 2019: The New Uniform Grant Guidance, Pohnpei, FSM. This course offers a high-level overview of the changes in grants management regulations in *The Uniform Guidance: Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.*
-Majuro, RMI; January 28-31, 2019: Developing Interim Procurement Regulations, Majuro, RMI.

OIA Census Compact Surveys: No change. With funding from OIA, the U.S. Census has begun its work in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) as part of the next five-year enumeration of migrants from the freely associated states (FAS) in Hawaii, Guam, the CNMI and American Samoa, as required by the Compact of Free Association (Public Law 108-188). The enumeration is used as the basis for distributing $30 million provided under the Compact to help offset the economic and social impact of migrants from the FAS in the affected jurisdictions. Surveys have begun and are expected to be completed by spring 2019. OIA and Census Officials plan to meet with staff on the Hill to give an update on the status of the enumeration.

INT Secretarial Trip to Israel: INT is convening weekly planning calls and coordinating with the Office of Scheduling and Advance, U.S. Embassy Israel, the Israel desk at the Department of State and Israeli counterparts to prepare for a Secretarial visit, which is scheduled to occur January 28-31, 2019. During the visit, the Secretary will sign a Memorandum of Understanding to expand cooperation on conservation, natural and cultural resource management, and protected areas. He will also meet with senior level officials from the Israeli government to discuss the bilateral relationship.

INT Education and Interpretation Workshop, Indonesia: No change. A DOI-ITAP team, consisting of one NPS and two FWS experts, will travel to Jakarta, Indonesia, from January 4-19, to deliver education and interpretation training to counterparts, under the USAID funded Indonesia Terrestrial Protected Areas project. Activity is funded by USAID/Indonesia.

INT Roundtable Tribal Discussions: No change. Indian Affairs is in the early planning stages for a possible series of cross-border discussions between U.S. Tribes and Canadian/Mexican indigenous communities. Discussions will address violence against indigenous women, trafficking, and other issues that Tribes wish to discuss. These roundtable discussions will inform the ongoing annual trilateral working group meetings between the U.S., Canadian, and Mexican governments to address violence against indigenous women and girls. INT is supporting Indian Affairs to ensure coordination with State Department and the Canadian and Mexican governments.

INT Coordination of DOI Review of Description of Environmental Cooperation in North America: No change. At the request of USTR, INT is coordinating review within DOI of brief factual summaries of environmental cooperation and trade-related transboundary environmental issues among the three countries that are parties to the U.S.-

Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), the successor agreement negotiated to the NAFTA. The summaries will be part of the informational materials accompanying the text of the USMCA when the Administration sends it to Congress.

INT Repatriation Ceremony with Embassy of Mexico: INT is working with NPS, DHS, State, Mexico's Foreign Affairs Ministry, and others to plan the repatriation of 500+ arrowheads and other artifacts that were illegally smuggled from Mexico into Big Bend National Park and confiscated there in April 2016. INT will be reaching out to the Scheduling Office to determine Secretary Zinke's potential availability to participate in the proposed repatriation ceremony with Mexico, likely to take place sometime early next year here in Washington.

AWARENESS

OIA Typhoon Yutu: OIA staff continue to reach out to various cabinet members of the CNMI government for updates. Based on information received from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation's CEO, the Tinian Health Center, and the Commonwealth Health Center (the only hospital in the CNMI) in Saipan are fully operational and satellite clinics have been closed. With FEMA and DOD taking the lead in the response and recovery effort, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation reported that the northern half of Saipan that was not as impacted by the typhoon was fully operational. Significant progress has been made toward the areas severely impacted on the southern half of Saipan. As for Tinian, the utilities teams anticipate completion of their project in December. In addition, while the Saipan International Airport opened back up to commercial operations (power has been restored), it can only accommodate a limited closed commercial flights due to typhoon damages to the terminal buildings, so many tourism locations, including the Imperial Pacific Casino, have closed until more tourists can reach the island.

OIA Recent Congressional Action: The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources approved *H.R. 4446* (Plaskett), a bill to extend the expiration date of the Virgin Islands Centennial Commission to September 30, 2019. Should the Senate consider and approve the legislation before adjournment, the bill would go to the President for his signature.
The House Committee on Natural Resources approved *H.R. 5025* (Radewagon), a bill to amend the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act to limit the imposition of penalties against a person fishing on a United States flag fishing vessel in certain areas of the Pacific Ocean based on a report by an observer on such a vessel. Full House consideration is unknown at this time. Should the bill be considered and pass the House prior to adjournment, it would then go to the Senate for consideration.

OIA China Plan to Develop Western Samoan Port: It has been reported that China is negotiating to fund the redevelopment and expansion of the Asau Port, which already boasts a concrete wharf and is located next to an airstrip on Savai'i, the nation's largest island. Military analysts have warned that the port could lead to a land mass right through the heart of America's defenses in the South Pacific or threaten Australia's east-coast trade routes to the U.S.

OIA RMI High Score on Annual Financial Report: The financial health and accountability of the Republic of the Marshall Islands showed its best results (6.25 out of 10 in comparison to 3.48 in 2008) on record in FY2017, according to the annual Performeter report. This increase reflects improvements in key areas such as net position, inter-generational equity, short-term solvency, debt management, and carryovers. Two areas that remain a challenge are the condition of capital assets and the social security funding ratio. The Performeter is funded by OIA through Graduate School USA and is an analysis that uses financial indicators and ratios to assess the government's financial performance and sustainability.

INT Upcoming International Travel:

PETTY: Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Tim Petty will travel to Vancouver, Canada to participate in the DOS-led Columbia River Treaty negotiations from December 10-13.

REILLY: USGS Director Jim Reilly will travel to Antarctica in January.

Additional Known International Travel, Employees Departing December 2-8:

12/2/18 FWS	China	Migratory Birds Meetings	Michelle Haynes
12/2/18 USGS	France	Wildlife Disease Meeting	Jonathan Sleeman
12/2/18 USGS	Italy	Gas Data Processing Exchange	Peter Kelly
12/2/18 USGS	Japan	Critical Minerals Meeting	Graham Lederer
12/2/18 USBR	Oman	Desalination Cooperation	Saied Delagah
12/2/18 USGS	Philippines	Minerals Data Exchange	Ji Won Moon
12/2/18 USGS	Philippines	Minerals Data Exchange	Steven Textoris
12/3/18 USGS	Bahamas	Earth Sciences Exchange	Vic Heilweil
12/3/18 FWS	Gabon	Wildlife Law Enforcement	David Hubbard
12/3/18 USGS	Italy	Earthquake Modeling Meeting	Gari Mayberry
12/5/18 USGS	Mexico	Aquifer Water Quality Research	John Pohlman
12/5/18 FWS	Thailand	Wildlife Law Enforcement Training	Irene Jorata

12/5/18 FWS	Thailand	Wildlife Law Enforcement Training	Joseph Rousseau
12/6/18 FWS	China	Migratory Birds Meetings	Pete Probasco
12/6/18 FWS	China	Migratory Birds Meetings	Robert Kaler
12/6/18 USGS	Hong Kong	Atlantic Ocean Aerosol Research	Dale Griffin
12/7/18 USGS	Mexico	Mussel Taxonomy Research	Nathan Johnson
12/7/18 INT	Philippines	Marine Conservation Meeting	Peter Fricke
12/8/18 USGS	Argentina	Mineral Resource Research	Scott Hynek
12/8/18 USGS	Australia	Fisheries and Irrigation Exchange	Abigail Lynch
12/8/18 USGS	Singapore	Antimicrobial Research	Andrew Ramey
12/8/18 USGS	Zambia	Remote Sensing Analysis	Doug Howard

INT International Memoranda of Understanding and Documents Under Development for Signature:

-Australia: Letter of Intent on critical minerals (addressing existing MOU), in development. Requested by the Secretary and his counterpart Minister Canavan. INT is working with USGS and Australian counterparts to finalize language and specify additional cooperative activities to be undertaken on critical minerals. Australia is currently reviewing the latest draft.

-Israel: MOU to strengthen cooperation on biodiversity conservation, protected areas, and cultural and historical heritage, in development. Requested by Israeli government and recommended by U.S. Embassy Jerusalem, for signature by Secretary Zinke during a visit to Israel Jan 28-31, 2019. INT is coordinating review, translation, and clearance with relevant DOI, Israeli, and State Department counterparts.

-The Netherlands: MOU on offshore wind energy cooperation, in surname. Requested by BOEM and Dutch counterparts, for signature in conjunction with a potential visit to the U.S. by the Dutch Prime Minister early 2019. INT is supporting BOEM as needed.

-New Zealand: MOU on wildland fire cooperation, in development. Requested by DOI and USDA to update existing wildfire arrangement, and continue mutual assistance on wildfires as needed, for signature by the U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand in early 2019 by U.S. Embassy New Zealand. INT is coordinating with Office of Wildland Fire, as they work with New Zealand counterparts and the Departments of Agriculture and State.

-Norway: MOU on energy cooperation, in development. Requested by DOI Energy Counselor and Deputy Chief of Staff. INT is supporting BOEM as needed, and BOEM is working with Norwegian counterparts and Department of State. BOEM is reviewing recent Norwegian revisions.

-Vietnam: MOU to strengthen cooperation on law enforcement to combat wildlife trafficking, in development. Requested by FWS law enforcement, Department of State, and Vietnamese counterpart, for senior-level signature when the Vietnamese counterpart travels to Washington, DC, early 2019. INT is coordinating with FWS Office of Law Enforcement.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

ASLM Joe Balash will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Casey Hammond will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Gary Lawkowski will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

BSEE Director Scott Angelle will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

BLM Deputy Director Brian Steed will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

Bureau of Land Management

NEW ITEMS

November 21-January 7. BLM-AK will be hosting public scoping meetings for an Integrated Activity Plan (IAP) with an associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A). Meetings are currently scheduled for Anchorage, Nuiqsut, Atqasuk, Anaktuvuk Pass, Wainwright, Point Lay, Utqiagvik and Fairbanks. The Notice of Intent for the IAP/EIS published in the *Federal Register* on November 21. The NPR-A IAP/EIS will consider management of BLM-managed lands within the NPR-A totaling approximately 22.1 million acres of surface and subsurface lands and an additional 200,000 subsurface acres underlying Native Corporation-owned surface lands. If approved, this will supercede the 2013 IAP/EIS Record of Decision. (11/23/18)

December 3. BLM-AZ. The Hassayampa Field Office plans to approve a Mining and Reclamation Plan of Operations and Final Environmental Assessment (EA) for a mine on approximately 88 acres of public lands near Skull Valley, Arizona. This mine, proposed by the Kirkland Mining Co., LLC, will produce pozzolan which is used to make more durable concrete. Demand for high-quality pozzolan has grown in recent years as coal burning and supplies of fly ash, also used in making concrete, have dropped. Based on the analysis in the Final EA, the Field Office has determined that the project would not cause significant impacts and an EIS is not required. The BLM is planning to sign a Finding of No Significant Impact and issue a Decision Record on December 3. Over the course of analyzing the mining proposal over the past year and in response to public comments, the BLM has proposed changes to KMC's Mining and Reclamation Plan of Operations that have been incorporated. During the 60-day comment period, 110 categories of comments were received. (11/23/18)

December 19. BLM-MT/DK. The Butte Field Office has completed a preliminary environmental assessment on the donation of private land near Toston Dam along the Missouri River in Broadwater County, Montana. Montana's Outdoor Legacy Foundation has offered to donate 258 acres of private land, in three parcels, to the BLM. Acquisition of these lands would connect with two larger portions of nearby BLM lands thereby minimizing ownership fragmentation. The existing BLM lands adjacent the donation parcels total 988 acres. The donation would result in a single 1,246-acre block of BLM land. The proposed acquisition would help meet the Secretary of the Interior's goal of Serving America by providing access to hunting, fishing, and other recreational opportunities. The property would be managed in a manner similar to adjacent BLM lands for multiple resource values such as dispersed recreation, important wildlife habitat, and other multiple-use opportunities. The Butte Field Office will issue a news release sometime in the next week, initiating a 30-day public comment period that will end around December 19. (11/23/18)

UPDATED ITEMS

December 5 and 6. BLM-NM will hold an oil and gas lease sale for 114 nominated parcels administered by BLM-NM throughout New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas totaling 89,320 acres. The parcels are within the jurisdictions of the Rio Puerco, Roswell, Carlsbad, Oklahoma and Farmington Field Offices. (11/16/18)

Early December. BLM-WY plans to release the Final EIS for the Riley Ridge to Natrona Pipeline project (RRNP), pending approval by the DOI Internal Review Team. The RRNP is a FAST-41 project that consists of three right-of-way applications: two for a 240-mile long underground pipeline and one for a 230-kV transmission line. The project also includes proposals for two hydrogen sulfide injection wells and other project components like roads, valves and flow lines. WO/DOI canceled the original October 26 briefing and has tentatively scheduled a new briefing for November 30. (10/16/18)

Early December. BLM-ID. The BLM expects to publish the the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Notice of Availability for the proposed Caldwell Canyon Mine by early December pending the outcome of the NEPA Review Team briefing on November 20. (8/10/18)

Early December. BLM-CO. The Uncompahgre Field Office has prepared the Notice of Proposed Supplementary Rules for Travel Management on Public Lands in Montrose, Delta, San Miguel, and Ouray counties. (8/21/18) DTS2294

December 7. BLM-MT/DK. The anticipated publication date in the Federal Register of a Notice of Availability for the Lewistown Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been set. The Draft RMP/EIS will address management of 651,200 surface acres and 1,196,800 acres of federal mineral interests in central Montana for the next 10-15 years. Key issues include travel management, access, oil and gas leasing, and timber sales. (6/15/18) DTS 2231 / FRN at DTS 2233

December 7. BLM-MT/DK. The anticipated publication date in the Federal Register of a Notice of Availability for the Missoula Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been set. The Draft RMP/EIS will address management of 163,000 surface acres and 268,000 acres of federal mineral interests in northwestern Montana for the next 10-15 years. Key issues raised in public meetings conducted by the Missoula Field Office include recreation along the popular Blackfoot River, forestry management, hunting, and access to public lands. The RMP will incorporate regional fish and wildlife conservation strategies for species such as the grizzly bear and Canada lynx, as well as new information related to recreation uses, land acquisitions, and forest health. (6/15/18) DTS 2230/FRN at DTS 2232

December 14. BLM-ID plans to issue final decisions for the Rockville Grazing Allotment that address protests received on the proposed decisions. BLM-ID State Office and Boise District Office staff briefed the BLM Director on these decisions on November 7. (3/23/18)

December 14. BLM-ID. BLM-Idaho expects to issue 22 Curlew Grazing Permit Renewal decisions after completion of the Environmental Assessment, Determination, and Finding of No Significant Impact. (7/27/18)

ONGOING ITEMS

November to Early December. BLM-CO. The White River Field Office will release a preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA) of a trailhead expansion proposal from the U.S. Forest Service for the White Creek Trail, a popular hiking and horseback trail, particularly for hunters. The majority of the trail is on National Forest lands, but the beginning of the trail crosses a 40-acre parcel of BLM land. The Forest Service has applied for a right-of-way to expand the parking area pull-out to accommodate more vehicles and horse trailers and to address current safety concerns. At present, visitors park their vehicles along a county road. (11/9/18)

November to Early December. BLM-CO. The Little Snake Field Office is hosting a public hearing to receive comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for Peabody Twentymile Coal LLC's Coal Lease-by-Application, fair market value and maximum economic recovery. The notice for the hearing and the 30-day public comment period

published in the Federal Register on Nov. 6. The public comment period will close December 6, 2018. (5/29/18)

November to Early December BLM-ES will hold a sealed-bid competitive coal lease sale at the Southeastern States District Office in Flowood, Mississippi. A 160-acre Federal coal tract will be offered in Jefferson County, Alabama, adjacent to the existing Narley Mine No. 3. This Federal coal is being offered for sale after careful review by the BLM-Eastern States (BLM-ES) in response to a coal Lease by Application (ALES-55199) filed by the Best Coal Company. The BLM completed an Environmental Assessment for this coal lease sale following a public hearing on November 20, 2014, and issued a Decision Record and a Finding of No Significant Impact on February 16, 2015. This lease was offered for sale April 14, 2016, however, bids received at that time did not meet the Fair Market Value. As the Federal coal vein is accessible in a currently operating mine, jobs may be lost if it cannot be developed.

November to Early December. The BLM-CA State Office submitted a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Developmental Briefing Scheduling Request on November 5 to the Department Review Team to discuss the summary of public comments received on the Bakersfield Field Office's Notice of Intent to prepare a supplemental EIS and potential Resource Management Plan amendment on the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing during new oil and gas production. This planning effort is in response to a 2017 settlement agreement. The briefing request is in preparation for public release of the scoping report in early December. (10/30/18)

December. BLM-AK anticipates releasing the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the public. Publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register begins a 45-day public comment period. BLM-Alaska plans to hold public meetings on the Draft EIS in Anchorage, Arctic Village, Fairbanks, Fort Yukon, Kaktovik, Utqiaġvik, Venetie, and Washington, D.C. (9/20/18)

Early December. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office has prepared a Notice of Realty Action on its proposal to convey approximately 43.09 acres of public land under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act to the Town of Lake City. The land is located about one mile south of Lake City. The Lake City Ski Hill community ski area would continue to operate under the conveyance. The field office is planning for a December publication in the Federal Register (pending WO and DOI approval).(4/24/18) DTS2329

Early December. BLM-ID. The Four Rivers Field Office is working with the City of Caldwell regarding the Mallard Park Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) patent. The City of Caldwell currently holds an R&PP lease with the BLM and is seeking patent of those lands, which total 29.57 acres. Developments constructed since the lease was instituted include sidewalks, parking lots, vault toilets, multiple gazebos, sports courts, an amphitheater and landscaping. The park has widespread support. This project is expected to be completed as soon as the environmental site assessment is completed. The patent will be issued to the City of Caldwell in December. (10/16/18)

Early December. BLM-OR/WA. The Burns District plans to begin conducting research to evaluate the safety, complication rate, and feasibility of ovariectomy via colpotomy (spay) on wild horse mares at Oregon's Wild Horse Corral Facility. Since the release of the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for this research (June 29, 2018), very strong activist campaign has arisen in opposition. The Cloud Foundation, American Wild Horse Campaign and Animal Welfare Institute jointly filed on September 21, 2018 for Injunctive Relief in the District of Oregon against the spay research. The complaint is specific to the spay procedures and does not involve the pending gathering of wild horses (expected to begin October 2) from the Warm Springs Herd Management Area, which was also part of the EA. The complaint focuses heavily on alleged violations of First Amendment rights to observe and document the research, even though in-person observation from less than fifteen feet away is allowed, along with photography/filming. All public observation opportunities were developed with the safety of the horses, handlers, veterinarians, and public in mind. (9/25/18)

Early December. BLM-ES. The BLM-Eastern States anticipates publishing a Federal Register notice for the solicitation of bids for a competitive 10-year renewable lease of the Equestrian Facility at the Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) near Lorton, Virginia. (4/20/18)

Early December. BLM-ES expects to publish in the Federal Register a Public Land Order for the U.S. Coast Guard's relinquishment of Lot 22 of the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (ONA) in Florida. (4/11/18)

Early December. BLM-ES. The BLM-Eastern States proposes transfer by quiet title deed a former railroad right-of-way (ROW) to the Village of Forsyth in Macon County, Illinois. The transfer was requested by the Village of Forsyth for use as a recreational trail, under authority of the National Trails System Act. The ROW is 200 feet wide and totals approximately 18 acres. This action has been reviewed by the Pittsburgh Field Solicitor's Office and the Washington Solicitor's Office. The transfer is supported by Congressman Rodney Davis (R-13-IL). (4/20/18)

Early December. BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District anticipates releasing the Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed expansion of the Coeur Rochester and Packard Mines in the Federal Register. The silver mine currently employs about 302 people and is located approximately 26 miles northeast of Lovelock, in Pershing County, Nevada. (10/30/18)

Early December. BLM-WY expects to publish in the Federal Register the Notice of Availability for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Moneta Divide Oil and Gas Development Project. Publication will begin a 90-day public comment period. Located near Lysite, Wyoming, the proposed project could recover up to 18 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and 254 million barrels of oil over its estimated 65-year lifespan and could support approximately 6,400 jobs during its 15-year development phase. The Draft EIS analyzes: amendments to the Casper Resource Management Plan, including establishment of a Production Area and increased protections for the Cedar Ridge Traditional Cultural Property and potential impacts to approximately 1.2 million acres of Greater sage-grouse

Priority Habitat Management Areas. The Review Team briefing for this project is scheduled for November 30. (6/22/18)

Early December. BLM-WY plans to release the Final EIS for the Riley Ridge to Natrona Pipeline project (RRNP), pending approval by the DOI Internal Review Team. The RRNP is a FAST-41 project that consists of three right-of-way applications: two for a 240-mile long underground pipeline and one for a 230-kV transmission line. The project also includes proposals for two hydrogen sulfide injection wells and other project components like roads, valves and flow lines. WO/DOI canceled the original October 26 briefing and has tentatively scheduled a new briefing for November 30. (10/19/18)

Early December. BLM-CO is preparing a Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Transfer of Jurisdiction of two isolated BLM-managed parcels totaling 120 acres in Mesa County to the National Park Service's Colorado National Monument. The parcels are adjacent to the National Monument and are not contiguous with other BLM lands. The Colorado National Monument's 2005 General Management Plan identified the two parcels as important for improving public access to popular trailheads. The notice would segregate the lands from location and entry under the mining laws for two years while studies are completed to recommend a 50-year withdrawal and transfer of jurisdiction. The segregation would not close the lands to mineral or geothermal laws, or mineral material laws. BLM-CO is planning for a December 2018 publication in the Federal Register(pending WO and DOI approval). (7/20/18)

Early December. BLM-ID. The Burley Field Office will issue a decision on the proposed modification of an existing mining Plan of Operations submitted by Sawtooth Stone LLC. The proposed modification would expand current operations by 33 acres to facilitate the quarrying of "Oakley Stone," a locatable mineral that has been determined to be an uncommon variety of micaceous quartzite. A 30-day scoping period for the plan of operations began in late October and a decision anticipated early December. (10/16/18)

Early December. BLM-NV will be requesting to brief the Review Team on the Draft EIS Development for the Yellow Pine Solar Project. In 2016, Yellow Pine Solar, LLC requested an amended right-of-way authorization for the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of a 250-megawatt photovoltaic power plant.

Early December. BLM-CO. BLM Colorado will close on its purchase of Eagle County Open Space's Two Bridges site (16.98 acres) along the Upper Colorado River for $500,000 through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The appraised fair market value of the property (located in the Colorado River Valley Field Office) is $850,000. The acquisition supports perpetual river access throughout the Upper Colorado River Special Recreation Management Area for fishing and other water-related recreation. The SRMA is heavily used throughout the year. (10/9/18)

Early December. BLM-CO will close on its purchase of Eagle County Open Space's State Bridge site (11.5 acres) along the Upper Colorado River for $1 million through the Land and

Water Conservation Fund. The appraised fair market value of the property is $1,425,000. The acquisition supports perpetual river access throughout the Upper Colorado River Special Recreation Management Area for fishing and other water-related recreation. The SRMA is heavily used throughout the year. (10/9/18)

Early December. BLM-ID. The Boise District anticipates submitting to the DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management a new Record of Decision for the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Bruneau-Owyhee Sage-Grouse Habitat (BOSH) Project. The Final EIS, which was developed in cooperation with state and federal agencies, analyzes the removal of encroaching Western juniper on 726,000 acres of sagebrush steppe in Owyhee County. This project builds on proactive land management policies and practices to conserve the region's remaining sagebrush habitat, which supports significant economic activity such as ranching and recreation, as well as abundant wildlife including mule deer, elk, pronghorn antelope and golden eagles. (2/21/18)

December 3. BLM-UT. The Salt Lake Field Office plans to issue a Decision Record for the Onaqui Mountain Herd Management Area (HMA) Population Control Environmental Assessment. The BLM proposes to use PZP fertility control, gelding (neutering), and periodic removal of horses over a 10-year period to maintain the appropriate management level (AML). The HMA has a current population of 455 horses, which is projected to reach 500 with the 2018 foal crop. The BLM plans to gather and remove approximately 379 horses to reach an AML of 121. The Onaqui Mountain HMA is located in Tooele County, Utah, approximately one hour from Salt Lake City and the herd is popular with locals. The gather will most likely be controversial with horse advocacy groups, range organizations, and the general public due to herd popularity and the HMA's close proximity to Salt Lake City. (7/6/18)

December 4. BLM-AZ. The Hassayampa Field Office will hold a public meeting regarding a proposed Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act lease of a 1,046-acre parcel of public land in the Vulture Mountains for recreation development by Maricopa County. Under the proposal, the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department would develop a variety of recreation facilities at the site, including a visitors center, picnic tables and shelters, archery range, equestrian facilities, nature playground, restrooms with showers, campgrounds and interpretive kiosks. Portions of the Vulture Mine Road would also be improved and realigned by the Maricopa County Department of Transportation in order to improve access to the area. BLM has prepared an environmental assessment (EA). The EA provides analysis of the direct, indirect and cumulative effects of the R&PP lease and the right-of-way for the road improvements. The meeting will be held in Wickenburg, Ariz., and include presentations by the BLM and Maricopa County. A 30-day public review period will also run from Nov. 20 until Dec. 19. (11/9/18)

December 5 and 6. BLM-NM will hold an oil and gas lease sale for 114 nominated parcels administered by BLM-NM throughout New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas totaling 89,320 acres. The parcels are within the jurisdictions of the Rio Puerco, Roswell, Carlsbad, Oklahoma and Farmington Field Offices. (11/16/18)

December 6. BLM-ES will participate in a second conference call with DoD and other parties who have an interest in energy development, and the gas storage agreements currently in place for Ft. Knox. An initial conference call was held on October 18, 2018, with personnel from the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy and Sustainability, Fort Knox, and BLM Southeastern States District Office. Discussion was centered on data sharing for 26 legacy gas wells. One of the topics for the December 6 call will be the development of an Implementation Plan for the newly enacted legislation addressing oil and gas development. The BLM is working in coordination with Fort Knox, Louisiana Gas & Electric, and the state of Kentucky to implement the new legislation and facilitate the successful execution of each entity's mission, including DoD's goal to achieve energy resilience at Fort Knox. (10/26/18)

December 8-9. BLM-NV. The Rage at the River Off-Highway Vehicle Race will take place on private and public lands in southern Nevada, on existing routes. The event is expected to attract 300 participants and approximately 10,000 spectators. This event, along with the Laughlin Desert Classic Off-Road Race held in October, are anticipated to bring approximately $2 million to the local Laughlin economy through lodging, restaurants and other local business. (10/5/18)

December 10. BLM-ID. On August 6 and 7, the Bruneau Field Office issued nine proposed grazing decisions and the environmental assessment (EA) renewing grazing permits in the Battle Creek, East Castle Creek, and Owens grazing allotments in Owyhee County for a term of 10 years; release of the proposed decisions and EA started a 15-day public protest period. The EA was also made available in June and July for public review and comment. Protest points have been addressed; final decisions will be signed on December 10. The final decisions include a 40 percent reduction from average actual use until necessary range improvement projects are completed for making progress toward meeting Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health. Once range improvement projects are complete, AUMs authorized will be the same as currently permitted use for five permits, a 55 percent increase from average actual use for Simplot, 30 percent increase from actual use for two permittees, and a 70 percent increase from actual use for one permittee. Greater flexibility to graze areas with cheatgrass and 15-days flexibility to begin grazing earlier in the season or end 15-days later will also take effect after range improvement projects are complete. BLM-ID State Office and Boise District Office staff briefed the BLM Director on these decisions on November 7. (5/4/18)

December 10. BLM-UT. The Salt Lake Field Office, in coordination with the Utah State Office, plans to submit to the BLM Washington Office a recommendation to extend a 20-year withdrawal of 2,714.22 acres of public land from location and entry under the U.S. mining laws to protect aspects of the Central Utah Project. The existing withdrawal is located in the Uinta Wasatch Cache National Forest, in Utah County, and will expire in December 2019. The Central Utah Project is administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science. The project's Diamond Fork System consists of pipelines, tunnels, power plants, transmission lines, access roads, and other related structures that convey water from Strawberry Reservoir to the Wasatch Front. The

Utah County Commission and the Governor's Office (via the Public Lands Policy Coordination Office) have expressed support for the withdrawal extension. (5/18/18)

December 11. BLM-WY plans to offer three parcels totaling 720 acres in its quarterly competitive oil and gas lease sale. The BLM originally planned to offer 581 parcels in this sale, but delayed leasing 579 parcels until February to comply with a District Court order mandating longer public input periods for lease sales in sage-grouse habitat. (11/9/18)

December 11. BLM-MT/DK will offer 23 nominated parcels, covering 12,517 acres at the December 2018 oil and gas lease sale. The preliminary parcel worksheet was posted on July 6 for the 15-day scoping period. Parcels impacted (76 lease parcels covering 54,207 acres) by the Preliminary Injunction in Western Watersheds Project v. Zinke (D. Idaho September 21, 2018) were moved to the March 2019 lease sale. A total of 20 parcels (10,586) were moved from the December 2018 sale. The updated Environmental Assessment and final sale notice was posted October 23 for a 10-day protest period. Two protests were received. The 23 parcels/12,517 acres to be leased are located in the Butte Field Office (Lewis and Clark County), Havre Field Office (Blaine, Glacier and Toole counties), and the Miles City Field Office (Big Horn, Dawson and Sheridan counties). (10/16/18)

December 11. BLM-WY is preparing for the December 11 Jonah Interagency Office (JIO) and Pinedale Anticline Project Office (PAPO) meeting in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Project office staff set February 1, 2019, as the deadline to submit 2019 project funding applications. Project application information and materials are available on the JIO/PAPO website (https://www.wy.blm.gov/jio-papo/whatsgoingon.htm). The High Desert District Office and Pinedale Field Office will issue press releases to explain application submission guidelines and solicit project applications. The JIO/PAPO offices were created through different Records of Decision and provide overall management of monitoring and mitigation activities focusing on pronghorn, Greater Sage-grouse and mule deer in the project areas. The offices are a joint partnership between the BLM and the State of Wyoming Departments of Agriculture, Environmental Quality and Game and Fish. (11/2/18)

December 12. BLM-AK is scheduled to hold an oil and gas lease sale for the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A). The BLM received nominations for 254 available tracts (approximately 2.9 million acres) for lease. Currently, there are 196 authorized leases in the NPR-A covering 1,384,352 acres. This lease sale is the 14th since 1999 and will be the second to occur via video livestream. The Federal Register package with the Notice of the Sale published November 9. (10/5/18) DTS 2370

December 12-13. BLM-AK. The Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group invited BLM-Alaska to present an update on the Ambler Road Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) at the 2018 meeting in Anchorage. On June 18, 2018, the Working Group submitted a letter to Central Yukon Field Manager Tim LaMarr requesting that the Ambler Road EIS not be subject to the NEPA page and time limits imposed by Executive Order 13807 and Secretarial Order 3355. The group asked that the BLM also address its concerns at the December meeting. The group includes subsistence users, Alaskan hunters, reindeer herders, hunting guides, transporters, and conservationists. The Ambler Mining District Industrial

Access Project is a proposal from the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (a state economic development agency) to build a 211-mile long gravel industrial road connecting the Ambler Mining District with the Dalton Highway. The Ambler Road project will cross through the Western Arctic Caribou Herd range. (10/5/18)

December 13. BLM-CO will hold its quarterly oil and gas lease sale. The BLM is offering 23 parcels totaling approximately 8,347 acres in the Colorado River Valley, Grand Junction, Kremmling, Little Snake, Royal Gorge and White River field offices. BLM Colorado submitted a memo on October 2, 2018, to move parcels in Greater Sage-Grouse, big game habitat and parcels in the North Fork Valley to a later sale. BLM Colorado is assessing the October 18, U.S. District Court of Colorado opinion on the Colorado River Valley Field Office Resource Management Plan, and its potential impacts on the field office's parcels for the upcoming sale. The sale's protest period closed Nov. 5. (11/9/18)

December 10-13. BLM-NV. The Navy will host public meetings to discuss land withdrawals associated with the Fallon Naval Air Station expansion. The meetings will be held at the following locations: Hawthorne and Gabbs on December 10; Austin and Eureka on December 11; Fallon on December 12; Lovelock and Reno on December 13. These public meetings are pursuant to Public Land Order 7873, published in the Federal Register August 31, 2018. (11/2/18) DTS 2127

December 13. BLM-ES will offer 18 parcels totaling 3,195.12 acres at a competitive online oil and gas lease sale. Eight parcels of public domain minerals underlying private surface are in Stone and Cleburne Counties, Arkansas; one privately owned surface parcel overlying public domain minerals is in Muskegon County, Michigan; seven parcels are within the Manistee National Forest, Muskegon County, Michigan; and two parcels are within the Wayne National Forest, Monroe County, Ohio. The sale notice was posted to ePlanning following internal review October 26. The 10-day protest period ended November 5. The Center for Biological Diversity filed a timely protest for the two parcels in the Wayne National Forest. BLM-ES is reviewing and preparing the draft response for SOL review. (10/19/18)

December 13. BLM-WY. The 30-day comment period ends for BLM-WY's March 2019 oil and gas lease sale. The BLM proposes to lease 144 parcels totaling about 158,048 acres. The parcels are located in every BLM-WY field office except the Cody Field Office. (11/9/18)

December 14. BLM-ID. The Bruneau Field Office anticipates issuing two proposed grazing decisions to renew grazing permits, restore riparian areas, protect cultural resources, and incorporate range improvement projects across 187,537 acres of BLM-administered lands in the Big Springs Allotment. The lands affected lie entirely within a Greater Sage-Grouse Priority Habitat Management Area and contain Wilderness Areas and Wild and Scenic River segments. The Environmental Assessment (EA) was released on August 30, 2017, for public review, and the field manager has been meeting with permittees, state and federal agencies, and other interested publics to address comments on the EA before issuing any decisions. There is no anticipated reduction in Animal Unit Months as a result of the forthcoming

decisions. Three environmental groups (Wilderness Watch, Western Watersheds Project, and WildLands Defense) are expected to protest and appeal the decisions. (2/7/18)

December 14. BLM-ID plans to issue final decisions for the Rockville Grazing Allotment that address protests received on the proposed decisions. The Owyhee Field Office finalized its assessment and evaluation of Idaho's Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for the Rockville Allotment prior to the public scoping period conducted May 14 – June 11. The Rockville Allotment is part of the Battle Creek litigation in U.S. District Court of Idaho. While controversy is expected on all permit renewals, this one will be no more than usual for Owyhee County. Some standards are not being met. Proposed decisions and the Environmental Assessment (EA) were released on August 20, which was followed by a 15-day protest period. The acting field manager has met with permittees, state agencies, and other interested publics to address comments on the EA and protests on the proposed decisions. The final decisions will include a 22% reduction in Animal Unit Months (AUMs). These AUMs had been in voluntary non-use or had been put into suspension under the previous permit until rangeland health improved. As the allotment is still not making progress toward meeting rangeland health standards, those 486 AUMs will be eliminated under the new permit. The new permitted AUM level will still be set higher than the permittees' highest actual use over the last decade. Thus, AUMs will only be reduced as compared to their current permit, not as compared to their actual use. BLM-ID State Office and Boise District Office staff briefed the BLM Director on these decisions on November 7. (3/23/18)

December 14. BLM-CO. The 30-day public comment period for the environmental analyses for BLM-CO's March 2019 oil and gas lease sale will close. BLM is considering offering 26 parcels totaling approximately 14,052 acres in the Colorado River Valley, Grand Junction, Kremmling, Little Snake, Royal Gorge and White River field offices. (11/9/18)
Mid-December. BLM-NM. The Las Cruces District Office plans to publish the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Copper Flat Copper Mining Project. The New Mexico Copper Corporation submitted a proposed mining plan of operations (MPO) that would re-establish the Copper Flat Copper Mine, a poly-metallic mine and processing facility near Hillsboro, N.M., that would produce copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum. If approved, the project is expected to provide 170-270 jobs over the 12-to-16-year life of the mine. The proposed MPO is based on the plan of development the Quintana Mineral Corporation used in its 1982 Copper Flat mining operation. The MPO includes upgrades and modifications based on current engineering designs and regulations and was intentionally developed to re-use the existing foundations, production wells, and water pipeline that were used by the Quintana operation. (5/25/18)

Mid-December. BLM plans to publish Final Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) and Proposed Plan Amendments for the seven states associated with Greater Sage-Grouse / sagebrush conservation plans adopted in 2015 (CA, CO, ID, NV, OR, UT, and WY). The target publication date for these documents and the associated Notices of Availability may need to be adjusted to allow state government partners and DOI time to develop more specific language about the process for applying compensatory mitigation. (10/12/18)

Mid-December. BLM-CA. The northwest California field offices will terminate work on the

Northwest California Integrated Resource Management Plan due to the changed conditions following the 229,000-acre Carr Fire. The field offices must now focus on recovery work associated with the fire; the shift in focus precludes the offices' ability to complete the plan and associated Environmental Impact Statement within the initially mandated time frame. The BLM launched the planning effort in November 2016 to develop a new Resource Management Plan covering public lands managed by the Redding and Arcata Field Offices. A new landscape-level plan would replace the existing RMPs that date to 1993 and 1997. The State Office will submit a Federal Register Notice on the termination once it is ready for Washington Office review. (8/21/18)

Mid-December. BLM-NV. The Battle Mountain District, Tonopah Field Office will publish the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Gemfield Mine Project.

December 20. BLM-ID. The Bruneau Field Office anticipates issuing two proposed grazing decisions to renew grazing permits, restore riparian areas, protect cultural resources, and incorporate range improvement projects across 187,537 acres of BLM-administered lands in the Big Springs Allotment. The lands affected lie entirely within a Greater Sage-Grouse Priority Habitat Management Area and contain Wilderness Areas and Wild and Scenic River segments. The Environmental Assessment (EA) was released on August 30, 2017, for public review, and the field manager has been meeting with permittees, state and federal agencies, and other interested publics to address comments on the EA before issuing any decisions. There is no anticipated reduction in Animal Unit Months as a result of the forthcoming decisions. Three environmental groups (Wilderness Watch, Western Watersheds Project, and WildLands Defense) are expected to protest and appeal the decisions. (2/7/18)

Late December. BLM-CA. The Ridgecrest Field Office is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the proposed Haiwee Geothermal Leasing Project, which analyzes proposed leasing of BLM-managed lands for geothermal exploration, development, and utilization in the Haiwee Geothermal Leasing Area in Inyo County. The Draft SEIS assumes two 30MW plants operating for 30 years each. It further approximates the creation of 250 temporary and 65 permanent jobs. BLM has received three pending geothermal lease applications for public lands within the proposed leasing area. (7/27/18)

Late December. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office has prepared a Notice of Realty Action on its proposal to convey approximately 43.09 acres of public land under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act to the Town of Lake City. The land is located about one mile south of Lake City. The Lake City Ski Hill community ski area would continue to operate under the conveyance. The field office is planning for publication in the Federal Register (pending WO and DOI approval) in late December. The Federal Register Notice package is currently under review with the BLM Director's Office. (4/24/18) DTS 2329

Late December. BLM-CO. The Kremmling Field Office will release a Draft Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP) for the Colorado River between Parshall and State Bridge for a 30-day public review and comment period. The RAMP addresses alternatives to better manage increasing use in the area, which sees more than 90,000 float-boaters and anglers each season. Alternatives include adding unlimited day-use permits, expanding a developed

campground and designating river campsites. (3/13/18)

Late December. BLM-ES will renew mineral leases NMES 01352 and 01353 by posting an Environmental Assessment/FONSI/Decision. Similarly, BLM-ES proposes to process 18 prospecting permit extension requests with the approval of ASLM, and after preparing DNA documents tiered to the Forest Service 2012 Environmental Impact Statement. (10/26/18)

Late December. BLM-NV. The Battle Mountain District, Mount Lewis Field Office will publish the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Eureka Moly-Mount Hope Project. On December 28, 2016, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit partially reversed and vacated BLM's decision with respect to certain aspects of the agency's air quality and cumulative air impacts analysis. The court also remanded to the BLM to clarify the status of any public water reserves (PWR). The Supplemental EIS will provide updated information and discussion regarding certain air quality data and analysis used in the original EIS, and will provide clarifying language regarding PWRs potentially impacted by the project. The district is currently preparing briefing materials and will be sending up a briefing request in mid-November. (8/24/18)

Late December. BLM-NV. The Battle Mountain District, Tonopah Field Office will publish the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Gemfield Mine Project. The proposed project is an open pit gold mine that would be located approximately one and a half miles north of Goldfield, Nevada, in Esmeralda County. The proposed project area contains approximately 660 acres of public lands managed by the field office and 414 acres of private lands for a total of 1,075 acres. The Gemfield Project is expected to provide 370 high-quality, high-paying jobs during construction (estimated to take one year) and to employ 150 workers during the 12-year mine life. While this project would not take place on any tribal lands, tribal coordination activities have been ongoing throughout the development of the EIS and government-to-government consultation will be conducted as requested by the tribes. To date, the tribes coordinated with include; Duckwater Shoshone, Death Valley Timbisha Shoshone and Yomba Shoshone tribes. Other issues identified include closure of a proposed cyanide heap leach pad and potential impacts to vegetation and wildlife due to relocation of a 2.5 mile section of U.S. Highway 95. Currently, the District plans to schedule a briefing with the Washington Office for the Gemfield Project on November 30, 2018. The briefing with the Executive Review Team would follow soon after sometime in early to mid-December. (8/24/18)

December 28. BLM-NM. The Carlsbad Field Office anticipates publishing the Notice of Availability (NOA) for its Proposed Final Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. The Plan outlines the BLM's long-term landscape-level plans and goals for public lands in Lea, Chaves, and Eddy Counties. The planning area includes approximately 2.1 million acres of federal surface land and 3 million acres of BLM-managed mineral estate in Chaves, Eddy, and Lea Counties. (11/16/18)

December 31. BLM-MT/DK. The Dillon Field Office is proposing to acquire private lands for $1,025,000 within the Little Sheep Creek watershed. The 960-acre parcel is located in the Beaverhead Valley, about five miles southwest of Lima, Montana, and about 45 minutes

south of Dillon, Montana. It is bordered on three sides by land managed by the BLM and the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation now holds the property and will keep it open to public access until conveying it to the BLM, which could happen as early as November 20 but no later than December 31. The property features high-quality winter range habitat for as many as 700 elk and 450 mule deer. It also supports moose, antelope, black bear, wolverine, greater sage-grouse and other wildlife. Both West Fork Little Sheep Creek and Straight Creek cross the immediate landscape providing vital riparian habitat for fish and other aquatic species. The property also contains some cabins which the BLM hopes to turn into year-round rental opportunities for the public. The acquisition is not anticipated to be controversial. (10/23/18)

December 31. BLM-MT/DK. The Western Montana District is proposing to complete a fee purchase acquisition using approved Land and Water Conservation Fund funding in the amount of $675,000. The privately owned 307.57-acre parcel is located 23 miles south of Ennis, Montana. The parcel lies adjacent to BLM-administered lands in the Dillon Field Office within the Upper River Special Recreation Management Area along the Madison River. There would be increased access to 880 acres of BLM-managed lands, which would provide approximately 4.5 miles of additional access to the Madison River. Willing landowners would like to complete the transaction as soon as possible. Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and Madison County Commissioners support the acquisition. An appraisal, NEPA analysis, and Endangered Species Act work have been completed. No controversy is expected. (3/7/18)

Late December / Early January. BLM-WY. The Rock Springs Field Office will release the North Dutch John Well #1 EA, FONSI and DR. The proponent requested a hold on this analysis for several years to modify the proposal, but is now prepared to move forward. Public interest in the pending decision likely will be high because the proposed well is located in the Greater Little Mountain Area, a popular hunting and fishing destination. During the scoping process, more than 100 individuals attended a public meeting on the proposal. The proposed action includes drilling a single well, constructing a well pad, upgrading a two-track road and building an access road. The proponent has committed to several mitigation measures including moving the well ped location, applying timing restrictions for crucial mule deer winter range, installing erosion control devices, burying associated pipelines and managing weeds. The BLM determined the impacts to the area would be minimal due to the mitigation measures agreed on by the proponent. (10/23/18)

Early January. BLM-CA. The BLM has initiated a 60-day review and public comment period for the Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment and Draft Land Use Plan Amendment for the OMYA Direct Land Sale Project that closes on January 4. An open-house public meeting is scheduled for December 6 in Lucerne Valley to allow the public an opportunity to learn more about the proposed action. The proposed sale would allow the company to continue mining the high-calcium limestone deposits in the area through 2055; resolve past unauthorized mining operations; and meet OMYA's need for additional lands. This proposal would also be consistent with the Amended Mining and Reclamation Plan approved by the County of San Bernardino. Located near Lucerne Valley, OMYA's mining operation generates more than $800,000 per year in county taxes and provides jobs for

approximately 100 workers from the surrounding communities. (11/9/18)

Early January. BLM-CO. The Tres Rios Field Office will initiate public scoping for GCC Energy LLC's proposed King II Coal Mine Lease by Application (LBA). The proposed LBA includes approximately 3,200 acres north of the existing King II Coal Mine. The LBA would extend the mine life for 5-7 years, and would utilize existing surface facilities and transportation routes. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement will be the BLM's joint lead on the EA. (10/26/18)

Early January. BLM-NV. The Mount Lewis Field Office will be issuing the Record of Decision (ROD) for the 3 Bars Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration Project—a programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) proposing to treat up to 127,000 acres of sagebrush steppe, riparian habitat, pinyon juniper woodland, and aspen groves within a 749,810-acre area in part of the field office. Proponent-driven mitigation for the Gold Bar Mine Plan may also utilize projects from the 3 Bars decision. The proponent will work with the BLM, NDOW, the Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team, and Eureka County to select specific treatment blocks within the treatment units. The Notice of Availability for the Final EIS was published October 18, 2016. (8/24/18)

Early January. BLM-NV. The Humboldt River Field Office will publish the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Marigold Mine Mackay Optimization Project. The proposal includes expanding an existing gold mine to combine existing open pits into three larger pits and extend mine life by up to 10 years, to 2037. Two new rights-of-way would also be issued to accommodate changing a portion of Buffalo Valley Road and an existing 120-kV power line belonging to NV Energy. The most significant potential impact of the project is expanding the pits below the water table, which will require dewatering operations. This mine is located in the Humboldt River Water Basin, which is over allocated and strongly impacted by numerous active mining operations, communities (cities and towns), agriculture, and other industries. Numerous groups have expressed interest and concern with this project especially related to the potential impacts to surface and groundwater due to proposed dewatering. These groups include farmers, ranchers, USGS, Humboldt County, Lander County, Pershing County, Great Basin Resource Watch, the Humboldt River Basin Water Authority, Lovelock Meadows Water District, Pershing County Water Conservation District, and communities along the Humboldt River including Battle Mountain, Winnemucca, Valmy, and Lovelock. Mining facilities operated by Newmont and Barrick within the Humboldt River Water Basin are also watching this EIS to determine how to proceed with their own activities. (11/2/18)

January 7. BLM-NV. The Carson City District plans to begin the Pine Nut Mountains Herd Management Area wild horse helicopter gather to remove up to 575 excess wild horses. The gather is necessary due to over-population the presence of Bi-state sage-grouse, public safety, and private lands issues. The gather is the approved 2018 National Gather Schedule dated May 25, 2018, but was pushed back into FY19 due to higher-priority emergency gathers. The appropriate management level for the area is 118-179, and the population as of March 2018 was estimated at 775 animals. (6/8/18)

January 10-18. BLM-NV. The Pahrump Field Office will hold a modified competitive sale for one parcel of public lands totaling 553 acres in Pahrump, Nevada. Sealed bids for the modified competitive sale will be accepted between January 10-17, 2019. Sealed bids will be opened in a public setting on January 18, 2019. After all of the sealed bids have been opened, the highest bidder will be declared. The designated bidder for the modified competitive sale will then have an opportunity to match the highest bid. (10/15/18)

Mid-January. BLM-NM. The Oklahoma Field Office is planning to publish a Notice of Availability announcing the release of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for public comment regarding the Liberty 8 competitive coal lease. The lease sale consists of 460 acres to be mined by surface and/or underground techniques. The scoping period on the EA closed on September 8. (8/17/18)

Mid-January. BLM-NM. The Las Cruces District Office plans to publish the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Tri-County Resource Management Plan (RMP). The purpose of the RMP is to consolidate, update, and establish appropriate goals, objectives, and management actions for the new Tri-County planning area in Doña Ana, Otero, and Sierra counties in south-central New Mexico. The RMP will address new issues and new policies regarding renewable energy siting, outdoor recreation management, special status species habitat, special designations, lands retention, and disposal on 2.3 million acres of BLM-managed lands and 500,000 acres of split-estate. The RMP addresses the revision of the 1986 White Sands RMP and amends the 1993 Mimbres RMP. A Draft Supplemental EIS was required by the courts to address oil and gas leasing. (7/20/18)

January 18. BLM-AZ. The Lower Sonoran Field Office plans to release a Final Environmental Impact Statement related to development of the proposed Sonoran Valley Parkway Project (SVPP) by the City of Goodyear in Maricopa County, Arizona. The City has applied to BLM for a 250-foot right-of-way (ROW) to construct, operate, and maintain a two- lane parkway in Rainbow Valley, Arizona. The proposed SVPP would originate on Rainbow Valley Road and Riggs Road at the southern end of Goodyear, and proceed southwest to intersect with State Route (SR) 238, in Mobile, Arizona. The proposed project area encompasses 475 acres of BLM-managed lands. A briefing will be scheduled with the NEPA Review Team for December 19. The SVPP has been identified on regional transportation plans to meet future traffic demand resulting from population growth in Rainbow Valley, southwest of Phoenix. This project provides the opportunity to create immediate and future jobs, help bolster the growing local economy, and reduce emergency service response times. The city has approximately 77,000 residents and is part of the Phoenix-metropolitan area, which has approximately 4.5 million residents. (4/4/18) DTS 1775

January 18. BLM-AZ. The Yuma Field Office plans to host a grand reopening event at Mittry Lake, a popular Colorado River-area fishing and boating recreation site that is cooperatively managed by the BLM, Bureau of Reclamation, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The event will showcase recent improvements on three acres located adjacent to the boat ramp. This area had previously been covered with invasive salt cedar and was inaccessible to the public. After the salt cedar burned in the Mittry Fire, the managing

agencies worked together with the local community on a shared conservation stewardship project to stabilize the soils and establish a parking area at the site, expanding public recreation access and preventing future regrowth of salt cedar. (11/16/18)

Late January. BLM-CO. The Royal Gorge Field Office plans to issue a final decision for the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area (AHRA) Management Plan. The Arkansas River is the most commercially rafted river in the United States and is a major economic driver for the region. The BLM manages the AHRA in partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, which is also a signatory on the plan. The plan addresses river allocation, recreation facility development, and resource management along the entire 152-mile stretch. (8/17/18)
Late January. BLM-NM. The Rio Puerco Field Office plans to publish the Final Rio Puerco Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Environmental Impact Statement. The RMP would replace the current Rio Puerco RMP, which was approved in 1986. The revision would provide updated management decisions for a variety of uses and resources, including land-tenure adjustments, land-use authorizations, mineral resources, recreation, areas with special management designations, lands with wilderness characteristics, livestock grazing, transportation access, renewable energy, visual resources, wildland/urban interface, and others. The Draft RMP was published in July 2012 and received nearly 50,000 public comments. (7/20/18)

Late January. BLM-NM plans to publish the SunZia right-of-way (ROW) modification Environmental Assessment (EA). SunZia has requested several modifications to the power-line ROW approved in the 2015 SunZia Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The modifications are mostly required to reroute the power-line route around areas where SunZia was unable to secure agreements on private land. An EA has been initiated to evaluate the requested modifications. Given the public controversy surrounding the original EIS, BLM anticipates that this EA will also be controversial. One main concern is impacts to a migratory bird area, which is where the proposed line crosses the Rio Grande River. At the river crossing, the transmission line may impact a variety of migratory birds and waterfowl, including listed species such as the yellow billed cuckoo and designated critical habitat for the Southwestern willow flycatcher. In addition, habitat for the Northern Aplomado falcon may be affected by the transmission line west of the Rio Grande. (8/10/18)

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

UPDATED ITEMS

By early December, BOEM expects to submit the Final Rule updating its air quality regulations related to oil, gas, and sulfur operations on the OCS to OMB for interagency review. This Final Rule significantly decreases the regulatory burden on industry compared to the Proposed Rule, while still meeting BOEM's statutory responsibilities under the OCSLA. A narrative describing the reduction to costs as compared to the proposed rule (Reduction to Costs Narrative) and the rule text are currently with the Department for review. (8/2/18, DTS #2280 (Rule), DTS #2454 (Reduction to Costs Narrative))

By early December, BOEM expects to publish a Request for Competitive Interest for an area proposed to be used for a right-of-way (ROW) project called Atlantic Link. Clean Power Northeast Development, Inc. filed an application on May 31, 2017 (revised August 22, and September 26), for a ROW grant in support of a proposed project connecting onshore wind and hydro power in Canada to the Massachusetts market via a 350 mile HVDC submarine cable traversing the OCS. The notice is in surnaming with the Department. (DTS #1773)

ONGOING ITEMS

BOEM has prepared multiple Calls for Information and Nominations (Calls) for lease sales proposed for 2019 and 2020 in the 2019-2024 Draft Proposed Program. The GOM Multisale Call (DTS #2378) is in surnaming with ASLM and expected to publish in early December concurrently with the Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS. The Mid-Atlantic Call (DTS #2257), the South Atlantic Call (DTS #2258), the Southern California Call (DTS #2388), and the Chukchi Sea Call (DTS #2385) are currently being held pending direction on the National Program. (9/21/18)

By early December, BOEM expects to publish a Request for Competitive Interest for an area proposed to be used for a right-of-way (ROW) project from Anbaric Development Partners (ADP). The application is for the New York and New Jersey Ocean Grid, an HVDC submarine system approximately 185NM (213 statute miles) in length with up to nine offshore AC to DC collector/converter platforms, which would collect and distribute power generated from existing offshore wind leases to up to six terrestrial landings at locations from Long Island, New York to Cardiff, New Jersey. BOEM has qualified ADP and has posted the application to its website. The notice is in surnaming with the Department. (10/15/18, DTS #2208)

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

ONGOING ITEMS

The Arctic Rule: BSEE and BOEM continue to make arrangements for the Tribal consultation meetings (targeted for **December 3 thru December 14**). On September 20, 2018, BSEE's and BOEM's Alaska Regional Directors signed the invitation letters, which were then mailed to the potentially affected tribes, ANCSA Corporations, and municipalities. A total of 27 letters were mailed to these entities. During the week of **October 29,** BSEE-AK and BOEM-AK continued their outreach to the tribes, corporations, and municipalities to confirm their interest in this rulemaking and agree on a time to meet. Aside from the Tribal consultation arrangements, the bureaus continue to have internal discussions regarding the key policy options and the data needs for the economic, environmental, and information collection analyses that will support the proposed regulations. Travel plans for the Director include flying into Fairbanks, Alaska Wednesday night, **December 5,** in order to participate in the Tanana Chiefs Conference on **December 6**. The Director will travel and overnight in Anchorage on the evening of **December 6.** The Director will meet with the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, Doyon Limited, and the Cully Corporation on **December 7** in Anchorage.

Consideration of Pilot Program for ACT Program (Accelerating Compliance Together) Document was approved by the Deputy Secretary. BSEE is anticipating a **January 1, 2019** implementation for the pilot program. The rollout plan is under development by the Gulf of Mexico region and identifies the required program components and communication materials. BSEE Gulf of Mexico team will present at the Offshore Operators Committee meeting.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

UPDATED ITEMS

Illinois' Diversion of Abandoned Mined Land (AML) Funds: OSMRE was informed this week by Illinois program officials that the enactment of a new state law, Public Act 100-1107, authorizes the State Treasurer to divert monies from various trust funds for utilization and investment by the State. As we were informed and have confirmed, sometime during the month of October, the State of Illinois "statutorily transferred" $50 million out of the State's AML "Set-Aside" fund. These funds provided to the State for the purpose of treating acid and toxic drainage from abandoned mined lands is funded through AML grants issued by OSMRE. This is not the first time Illinois has similarly inappropriately diverted AML funds, having previously done so in 2005 and 2008. On both previous occasions, OSMRE informed the State that those diversions were considered an inappropriate diversion of federal funds from their intended use and the funds were returned. OSMRE staff is currently working on a draft letter for the Acting Director's signature to Illinois Governor Rauner seeking immediate return of the funds to their appropriate account.

Mason Coal (KY): The Kentucky Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement (KYDMR) informed OSMRE that on or about October 25, 2018, it became aware that Mason Coal was operating an underground coal mine and surface facility without a valid mining permit. The operation employs approximately 15-22 employees and estimated production is approximately 100,000 to 110,000 tons per year. Despite the KY requirements and KYDMR's reminders to the operator, Mason failed to renew its mining permit as required. Due to the permit not being renewed, KYDMR notified Mason that the permit had expired and that the company was required to immediately cease mining operations. On or about October 26, 2018, KYDMR received a Restraining Order (Civil Action No. 18-CI-00697; Floyd Circuit Court, Division No. I) enjoining KYDMR "from enforcing the Mine Inspection Report issued by Defendants on or about October 25, 2018, or taking any other action to prevent Plaintiff from continuing its mining operations on the site permitted under surface coal mining and reclamation operation Permit No. 836-5625." KYDMR conducted a follow-up inspection on October 29, 2018, and discovered that the Company was actively mining on an invalid permit. KYDMR informed OSMRE that, due to the court order, it had no other enforcement options and requested technical assistance in determining how to prohibit Mason from illegally conducting surface mining activities without a valid surface mining permit. Upon notification, OSMRE reviewed the matter, engaged the Office of the Solicitor and concluded that Mason was conducting surface mining activities without a valid mining permit. Pursuant to 30 CFR

843.11(a)(2), the issuance of a Federal Imminent Harm Cessation Order (IHCO) was required. OSMRE issued an IHCO to Mason on November 1, compelling the company to cease coal mining operations. Mason complied with the IHCO and ceased coal production upon receipt of the order. Mason has also filed an application for a new mining permit with the KYDMR. OSMRE is working with Mason and the Office of the Solicitor on further, appropriate abatement options. On November 7, 2018, OSMRE signed a Settlement Agreement (SA) with Mason agreeing not to oppose Mason's request for temporary relief from the IHCO, under the terms of the SA. On November 19, 2018, the ALJ Sweitzer granted Mason's request for temporary relief pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

Rosebud Mine (MT): The OSMRE Western Region jointly prepared an EIS with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. The EIS will be used to support a recommendation on the mining plan for Area F of the Rosebud Mine. OSMRE has obtained Departmental Clearance to publish the Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Final EIS in the Federal Register. The NOA will be published in the Federal Register on Friday, November 30, 2018. The Record of Decision (ROD) clearance material will be submitted to the Departmental Review Team on or around January 4, 2019, and the ROD will be signed on or around January 10, 2019.

Coyote Creek Mining (ND): BLM and OSMRE have identified a "pilot" project for the leasing and permitting actions reflected in the mine plan decision document, that will be used to begin the process of closer coordination and concurrent NEPA analyses. Lease application NDM 110277 was submitted by Coyote Creek Mining Company, LLC (CCMC) on December 13, 2017, and proposes a new lease to mine approximately six million tons of coal on 320 acres (two 160-acre tracts) in Mercer County, approximately 11 miles south of Beulah, North Dakota. Comments received in response to public scoping urged BLM and OSMRE "...to reject this joint NEPA proposal." Stating that BLM and OSMRE "should carry out separate NEPA reviews for each of their respective distinct approval processes."

An air resource issue meeting for project specialists and managers was held on Wednesday, November 14. Finalized major milestone schedule. The contractor is preparing Ch. 1 and 2 of the EA as well as the Biological Assessment for agency review.

Pollyanna #8 (OK): On July 10, 2018, OSMRE received approval from BLM of the Resource Recovery and Protection Plan and the coal lease modification for the Pollyanna #8 mine. OSMRE held a meeting with OSMRE HQ on August 8 for a kickoff meeting. Georges Colliers Inc. Pollyanna #8 mine is an underground coal mine expected to use room and pillar retreat mining methods. The mine, located in LeFlore County, OK, consists of 3.37 million tons of recoverable coal overlain by 520 private surface acres. The state regulatory authority approved the revision with conditions on July 25, 2018. A call from the contractor on July 24, 2018, working for Georges Colliers Inc. informed OSMRE that the company will complete mining the remaining panels in approximately 2 weeks with an additional 3-4 weeks of retreat mining before completion. Based on issues with BLM's subsidence analysis, however, OSMRE has had to complete a supplemental EA to adequately analyze the impacts of subsidence. OSMRE is scheduled to initiate the public review period on the draft EA and FONSI, on November 20, 2018. Public notice will include posting the two draft documents on the agency's website and

electronic notification to interested parties as well as publication in a newspaper of local distribution. The public comment period will close on December 20, 2018. (9/26/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

On or about September 7, 2018, the Secretary and the Acting Director received a **Notice of Intent to File Suit** over an alleged failure to perform an alleged mandatory duty under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act from the WildEarth Guardians (WEG). WEG alleges that the agency failed to "promptly promulgate regulations to limit toxic blasting emissions at coal mines after granting a petition for rulemaking." SMCRA allows OSMRE 60 days to respond to the NOI before an action can be filed. The Solicitor's Office has provided OSMRE with options to consider in response to the NOI. OSMRE sent response letter to WEG on November 6, 2018, indicating that OSMRE would publish its decision in the *Federal Register* within 90 days.

Justice Companies' Bevins Branch Mine: On October 10, 2018, Kentucky Department of Natural Resources (KYDNR) formally requested technical assistance from OSMRE in assessing the flooding problems reported in Pike County, Kentucky, which purportedly, was being caused by the Kentucky Fuel Corporation's, Bevins Branch Mine, which is owned by the Justice Companies. KYDNR believed the mining operation had contributed to the off-site impacts to the citizens and the environment. After conducting an on-site inspection with the State, OSMRE issued an Imminent Danger/Imminent Harm Cessation Order (IDCO/IHCO), with an abatement date of October 17. OSMRE staff, along with a KYDMR inspector, went to the site on the October 17, to see if the permittee had started abating the violations. The permittee had moved 3 pieces of equipment to the site. After observing the site, the reclamation specialists determined that the IDCO/IHCO should be modified to extend the abatement times and include the notice and abatement requirements of other non-compliant conditions discovered after analyzing the information and findings from last week's technical assistance visit. Based on further review of the technical information, permit requirements, and inspection findings, and after consultation with the Solicitor's Office, OSMRE vacated the original IDCO/IHCO and replaced it with a new IDCO/IHCO. The new IDCO/IHCO more clearly addresses the required abatement and the non-compliance conditions that contributed to the flooding event. In addition, a new off-site impact (slide) was observed and cited. The replacement IDCO/IHCO was completed on October 18, and service of process initiated on Friday, October 19, 2018. The company's remedial measures to satisfy the IHCO were not met. A package of alternative enforcement or other measures was referred to the Knoxville Solicitors for consideration. On November 7, 2018, the Knoxville Field Solicitor's Office submitted the draft package to OSMRE (field office directors, financial office, AVS office, and the Regional Director), SOL DMR, and Deputy Solicitor EMR for review and comment. In order to facilitate timely review and communication, the recipients were asked to consider the package concurrently. Once the Knoxville Field Solicitor's Office receives and incorporates any suggested edits, the package will be elevated to the Acting Director for review and to the Principal Deputy Solicitor for review and approval. (10/16/2018)

Evans-McCurtain Mine is a proposed new coal mine operation located in the State of Oklahoma on approximately 1,300 acres. An OSMRE mining engineer and hydrologist are working with BLM staff on development of the leasing NEPA document. This NEPA document will analyze both the leasing and mining plan decision document effects. This collaboration will reduce the time frames after the lease is issued and the mining plan decision document can begin. The remaining reserves on the proposed lease are recoverable only by underground methods. BLM expects a final decision on the leasing by late November 2018.

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

Bureau of Land Management

NEW ITEMS

Mid-December. BLM-CO. BLM anticipates finalizing a consent order with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to address groundwater contamination from a closed landfill near Fairplay. The landfill, which lies on BLM land, was leased to Park County under a Recreation and Public Purposes lease from the early 1970s to the early 1990s. The landfill was not closed in compliance with solid waste disposal regulations. Groundwater monitoring in several wells in the area (including two residential wells) indicated the presence of a potential carcinogen in levels that exceed regulatory limits. (11/16/18)

December 28. BLM-NM. The Carlsbad Field Office anticipates publishing the Notice of Availability (NOA) for its Proposed Final Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. The Plan outlines the BLM's long-term landscape-level plans and goals for public lands in Lea, Chaves, and Eddy Counties. The planning area includes approximately 2.1 million acres of federal surface land and 3 million acres of BLM-managed mineral estate in Chaves, Eddy, and Lea Counties. (11/16/18)

UPDATED ITEMS

December 11. BLM-MT/DK will offer 23 nominated parcels, covering 12,517 acres at the December 2018 oil and gas lease sale. The preliminary parcel worksheet was posted on July 6 for the 15-day scoping period. Parcels impacted (76 lease parcels covering 54,207 acres) by the Preliminary Injunction in Western Watersheds Project v. Zinke (D. Idaho September 21, 2018) were moved to the March 2019 lease sale. A total of 20 parcels (10,586) were moved from the December 2018 sale. The updated Environmental Assessment and final sale notice was posted October 23 for a 10-day protest period. Two protests were received. The 23 parcels/12,517 acres to be leased are located in the Butte Field Office (Lewis and Clark County), Havre Field Office (Blaine, Glacier and Toole counties), and the Miles City Field Office (Big Horn, Dawson and Sheridan counties). (10/16/18)

December 13. BLM-ES will offer 18 parcels totaling 3,195.12 acres at a competitive online oil and gas lease sale. Eight parcels of public domain minerals underlying private surface are

in Stone and Cleburne Counties, Arkansas; one privately owned surface parcel overlying public domain minerals is in Muskegon County, Michigan; seven parcels are within the Manistee National Forest, Muskegon County, Michigan; and two parcels are within the Wayne National Forest, Monroe County, Ohio. The sale notice was posted to ePlanning following internal review October 26. The 10-day protest period ended November 5. The Center for Biological Diversity filed a timely protest for the two parcels in the Wayne National Forest. BLM-ES is reviewing and preparing the draft response for SOL review. (10/19/18)

December 14. BLM-CO. The 30-day public comment period for the environmental analyses for BLM-CO's March 2019 oil and gas lease sale will close. BLM is considering offering 26 parcels totaling approximately 14,052 acres in the Colorado River Valley, Grand Junction, Kremmling, Little Snake, Royal Gorge and White River field offices. (11/9/18)

Mid-December. BLM-UT anticipates publishing a Federal Register Notice to announce the Milford Flat Solar Energy Zone competitive lease sale. The BLM responded to substantive comments in the Final Environmental Assessment (EA). Changes were made to the EA and Decision Record to alleviate some of the identified concerns, including deferring one parcel (Parcel D) from the current lease sale. A Decision Record was signed on July 23, 2018 to approve offering three parcels of public land in Beaver County, totaling 4,836 acres. No appeals were received on the decision. Bids will be accepted for a 30-day period concluding in late December. (2/21/18)

Mid-December. BLM-ID. Tri-State Fuel Breaks Project: BLM Idaho expects to request a BLM Director's Office and Review Team briefing regarding publication of a Notice of Availability of a DEIS for a comprehensive system of fuel breaks in southwest Idaho, southeast Oregon and northern Nevada. These fuel breaks will be designed to provide firefighters with safe areas to engage fire, reducing the likelihood of large wildland fires that may spread across hundreds of thousands of acres, impacting sage-grouse habitat and the grazing economy for many years. This effort involves coordination among the Boise, Vale, Winnemucca and Elko BLM Districts. (11/1/18)

Mid-December. BLM-UT. The BLM anticipates publishing a Federal Register Notice to announce the Milford Flat Solar Energy Zone competitive lease sale. The BLM responded to substantive comments in the Final Environmental Assessment (EA). Changes were made to the EA and Decision Record to alleviate some of the identified concerns, including deferring one parcel (Parcel D) from the current lease sale. A Decision Record was signed on July 23, 2018 to approve offering three parcels of public land in Beaver County, totaling 4,836 acres. No appeals were received on the decision. Bids will be accepted for a 30-day period concluding in late December. (2/21/18)

Late December. BLM-NV. The Humboldt River Field Office plans to publish the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Marigold Mine Mackay Optimization Project. The proposal includes expanding an existing gold mine to combine existing open pits into three larger pits and extend mine life by up to 10 years, to 2037. (10/29/18)

ONGOING ITEMS

Mid-December. BLM-ID. The Boise District anticipates publishing a Notice of Exchange Proposal announcing 31,026 acres (11 parcels) of federal lands being exchanged for the 23,878 acres (40 parcels) of state land. The Owyhee Land Exchange was proposed for the purpose of acquiring State-owned lands located within or abutting wilderness areas in Owyhee County that were designated by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. The BLM is consulting with the tribes and will soon be working with the State Historic Preservation Office and part of the clearance process. The Boise District anticipates at least some local media interest once a notice is issued. (10/30/18)

Mid- December. BLM-NV. The Black Rock Field Office anticipates releasing the draft of the Burning Man Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). (10/1/18)

Bureau of Offshore Energy Management

NEW ITEMS

BOEM received notice on November 6, 2018, that the Assistant Secretary of Commerce had sent a letter to the Secretary of the Interior requesting consultation on the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (FGBNMS) proposed expansion. BOEM has not yet seen the letter. Under Section 4 of Executive Order (EO) 13795, Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy, BOEM must respond within 60 days of a consultation request with a determination of the potential impact of the proposed expansion on the development of oil and gas, renewable, and marine mineral resource potential in the area of proposed expansion. (11/16/2018)

On December 7, the Vineyard Wind offshore wind project Notice of Availability (NOA) to prepare and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is expected to be published in the *Federal Register*. The DEIS analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action described in the Vineyard Wind Construction and Operations Plan and reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Publication of the NOA announces the start of the public review and comment period, as well as the dates and locations of public hearings on the DEIS. The public hearings are tentatively planned for the weeks of January 7 and January 14 in New Bedford, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, and Hyannis, Massachusetts; as well as Narragansett, Rhode Island. The specific dates and locations will be finalized by November 30. BOEM received approval to issue the NOA after the Department Review Team was briefed on November 16. (11/5/18)

ONGOING ITEMS

On December 13, BOEM will be holding a public meeting on the California Offshore Wind Call for Information and Nominations in San Luis Obispo, California. The meeting will be open house format with a short presentation on the Call process and overview of the information BOEM is looking to obtain during the comment period. A laptop station will be

available for the public to offer comments on Regulations.gov. The comment period closes on January 28, 2019. (11/5/2018)

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

ONGOING ITEMS

West Elk Mine (CO): In coordination with the Regional Solicitors Office, OSMRE Western Region will delay the previously scheduled October 22nd submission of a Record of Decision (ROD) and a notice of adoption clearance briefing form to the DOI Review Team for OSMRE's adoption of the 2017 U.S. Forest Service's West Elk Mine Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Federal Coal Lease Modifications COC-1362 & COC-67232. On September 26, an Initial Action Notice brief was provided. No oral briefing was requested by the DOI Review Team. The cause of the delay is attributed to OSMRE's decision to consider the findings of an imminent report that will be provided by the West Elk Mine to the BLM in accordance with the stipulations of their lease regarding the feasibility of methane capture and flaring. OSMRE is coordinating with the BLM regarding an expedited review and concurrence finding on the report. While OSMRE does not expect the report will change the findings of the ROD, in coordination with counsel, OSMRE agrees that incorporating the findings of the report will be beneficial to the defensibility of the decision. At this time, a date certain for the DOI Review Team notice of adoption clearance briefing and publishing of the notice of adoption in the Federal Register is not known.

Awareness

Bureau of Land Management

Fall 2018. The Biomass Research and Development Board is seeking agency concurrence on the Bioeconomy Initiative Plan (Plan) to be approved by DOI. The Plan lays out the strategy for interagency coordination on bioeconomy research designed to accelerate innovative technologies that harness America's biomass resources. The Board is chaired by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of Energy (DOE). USDA and DOE have the majority of the responsibility for the Plan. BLM sits on the Biomass Research and Development Board. BLM provides biomass from public domain lands; one power plant in Northern California co-produces energy from geothermal resources and biomass harvested from BLM lands.

Bureau of Offshore Energy Management

The BOEM MOU with The Netherlands on offshore wind cooperation has been cleared by the Department. BOEM is currently in discussions with representatives from the government regarding the details of a signing event. Additionally, BOEM has received edits back from the Norwegian energy ministry regarding the draft MOU with DOI on offshore energy and mineral resources cooperation. The Norway MOU is expected to begin the clearance process within DOI by late November. (11/16/18)

BOEM is currently reviewing a draft document related to the London Protocol, entitled "Revision of the Specific Guidelines for Assessment of Platforms or Other Man-Made Structures at Sea" document. BOEM and BSEE comments will be combined and provided to the Department for review by late November. (11/8/18)

The World Ocean Assessment (WOA) is a process established by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly to provide an overall assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects. The first WOA (WOA-I) was released in 2015 and subsequent WOAs are expected to be generated every five years in order to document trends in the state of the marine environment. WOA-I is comprised of 57 chapters and a technical summary. BOEM contributed to WOA-I at various levels (including co-authoring two chapters: *Chapter 49: Salt Marshes* and *Chapter 22: Other Marine-Based Energy Industries*). The second round of the WOA (WOA-II) plans to build on the first round to provide an updated assessment of the state of the marine environment. WOA-II is expected to include more than thirty chapters plus a technical summary. The Department of State (DOS) is coordinating WOA-II engagement in the United States. The DOS coordinator discussed the WOA-II nomination process at a Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology (SOST) meeting and requested federal agencies to circulate the information. BOEM has been requested to provide support on multiple chapters (including: *Chapter 20: Changes in Hydrocarbon Exploration and Extraction* and *Chapter 22: Development in Renewable Energy Sources*). (11/8/18)

BOEM submitted a final Biological Assessment to NMFS for the Gulf of Mexico Geological and Geophysical Programmatic Endangered Species Act Consultation in July 2013. BOEM received a copy of the draft Biological Opinion (BiOp) from NMFS on Friday June 22, 2018. BOEM submitted a summary response of substantive issues with the BiOp to NMFS on September 13, 2018, along with the more detailed track changes comments in the draft BiOp. NMFS will not meet the original November 1, 2018, deadline or the February 1, 2019, deadline extension for issuance of a final BiOp pursuant to the NRDC litigation. BOEM and NMFS staff initiated a bi-weekly meeting to address and resolve issues and comments in the BiOp. A completion date remains unclear. NOAA has informed BOEM that they will request an extension from the court beyond the February 1, 2019, deadline to issue a final BiOp pursuant to the NRDC litigation. (6/29/18)

On October 22, BOEM submitted a conference approval package to ASLM for 2019 meetings of the National Academies Committee on Offshore Science and Assessment (COSA). BOEM is also planning to contract with the NAS to peer review the BOEM air quality study of the Gulf of Mexico, but is holding moving forward with the peer review pending verbal approval by ASLM (no written authorization is needed). The peer review is particularly time-sensitive because the review should be completed within the term of the underlying study contract. (10/15/18, DTS #2244).

BOEM has finalized its FY19 National Studies List for the Environmental Studies Program (ESP). This list covers both new studies starts, as well as on-going studies. Mandated by Section 20 of the OCSLA, ESP develops, funds, and manages rigorous scientific research specifically to inform policy decisions on the development of energy and mineral resources

on the OCS. Research covers physical oceanography, atmospheric sciences, biology, protected species, social sciences and economics, submerged cultural resources and environmental fates and effects. One study on the list (*Atlantic Marine Assessment Program for Protected Species III*) will require additional ASLM approval due to the fact that it will be a new procurement with individual project costs projected to exceed $3,000,000 (pursuant to requirements in Departmental Manual 218). This study is an *Inter-agency Agreement* with NOAA to collect broad scale and long-term data on protected species in the Atlantic OCS. The cost of the study is $6.4 million over 5 years. The request for approval of this study is with ASLM (DTS# 2424). (9/28/18)

BOEM's Pacific Region has accepted the Multi-Obligee Performance Bonds from Beta Operating Company LLC. These bonds will replace the existing surety bonds for decommissioning purposes presently on file with BOEM. On September 28, BOEM sent a letter to the trustee directing it to release the funds from the Trust Account that are being replaced by the new bond. Following receipt of the letter, Aera (the predecessor lessee) requested a meeting with the Regional Director. On October 5, Aera filed an emergency motion in an attempt to block distribution of the funds. On October 10, BOEM was notified that the bank had released all but $1 million of the funds. The $1 million was retained in case there is a lawsuit. On October 30, AERA, Shell, Noble, and Exxon met with the BOEM Acting Director. A follow up meeting was held on November 15. On October 31, the District Court affirmed the ruling of the bankruptcy court's decision that allowed BOEM to direct the Trustee to release the funds. (8/13/18)

Well Stimulation Litigation (Environmental Defense Center & Santa Barbara Channelkeeper, Center for Biological Diversity and Wishtoyo Foundation, and State of California): There were three lawsuits filed in Nov and Dec 2017 that have been consolidated into one case. The claims can be summarized as follows: (A) There are several flaws and faults in the programmatic EA (released in May 2016) for well stimulation treatments, (B) The California Coastal Commission has had no opportunity to review the activities for consistency with the Coastal Zone Management Act, (C) The government was required but failed to comply with the Endangered Species Act with regard to approval of well stimulation treatments. American Petroleum Institute, ExxonMobil Corporation, and DCOR, LLC, are intervenors. The hearing was held Nov 5 in Los Angeles; the judge concluded that Interior satisfied its obligations under NEPA but did not satisfy its obligations under CZMA and ESA. (11/16/2018)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLICY, MANAGEMENT, AND BUDGET

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Susan Combs, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the authority of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4. On December 7, Susan is attending the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission in Washington, DC.

Scott Cameron, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, will be attending an offsite meeting at NCTC on December 3-4 and in the office the rest of the week.

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services (DAS PRE)

From December 4-7, Inter-agency Borderland Coordinator (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) will conduct interagency field visits in CA at scheduled Border Patrol (BP) replacement fence projects. At the request of the BP, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) will focus on the San Diego and El Centro sectors to discuss replacement projects in San Diego, Tecate, and Calexico. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) will coordinate with representatives from BP, EPA, FWS and BLM. (11/20/2018)

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

NEW ITEMS

The Department submitted a FY 2019 reprogramming action on November 23 to the Interior Appropriations Subcommittees to reprogram $650,000 from NPS Line Item Construction project balances for a replacement crane at Channel Islands National Park. The 30 day review period ends December 23. (11/28/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

The Department submitted a FY 2019 reprogramming action on November 23 to the Interior Appropriations Subcommittees to change two Deputy Assistant Secretary position titles within PMB. The 30 day review period ends December 23. (11/28/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

On December 7, the FY 2019 Continuing Resolution providing ongoing appropriations for DOI (with the exception of Bureau of Reclamation and CUPCA) is set to expire. The Office of Human Capital is updating the OS Contingency Plan employee list for exempt, excepted and non-excepted employees. (11/20/2018)

The FY 2019 reprogramming action regarding FWS' proposal to reorganize administrative functions is pending before the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee. The 30 day review period ends November 29. (11/20/2018)

The Office of Budget is compiling information on estimated damages from hurricanes and other major events (volcanoes) this season to inform Departmental leadership. There has been no formal request for this information from OMB. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have informally requested information. (11/14/2018)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services (DAS PRE)

NEW ITEMS

DOI has been requested by the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide law enforcement resources to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), along Points of Entry on the Southwest Border. DOI is in the process of assembling a team for deployment and coordinating with the Solicitors Office regarding authorities and CBP regarding funding. (11/28/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

From December 11-13, Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) Director Rupert will attend the Intertribal Timber Council (ITC) quarterly meeting where he will provide an update on DOI priorities and initiatives to the ITC Fire Subcommittee in Portland, OR. (10/24/2018)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Policy and Environmental Management (PEM)

NEW ITEMS

On December 12-14, National Invasive Species Council (NISC) Executive Director Jamie K. Reaser will participate in the 2018 annual invasive species innovation conference to provide a plenary presentation on establishing an "innovation culture" and present relevant projects emerging from the 2016-2018 NISC Management Plan (Nashville, TN, open to press) (11/28/2018).

ONGOING ITEMS

On December 14, Michaela Noble Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) Director will provide a presentation on the Department's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) streamlining initiatives at the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) quarterly NEPA Inter-agency Contacts meeting. (Washington, DC; no press) (11/20/2018)

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

From January 23-24, 2019, Susan Combs will be attending the Wildland Fire Leadership Council Meeting in San Diego, CA and conducting a field tour of southern California. (11/28/2018)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Policy and Environmental Management (PEM)

ONGOING ITEMS

The Office of Policy Analysis (PPA) is collaborating with the Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) on the implementation of a pilot to address fuels treatment, based on PPA's analysis.

The expected timeframe to complete a pilot for one wildfire is by the end of December. (11/20/2018)

Awareness

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

NEW ITEMS

GAO recently met with the National Park Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs in an exit conference to discuss "Federal Employment and Training Programs" (Job Code 102320) in response to a request from the Chair and Ranking Member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. The GAO reviewed the:

(1) Number, focus, and funding of Federal employment and training programs
(2) Changes in the outcome measures since the 2011 report
(3) Actions taken by Agencies to improve coordination among programs.

(Washington DC, no press) (11/28/2018)

(Per GAO, distribution is highly restricted): GAO recently issued the draft report "Oil and Gas Development: Actions Needed to Improve Oversight of the Inspection and Enforcement Program" (GAO-19-7) in response to a request from Ranking Member of the House Committee on Natural Resources. The GAO reviewed the:

(1) Distribution of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) oil and gas Inspection and Enforcement Program's workload and workforce among agency field offices
(2) Internal control reviews conducted for FYs 2013-2018.

The GAO issued BLM three recommendations to increase monitoring of the state offices' internal control reviews; document procedures for implementing internal control reviews; and implement a risk-informed approach to conducting internal control reviews. The response is due December 20. (11/28/2018)

OIG recently issued the draft report "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of California, Department of Fish and Wildlife, From July 1, 2014, Through June 30, 2016" (2017-WR-064). The audit included claims totaling approximately $113 million on 189 grants. In addition, the OIG found that the State:

(1) Did not use an approved methodology to count lifetime license holders
(2) Did not manage equipment adequately; properly allocate program income associated with its lands pass program, and did not properly classify its sub-awards.

The OIG issued 18 recommendations to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The response is due January 2. (11/28/2018)

On November 20, 2018, the Office of Acquisition and Property Management (PAM) issued Acquisition Policy Flash 19-04, *USDOL-OFCCP California Wildfire National Interest Exemption*. This policy implements a memorandum from the Department of Labor (DOL), which grants a limited exemption and waiver for covered supply & service and construction

contracts entered into specifically for California Wildfire relief. This temporary exemption and waiver is in effect for a period of three months, from November 19, 2018 to February 19, 2019, and is subject to an extension. (11/28/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

The House Appropriations Committee's Surveys and Investigations team is beginning to conclude its review of the Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horse and Burro Program. BLM is wrapping up its work addressing staff requests for information and has supplied a total of eleven disks with over 150 documents. BLM has provided seven in-person briefings totaling 24 hours and 8 conference calls on the various intricacies of the WHB Program. S&I staff traveled to Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada as part of their investigation on Oct. 3. (11/28/2018)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR WATER AND SCIENCE

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

For the week of December 2, Assistant Secretary Tim Petty is attending the off-site meeting at NCTC, and then in the DC office with mostly routine meetings. On December 5, Tim will provide the welcome address / keynote at the ACES (A Community on Ecosystem Services) 2018 Conference in Crystal City, VA. External meetings include the Northern California Power Agency. On Dec 6, W&S will host a departmental briefing by USGS on the Delaware Basin Assessment.

The week of December 2, Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman is scheduled to be in Washington, D.C., and will attend various meetings and events including the off-site meeting at NCTC.

From December 2-4, USGS Director Jim Reilly will be in Reston, Va. and will attend the off-site meeting at NCTC. On December 5-8, Director Reilly will be on personal leave.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

NEW ITEMS

On December 3, Reclamation plans to release the public notice for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the Funding of Routine Operation, Maintenance, and Replacement of Associated Water Transmission Facilities of the Mni Wiconi Rural Water Supply Project in South Dakota. (11/26/2018)

On December 3, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the release of flows up to 100 cubic feet per second from Pinto Dam into Crab Creek (Grant County,

Washington) beginning the week of December 3 to perform a regularly planned inspection on the Pinto Dam headworks. (11/26/2018)

On December 11, Reclamation will host a webinar about the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase II funding opportunity that is currently open. The funding opportunity is for watershed groups seeking funding to implement on-the-ground watershed management projects for their communities. (11/26/2018)

Around mid-December, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the final draft for the Programmatic Agreement between Reclamation, the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office and Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID). The Agreement will direct COID's future Section 106 obligations for federal projects. A public notice will also be placed in the Bend (Oregon) Bulletin. (11/26/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

Between December 2 and December 21, Reclamation plans to announce the projects selected to receive Title XVI, Water Reclamation and Reuse funding. Reclamation provides funding through the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program for projects that reclaim and reuse municipal, industrial, domestic or agricultural wastewater and naturally impaired ground or surface waters. (09/10/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

On December 5, Reclamation plans to hold a public meeting for the Bonny Reservoir Resource Management Plan and Environmental Assessment as part of a 30-day public comment period that began in November. Bonny Reservoir is located in eastern Colorado on the Republican River, which flows into Kansas and Nebraska. In 2011, Colorado decided to drain the reservoir in order to comply with the 1943 Republican River Compact between Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska. (11/19/2018)

On December 6, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the draft Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment on the Clipper Center Lateral Pipeline Project located in Delta County, Colorado. The project would replace approximately 4.3 miles of open irrigation ditch with buried pipe. The purpose of the project is to prevent seepage and reduce salinity loading in the Colorado River Basin. Local media interest is anticipated. (11/19/2018)

Between December 10 and 14, Reclamation plans to submit a report to Congress and governors of the seven Colorado River Basin States regarding the Operations of Glen Canyon Dam (Arizona) for water years 2017 and 2018. The report is prepared and submitted annually in accordance with provisions of the 1992 Grand Canyon Protection Act (Public Law 102-575) (GCPA). Five agencies within the Department of the Interior have responsibilities and undertake actions pursuant to the GCPA and have submitted sections for this report. No news release is anticipated and media interest is expected to be light. (11/19/2018)

Between December 10 and 14, Reclamation plans to submit a recommendation from the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG) for consideration by the Secretary. The AMWG is a federal advisory committee tasked with providing the Department of the Interior with input and recommendations on the operation of Glen Canyon Dam (Arizona). The AMWG recommends, by consensus, continued implementation of the Adaptive Management Program triennial budget and work plan for fiscal years 2018 through 2020. The Secretary's decision regarding the recommendation will be distributed to AMWG members, other relevant stakeholders, and to the five Department agencies with associated responsibilities. No news release is anticipated and media interest is expected to be moderate. (11/19/2018)

Between December 10 and 14, Reclamation plans to release the 2019 Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for Colorado River System Reservoirs required by section 602(b) of the Colorado River Basin Project Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-537). The 2019 AOP contains the projected plan of operation of Colorado River reservoirs for 2019 based on the most probable runoff conditions. The 2019 AOP was prepared by Reclamation in consultation with the seven Colorado River Basin States Governors' representatives, representatives from Mexico, the Upper Colorado River Commission, Native American tribes, appropriate Federal agencies, and additional stakeholders. The final 2019 AOP will be transmitted by the Secretary of the Interior to Congress and the seven Colorado River Basin States. No news release is anticipated and media interest is expected to be moderate. (11/13/2018)

Around December 10, Reclamation plans to issue a news release for the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed modernization of generating units 19-21 in the Third Power Plant at Grand Coulee Dam, Washington. The modernization would ensure continued, reliable hydropower production for 40 years and ensure Reclamation would meet contractual obligations for power generation. Reclamation is issuing a 14-day public comment on the draft EA. (11/13/2018).

On December 12 through 14, Reclamation staff plan to participate in the annual Colorado River Water Users Association Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. (11/13/2018)

U.S. Geological Survey

NEW ITEMS

On December 5, USGS and DOI scientists are scheduled for a closed door briefing with the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee staff about USGS wildfire science and coordination. (11/26/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

In December, the USGS will announce a recently published paper that describes new evidence of frequent and large tsunamis along one of the Earth's largest faults, the Alaska-Aleutian megathrust. The paper, titled "Evidence for frequent, large tsunamis spanning

locked and creeping parts of the Aleutian megathrust," was published in the *Geological Society of America Bulletin* and a statewide news release is planned. Collaborators on this paper include the University of Rhode Island; University of Nevada, Reno; East Carolina University. (9/6/2018)

In December, the USGS will announce a recently published paper that describes the presence of human bacteria and viruses from sewage in some Milwaukee area streams. From April 2009 to March 2011, fecal pollution from human sources was spatially quantified by measuring two human-associated indicator bacteria (HIB) and eight human-specific viruses (HSV) at six stream locations in the Menomonee River watershed in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Of the eight HSV only three were detected, present in up to 38% of the 228 stream samples, while at least one HSV was detected in all water reclamation facility (WRF) influent samples. HIB occurred significantly more often with higher concentrations than the HSV in stream and WRF influent samples. A negative HSV yield from the most downstream sub-watershed of the Menomonee River, and in contrast, a positive HIB yield from this same sub-watershed emphasizes the complexity in fate and transport properties between HSV and HIB. This study demonstrates the utility of analyzing multiple pathogens for a complete assessment of fecal contamination at the watershed level. A news release is being planned. (10/1/2018)

In December, the USGS will announce a new paper that demonstrates that certain well construction attributes are influential in predicting arsenic concentrations in drinking water. Smaller distances between the top of the well screen and overlying aquitard, and shorter well screen lengths, were each associated with higher probabilities of elevated arsenic concentration. Chronic exposure to arsenic via drinking groundwater is a human health concern worldwide, and Minnesota commonly has elevated arsenic concentrations in well water. This study describes a new, novel, and important finding from an arsenic probability model: Controllable well construction choices (not just location or depth) influence arsenic concentrations in drinking water. The paper will be published in *Water Resources Research* and a technical announcement is planned. (7/23/2018)

In December, the USGS will announce a new online service that provides stakeholders and the public access to groundwater quality information for California. In partnership with the California State Water Resources Control Board, researchers have developed a new California Groundwater-Quality Results Web Map showing how groundwater conditions have changed over time and assessments of groundwater used for both public and domestic drinking supply to evaluate geochemical differences in deep and shallow aquifers. A statewide news release is planned. (10/23/2018)

In December, the USGS will announce a new Open-File Report that examines mercury methylation and bioaccumulation in striped bass within the lower section of Lake Powell, Utah and Arizona. In 2012, elevated mercury monitoring results led to a Utah/Arizona fish consumption advisory for the lower 100 km of Lake Powell. In 2014 and 2015, USGS researchers collected chemical, physical, and biological data during two synoptic sampling trips on Lake Powell to test three hypotheses associated with a conceptual model developed

to explain the observed geographic concentration gradient of mercury in fish tissue samples. Partners include the State of Utah and NPS. A regional news release is planned. (11/5/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

On December 6, the USGS plans to announce a new geologic-based assessment of undiscovered, technically recoverable continuous oil and gas resources for the Wolfcamp Shale and Bone Spring Formation of the Delaware Basin, Permian Basin Province, of west Texas and southeast New Mexico. The announcement will include links to a USGS Fact Sheet and data release. In 2016, the USGS released an assessment for the Wolfcamp Shale in the Midland Basin portion of the Permian Basin Province, which is the largest assessment of continuous oil that the USGS has ever announced. Briefings are scheduled and a news release is planned. (11/5/2018)

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

ONGOING ITEMS

On or about December 30, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for public review and comment related to the proposed Area S Resource Management Plan. The draft EA will evaluate resource management on this small isolated tract of Reclamation land near Fort Klamath, Oregon, including grazing, forest and habitat management, and range improvements. Targeted communication is planned. Media interest is not expected. (11/19/2018)

In January 2019, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Cottonwood Creek Daylighting project in Boise, Idaho. The final EA and FONSI follow the WaterSMART grant awarded to the Boise River Enhancement Network for their proposal to restore the natural function of the last 440 feet of Cottonwood Creek. The project supports additional spawning, rearing, and over-wintering fish habitat, all of which are currently limited in the Boise River fishery. (11/13/2018)

Reclamation has been invited to present its invasive mussel research activities at the 79th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Cleveland, Ohio, on January 29, 2019. This annual event will attract nearly 800 biologists, students, and scientists from local, state and provincial, federal, and tribal natural resources agencies, universities, and private companies across the 12 Midwestern states and Canadian provinces.

U.S. Geological Survey

ONGOING ITEMS

In December, a new USGS paper titled “Dynamic flood modeling essential to assess the coastal impacts of climate change” will be published in *Scientific Reports*. The paper summarizes a decade-long research effort to assess the vulnerability of the California coastal population and infrastructure to hazards (e.g. coastal flooding, beach erosion and cliff retreat) associated with a range of future climate change scenarios. In collaboration with agencies and academics across the world, the USGS developed the state-of-the-art Coastal Storm Modeling System (CoSMoS) to incorporate total water levels during storms and the dynamic response of the coast into present-day and future hazards assessments. Applied to the urbanized coast of California, with a population of 24 million, this dynamic approach shows that three times more of the population could be exposed to flooding over the 21st century when compared to static approaches that only consider sea level rise. A USGS news release is being considered. (11/19/2018)

Awareness

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

ONGOING ITEMS

U.S. Geological Survey

NEW ITEMS

USGS researchers are using an Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) to estimate walrus abundance at a large haulout near the Alaska Native community of Point Lay. USGS completed 13 surveys of the haulout over a 2-week period in September 2018, the first of a 2-year field study. The population estimates are needed by USFWS and BOEM to formulate regulations related to offshore oil and gas development and other activities in the Arctic. As many as 40,000 walruses haulout near Point Lay on the Chukchi Sea coast in autumn each year after offshore sea ice disappears. This aggregation provides USGS the opportunity to estimate the abundance of the eastern Chukchi Sea walrus population. Walrus surveys using a UAS reduces the risk of disturbance to walruses compared to manned fixed-wing aircraft and counts can be made frequently. This work is supported by USGS, Alaska Native community of Point Lay, Cully Corporation, North Slope Borough, Eskimo Walrus Commission, USFWS, and BOEM. (11/27/2018)

On November 29 USGS Wildlife Biologist John Pearce will attend the North Slope Borough Planning Commission Meeting in Utqiagvik (Barrow), Alaska. Pearce will provide an update about on-going and new USGS research on the North Slope of Alaska that may have implications for North Slope Borough's planning and permitting actions. Included in the presentation will be a discussion of new USGS research planned for 2019 on the coastal plain (1002 Area) of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. (11/27/2018)

On December 3-6, Janet Cushing (National Climate Adaptation Science Center) and Marcy Delos are presenting a poster at the A Community on Ecosystem Services (ACES) conference in Arlington, VA. The poster presentation is titled "A synthesis of recent links

between climate change impacts and assessing and managing ecosystem services supply and demand." Ms. Cushing will also be moderating a session at the conference. The focus of the ACES conference is to link state-of-the-art science, practice, and decision making by bringing together the ecosystem services community and decision makers from around the United States and the globe. (11/26/2018)

UPDATED ITEMS

Executive Order 13817/Secretarial Order 3359 milestones: The Department of Commerce has transmitted the whole-of-government strategy to the White House, including major contributions by USGS and BLM in coordination with BOEM. The strategy will likely be sent for final clearance by agencies and key White House components (Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), Office of Management and Budget, Council on Environmental Quality, and Office of the U.S. Trade Representative). USGS and BLM anticipate receiving further direction at the next meeting of the OSTP-led interagency National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Subcommittee on Critical and Strategic Mineral Supply Chains (CSMSC). The next meeting of the NSTC Subcommittee is on hold pending clearance of the strategy. The meeting is expected to focus on planning for implementation of the strategy's recommendations, including responsibilities, tracking, and deliverables. Future interagency work through the NSTC Subcommittee is expected to include review and clearance of a set of more detailed appendixes to the strategy, further supporting interagency implementation efforts. The appendices will likely be published at a later date, potentially as FY2019 products of the NSTC CSMSC. These appendices are expected to include an interagency plan for mapping subsurface mineral resources, based on the USGS-led plan delivered to the Secretary in April; an interagency report on permitting, based on the BLM recommendations delivered to the Secretary in March; an overview of existing trade dependencies for critical minerals, developed in part from USGS data; and an overview of recycling and reprocessing technologies, including brief discussion from USGS on the geologic composition of above-ground resources such as mine wastes, some of which are currently used for production of byproduct critical minerals. (2/9/2018)

ONGOING ITEMS

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) is conducting final reviews before releasing a National Science and Technology Council (NSTC)-coordinated interagency plan on how to identify and address current research gaps in understanding the health effects of low levels of emerging contaminants in the Nation's drinking water. This plan was requested by Congress in the FY2018 OSTP appropriations language. The plan identifies a number of research gaps and specific roles for USGS Water and Environmental Health Mission Areas, including development of new or improved methods to sample and analyze low levels and complex mixtures of emerging contaminants in drinking water as it is taken from surface or groundwaters and treated, as it transits through municipal water distribution systems and building plumbing, and as it is taken from the tap; helping understand, model, and predict exposures to emerging contaminants in the context of their environmental and water treatment infrastructure drivers; and helping health agencies develop improved tools to enhance assessment of health risks posed by emerging

contaminants under realistic exposure scenarios. The other agencies highlighted in the plan include Environmental Protection Agency, National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and National Science Foundation. (10/2/2018)

Upcoming USGS Publications

A new USGS paper titled "Using redundant primer sets to detect multiple native Alaskan fish species from environmental DNA" was recently published in *Conservation Genetics Resources*. Researchers developed an environmental DNA (eDNA) system to detect up to 37 native fish species in Alaskan lakes and streams. Accurate and timely data regarding freshwater fish communities is needed for measuring biodiversity and informing decision-making by land and resource managers. The new methods efficiently and reproducibly detect fish species in a single water sample, reducing the cost and time needed to perform studies of Alaskan fish communities in remote, roadless areas that characterize much of Alaska. (11/27/2018)

A new USGS study titled "Fire and tree death: understanding and improving modeling of fire-induced tree mortality" was recently published in *Environmental Research Letters*. Each year wildland fires kill and injure trees on millions of forested hectares globally, affecting plant and animal biodiversity, carbon storage, hydrologic processes, and ecosystem services. USGS helps resource managers and others understand the dynamics of wildland fire. This study reviews the current understanding of the mechanisms of fire-induced tree mortality, provides recommended standardized terminology, describes model applications and limitations, and conclude with key knowledge gaps and future directions for research. Researches suggest a two-pronged approach to future research: (1) continued improvements and evaluations of empirical models to quantify uncertainty and incorporate new regions and species and (2) acceleration of basic, physiological research on the causes of fire-induced tree mortality to incorporate processes of tree death into models. This would help advance the understanding of how fire injures and kills trees, while improving prediction accuracy of fire-driven feedbacks on ecosystems and landscapes, particularly under novel future conditions. This information could help resource and land managers make decisions about what actions are most needed or appropriate for their circumstances. Partners include Joint Fire Science Program, NPS, BLM, USFS. (11/27/2018)

A new USGS Open File Report titled "Population genomic surveys for six rare plant species in San Diego County, California" was recently published and is available online in the USGS Publications Warehouse. USGS conducts research important to federal, state and local entities who manage federally and state listed species in San Diego County. The Management Strategic Plan for western San Diego County has identified rare plant species within the plan area for which management activities are ongoing. Researchers examined the genetic population structure of six priority rare plant species, all but one federally listed as endangered or threatened. The report includes options for genetic management of occurrences, seed banking and seed bulking needs for each species, and information gaps that, if addressed, could further support management efforts. In addition to supporting regional conservation efforts for the San Diego Management Plan Area, these results provide

scientific information for the USFWS for the five federally listed species. Finally, these data provide a snapshot for monitoring genetic diversity trends over time in response to future disturbances or restoration actions. The USGS data will inform DOI, state and local agency management as they make decisions focused on conserving these six listed plants. Partners include USFWS and California Department of Fish and Wildlife, San Diego County. (11/27/2018)

In early December a new USGS study titled "The influence of chick production on territory retention in Arctic-breeding Pacific and Yellow-billed loons" will be published in the journal Condor. The study evaluates the role of breeding success and competition on territory retention by two loon species (Pacific and Yellow-billed Loons) in the National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska. The results found that territory retention and apparent survival rates for both loon species are high, and that chick production does not impact loon territory retention. This information may be useful for guiding future oil and gas development near Yellow-billed Loon nesting areas. Findings in this report inform activities of BLM and ConocoPhillips. (11/27/2018)

In December a new USGS paper titled "Probability of Streamflow Permanence Model (PROSPER): A spatially continuous model of annual streamflow permanence throughout the Pacific Northwest" will be published in the *Journal of Hydrology.* The PRObability of Streamflow PERmanence (PROSPER) model is a GIS raster-based empirical model that provides streamflow permanence probabilities (probabilistic predictions) of a stream channel having year-round flow for any unregulated and minimally-impaired stream channel in the Pacific Northwest region, U.S. PROSPER model predictions are available in ScienceBase and will also be available in StreamStats. The project objective was to provide land managers with the ability to identify headwater streams resilient to drought conditions enabling them to focus their limited rehabilitation and conservation resources on watersheds necessary to support populations of threatened aquatic species. This work provides end users with streamflow permanence conditions for the Pacific Northwest Region at unprecedented spatial extent and temporal resolution, representing the largest dynamic stream mapping effort the authors are aware of, and which is readily available for applications in water resources management or species conservation. The USGS authored paper received support from the Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Center. (11/27/2018)

A new USGS study titled "Effects of land use on greenhouse gas flux in playa wetlands and associated watersheds in the High Plains, USA" has been accepted for publication in a special issue of *Agricultural Sciences*. In the High Plains, U.S., native prairie conversion to cropland agriculture has resulted in a loss of service delivery capabilities from most depressional wetlands as a result of sedimentation. Restoring historic hydrological conditions to affected wetlands may rejuvenate some services, however, there may be trade offs due to emissions of methane and nitrous oxide. In the study researchers evaluated the influence of two predominant conservation programs (Wetlands Reserve Program and Conservation Reserve Program) on gas emissions from 42 playas and uplands in the High Plains of Nebraska. (11/27 /2018)

A new USGS study titled “Late season elk hunt in Grand Teton National Park primarily attracts local grizzly bears” has been accepted for publication in *Ursus*. Fall ungulate hunting in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem carries the risk of hunter-grizzly bear conflict and creates a substantial challenge for managers. For Grand Teton National Park, a key information need is whether increased availability of elk remains during a late fall (Nov–Dec) elk harvest within the national park attracts grizzly bears and increases the potential for conflict with hunters. Study findings show that grizzly bear presence during the elk hunt was limited to about 15 resident bears that specialized in accessing elk remains. The late timing of the elk hunt likely moderated the effect of elk remains as a food attractant because it coincides with the onset of hibernation. From a population response perspective, the current timing of the Elk Reduction Program likely represents a scenario of low relative risk. The risk of hunter-grizzly bear encounters remains, but may be more a function of factors that operate at the individual bear level. The USGS is the coordinating agency of the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team and partnered with the National Park service to address this information need. Partners include NPS, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, elk hunters, national park visitors, and NGOs. (11/27 /2018)

A new USGS study titled “Influence of temperature, precipitation, soil, and nonnative species on vegetation recovery in the western United States” has been accepted for publication in *Applied Vegetation Science*. Moisture-limited regions of the U.S. are susceptible to disturbance caused by wildfires, energy development, and other land-uses. However, vegetation restoration is difficult in these areas because moisture is low and variable. The presence of particularly problematic nonnative plant species like cheatgrass that rapidly reproduce post-fire make restoration even more challenging. Understanding the variables that can accelerate or inhibit vegetation recovery would allow land managers to plan more successful restoration strategies that result in desirable outcomes. Additionally, being able to assess vegetation recovery over large tracts of land relatively quickly and over multiple time periods would also provide invaluable information. The authors of this manuscript used satellite, restoration treatment, plant community, soil, and climate (temperature and precipitation) data to assess factors that influence vegetation recovery after fire in the western U.S. Additionally, they assessed if remote sensing (satellite) data would be a useful tool for monitoring restoration efforts in arid regions. Partners include Northern Arizona University. (11/27 /2018)

A new USGS study titled “Identification of Bighead Carp and Silver Carp early life environments and inferring Lock and Dam 19 passage in the Upper Mississippi River: insights from otolith chemistry” has been accepted for publication in *Biological Invasions*. Bigheaded carps are poised to establish populations further up in the Mississippi River basin if control measures at invasion fronts are not effective. This threatens the Upper Mississippi River (UMR) ecosystem and the services, like fishing and recreational boating, that it provides. Control strategies are just being developed, but important population dynamics information on these emerging populations at the front of the invasion are lacking thereby potentially limiting DOI and other natural resource management agencies ability to devise effective strategies. For example, the primary sources of recruitment to these emerging populations is unknown. To address this need, researchers used chemical analyses of a bony structure (otoliths) from bigheaded carp at the invasion front in the UMR to determine

sources of recruitment for an emerging population above a pinch point dam that separates river reaches with high and low abundances. The findings from this study suggest that there are multiple sources of recruitment to this emerging population from tributaries and mainstem reaches above and below the pinch point dam. This suggests that control strategies for the emerging population will need to target these multiple sources of recruitment. Partners include the states of Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, FWS, NPS and US Army Corp of Engineers. (11/27 /2018)

A new USGS study titled "Post-Release Behavior of Surf Scoters (*Melanitta perspicillata*) Following an Oil Spill: an Experimental Approach to Evaluating Rehabilitation Success" has been accepted for publication in *Marine Pollution Bulletin*. USGS conducts research that aids resource managers in decision making following oil spills and effectiveness of rehabilitating wildlife following oil spills has been controversial. Scoters held in captivity exhibited different habitat use, movement patterns and home range size compared to other scoters. Therefore, captivity and rehabilitation practices may influence success of the rehabilitation. Partners include USFWS and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. (11/27 /2018)

A new USGS study titled "Freshwater tidal forests and estuarine wetlands may confer early-life growth advantages for delta-rearing Chinook Salmon" has been accepted for publication in *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society*. The USGS works closely with the USFWS and the Nisqually Indian Tribe to conduct research on restoration of habitat including complex large river deltas which are believed to play a pivotal role in promoting the early marine growth and survival of threatened Chinook Salmon. Researchers assessed the role of multiple delta habitats over a range of salinities and vegetation types and considered consumption and growth rate potential proxies for habitat quality. They compared their model output to empirical, or realized, growth estimates from scale circuli (circular growth rings on the scales). Their results suggest that tidal forests and emergent marshes may offer early-life growth advantages for wild Chinook Salmon. However, the results also suggest that wild and hatchery fish can compensate as they move seaward by opportunistically consuming greater quantities of low-energy density prey, taking advantage of pulses of larval forage fish, or by spending time in multiple interconnected habitat types. This work will assist resource and land managers in identifying management actions that may provide valuable prey resources for juvenile salmon and other fishes and will also inform crucial steps toward protecting river deltas from degradation and functional loss. Partners include USFWS, Nisqually Indian Tribe, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. (11/27 /2018)

A new USGS study titled "Flooding regimes increase avian predation on wildlife prey in tidal marsh ecosystems" has been accepted for publication in *Ecology and Evolution*. The study discusses how sea-level rise and extreme storm events can alter habitat availability in tidal marshes and change species interactions. Researchers used the natural tidal cycle at four marshes in San Francisco Bay, California to measure whether avian predator foraging behavior changed with water levels in tidal marshes. The results describe evidence of a relationship between tidal flooding and the presence, abundance, and behavior of avian predators. Based on this result, the authors introduce predation pressure as a combined probability of predator presence related to water level. Because predation pressure is related

to flooding of the marsh, short-term increases in sea levels from high astronomical tides, sea-level rise, and storm surges increase vulnerability of marsh wildlife. Marsh animals which could be affected include the federally and state endangered salt marsh harvest mouse and state-threatened California black rail. DOI agencies and land managers may use this study to understand how future changes in sea level could affect resources for which they are responsible. Partners include USFWS and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. (11/27 /2018)

A new USGS study titled "Rising tides: Assessing habitat vulnerability for an endangered salt marsh-dependent species with sea-level rise" has been accepted for publication in *Wetlands*.

The study describes potential impacts of sea level rise on federally-listed Ridgway's rail. Two subspecies of Ridgway's rail live in salt marshes of California, light-footed Ridgway's rail in Southern California and California Ridgway's rail in San Francisco Bay. Changes in suitable habitat for these rails and salt marsh vulnerabilities to sea level rise, were forecasted across 14 study sites using models. Under a high (166cm/100yr) sea level rise scenario, current extent of suitable habitat is projected to increase by 34% across the combined area of 14 sites by 2050. By 2100, total habitat suitability is projected to decrease by 83%, with six salt marshes losing over 95% of suitable habitat. If accretion rates cannot keep pace with sea level rise, salt marsh obligate species, such as Ridgway's rail, are in danger of being extirpated from their habitats. Potential sea level rise impacts to Ridgway's rail could exemplify effects on other coastal endemic species. Awareness of potential impacts of sea level rise on vulnerable salt marsh species could assist USFWS and other resource and land management agencies in current decision making and in planning for the future. Partners include USFWS, University of California – Los Angeles, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Orange County Water District, and Point Blue Conservation Science. (11/27 /2018)

From:	Dermody, Matthew
To:	Alan Mikkelsen; Alex Hinson; Alex Sterhan; Amanda Kaster-Averill; Andrea Travnicek; Appel, Elizabeth; Aurelia Skipwith; Benjamin Cassidy; Billy Dove; Brenda Burman; Brian Steed; Cally Younger; Cara Macdonald; Caroline Boulton; Casey Hammond; Casey Stemler; Catherine Gulac; Christina Summers; Daniel Jorjani; David Bernhardt; Debrah McBride; Doug Domenech; Edward Keable; Eli Nachmany; Elinor Werner; Evan Wilson; Faith Vander Voort; Gareth Rees; Gary Lawkowski; Heather Swift; Hubbel Relat; James Reilly; James Voyles; Jim Cason; Joe Balash; John Bockmier; John Tahsuda; John Tanner; Juliette Lillie; Karen Budd-Falen; Kate MacGregor; Kathleen Benedetto; Katie Mills; Kerry Rae; Lacey Smethers; Leila Getto; Lisa Pelstring; Lori Mashburn; Mariagrazia Caminiti; Marshall Critchfield; Matthew Dermody; Maureen Foster; Melissa Beaumont; Michael Argo; Moody, Joan; Nikolao Pula; Richard Myers; Ronald Klawitter; Russell Newell; Ryan Hambleton; Ryan Nichols; Samantha Hebert; Sarah Jorgenson; Sarah Spaulding; Scott Cameron; Scott Hommel; Shelby Hagenauer; Steve Wackowski; Susan Combs; Tara Sweeney; Tim Petty; Tim Williams; Todd Willens; Todd Wynn; Wendy Fink; Zack Gambill
Subject:	Weekly Report to the Secretary January 27-February 2
Date:	Thursday, January 24, 2019 2:40:45 PM
Attachments:	Weekly Report to the Secretary January 27-February 2.docx

All,

Attached is the Weekly Report to the Secretary in both Word and Google Doc formats. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Matthew Dermody
Special Assistant
Office of the Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-513-7778 (office)
202-570-5029 (cell)

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
JANUARY 27-FEBRUARY 2, 2019

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Acting Chief of Staff Todd Willens will be in the office.

Deputy Chief of Staff Katharine MacGregor will be excepted Tuesday January 29th, and in the office the rest of the week.

Senior Advisor Scott Hommel will be in the office.

Senior Advisor Heather Swift will be in the office.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Director John Bockmier will be in the office.

Deputy Director Russell Newell will be in the office.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

John Tanner, Director, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill

Aaron Thiele, Advisor, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill

Taylor Playforth, Advisor, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill.

OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Todd Wynn, Director, will be in the office all week.

Ben Cassidy, Senior Deputy Director, will be in the office all week.

Tim Williams, Deputy Director, will be in the office all week.

Jason Funes, Special Assistant, will be in the office all week.

Sarah Spaulding, Special Assistant will be in the office all week.

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week

The OIEA team is facilitating introductory meetings and phone calls between new and existing Governors and Acting Secretary David Bernhardt.

The OIEA team has developed an outreach and engagement plan and materials for newly elected officials for January and February in order to proactively reach out to other state elected officials.

The OIEA team has developed an outreach and engagement plan for connecting Acting Secretary David Bernhardt with our external partners over the next quarter.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Associate Deputy Secretary Jim Cason will be in the office.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Director Julie Lillie will be in the office
Deputy Director Justin Abernathy will be in the office
Correspondence specialist, Lisa Cannuscio will be in the office

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

- **DOI Priority Rules-**

○ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Final Rule, "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Prohibitions to Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Blanket Section 4(d) Rule" (RIN 1018-BC97)-The FWS is finalizing revisions to the regulations on prohibitions that apply to species that are listed as threatened species or downlisted from an endangered species to a threatened species. The final rule is with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 12866. Nothing new to report.

○ FWS Final Rule, "Conservation of Endangered and Threatened Species; Revision of Regulations to Address Interagency Cooperation" (RIN 1018-BC87) - The FWS is finalizing revisions to its regulations for interagency cooperation pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. The final rule is with the OMB for review pursuant to EO 12866.Nothing new to report.

○ FWS Final Rule, "Endangered and Threatened Species of Wildlife and Plants; Revision of the Regulations for Listing Species and Designating Critical Habitat" (RIN 1018-BC88) -

The FWS is finalizing revisions to its regulations for listing endangered and threatened species and for designating critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act. The final rule is with the OMB for review pursuant to EO 12866. Nothing new to report.

○ Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) Final Rule, "Oil and Gas Sulfur Operations on the Outer Continental Shelf - Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control Revisions" (RIN 1014-AA39) - The BSEE is finalizing revisions to the regulations for oil and gas drilling, workover, completion and decommissioning operations on the Outer Continental Shelf. The final rule is with the OMB for review pursuant to EO 12866.Nothing new to report.

○ The Department's proposed rule titled, "Freedom of Information Act Regulations," published on December 28th, 2018. Comments are due January 28, 2019. OES was asked to prepare a draft comment extension for this rule.

● **DOI Documents Pending Federal Register Publication-**

○ A notice reopening the comment period for 30 days for the West Coast Distinct Population Segment of fisher (Pekania pennanti) as a threatened species; and

○ The proposed rule on the Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities: Arctic Coastal Plain

● **Interagency Reviews Under E.O. 12866**—no action to report.

Correspondence:

No action to report.

FOIA:

The OS FOIA office is operating.

Litigation Awareness Reviews

3:18-cv-00797/ OS-2017-01308, Sierra Club (Ellen Richmond), Non-USG communications with IOS personnel

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Congressional Hearings, and Travel

Principal Deputy Solicitor Dan Jorjani is in the office.

LITIGATION MATTERS:

Parker Drilling Management Services, Ltd. v. Newton - Non-government Case
Last week, DOJ asked for SOL's quick assessment on whether the federal government should file an amicus brief in *Parker Drilling Management Services, Ltd. v. Newton.* The question in *Parker Drilling*, is whether, under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, state law is borrowed as the applicable federal law when there is a gap in the coverage of federal law, as the Fifth Circuit has held, or whenever state law pertains to the subject matter of a lawsuit and is not preempted by inconsistent federal law, as the Ninth Circuit has held. The law at issue in the case is California state wage law. SOL communicated to DOJ that while our understanding aligns with the well-established Fifth Circuit precedent, DOI typically does not involve itself in disputes that are generally among private parties and when DOI does become involved, we are most likely to focus on case-by-case issues rather than on the application of universal principles. Here, there does not seem to be a substantial threat that the potential applicability of state law as a more general matter would cause problems for DOI efforts to carry out its particular mandates (it is primarily relevant to private party relationships). SOL will send attorneys to meetings this week that OSG has scheduled to hear the parties' arguments for why the United States should file an amicus brief on their behalf. The meetings are scheduled for January 23 and 25. DOJ is asking whether Interior will submit a recommendation letter regarding whether DOJ should file an amicus brief in this case. SOL plans to use the information learned at the meetings this week to help determine whether Interior should prepare and send such a recommendation letter to DOJ.

Northern Alaska Environmental Center et al. v. Ryan Zinke et al.
On December 6, 2018, the U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska granted Summary Judgment in favor of DOI in this action brought by a coalition of environmental groups pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and the Administrative Procedure Act. The Plaintiffs alleged that the Bureau of Land Management violated NEPA by purportedly holding its December 2017 NPR-A oil and gas lease sale without first preparing an EIS or EA or otherwise conducting an adequate assessment of the impacts of the sale. Judge Gleason held that the plaintiffs failed to demonstrate that BLM was required to conduct an EIS or EA specifically for the 2017 NPR-A lease sale. In doing so the court determined that BLM's programmatic 2012 NPR-A Integrated Activity Plan/EIS was adequate to comply with NEPA for multiple lease sales, and that plaintiffs had not raised a failure to supplement argument. As a result of the court's decision, BLM's issuance of 7 leases covering 80,000 acres was upheld. This lawsuit is similar to one filed the same day (Feb. 2) by another coalition of environmental groups (*Natural Resources Defense Council et al. v. Ryan Zinke et al*.), in which DOI also received a favorable Summary Judgment decision on December 6th. The Plaintiffs have announced an intent to appeal.

Texas v. New Mexico, No. 141 Orig.
On January 9, 2019, Special Master Melloy granted the United States' unopposed motion to vacate dates for filing responses and replies for existing motions and to extend discovery deadlines until after the government receives funding.

Atlantic Seismic Permits Injunction
On January 18, 2019, the U.S. District Court for South Carolina issued an injunction under the All Writs Act enjoining "Federal Defendants, BOEM, and any other federal agency or entity from taking action to promulgate permits, otherwise approve, or take any other official action regarding the pending permit applications for oil and gas surveys in the Atlantic" until after appropriations are restored and the court rules on certain motions. The case involves South Carolina's request to intervene in a challenge to the National Marine Fisheries Service's issuance of incidental harassment authorizations for geological and geophysical (G&G) surveys off the Atlantic coast. BOEM has yet to issue its permits for these activities and is not currently a party to the case. The court's language, while ambiguous, could be read to prevent BOEM from even conducting preparatory work on the pending Atlantic G&G permit applications while the injunction is in effect. BOEM has ceased preparatory work on the permit applications, in accordance with the court order. Interior is consulting with the Justice Department about seeking clarification of the court's order.

NON-LITIGATION MATTERS:

Oil Spill Response Exercise Fatalities
On Wednesday January 16, a tragic series of events led to two fatalities on a crew boat conducting a spill response training and equipment exercise for an Oil Spill Response Organization (MSRC) on the Mississippi River. The exercise was designed to satisfy BSEE regulatory requirements for periodic equipment and personnel deployment, but was initiated, organized, and directed by MSRC (not BSEE-initiated). A Senior Preparedness Analyst from the BSEE Oil Spill Preparedness Division attended the exercise as an observer and witnessed the events. She has been interviewed by the New Orleans Port Authority and a US Coast Guard investigator, and is preparing a written statement in consultation with the Office of the Solicitor.

BOR-Drought Contingency Plan
This week the Arizona legislature introduced a joint resolution authorizing the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to sign off on a Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan (LBDCP), as well as six companion bills regarding the intra-Arizona LBDCP, in an attempt to finalize Arizona's agreements by the January 31st deadline set by Commissioner Burman. The intra-Arizona LBDCP is comprised of a mitigation component for those impacted by water reductions under the DCP, an off-set component to replenish currently stored water in Lake Mead that is needed for mitigation, and a groundwater infrastructure program. The United States is a party to several of the intra-Arizona agreements and continues to work with ADWR and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) to finalize the Arizona package by January 31, 2019.

BLM—Upcoming oil and gas lease sale support
The Salt Lake Office has been providing legal support to the BLM's Utah State Office as it prepares to issue leases sold during its December 2018 quarterly oil and gas lease sale, and to assist with BLM's preparations for its March 2019 lease sale.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

From January 28-February 1, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Andrea Travnicek will be in the office.

From January 28-February 1, Deputy Assistant Secretary Aurelia Skipwith will be in the office.

From January 28-February 1, Deputy Assistant Secretary Ryan Hambleton will be in the office.

From January 28-February 1, Acting Director Dan Smith will be in the office.

From January 28-February 1, FWS Principal Deputy Director Margaret Everson will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

During the lapse in appropriations, most of the FWS offices, field stations, and other physical facilities will be closed to non-excepted employees and the public and most Service employees furloughed. Because of the Administration's priority on increased access, where public access to refuge lands does not require the presence of a federal employee or contractor, permitted activities on refuge lands will be allowed to continue. All areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting or other damage that cannot be adequately protected will be closed. However, FWS has some previously appropriated funding available; some of these funds are being used to resume work, for the next two pay periods, on high priority projects and activities in support of the FWS mission and on behalf of the American public. Examples of these funding uses include re-staffing certain refuges, maintaining work on some large-scale construction projects, and developing plans for prescribed burns in preparation for the upcoming fire season. FWS updated its contingency plan to reflect moving excepted employees to exempt status for two pay periods (2019-02 and 2019-03). FWS will re-evaluate this after these two pay periods.

For two pay periods:

- Re-staffing 38 National Wildlife Refuges for public use and/or resource management. These NWRs were chosen based on criteria including visitation during the month of January, opportunities, including hunting, that would otherwise be limited or unavailable during this time, and protection, management and security of public

resources. The re-staffing of these refuges will also bring economic benefits to local communities.

- FWS will continue work on large infrastructure projects that address both access and maintenance needs as well as storm damage from recent hurricanes. FWS is using previously appropriated funds to continue work on the construction projects and deferred maintenance and 2018 hurricane supplemental funds to work on storm damage projects. Generally each of these projects are in excess of $500,000.

- In addition to those employees who are already working for the safety and protection of life and resources, FWS reactivated employees to work on developing plans for prescribed burns in preparation for the upcoming fire season. This will allow FWS to stay on track to implement these fire plans.

- Increasing access to public lands is a priority of the Department and Service. In order to meet regulatory deadlines for next year's hunting season, it is important that work on proposed regulations continue over the next two pay periods. FWS is using carryover funds to continue work on streamlining regulations and bringing them in line with state regulations. This will increase coordination with our state fish and wildlife partners and provide transparency and clarity to hunters and anglers.

FWS is in the process of reactivating approximately 100 employees to work on high-priority projects throughout the country that are funded through reimbursable agreements with other entities, including other federal agencies that have funding available for the work.

National Park Service

Most National Park Service employees are furloughed with the exception of employees deemed essential for protection of life and property. Because of the Administration's priority on increased access, the NPS' open air memorials, park roads, lookouts, trails and other generally open areas will remain accessible to visitors during a lapse, though NPS will only provide limited visitor services. Where appropriate, NPS will also allow concessioners, commercial use authorization holders, and other third parties to continue operations. NPS will also accept donations from third parties (including states, friends' groups, and others) to continue operations. On January 5, 2019, the Acting Secretary of the Interior instructed the NPS to use FLREA funds to continue operations, where appropriate, on a limited basis to provide for the protection and cleanliness of resources, manage conflict issues, and provide basic visitor services. Parks that have begun using these funds include the National Mall, Grand Canyon, Sequoia-King's Canyon, Joshua Tree, and the Statue of Liberty. In addition to basic visitor services at these and other parks, NPS is reviewing the potential use of FLREA funds for other activities related to rudimentary visitor services or resource protection.

8-30 Day Outlook

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

ONGOING ITEMS

A proposed change to the implementing regulations for the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) is expected to clear DOI. The rule: 1) defines the scope of the MBTA as it applies to conduct resulting in the injury or death of protected migratory birds and 2) reduces permitting burdens by modifying existing permit exceptions and proposing new ones. This proposed regulation will be consistent with the Department Solicitor's Opinion M–37050. After clearing DOI, the rule has to go to OMB-OIRA for interagency review, which usually takes 90 days. FWS will coordinate with DOI regarding outreach. (Updated 12/19/2018)

FWS plans to publish the FY 2016 Recovery Report to Congress. The Recovery Report provides an update on the progress of federally protected species toward recovery between October 1, 2014, and September 30, 2016 (fiscal years 2015 and 2016). FWS does not anticipate controversy or opposition to the report. Planned outreach will include congressional notifications and posting the report to the web. (Updated 12/19/2018)

FWS will host information webinars outlining next steps in developing a 12-month finding on a petition to list the monarch butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. Attendees include state agency directors and tribal staff. FWS was petitioned to list the monarch in 2014 and issued a positive 90-day finding indicating the petition was substantial. FWS has finalized a species status assessment and is evaluating the monarch conservation database and other information to determine whether listing the monarch is warranted. The 12-month finding is due June 30, 2019. (Updated 12/19/2018)

FWS plans to publish a proposed rule to allow the baiting of brown bears on Kenai NWR, which is permitted under Alaska state hunting regulations. The rule would also allow the discharge of firearms along the Kenai and Russian rivers during certain times of the year; allow the use of snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and utility task vehicles on certain lakes when there is adequate snow and ice cover; and increase access to the refuge by bicycle and game cart. This proposed rule would be available for a 60-day public comment period and is likely to be strongly opposed by those who believe that baiting of wildlife for hunting is unethical or who oppose hunting (particularly of large predatory mammals). FWS plans to notify stakeholders directly by email and issue a news release to Alaska media announcing the proposed rule and public comment period. (Updated 11/21/2018)

FWS and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) will announce the final allocations for the first round of Delaware River Basin Conservation Act grants, appropriated by Congress in FY 2018. More than $6.4 million in grant applications was received and the review committee of partners named in the Act approved a final slate of $4.1 million with a non-federal match of $7.5 million. The grants will restore 626 acres of wetland habitat and 549 acres of floodplain; increase public access on 1,794 acres; create 32 new jobs; and leverage more than 3,000 volunteers in project delivery. NFWF conducted fiscal notifications

to Congress on November 16, with a 30-day response time. FWS and NFWF will notify grantees and coordinate a rollout event in January. (11/28/2018)

FWS plans to publish the FY 2017 Federal and State Endangered and Threatened Species Expenditures Report to Congress. This report provides a compilation of reasonably identifiable expenditures for the conservation of listed species reported independently by federal and state agencies. Expenditures are reported for species that were listed during FY 2017 through September 30, 2017. FWS does not anticipate opposition to the report. Planned outreach includes congressional notifications and posting the report to the FWS website.

Species	**Action**	**Current Status**	**Previously Proposed Date**
Tri-spot darter	Final listing determination, proposed 4(d) rule, and proposed critical habitat	Cleared DOI	Week of December 24
Southern Selkirk Mountain woodland caribou	Final determination of proposed relcassification as distinct population segment; list as endangered	Pending DOI clearance	Week of December 24
Meltwater lednian stonefly Western glacier stonefly	Final listing determination	Pending DOI clearance	Week of December 24
26 draft recovery plan amendments for 42 species	Draft recovery plans	Pending DOI clearance	Week of December 24
Eastern massasauga rattlesnake	Availability of draft recovery plan		On or around January 2
Endangered distinct population segment of Atlantic salmon in the Gulf of Maine	Updated final recovery plan		By January 15
Second batch of 29 draft recovery plan			On or around January 7

amendments for 42 species			
Barrens topminnow	Final listing determination		On or around January 25
Panama City crayfish	Six-month extension of the final determination of whether to list as a result of substantial scientific disagreement concerning the species; also reopen the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days		On or around January 25
Franklin's bumble bee	Proposed listing determination determined that critical habitat designation for this species is not prudent		On or around January 31
Jaguar	Announcement of the completion of the final recovery plan for the jaguar		On or around January 10
Macaw	final determination on a proposed rule to list the scarlet macaw, *Ara macao cyanoptera,* as endangered; list the northern distinct population segment (DPS) of *A. m. macao* as threatened; and list the southern DPS of *A. m. macao*		On or around January 14,

	and subspecies crosses as threatened based on similarity of appearance to *A. m. cyanoptera* and *A. m. macao*; will include a 4(d) rule that will allow for the import and export as well as interstate commerce of certain scarlet macaws without a permit.		
Fisher, West Coast distinct population segment	Notice reopening the comment period for the proposal to list as a threatened species		On or about January 14
California condor in northern California and Oregon	Proposal to designate a nonessential experimental population to help meet recovery goals for the species		On or around January 15
Borax lake chub	Proposed delisting determination due to recovery		On or around January 18
Running buffalo clover	Proposed delisting determination		On or around January 18
Gray wolf	Proposal to delist due to recovery. This proposed rule does not have any effect on the separate listing of the Mexican wolf as endangered under the ESA.		On or around January 31
Arizona eryngo	90-day findings on petitions to list		On or around January 31

Dunes sagebrush lizard Giraffe Refugio manzanita San Gabriel chestnut snail			
Neuse River waterdog Carolina madtom	12-month finding, proposed listing determination, and proposed critical habitat designation		On or around January 31

National Park Service

ONGOING ITEMS

The revisions to the NPS proposed rulemaking, *Demonstrations and Special Events on the National Mall and Memorial Parks*, are nearing completion. On November 21, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) determined that the rulemaking was significant under Executive Order 12866 due to its "novel legal or policy issues." As a result, the final rule will be reviewed by OMB for up to 90 days. The proposed rulemaking modifies how the NPS processes permit applications for demonstrations and special events. The rulemaking also identifies locations where activities are allowed, not allowed, or allowed but subject to restrictions. During the 60-day public comment period, which closed on October 15, the NPS received 140,652 comments.

The NPS expects to publish a proposed rule that would revise regulations governing the listing of properties in the National Register of Historic Places. The proposed changes would implement the 2016 Amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act, extend the timeline for the Keeper to respond to appeals, and ensure that if the owners of a majority of the land area in a proposed historic district object to listing, the proposed district will not be listed over their objections. The rule would also make several minor, non-substantive changes to existing regulations. The package for approval of the Federal Register notice is going through the surname process and is currently with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

Isle Royale National Park will implement phase two of the Wolf Relocation effort to the island. Between four and six wolves from Michipicoten Island in Ontario, Canada, will be captured by a company using net guns contracted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for Ontario. The animals will be medically examined by NPS wildlife veterinarians on Michipicoten Island, then transported via helicopter to a remote section of the park where they will be then collared and released. This is the second operation as part of the three- to

five- year plan to relocate 20 – 30 wolves to Isle Royale in order to restore predation to the ecosystem.

On February 4, the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission will hold a public meeting in Bar Harbor, Maine. The commission advises the Secretary and the NPS on matters relating to the management and development of the park. The committees under the commission will report out on topics such as park use, science, and education. The commission has also been approved to meet on June 3 and September 9. Decision to postpone will be made on February 1.

The NPS Alaska Region anticipates completing the response to comments on the Alaska Sport Hunting and Trapping proposed rule and environmental assessment. On December 14, NPS awarded a contract to one of two vendors who bid to conduct the comment summary. While the contractor has been reviewing and cataloging comments during the appropriations lapse, NPS has been unable to begin drafting responses to significant comments that have come in.

Fire Island National Seashore plans to implement the first phase of its Deer Management Plan. The plan was approved through a Record of Decision in April 2016. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will carry out the first phase at the William Floyd Estate, a unit of the Seashore. The Estate is closed to the public however, protests are anticipated near the Estate and/or at the Seashore's Headquarters. Regional and, potentially, national press coverage is expected.

Originally scheduled for on or around January 9, Golden Gate National Recreation Area plans to announce the prospectus release for the business opportunity to operate food and beverage and retail services at Muir Woods National Monument. A one-day site visit was scheduled to be provided to interested parties on February 6.

Yellowstone National Park plans to release a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for a project to replace the Lewis River Bridge located just south of Lewis Lake on the South Entrance Road within the park. This project would include replacing the existing bridge, built in 1960, on a new alignment adjacent to, and east of, the existing bridge. The project would also reconstruct associated parking areas and turnouts located at three corners of the new bridge. The existing bridge was listed as Category B in the latest bridge safety inspection on 9/26/14, which means it is seriously deficient or presents a safety hazard, but may remain in service at reduced loads with frequent inspections. The NPS prepared an Environmental Assessment for this project that was on public review for 30 days, ending November 30, 2018. During this time 11 comments were received. The proposed project is scheduled for construction in 2020-2022.

Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area plans to announce selection of the concessioner to operate the Kettle Falls Marina under a new 10-year concession contract.

In February, the prospectus for glacier landing air taxis and scenic tours at Denali National Park and Preserve will close. This solicitation was issued on November 8 for four concession contracts, with a 10-year term of January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2029.

NPS Midwest Region staff will attend a consultation meeting with the Tribal Council of the Prairie Island Indian Community Tribal Historic Preservation Office. The Tribal Council requested this consultation to discuss the Coldwater Springs sacred site, which is located in the Recreation Area.

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park will host an event in the Maritime Museum to mark the 80th anniversary of the Aquatic Park Bathhouse's construction. In addition to public programs, an event will showcase the installation of a plaque on the building which commemorates its designation as the *Sala Burton Building* in the park's enabling legislation. Members of the late Representative Sala Burton's family and Speaker Nancy Pelosi are invited to attend.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve will conduct the next scheduled listening session in Kenny Lake, Alaska, a community local to the park. In February through April, additional listening sessions will be scheduled for the following local communities: Chistochina, Fairbanks, Gakona, Glennallen, Mentasta, and Tazlina. A news release will announce the dates, times, and specific venues of the above mentioned locations. Beginning June 26, 2018, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve conducted a series of public listening sessions to engage resident zone communities and federally recognized tribal governments in discussions about management of wilderness, frontcountry and backcountry areas within the park. Specific locations were: Copper Center, Chitina, Slana, and McCarthy/Kennecott.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary Tara Sweeney is in the office.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary John Tahsuda is in the office.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Mark Cruz is in the office.

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Management Jason Freihage is in the office.

Acting Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Director Darryl LaCounte will be in Billings, Montana, but will be available as needed.

BIA Deputy Director - Field Operations Jim James will be in the Albuquerque, New Mexico, office but will be available as needed.

Chief of Staff Rich Myers will be available as needed.

BIE Director Tony Dearman will be in Anadarko, Oklahoma, but will be available as needed.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

The AS-IA will begin approval process for Office of Justice Services to begin hiring new officers.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

The BIA will move about 25 employees nationwide from furlough to excepted status, and an additional 25 employees from furlough to exempt status. The employees moved to excepted status will continue processing: 1) distribution of remaining FY18 self-determination contract funds to tribes; 2) distribution of Wind River Tribe oil and gas revenue per capita funds; 3) in coordination with the Office of the Special Trustee, distribution of elderly per capita funds to the Colville and Warm Springs Tribes; and 4) other necessary tasks of short duration. The employees moved to exempt status will begin processing necessary tasks of longer duration, including approval of revenue-producing leases and timber sales (for individual Indians and tribes); processing of lockbox payments and other payments requiring manual processing; and most importantly, child care services (such as foster care payments, home visits, and processing placements and other interactions with state agencies).

Bureau of Indian Education

The BIE will ask the Office of the Federal Register to publish as soon as possible a Notice of Public Meeting for the fourth and final Standards, Assessments and Accountability Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. The basis for this request is that the Committee's activities support currently funded BIE and that delaying publication would prevent or damage the execution of those functions.

8-30 Day Outlook

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

ONGOING ITEMS

The AS-IA and exempted and excepted senior staff continue to hold daily conference calls to address issues related to the execution of an orderly government shutdown and the preservation of property, health and safety in Indian Country.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

ONGOING ITEMS

The BIA Acting Director and Regional Directors (excepted staff) continue to hold conference calls every other day to address issues related to the execution of an orderly government shutdown and the preservation of property, health and safety in Indian Country.

Bureau of Indian Education

UPDATED ITEMS

The Navajo Nation retroceded the operation of the Borrego Pass School to the BIE, which has operated the school since January 3, 2019. The BIE is currently advertising teacher and other positions for permanent employment at the school.

The merger of the Santa Rosa Ranch and Santa Rosa Day schools on the Tohono O'odham Reservation in Arizona was successful and students from both schools returned to class after Christmas Break at the Day School on January 8. The target date for installation of modular classrooms and the resumption of class at the Santa Rosa Ranch School is on track for March, 2019. On January 24th ASIA will meet with the incoming professional project manager who will oversee the installation of modular buildings at the Santa Rosa Ranch School.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY INSULAR AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

TRAVEL

All planned travel has been suspended.

ASIIA Domenech is exempt and in the office next week.
OIA Director Pula is exempt and in the office next week.
INT Director Karen Senhadji is on furlough.
Sarah Jorgenson, Senior Advisor, is exempt and in the office next week.
Oceans Program Coordinator Liza Johnson is out on furlough/maternity leave until March 29.

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week

AS-IIA Programs Operating During the Shutdown: The Office of Insular Affairs has brought back 18 International Affairs ITAP staff to be exempt due to available permanent funding from USAID and State Department Projects from the previous fiscal year. Eight other International Affairs staff remain on furlough status. OIA policy analysis and program management activities involving previous obligated or mandatory funding have resumed. The Oceans Program Coordinator remains furloughed.

116th Congress Meetings/Action: Assistant Secretary Domenech is scheduled for the following courtesy meetings with the Congressional Delegates (pending approval from OCL):
-Thursday, January 24 - Congressman Sablan (CNMI)
-Monday, January 28 - Congressman San Nicolas (Guam)
-Tuesday, January 29 - Congresswoman Radewagen (American Samoa)
(A scheduled meeting with Congresswoman Plaskett (USVI) is expected soon.)

Guam Section 30 Funding: Next week, AS-IIA will discuss Guam Section 30 funding with the new Guam leadership to determine if the payment will be made now or if the payment will be applied in September against the $12 million offset for the Guam War Claims Fund. OIA staff completed an analysis on a request received during the shutdown from Guam for additional Section 30 funding in the amount of $6 million that IRS has indicated is owed to them. The source of funds for the Guam Section 30 payment is permanent indefinite rather than annual appropriations.

UPDATE. Insular Grants: OIA grant managers continue to review requests for payments that have been received during the shutdown and are processing payments when appropriate for grants that were previously obligated. A list of payments/draw-downs against existing grant awards can be found below.
In addition, OIA grant managers are reviewing needs for ongoing grants for items such as health, safety, and other urgent matters to determine if any short term grants need to be awarded during the next few weeks. Capital Improvement Program grant managers continue to assess performance and determine competitive criteria for future years' budgets.

<u>COMPACT/COMPACT IMPACT (Mandatory Funding)</u>
-$8,245,121 - Guam Compact Impact: Operations Offsets Related to Education
-$86,112.11 - Guam Compact Impact: Operations Offsets - Department of Public Health & Social Services
-$2,019,724 - Federated States of Micronesia Compact payments for education, health and infrastructure
<u>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (Mandatory Funding)</u>
-$25,000 - Guam Capital Improvement: Puerto Rico Dump Post-closure Monitoring Services
-$84,242.49 - CNMI Capital Improvement: Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Stipulated Order No. 2 Projects
-$73,203.34 - Capital Improvement Program, American Samoa Shipyard Authority, Slipway Renovation Project
<u>ENERGIZING INSULAR COMMUNITIES</u>
-$26,976.25 - Guam Energizing Insular Communities: Guam Power Authority Wind Turbine Project

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
-$72,051.70 - U.S. Virgin Islands Technical Assistance: Virgin Islands Housing Authority Youth Build, Virgin Islands Bureau of Economic Research 2017 Virgin Islands Consumer Price Index
-$4,150 - Republic of the Marshall Islands Technical Assistance: Marshallese Education Initiative Community Advancement
-$20,993.87 - General Technical Assistance: Partners in Development We Are Oceania, Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System Atmospheric and Wave Forecasts
-$10,997 - Technical Assistance: Guam Police Department Neighborhood Watch Program Outreach
-$14,430 - Technical Assistance: Guam Fire Department Hazmat Equipment Procurement
-$8,604.39 - Technical Assistance: American Samoa Cancer Patient Navigator Program
-$15,570.07 - Technical Assistance: Boys and Girls Club of American Samoa Youth in Action Program.
-$13,814 CNMI Technical Assistance: Invasive Species Coordinator
-$17,758 CNMI Technical Assistance: Contract Worker Survey
-$33,000 CNMI Technical Assistance: Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Detection, Eradication and Preventative Measures
MAINTENANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
-$2,400 - Maintenance Assistance: American Samoa Shipyard Apprenticeship Program
BROWN TREESNAKE PROGRAM
-$17,798.18 - Brown Treesnake Program: CNMI Brown Treesnake Interdiction Program
CORAL REEF AND NATURAL RESOURCES
-$16,871.09 - FSM Coral Reef/Natural Resources Invasive Species: Kosrae Association of Tourism Operators for Eradication of Crown of Thorns Starfish

UPDATE. Graduate School USA Activities in January:
January 28-31, 2019: Developing Interim Procurement Regulations, Majuro, RMI.
January 28-31, 2019: Preparing for the Year-End Close for Government, American Samoa.

Medicaid and CHIP Payment Access Commission (MACPAC) Meeting Regarding Territories: On January 23, officials from MACPAC, a non-partisan legislative branch agency that provides policy and data analysis and recommendations to Congress, Health and Human Services, and the states (or territories) on a wide array of issues affecting Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program will have a meeting to discuss Medicaid and the U.S. territories as well as the possibility of giving a presentation at the upcoming IGIA.

RAND Draft Report on the Freely Associated States and Chinese Influence: OIA staff will provide comments on a draft RAND report on the Freely Associate States and Chinese influence by January 31. As required under the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act, the Department of Defense is required to contract a study and assessment of U.S. security and foreign policy interests in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The deadline for submission of this report, previously due December 1, 2018, has been extended to January 31, 2019.

8-30 Day Outlook

NEW ITEMS

OIA UPCOMING SIGNIFICANT TRAVEL (Pending the end of the shutdown):
2/17-18. Chuuk, FSM. 75th Anniversary of "Operation Hailstone" WWII. At the request of the State Department, INDOPACOM, and NSC, AS-IIA Domenech and OIA Director Pula are planning to attend so long as the shutdown has concluded.

Graduate School USA Activities in February: Next month, OIA will host the following training courses under a previously awarded contract:
February 4-7, 2019: Developing Corrective Action Plans, Majuro, RMI.
February 8, 2019: Practical Ethics for Government Employees, Majuro, RMI.
February 19-22, 2019: Innovation without Additional Resources, Koror, Palau.
February 11-15, 2019: Twenty seven insular government representatives will continue their participation in the Executive Leadership Development Program through Session III in Yap, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). This Program will focus on a case study of a fictional government facing a variety of challenges common to the Pacific island governments.

Yap State Finance Office Consultations: During the week of February 11, financial experts from Graduate School USA will work with the Yap State Department of Finance and Administration in response to recent requests and by way of follow-up to several Island Government Finance Officers' Association (IGFOA) Winter Meeting initiatives. Topics include tracking finance office procurement measures, addressing FY17 audit findings, working with the current financial management information system (Fundware), and discussing procurement needs for new financial management information systems (a World Bank-funded FSM national initiative).

Yap State School Designs: OIA staff are anticipating awarding a $1.3 million Compact grant for the design of three school facilities in the Federated States of Micronesia, Yap State.

UPDATED ITEMS

UPDATE. CNMI Governor Scheduled to Meet with DHS/OMB Regarding Parole Visa Policies Relating to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and Guam: It is our understanding that Governor Torres is planning to schedule a meeting with DHS/OMB to take place around NGA/IGIA in February to discuss the proposed notice regarding the rescission of discretionary parole visa policies relating to nationals of the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation seeking entry into Guam and/or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Related to this, CNMI has written the President requesting formal Section 902 consultations on the issue. That letter has been forwarded to OIA for response, which OIA has drafted and will finalize for review.

UPDATE. OIA, U.S. Dept. of Energy and Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to Develop Energy Plan for CNMI as required by FEMA: OIA staff coordinated a

conference call with CNMI officials from the U.S. Department of Energy and Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) in an effort to assist CUC with putting together an energy recovery plan as well as sharing lessons learned from VI WAPA in preparedness and response to hurricanes that have impacted the Caribbean Islands. A follow-up conference call will take place in February to include Mr. Clinton Hedrington at VI WAPA, who has been specifically working with DOE and FEMA in USVI's resilience efforts. In addition, the DOE team agreed to review CUC's draft recovery plan, provide expertise from the National Energy Labs, and to visit CNMI and meet with the CUC team.

UPDATE. U.S. Government-Wide Comprehensive Report on Federal Grants to U.S. Insular Areas: OIA staff have been in contact with the former HHS staffer that managed the insular areas federal grants project, and he has agreed to assist in training OIA staff and to provide his procedural documents. OIA staff is working with him to set dates for training. OIA staff are working to take over an existing database from HHS and gather information from across the federal government on federal grants to U.S. insular areas. Completion is targeted for March of 2019.

POWER UPDATE. Typhoon Yutu Recovery: OIA staff continue to work with FEMA and local officials on typhoon recovery in CNMI. UPDATE: Power has been restored to 82% of homes on Saipan and 63% of the homes on Tinian.

ONGOING ITEMS

ON TRACK. 2019 Interagency Group on Insular Areas (IGIA) Senior Plenary Session: The 2019 IGIA Senior Plenary Session to be held on February 25, 2019, between 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the EEOB. The Secretary of the Interior is a co-chair of the event. It has been confirmed that Guam Governor "Lou" Leon Guerrero will attend NGA and IGIA next month, and she and her staff will also meet with AS-IIA Domenech and OIA Director Pula when she is in town. AS-IIA has been in close contact with White House Intergovernmental Affairs regarding the planning and a contingency plan should the shutdown continue through the planned IGIA date. OIA staff reached out to Governors Moliga, Torres, and Bryan's Chiefs of Staff regarding their attendance to the Plenary Session. OIA will be sending an update to the Congressional Delegates pending OCL's approval.

NO CHANGE. Winter Meeting of the Coral Reef Task Force (CRTF): The CRTF working group meetings (including the federal meeting and steering committee meeting) will occur on 2/19-2/20 at the Silver Spring Civic Center, and the business meeting and executive lunch will take place on 2/21 at EPA HQ. Pending shutdown status.

NO CHANGE. CNMI Tinian Dynasty DOJ Judgement: SOL continues to research issues related to this facility which was the subject of a (June 3, 2015) Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury, assessed $75 million civil money penalty against Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investments, Ltd., for willful and egregious violations of the Bank Secrecy Act. Specifically, as described in the assessment, Tinian Dynasty failed to develop and implement an anti-money laundering (AML) program.

ON HOLD. Census Compact Surveys: Analysis of census data on hold. With funding from OIA, the U.S. Census began its work in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) as part of the next five-year enumeration of migrants from the freely associated states (FAS) in Hawaii, Guam, the CNMI and American Samoa, as required by the Compact of Free Association (Public Law 108-188). Surveys are expected to be completed by May 2019.

NO CHANGE. Secretarial Appointments to the Board of Trustees for the Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico: The Assistant Secretary, who represents the Secretary on the Trust Advisory Council, is working with the White House Liaison to identify three Trustees to serve starting April 2019. Under the charter, two Trustees must reside in Puerto Rico, and one in the States. They are jointly appointed by the Secretary and the Governor of Puerto Rico.

Upcoming International Travel:

No international travel by senior officials is known.

Additional Known International Travel, Employees Departing January and February 2019 is unknown.

International Memoranda of Understanding and Documents Under Development:

NO CHANGE. The Netherlands: MOU on offshore wind energy cooperation, in surname. Requested by BOEM and Dutch counterparts, for signature by BOEM/ASLM, TBD, in conjunction with a potential visit to the U.S. by the Dutch Prime Minister early 2019. INT was supporting BOEM as needed. BOEM to sign.

NO CHANGE. New Zealand: MOU on wildland fire cooperation, in development. Requested by DOI and USDA to update existing wildfire arrangement, and continue mutual assistance on wildfires as needed, for signature by the U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand in early 2019 by U.S. Embassy New Zealand. INT was coordinating with Office of Wildland Fire, as they worked with New Zealand counterparts and the Departments of Agriculture and State.

NO CHANGE. Norway: MOU on energy cooperation, in development. Requested by DOI Energy Counselor and Deputy Chief of Staff, for signature by BOEM/ASLM, TBD. INT was supporting BOEM as needed, and BOEM is working with Norwegian counterparts and Department of State. BOEM is reviewing recent Norwegian revisions.

NO CHANGE. Vietnam: MOU to strengthen cooperation on law enforcement to combat wildlife trafficking, in development. Requested by FWS law enforcement, Department of State, and Vietnamese counterpart, for ASFWS/FWS signature when the Vietnamese counterpart travels to Washington, DC, in 2019. INT was coordinating with FWS Office of Law Enforcement.

AWARENESS

President's Advisory Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islanders: On January 17, President Trump announced his intent to appoint the following individuals to be Members of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. David B. Cohen of California (former DAS-IN under President George W. Bush) was appointed, along with Rep. Amata Coleman Radewagen of American Samoa.

President Trump also announced his intent to designate the Honorable Elaine L. Chao to be Co-Chair of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Supplemental Appropriations FY 2019: On January 17, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 268, a supplemental appropriations bill for disaster relief (i.e. hurricanes, typhoons, wildland fire). The Office of Insular Affairs received $2 million for Technical Assistance for financial management expenses related to the consequences of Typhoon Yutu. In addition, two amendments offered by Congressman Sablan and one amendment offered by Congresswoman Radewagen were adopted:

1. to increase funding for the Marianas food stamps block grant by $15 million to cover the cost of households, not previously eligible for aid, who remain in need of assistance because of continuing income loss after Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu;
2. to increase the funding for the Northern Marianas Medicaid program by $16 million to help the islands in recovery from Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu; and
3. to increase the amount of nutritional assistance appropriated in Sec. 101 by $5 million.

The Senate is expected to include this bill in a larger omnibus package on immigration/border wall funding.

Bribery Charge: On January 16, 2019, in the U.S. District Court of Hawaii, charges were filed against a contractor for conspiracy to violate the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and to pay a bribe to an agent of an organization receiving federal funds. The Honolulu-based contractor allegedly bribed Hawaii Government officials in order to land a $2.5 million contract. He is also accused of bribing Federated States of Micronesia officials with at least $200,000 in order to get $7.8 million in FAA contract payments. The bribes came in the form of vehicles, gifts, and entertainment for officials, and were falsely classified as business expenses. OIA staff have cooperated with authorities on this investigation.

NPS Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund: The National Park Service has approved $10,000,000 for historic preservation in the U.S. Virgin Islands. NPS initially planned to give USVI $5.6M while USVI requested $19.8M. These funds must be spent this fiscal year.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management Joe Balash will be in the office.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Casey Hammond will be in the office.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Gary Lawkowski will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week

Bureau of Land Management

FOR AWARENESS: On January 11, 2019, the BLM modified its contingency plan governing a lapse in appropriations. The BLM is continuing to bring back employees to prepare for the March and June oil and gas sales in WY, CO, MT/DK, UT, and NM. Employees are also being brought back to assist with the processing of grazing related items through the use of available carryover funds. APDs are continuing to be processed, as they are fee-based activities. Special Recreation Permits (SRPs) are being processed and administered for over 30 events taking place on federal land. The BLM is bringing on employees to focus efforts on both ongoing post-fire treatments and fuels reduction projects to prepare for the 2019 wildfire season. Carryover and cost recovery funds are being used to continue work on a variety of projects ranging from solar and mining projects to transmission lines. Wild horses and burros continue to be fed and cared for both by BLM staff and through contract work. Timber sales are in process to begin in February 2019. BLM lands continue to be open to the public, and each State Office continues to coordinate trash collection and restroom maintenance where appropriate.

Late January-Early February. BLM-DC will issue guidance on temporarily modifying the grazing authorization and billing process. BLM states are foregoing the normal courtesy application and will distribute a letter that will serve as the annual authorization for the 2019 grazing year in order to turn out livestock in accordance with the terms and conditions that are specified on the permittees ten year grazing permit or lease. Once the lapse in appropriation has been resolved and the BLM range staff resumes their duties, the BLM will contact permittees in order to process any application and/or issue they might have about the grazing bill.

January 28. BLM-WY. The protest period for the Wyoming Greater Sage-Grouse Final EIS and Proposed RMP Amendments will close on January 28, 2019.

January 29. BLM-NV. BLM NV will announce the cancellation of its Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council meeting which was initially scheduled to occur January 30, 2019. The RAC meeting will be rescheduled at a later date.

January 30. BLM-ES. The 30 day comment period on the draft EA specific to the Addition of Terms and Conditions for Renewal of Hardrock Leases, MNES 001352 and MNES 001353, has been extended until January 30, 2019. This is due to two outages directly impacting the BLM's online ePlanning database server.

January 30. BLM-AK. The public comment period on a new Integrated Activity Plan (IAP) and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A) has been extended until January 30, 2019. This is due to two outages directly impacting the BLM's online ePlanning database server.

February 1-9. BLM-CA. The King of Hammers off road race- the second largest special recreation permit issued by the BLM – will take place at the Johnson Valley Off Highway Vehicle Recreation Area in San Bernardino County, California. The desert race event attracts approximately 50,000 spectators during the nine-day period.

February 1-3. BLM-AZ. The Colorado River District will host, through a Special Recreation Permit, the 2019 Best In The Desert Off-Highway Vehicle Race. The events are expected to attract 400 race participants and approximately 5,000 spectators. A temporary closure will be put in place on selected public lands in Arizona, east of Parker in La Paz County from Feb. 1-3, to minimize the risk of potential collisions with spectators and racers. (12/14/18)

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

NEW ITEMS

Late January-Early February: BOEM intends to reopen the comment period and reschedule the public meetings for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Construction and Operations Plan (COP) submitted by Vineyard Wind LLC. BOEM cancelled the previously scheduled public meetings on the DEIS. BOEM intends to use carry over funds to begin this process in late January, 2019.

8-30 Day Outlook

Bureau of Land Management

NEW ITEMS

Late January-Early February. BLM Oil and Gas Lease Sale Dates (State-by-State Breakdown). Each state office offering oil and gas lease sales have varying deadlines in order to meet their sale dates. As such, announcements will be arriving to the Department on a rolling basis. Below are the various deadlines (*subject to slight variations*) broken out for the March (quarter 1) and June (quarter 2) oil and gas sales. For awareness, due to budgetary constraints, BLM-ES, BLM-NV, and BLM-AZ will not be holding March lease sales.

BLM-CO. BLM CO has scheduled their first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 28 and June 28. **March 28, 2019 CO Oil and gas lease sale** – 26 parcels totaling 14,000 acres. 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (November 16, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Began November 16, 2018 and concluded December 16, 2018; Two-week public review and comment period of the environmental documents -

Begins March 1 and conclude March 15, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -March 23, 2019**;** One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – March 27. **June 28, 2019 CO Oil and gas lease sale – 12 parcels totaling 4,800 acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (January 28, 2019) - posted on website and press release; 15-day public protest period - Began January 28, 2019 and concluded February 12, 2019; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins March 11 conclude March 25, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting –June 26, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – June 27.

BLM-MT. BLM-MT has scheduled one quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 2. We are awaiting a full schedule of the second quarterly sale, which is slated to take place in July. **March 21, 2019 MT Oil and gas lease sale – 322 parcels totaling 180,000 acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (November 20, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Began November 20, 2018 and concluded December 21, 2018; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents – Begins January 25 and conclude February 8, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -March 19, 2019**;** One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – March 20.

BLM-NM. BM-NM has scheduled their first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 28 and June 20. **March 28, 2019 NM Oil and gas lease sale - 55 parcels totaling 15,491 acres in NM & OK** – 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (September 28, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 10-day public protest period - Began October 5, 2018 and concluded October 9, 2018; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins February 11 and conclude February 20, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -March 26, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – March 27. **June 20, 2019 NM Oil and gas lease sale - 56 parcels in NM, KS, & OK –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (January 28) - posting on website and press release; 10-day public protest period - Begins January 28 and concludes February 8; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins March 11 and conclude March 22, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting - June 18, 2019**;** One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – June 19.

BLM UT. BLM-UT has scheduled their first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 25-26 and June 10. **March 25-26, 2019 UT Oil and gas lease sale - 156 parcels totaling 217,000 acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (November 16, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Began November 16, 2018 and ends February 25, 2019;
Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins March 1 and concludes March 15, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -March 23, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed

FONSI – March 24. **June 10, 2019 UT Oil and gas lease sale - 24 parcels totaling 41,000 BLM acres; 12 parcels 27,000 Forest Service acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (January 25) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Begins January 25, 2019 and concludes February 25, 2019; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins March 1 and conclude March 15, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting –June 8, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – June 9.

BLM WY. BLM-WY has scheduled the first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 28 and June 20. In addition, parcels that were pulled from the December 2018 sale will be offered on February 25. **February 25, 2019 WY Oil and gas lease sale - 568 parcels totaling 768,000 acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (December 21, 2018) - posted on website and press release**;** Public Notification of Supplementary Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (December 21, 2018) - to comply with a District Court Order - posted on website and press release**;** 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Begins December 21, 2018 and concludes January 22, 2019; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins February 11 and conclude February 20, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -February 23, 2019**;** One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – February 24, 2019. **March 19-20, 2019 WY Oil and gas lease sale - 146 parcels totaling 163,000 acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (November 13, 2018) - posted on website and press release**;** 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Began November 13, 2018 and concluded December 13, 2018;
Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins February 24 and conclude March 8, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -March 17, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – March 18, 2019. **June 2019 WY Oil and gas lease sale –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (November 13, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Began November 13, 2018 and concluded December 13, 2018; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins February 24 and conclude March 8, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting - March 17, 2019**;** One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – June 2019.

UPDATED ITEMS

February 7. BLM MT/DK. On Nov. 8, 2018, Native Ecosystems Council (NEC) served the U.S. Attorney's office (USA) with a civil lawsuit under the Administrative Procedures Act regarding four watershed decisions by BLM in southwest Montana. NEC is seeking, among other things, to enjoin the implementation of these Dillon Field Office watershed decisions that include 226,852 acres of public land. The USA, working with the Field Office, will need to reply to the 151 complaints until February 7, 2019 (a continuance was granted by the court). NEC previously appealed the final decisions for each of these watersheds between 2014 and 2017, but the appeals were dismissed by IBLA due to lack of standing because

NEC could not show that they had been on the public lands in these watersheds. Cumulatively, the watershed decisions proposed 30,599 acres of non-commercial mechanical/prescribed fire treatments to reduce hazardous fuel loading and restore sagebrush steppe, aspen, and five-needle pine. In addition, the decisions include 3,787 acres of commercial timber sales (some which have already been sold) to improve forest health and resiliency and salvage dead and dying timber; more than 27 miles of riparian conifer treatment, along with other riparian enhancement projects; renewing/revising term grazing permits/leases for 104 allotments (which have been renewed); dozens of range improvement projects (many of which have been implemented); travel management revisions/corrections; and noxious and invasive weed treatments. (11/23/18)

ONGOING ITEMS

February 4. BLM-CO. The comment period for the Grand Junction Field Office Notice of Realty Action to convey 188.04 acres to the Grand Junction Regional Airport to accommodate a second runway ends on February 4, 2019. The conveyance is in conformance with the Grand Junction RMP. The Federal Register Notice was posted on December 21, 2018. (9/11/18) DTS 2411

February 7. BLM-NM. The OK, KS, TX Joint Resource Management Plan comment period will end on February 7, 2019. Public meetings previously scheduled to be held between January 14, 2019 and January 25, 2019 across the OKT planning area were cancelled. BLM-NM intends to reschedule at a later date.

February 11. BLM-AK. The comment period Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Draft EIS closes on February 11, 2019.

February 17. BLM-NV. The competitive bidding process for the Spring Mountain Raceway modified land sale ran from January 10 to January 17, 2019. Due to the availability of cost recovery funds, the BLM will be able to complete the land sale by February 17, 2019. A 30-day public scoping period for the planning initiative, and a 45-day public comment period on the proposed sale of public land opened July 30, 2018 and will close August 28, 2018, and September 12, 2018, respectively. If the RMP amendment is approved, two modified competitive sales for not less than the appraised fair market value are anticipated to take place. Approximately 68 of the 621 acres under consideration require cadastral survey. The BLM proposes to dispose of approximately 553 acres in phase one, and the remaining 68 acres in phase two after the survey is completed.

February 19. BLM-UT. BLM –UT will respond to any oil and gas protests by February 19 to meet the 60 days requirement from the December 18, 2018 lease sale as well as sign the Decision Record/FONSI to allow the leases to be issued.

Mid-February. BLM-ID. The comment period for the Pocatello Field Office's Dairy Syncline Mine Project EIS will close on February 21, 2019.

Mid-February. BLM-OR. The Medford District will hold a timber sale auction in mid-February. The sales will be fully ready to offer at the next regularly scheduled timber sale auction. The sales include: Big Graves Salvage Sale (3.9 mmbf); Wild Bill Sale (549,000 bf); and Bear Creek Sale (949,000 bf). The Coos Bay District is also anticipating holding a timber sale auction in February. The two sales will be fully ready to offer at the next regularly scheduled timber sale auction: Churchyard (4.3 mmbf) and Beam Me Up (269,000 bf).

Early February. BLM-CO will initiate a 15-day public scoping period for the New Elk Coal Lease by application. The New Elk Coal Company, LLC applied for a coal lease of 1,279 acres of split-estate Federal coal that holds approximately 11 million tons of coal in place located in Las Animas County, adjacent to their New Elk Coal Mine. The active mine is an underground room and pillar coal mine. The lease is in a historical coal production area. (12/7/18)

January – March. BLM-ID. The Twin Falls District Fuels and Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation programs conducted regular winter fire rehabilitation, fuel break and hazardous fuels reduction projects in the Burley, Jarbidge, and Shoshone Field Office areas. BLM will implement aerial seeding treatments over 79,700 acres. Fiscal Year 2019 funding is tied to these programs. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-CA requested a Departmental Review Team regarding a Supplemental EIS that evaluates a proposal to expand and modernize the U.S. Gypsum Company (USG) mine and plant in Imperial County. USG's proposed mine expansion / modernization project is subject to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' 404 permit process. The Corps is the cooperating agency in the Supplemental EIS. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office will publish in the Federal Register (pending Washington Office approval) a Notice of Realty Action to convey approximately 43.09 acres of public land to the Town of Lake City under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. The land is about one mile south of Lake City. The Lake City Ski Hill community ski area would continue to operate under the conveyance. The package has been with SIO-REGS since December 6, 2018. (4/24/18) DTS 2329

Early February. BLM-OR/WA. Lakeview District has finalized the Environmental Impact Statement and the Record of Decision for the Tucker Hill Perlite Mine Expansion and will brief the State Director soon. The Lake County Commission supports the proposed mine expansion due to economic benefits to the county. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-CO. The Colorado River Valley Field Office will release the final Environmental Assessment (EA) for managing the Sutey and Haines parcels, which were acquired in March 2017 through the Sutey Ranch Land Exchange. Because the management plan will amend the Field Office's Resource Management Plan, the announcement begins a 30-day protest period and 60-day Governor's consistency review. The Field Office held a public scoping period and meeting over the summer, as well as a comment period and public meeting on the draft EA this fall. More than 200 comments were received during each public

comment period. Management of the 557-acre Sutey Ranch parcel will focus on protecting wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities. (11/30/18)

Early February. BLM-CO. The Uncompahgre Field Office plans to announce a 30-day scoping period for a proposal to fence the Adobe Badlands Wilderness Study Area (WSA) boundary. The WSA is adjacent to an off-highway vehicle (OHV) open riding area and the BLM has observed impacts from riders on the WSA's Colorado hookless cactus habitat, a federally-listed threatened species. To ensure riders continue to enjoy OHV use in the adjacent area and to protect the hookless cactus habitat, BLM proposes building a fence to help identify the WSA boundary. It will also help the BLM remain in compliance with no mechanized or motorized use in the WSA. The BLM is in regular coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on this proposal, and will coordinate with the County before scoping begins.. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-ID. The Shoshone Field Office plans to issue a right of way grant for the Idaho Water Resources Board (IWRB) to construct and operate aquifer recharge projects along the Northside Canal in Jerome County. These projects will support IWRB's mandate to develop and operate a long-term Managed Groundwater Recharge Program and achieve the goal of recharging an average 250,000 acre-feet per year of groundwater in the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer.. (12/14/18)

Early February. BLM-ID. The Challis Field Office will conduct media outreach to announce the issuance of patents to the cities of Challis and Clayton and Custer County as required by the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and Jerry Peak Wilderness Additions Act enacted on Aug. 7, 2015. The Act instructs the BLM to convey nine parcels of public land to these locations for various public purposes. (12/14/18)

Early February. BLM-ID. The Burley Field Office plans to issue three right-of-way grants: one for Raft River Highway District to pave 1.6 miles of the existing Idahome Road north of Malta; a second for Raft River Rural Electric to realign approximately one mile of existing power line southeast of Almo; and a third for ATC Communications to construct and maintain a 1.3-mile fiber optic line supporting existing communication sites east of Burley. (12/14/18)

Early February. BLM-ID. The Burley Field Office will issue a categorical exclusion decision on a Notice of Geophysical Exploration submitted by Walker Ranch LLC. The proposed project will consist of pedestrian surveys within existing geothermal leases to measure the spontaneous potential of the Raft River Geothermal Resource Area near Malta. (12/14/18)

Early February. BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District will publish the Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed expansion of the Coeur Rochester and Packard Mines. The silver mine currently employs about 302 people and is approximately 26 miles northeast of Lovelock, in Pershing County, Nev. (12/14/18)

Early February. BLM-MT/DK has informed the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation that transfer of the final selected lands totaling 5,816.63 acres to fulfill the long-standing entitlement made by Congress when Montana became a State in 1889 will not be completed before the end of 2018 due to the delay in publication of the classification notice in the Federal Register. Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Director John Tubbs and Montana State Land Board members expressed concern and disappointment in the delay, and believe it will impact the State's ability to offer grazing leases as planned in January 2019, which would result in impacts to revenue collection from these grazing leases. The package has been with SIO REGS since Aug. 13, 2018. The State Land Board accepted the lands, contingent on publication of the notice and final classification, on Sep. 17, 2018. (11/23/18) DTS 2211

Early February. BLM-CA. The Barstow Field Office anticipates publishing an Environmental Assessment for the Kern River Gas Transmission Company Pesticide Use Proposal project. This project proposes the use of pre-and post-emergent herbicides at fenced pump stations and use of herbicide treatments on weed species within the Kern River Gas right-of-way.

Early February. BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District will have the Notice of Intent Briefing for the DOI Review Team to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed expansion of the Coeur Rochester Mine. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District will brief the DOI Review Team on the Hycroft Mine Draft EIS Notice of Availability. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-NV. The Battle Mountain District will brief the Review Team on the Mount Hope Project Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). (11/9/18)

Late February. BLM-NV. The Humboldt River Field Office will publish the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Marigold Mine Mackay Optimization Project. Numerous groups have expressed concern with this project especially related to the potential impacts to surface and groundwater. (11/2/18)

In February. BLM-NM. The Oklahoma Field Office cancelled a public hearing originally scheduled for January 7, 2019, for the Draft Environmental Assessment for a Lease by Application (LBA) in Haskell County, Okla. We are working to determine options for rescheduling. Evans Coal Company submitted an LBA for federal coal reserves underlying 1,270.85 acres of privately-owned surface lands. Evans estimates that the proposed lease area contains nearly 3.28 million tons of recoverable coal. This may be controversial because it is coal-related and the tract lies beneath a lake used for recreation by a private club. (8/17/18) DTS 229

Early February. BLM-OR/WA. Lakeview District plans to sign the Coyote Colvin Grazing Permit Renewal Environmental Analysis, allowing an "Outcome Based Grazing Authorization". This EA involves six allotments, five of which are included in the Outcome Based Grazing program. The proposal is to expand the season of use and allow for more

flexibility in pasture rotation. The number of AUMs (9,136) would remain the same. There is a cooperative relationship with the permittee and no controversy with NGOs at this time. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-CO. The Colorado River Valley Field Office expects to complete its 30-day review of a major plan of operation modification proposal it received from RMR Aggregates, Inc., which operates a limestone quarry adjacent to Glenwood Springs. The proposed expansion includes more than 300 acres of disturbance and over 250 truck trips per day (currently around 20 acres and 20 trips per day). The proposal addresses non-compliance issues the company inherited when it purchased the quarry in 2016. Because of its visibility from Glenwood Springs, the project is highly controversial. Both the City and Garfield County have expressed concerns regarding socioeconomic and transportation impacts. (11/30/18)

Early February. BLM-WY. The Worland Field Office plans to release an environmental assessment analyzing an update to the Fifteenmile Wild Horse Herd Management Area (HMA) Plan, and gathers needed to implement the plan, for a 30-day public comment period. About half of the HMA is Greater Sage Grouse priority habitat. Due to the inherent controversy associated with wild horse management, there may be public and media interest in this comment period. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-OR/WA. The Coos Bay District plans to issue decisions and sale notices for three upcoming timber sales The timber will be sold at an oral auction on Jan. 25, 2018. The sale is expected to yield 269,000 board feet. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-WY. The Rock Springs Field Office will release the North Dutch John Well #1 EA, FONSI and Decision Record. The proponent requested a hold on this analysis for several years to modify the proposal, but is now prepared to move forward. Public interest in the pending decision likely will be high because the proposed well is located in the Greater Little Mountain Area, a popular hunting and fishing destination. The proposed action includes drilling a single well, constructing a well pad, upgrading a two-track road and building an access road. The proponent has committed to several mitigation measures including moving the well pad location, applying timing restrictions for crucial mule deer winter range, installing erosion control devices, burying associated pipelines and managing weeds. The BLM determined impacts to the area would be minimal due to these measures. (10/23/18)

Early February. BLM-OR/WA. The Lakeview District anticipates finalizing the Response to Comments regarding a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact analyzing the potential effects of a wild horse gather and fertility control plan for the Beaty Butte Herd Management Area. This is separate from the Warm Springs Herd Management Area gather and fertility control plan, which is currently in litigation. Two alternatives within this EA would allow BLM to gather horses below maximum AML and will likely be controversial if selected. The decision is expected to be signed by early February 2019 and a gather scheduled in fall 2019.(12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-CO. The Tres Rios Field Office will initiate public scoping for GCC Energy LLC's proposed King II Coal Mine Lease by Application (LBA). The proposed LBA includes approximately 3,200 acres north of the existing King II Coal Mine. The LBA would extend mine life for 5-7 years and use existing surface facilities and transportation routes. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement is the joint lead on the EA. (10/26/18)

Early February. BLM-ES anticipates publishing in the Federal Register a Public Land Order for the U.S. Coast Guard's relinquishment of Lot 22 of the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (ONA) in Florida. (4/11/18)

In February. BLM-NV. The Mount Lewis Field Office will issue the Record of Decision for the 3 Bars Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration Project—a programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) proposing to treat up to 127,000 acres of sagebrush steppe, riparian habitat, pinyon juniper woodland, and aspen groves within a 749,810-acre area in part of the Field Office. (8/24/18)

Early February. BLM-AK. The Eastern Interior Field Office will consult with the Tribal Governments of Chalkyitsik and the Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in (Fort Yukon). One meeting will likely occur in Fort Yukon while a second may be scheduled for Chalkyitsik. The consultation will fulfill the Tribes' request, made during consultation in 2018, that the BLM afford them an opportunity to share their priorities for implementation of the Eastern Interior Resource Management Plan. (10/26/18)

In February. BLM-NM. The Oklahoma Field Office plans to publish a Notice of Availability announcing the release of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for public comment regarding the Liberty 8 competitive coal lease. The lease sale consists of 460 acres to be mined by surface and/or underground techniques. The scoping period on the EA closed on Sep. 8. (8/17/18)

In February. BLM-CO. The Royal Gorge Field Office plans to issue a final decision for the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area (AHRA) Management Plan. The Arkansas River is the most commercially rafted river in the United States and is a major economic driver for the region. The BLM manages the AHRA in partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, which is also a signatory on the plan. The plan addresses river allocation, recreation facility development, and resource management along the entire 152-mile stretch. (8/17/18)

In February. BLM-CO. BLM CO will close on the purchase of Eagle County Open Space's 16.98-acre Two Bridges site along the Upper Colorado River in the Colorado River Valley Field Office for $500,000 through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The appraised fair market value of the Two Bridges site is $850,000. This acquisition supports perpetual river access throughout the Upper Colorado River Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) for fishing and other water-related recreation. The SRMA is heavily used throughout the year. Two Bridges is about four miles downriver from the State Bridge site. (10/9/18)

In February. BLM-NM. The Las Cruces District Office plans to publish the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Copper Flat Copper Mining Project. The New Mexico Copper Corporation submitted a proposed mining plan of operations (MPO) that would re-establish the Copper Flat Copper Mine, a poly-metallic mine and processing facility near Hillsboro, N.M., that would produce copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum. If approved, the project is expected to provide 170-270 jobs over the mine's 12-to-16-year life. (5/25/18)

In February. BLM-CO is preparing a Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Transfer of Jurisdiction of two isolated BLM-managed parcels totaling 120 acres in Mesa County to the National Park Service's Colorado National Monument which are not contiguous with other BLM lands. The Colorado National Monument's 2005 General Management Plan identified the two parcels as important for improving public access to popular trailheads. The notice would segregate the lands from location and entry under the mining laws for two years while studies are completed to recommend a 50-year withdrawal and transfer of jurisdiction. The segregation would not close the lands to mineral leasing or mineral material laws. BLM-CO is planning for a Feb. 2019 publication in the Federal Register (pending WO and DOI approval). (7/20/18)

In February. BLM-NM. The Socorro Field Office plans to publish the Notice of Availability for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Borderlands Wind Project (BLWP). (8/31/18)

In February. BLM-NV. The Black Rock Field Office will publish the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Hycroft Mine Expansion Phase II. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will issue a decision on an eagle incidental take permit based on analysis in the EIS. (8/24/18)

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

UPDATED ITEMS

BOEM continues to review its FY 2019 Contingency Plan and prepare options for ASLM pertaining to use of existing appropriated carryover funds.

Preparation of the decision documents for the Proposed National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program and draft PEIS continues. Once published, a 90-day public comment period with public meetings are expected to begin.

ONGOING ITEMS

BOEM has prepared multiple Calls for Information and Nominations (Calls) for lease sales proposed for 2019 and 2020 in the 2019-2024 Draft Proposed Program. The Mid-Atlantic Call (DTS #2257), the South Atlantic Call (DTS #2258), the Southern California Call (DTS #2388), and the Chukchi Sea Call (DTS #2385) are currently being held pending direction on the National OCS Program. (9/21/18)

Work continues on preparation of the Final Notice of Sale for Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 252, which must publish by February 15 for the Sale to be held as scheduled, and the Proposed Notice of Sale for Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 253 . Both Notices are with ASLM for surnaming.

Once appropriations are restored for the Department, BOEM expects to submit the Final Rule updating its air quality regulations related to oil, gas, and sulfur operations on the OCS to OMB for interagency review. A narrative describing the reduction to costs as compared to the proposed rule (Reduction to Costs Narrative) and the rule text are currently with the Department for review. (8/2/18, DTS #2280 (Rule), DTS #2454 (Reduction to Costs Narrative))

Once appropriations are restored for the Department, BOEM expects to publish a Request for Competitive Interest for an area proposed to be used for a right-of-way (ROW) project from Anbaric Development Partners (ADP). The application is for the New York and New Jersey Ocean Grid, an HVDC submarine system approximately 185NM (213 statute miles) in length with up to nine offshore AC to DC collector/converter platforms, which would collect and distribute power generated from existing offshore wind leases to up to six terrestrial landings at locations from Long Island, New York to Cardiff, New Jersey. The notice is in surnaming with the Department. (10/15/18, DTS #2208)

Once appropriations are restored for the Department, BOEM expects to publish a Request for Competitive Interest for an area proposed to be used for a right-of-way (ROW) project called Atlantic Link. Clean Power Northeast Development, Inc. filed an application on May 31, 2017 (revised August 22, and September 26), for a ROW grant in support of a proposed project connecting onshore wind and hydro power in Canada to the Massachusetts market via a 350 mile HVDC submarine cable traversing the OCS. The notice is in surnaming with the Department. (DTS #1773)

On January 18, 2019, the U.S. District Court for South Carolina issued an injunction enjoining "Federal Defendants, BOEM, and any other federal agency or entity from taking action to promulgate permits, otherwise approve, or take any other official action regarding the pending permit applications for oil and gas surveys in the Atlantic" until after appropriations are restored and the court rules on certain motions. BOEM has ceased preparatory work on the permit applications while Interior is consulting with DOJ about seeking clarification of the court's order.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

ONGOING ITEMS

Well Control Rule- The rule was surnamed by the Deputy Secretary, the Associate Deputy Secretary, and the ASLM on **December 11.** The rule was surnamed by the Deputy Chief of Staff for the Secretary and submitted to Exec Sec on **December 12**. Exec Sec informed us that they submitted the rule to OMB on **December 12.** OMB officially "accepted" the rule to formally start the E.O. 12866 review "clock" on **December 13**. OMB requested an E.O.

12866 inter-agency briefing on the rule for **December 20**, in which the BSEE Director and SMEs presented and discussed items with OMB staff. OMB remains on the clock. WCR was identified as a top priority for BSEE's 15 day list. Upon receipt of comments from OMB, we will gather the appropriate BSEE team to respond. BSEE is still pursuing a late February publication in the Federal Register dependent upon OMB's comments.

Arctic Rule – BSEE will finish Tribal Consultation upon the end of the government shutdown. Next steps will be to begin drafting the rule.

- § As of 1/16/19, BSEE completed 88% of the municipalities meetings (7 of 8).
- § As of 1/16/19, BSEE completed 75% of the ANCSA Corporations meetings (6 of 8)

Reg. Reform 2.0- BSEE Director engaged a variety of BSEE personnel and through this process identified 13 regulatory actions fitting this description. The BSEE Director recently requested input from 20 senior managers on their ranking of importance. Despite the variations in the rankings on the individual "ballots," there was a general consensus around the top four rankings. Those top four recommended priority rulemakings for the first half of 2019 are:

- · **Pipelines and Pipeline Rights-of-Way** (30 CPR Part 250 - Subpart J);
- · **Decommissioning Activities** (30 CPR Part 250 - Subpart Q);
- · **Incorporation of Industry Standards** (30 CPR 250.198);
- · **Suspension of Operations {SOO)/Suspension of Production {SOP)** (30 CFR Part 250 - Subpart A)

Risk Based Inspection – BSEE Office of Safety Management (OSM) trained inspectors (**December 19 and 20**) for the upcoming Performance Based Risk Inspection (PBRI) on Well Operation Hazards, and the inspection took place the week of **January 7**. Additionally, OSM has concluded their evaluation on which deep-water facility will be subject to the next Facility Based Risk Inspection (FBRI) in late January 2019.
BEST Available and Safety Technology (BAST) - On December 4, the BSEE Director requested input from the industry on the "production equipment" components that should be subject to BAST, which is expected by mid-February.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

ONGOING ITEMS

Notice of Intent to File Suit: On or about December 7, 2018, the Secretary and the OSMRE Regional Director, Western Region, received a Notice of Intent to File Suit over alleged violations of the Endangered Species Act in approving Signal Peak Energy LLC's (Signal Peak) lease at the Bull Mountains Mine from the Montana Environmental Information Center, the Sierra Club, WildEarth Guardians, and 350 Montana conservation groups. These conservation groups state that OSMRE did not assess whether the project would impact grizzly bears and numerous other species that may be impacted by coal train shipments from the mine to the coal export terminal in British Columbia that is the primary destination of the coal. SMCRA allows OSMRE 60 days to respond to the NOI before an action can be filed, which would be in early February. (12/11/2018)

OSMRE AML Emergency Reclamation Projects: OSMRE staff has been designated as "excepted" and called back from furlough to respond to Abandoned Mine Land Emergency activities. OSMRE staff working with the designated State AML programs must review the incident, declare an emergency and provide an Authorization to proceed with the reclamation using AML grant funding. More information regarding the sites is available upon request.

Citizen's Complaint Filed: On January 11, 2019, the Trustees for Alaska filed a citizen complaint (with ten exhibits) alleging the surface coal mining operations of Usibelli Coal Mining, Inc. at Wishbone Hill, are being conducted without a valid permit in violation of the Alaska Surface Coal Mining Control and Reclamation Act. They also allege that the State of Alaska has failed to administer its program in compliance with federal requirements regarding the company's failure to initiate mining operations within three years of the permit issuance, as required by Federal law and the State's regulatory program.

River Hurricane Mine, Pike County, KY: The impoundment of water within the underground mine works of the River Hurricane Mine in Pike County, KY presents the potential for a blowout which would impact the safety of residents in the Grapevine, KY community as well as the surrounding environment including the waters of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers' Fishtrap Lake. The Lexington Field Office, Office of the Solicitor, Applicant Violator System Office and AR's Technical Assistance Division took immediate action to assess and monitor the mine pool and engage relevant regulatory authorities, responsible parties and local emergency management officials to address the situation. United and its successor companies have denied ongoing responsibility over the site. A current permittee High Ridge Mining, LLC, with operations covering portions of the mine pool area, was issued an Imminent Danger Cessation Order by the KY Department of Natural Resources and ordered to begin dewatering and monitoring of the mine. While not accepting responsibility for the site, on January 6, 2019, High Ridge has re-established the blocked mine drain system and has begun to dewater the mine. As of January 10, 2019, the mine pool level dropped below the "Stand By Alert" stage to the "Intensified Monitoring and Reassessment of Stability" stage. OSMRE staff are continuing to assist KYDNR staff in monitoring and assessing the site.

Rosebud Mine (MT): The OSMRE Western Region jointly prepared an EIS with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. The EIS will be used to support a recommendation on the mining plan for Area F of the Rosebud Mine. OSMRE obtained Departmental Clearance to publish the Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Final EIS in the *Federal Register*. The NOA was published in the *Federal Register* on Friday, November 30, 2018. OSMRE is awaiting revised permit findings information from the State of Montana, prior to finalizing the Record of Decision (ROD).

Illinois' Diversion of Abandoned Mined Land (AML) Funds: OSMRE was informed by Illinois program officials that the enactment of a new state law, Public Act 100-1107, authorizes the State Treasurer to divert monies from various trust funds for utilization and investment by the State. As we were informed and have confirmed, sometime during the month of October, the State of Illinois "statutorily transferred" $50 million out of the State's

AML "Set-Aside" fund. OSMRE staff prepared a draft letter for the Acting Director's signature to Illinois Governor Rauner seeking the immediate return of the funds to their appropriate account. The SOL reviewed the draft letter and provided comment to OSMRE. OSMRE will finalize and send letter to the State. (11/27/2018)

Section 7 Consultation: OSMRE sent the IMCC the final draft Biological Assessment (BA) and BA references, and the final draft MOU, as well as responses to the IMCC's comments on the earlier draft, following the Assistant Secretary's signing of the transmittal letter to the IMCC on October 16, 2018. The IMCC's time for providing comments has been extended. (10/18/2018)

Justice Companies' Bevins Branch Mine: On January 3, 2019, a follow up site visit was conducted by OSMRE as an "excepted" activity. While Imminent Danger conditions remain, the Permittee has begun initial steps to divert drainage away from Bear Fork watershed into adjacent watersheds, but has not restored the affected area back to permitted and/or pre-mining conditions. OSMRE will continue to monitor this permit to ensure all abatement measures required are met while the permanent plan is established.

Mason Coal (KY): The Kentucky Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement (KYDMR) informed OSMRE that on or about October 25, 2018, it became aware that Mason Coal was operating an underground coal mine and surface facility without a valid mining permit. OSMRE, pursuant to 30 CFR 843.11(a)(2), issued a Federal Imminent Harm Cessation Order (IHCO) to Mason on November 1, compelling the company to cease coal mining operations. OSMRE and Mason signed a Settlement Agreement (SA) with Mason agreeing not to oppose Mason's request for temporary relief from the IHCO, under the terms of the SA. In November 2018, an ALJ with the Office of Hearings and Appeals granted Mason's request for temporary relief pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Settlement Agreement. Mason has applied to Kentucky to obtain the necessary mining permit for the operation and the permitting process is ongoing.
(11/2/2018)

Pollyanna #8 (OK): On July 10, 2018, OSMRE received approval from BLM of the Resource Recovery and Protection Plan and the coal lease modification for the Pollyanna #8 mine. OSMRE initiated the public review period on the draft EA and unsigned FONSI on November 20, 2018. The public comment period closed on December 20, 2018. Limited comments were received, Mid-Continent Region will work to finalize the MPDD once furloughed staff returns to active duty from the government shutdown. (11/27/18)

Notice of Intent to File Suit: On or about September 7, 2018, the Secretary and the Acting Director received a Notice of Intent to File Suit over an alleged failure to perform an alleged mandatory duty under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act from the WildEarth Guardians (WEG). WEG alleges that the agency failed to "promptly promulgate regulations to limit toxic blasting emissions at coal mines after granting a petition for rulemaking." SMCRA allows OSMRE 60 days to respond to the NOI before an action can be filed. The Solicitor's Office advised OSMRE on its options in response to the NOI. OSMRE sent a response letter to WEG on November 6, 2018, indicating that OSMRE would publish its

decision in the *Federal Register* within 90 days, on or before February 4, 2019. OSMRE was on track to meet this deadline before the furlough. (10/18/2018)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLICY, MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Susan Combs, Senior Adviser to the Secretary exercising the authority of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, will be in the office.

Scott Cameron, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, will be in the office.

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

No significant external meetings, travel, or Congressional hearings involving PMB are anticipated.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

PMB is revising its furlough plan to bring back as exempt additional currently furloughed or excepted employees whose jobs involve priority activities.

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Policy and Environmental Management (DAS PEM)

PPA continues to lead a review of the future external-facing role of IBC in cooperation with IBC, PAM, PFM, SOL, and BIO internally, and external partners OMB, GSA, and Treasury.

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

OMB issued guidance to facilitate the payment of contract invoices during the lapse in appropriations. The Business Integration Office is implementing plans to process an increased number of invoices submitted to FBMS. PAM is providing guidance to the bureaus on how to address the OMB guidance.

The Office of Budget is analyzing information from bureaus and offices that was due Friday, January 25 on recurring major discretionary or mandatory funding disbursements (payments or awards) which would normally occur. This information will be used to anticipate and address concerns regarding upcoming standard payments and awards.

The Office of Budget is analyzing information from bureaus and offices to respond to a request from the White House to provide a list by January 25 of programs where funds will run out between now and April 16.

The Office of Budget will issue biweekly data call to bureaus and offices to capture pay period costs and the burn rates of unobligated balances. The next report will include costs for the pay period ending January 19th, which are posted on January 30.

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services (DAS PRE)

A hiring plan will be prepared to allow recruitment of fire season workers, including staffing by HR specialists and bureau fire managers.

An internal training plan will be developed to provide critical training to OAS inspectors, mechanics and pilots which has been cancelled as a result of the shutdown.

OWF is exploring the possibility of accelerating the obligation of available fuels treatment and burned area rehabilitation funds to put currently furloughed bureau employees to work.

OEM is preparing plans to respond to COOP requirements in the event the State of the Union address takes place on the 29th. Additional information will be known on January 25th.

8-30 Day Outlook

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

We are awaiting direction from OMB on a new release date for the President's FY 2020 budget, which will in turn determine deadlines for bureau and office budget justification development.

Work continues on the GrantSolutions migration, with a cost estimate expected from HHS on or about February 15, 2019.

Review of draft deliverables from Grant Thornton LLP contract on procurement shared services is continuing.

Chief Information Officer (CIO)

NEW ITEMS

The Department is responding to the directive of January 22, DHS's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Director Christopher Krebs on Emergency Directive 19-01: Mitigate DNS Infrastructure Tampering. The Directive requires all agencies to mitigate risks from undiscovered tampering, enable agencies to prevent illegitimate DNS activity for their domains, and detect unauthorized certificates. The deadline for response is February 5, 2019.

OWF is preparing a contingency plan and risk analysis to assess the implications for the fire program if the government shutdown continues until March 1, April 1, or May 1.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR WATER AND SCIENCE

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary Tim Petty will be in the office.

Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman is scheduled to be in Washington, D.C.

USGS Director Reilly will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

Central Utah Project Completion Act Office

Utah Lake System South Fields Reach Environmental Assessment: The Central Utah Water Conservancy District (CUWCD), Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, and the Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA) Office, as Joint Lead Agencies, are evaluating realignment of a portion of the South Fields Reach of the Spanish Fork – Santaquin Pipeline, which is part of the Utah Lake Drainage Basin System (ULS) of the Central Utah Project. The Spanish Fork – Santaquin Pipeline was initially evaluated in an Environmental Impact Statement completed in 2004. Scoping for NEPA compliance of the realignment has been initiated, comments received, and a preferred alignment identified. The Joint Lead Agencies are moving forward in preparing a Draft Environmental Assessment to evaluate potential impacts associated with the realignment alternatives. (1/23/2019)

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Between January 27 and February 8, Reclamation plans to announce the funding opportunity for the Fiscal Year 2019 Water and Energy Efficiency Program. Water and energy efficiency grants focus on projects that conserve and use water more efficiently. A news release will be issued. (01/09/2019)

Between January 27 and February 8, Reclamation plans to announce the funding opportunity for the Fiscal Year 2019 Drought Response Program. The Drought Response Program supports a proactive approach to drought by aiding water managers to develop and update comprehensive drought plans and implement projects that will build long-term resiliency to drought. A news release will be issued. (12/03/2018)

Between January 27 and February 8, Reclamation plans to announce the funding opportunity for WaterSMART's Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects. Through this program, Reclamation provides 50/50 cost-share funding to irrigation and water districts, tribes, states

and other entities for small water efficiency improvements that have been identified through previous planning efforts. A news release will be issued. (12/03/2018)

Between January 28 and February 8, Reclamation plans to post the Klamath River Basin Study to its website. Reclamation partnered with the State of California Department of Water Resources and State of Oregon Water Resources Department to conduct the study. The study area encompasses 12,100 square miles along the boundary of California and Oregon. No news release will be issued but talking points will be developed to respond to questions. (12/17/2018)

On January 28, Reclamation plans to issue a contract to Precision Surveys Inc. for professional surveying services throughout the Upper Colorado Region. The contract will be an Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity for up to five years with a cost ceiling of $24.5 million. Reclamation anticipates most work activities will be performed in central south Colorado, New Mexico, and northwest Texas with most of the work being performed along the Rio Grande corridor. (12/17/2018)

During the week of January 28, Reclamation is planning to release a Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the Funding of Routine Operation, Maintenance, and Replacement of Associated Water Transmission Facilities of the Mni Wiconi Rural Water Supply Project, South Dakota. The comment period ended January 11, 2019 – no significant comments were received. (11/26/2018)

Between January 28 and February 1, Reclamation will post a web story announcing the funding of 14 additional science and technology projects that Reclamation will be studying this fiscal year. These are in addition to the selection of 49 projects Reclamation announced in October. (12/17/2018)

Between January 28 and February 8, Reclamation will announce the winners of the year-long sub-seasonal climate forecast rodeo prize competition. This forecasting prize competition had solvers submit forecasts of temperature and precipitation for one year, competing in real-time against other teams as well as forecasts from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA was a partner with Reclamation on this project. (12/03/2018)

On January 29, Reclamation has been invited to present its invasive mussel research activities at the 79th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Cleveland, Ohio. This annual event will attract nearly 800 biologists, students, and scientists from local, state and provincial, federal, and tribal natural resources agencies, universities, and private companies across the 12 Midwestern states and Canadian provinces. (12/03/2018)

Around January 30, Reclamation is planning to publish the Green River Block Water Exchange Contract Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact. The contract is between Reclamation and the State of Utah along the Green River between Flaming Gorge and Lake Powell (Eastern Utah and Northwest Colorado). The Final

EA will reflect the comments made during the 50-day comment period in a matrix that will be published as an appendix. (12/31/2018)

On January 28, Reclamation will host a meeting with the Friant Division Contractors at its Fresno, California, office. The meeting is expected to cover revisions to the Friant Operational Guidelines. The operational guidelines are written to establish procedures guiding water supply management of the Friant Division, Central Valley Project, California. No media interest is expected. (01/22/2019)

On January 28, Reclamation plans to distribute a news release announcing light construction on the dikes at Folsom Dam and Reservoir (California) under the Safety of Dams program. Weather permitting, construction is scheduled to begin the week of January 28. The area is highly trafficked with a large bike trail, but no major traffic delays are expected. Media or local attention may occur. (01/22/2019)

On January 30, Reclamation will host a meeting with the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD) at the Fresno, California, office. The meeting is expected to cover a review of the fish surcharge and flood operation tools that Stetson Engineers developed for the County of Santa Barbara and the SYRWCD. Tabletop exercises involving historical storm events are planned. No media interest is expected. (01/22/2019)

On January 31, Reclamation plans to issue a request for input by the Governors of the seven Colorado River Basin States and others, regarding recommendations for potential Departmental actions in the event that Drought Contingency Plans cannot be completed and promptly adopted. This request will be issued in the event the seven Colorado River Basin states have not completed and approved the Drought Contingency Plans by that time. Significant media interest is expected. (01/22/2019)

On January 31, the Biological Assessment on the Reinitiation of Consultation on the Coordinated Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project in California is expected to be provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service to initiate the consultation process under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Reclamation is contemplating a news release. The document will be posted on Reclamation website. (01/08/2019)

On or about January 31, Reclamation plans to sign the Cottonwood Creek Daylighting Project Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The Final EA and FONSI are for a WaterSMART grant to restore this portion of Cottonwood Creek to its natural condition. The creek, located in downtown Boise, Idaho, currently flows through a culvert. A news release may be issued early February. (1/11/2019).

In January, Reclamation plans to close Road 12 (Washington) located in a topographical low spot to install a metal swing gate for public safety. The new gate will not require a cultural survey and is noncontroversial. Reclamation and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife are working together on the project. A legal notice and press release are currently being developed. (12/06/2018)

U.S. Geological Survey

Shutdown Status: To the extent possible, USGS is calling staff back to support projects that we can identify as critical to safety and preservation of lives and property. We are evaluating every project for potential losses of critical science and, where possible, bringing personnel in to support those efforts. We are also assessing where we might find the funding to bring back some staff on an exempt basis. Our 2018 Appropriated carryover is limited, and we are assessing fund availability and reprogramming flexibility to cover resources within a program. We also will be activating employees to work on all signed reimbursable activities and have requested that we reach out to those customers to confirm the agreements are still in effect.

The Water Mission Area is maintaining executive coordination pertaining to network monitoring systems and working in coordination with other Federal agencies in case of a natural disaster (flood). Primary focus is on the streamgage monitoring network. To date approximately 400 sites have been serviced or repaired to ensure our partners have the information needed to help protect lives and property.

We are continuing to monitor and report on domestic and global earthquakes through the 24X7 National Earthquake Information Center (NEIC) in Colorado. Staff at USGS volcano observatories are continuing to provide basic monitoring of potential eruptive activity at US volcanoes.

The USGS is maintaining servers for the ShakeAlert West Coast earthquake early warning system as well as continuing to approve and monitor pilot projects for the ShakeAlert system and to work to permit and install seismic stations for earthquake early warning funded by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

The USGS has called staff back as needed to update debris flow hazard thresholds for burned areas of California where the National Weather Service (NWS) needs refined rainfall thresholds to forecast and communicate the potential magnitude of post-wildfire debris flows based on rainfall projections. This is the rainy season in California, and following the severe fires experienced this past summer and fall, the rainfall threshold information is critical for debris-flow early warning. NWS is counting on USGS to provide this information to help protect lives and property. (1/23/2019)

8-30 Day Outlook

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

NEW ITEMS

Between February 4 and 8, Reclamation plans to release inflow forecasts for Wyoming Area Office Bighorn Basin Reservoirs and will prepare a joint news release with Montana Area Office to address forecasted inflow to Bull Lake, Boysen Reservoir, Buffalo Bill Dam, and

Bighorn Reservoirs, all of which are in Wyoming. Inflow forecasts will also be prepared for the North Platte Basin reservoirs, also located in Wyoming. Inflow forecasts will be updated monthly and corresponding joint news releases will be issued near the beginning of the months of February through June. (1/21/2019)

UPDATED ITEMS

In early February, Reclamation plans to issue a news release inviting a two-week public review and comment period on a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) titled *Implementation of Short Term Klamath Project Interim Operating Procedures in Siskiyou and Modoc Counties, California and Klamath County, Oregon.* The EA will evaluate the proposed operations for the Klamath Project as described in the 2018 Biological Assessment released in December 2018. This effort is part of the accelerated Klamath Reinitation of Consultation process that is expected to culminate in joint Biological Opinions from the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service at the end of March 2018. Media interest is expected. (01/14/2019)

On February 12-13, Alan Mikkelsen, the Senior Advisor to the Secretary, may be in Medford, Oregon, to facilitate his "Coalition of the Willing" working toward a Klamath Basin-Wide agreement. This meeting is tentative, pending government shutdown termination. (01/14/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

In February, Reclamation will launch the Streamflow prize competition. This prize competition's goal is to significantly reduce the cost of continuous streamflow monitoring and increase the availability of streamflow data that are vital to the effective planning, design, and operation of water resource projects. Reclamation is partnering with the USGS on this competition. A news release will be issued. (12/03/2018)

On February 12-13, the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program Annual Reporting meeting is scheduled in Phoenix, Arizona, at the Arizona Department of Water Resources. This annual reporting meeting is held in accordance with the Long-Term Environmental and Management Plan Record of Decision to serve as an initial platform to discuss potential future experimental actions as well as a forum for presentations based on the previous research and monitoring. The annual reporting meeting is open to all interested stakeholders. (01/14/2019)

On February 14, the Glen Canyon Dam Technical Work Group meeting will be held at the Arizona Department of Water Resources in Phoenix, Arizona. Topics of discussion will include the Adaptive Management Program budget and workplan for fiscal year 2019, possible experiments at Glen Canyon Dam in 2019 including planning for future High-Flow Experiments, current basin hydrology, Long-Term Experimental and Management Plan Biological Opinion Conservation Measures, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plans for a Colorado Pikeminnow Reintroduction Feasibility study, Razorback Sucker five year review,

Tribal Monitoring Program presentation, and other administrative items as needed. The meeting is open to media and the public. (01/14/2019)

On February 20 through 22, the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum's Work Group will meet in Phoenix and Scottsdale, Arizona. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss ongoing and future salinity control activities with the federal agencies of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and United States Geological Survey of the Department of the Interior; and the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture. Meeting is open press. (01/07/2019)

In February, Reclamation expects to announce the projects selected to receive Fiscal Year 2018 Title XVI, Water Reclamation and Reuse funding. Reclamation provides funding through the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program for projects that reclaim and reuse municipal, industrial, domestic or agricultural wastewater and naturally impaired ground or surface waters. (09/10/2018)

In February, Reclamation plans to announce the Title XVI Authorized Projects Funding Opportunity Announcement for Fiscal Year 2019. Through the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program, Reclamation provides financial and technical assistance to local water agencies for the planning, design, and construction of water reclamation and reuse projects. A news release will be issued. (01/09/2019)

U.S. Geological Survey

Nothing to report due to the shutdown.

WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
JANUARY 27-FEBRUARY 2, 2019

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Acting Chief of Staff Todd Willens will be in the office.

Deputy Chief of Staff Katharine MacGregor will be excepted Tuesday January 29th, and in the office the rest of the week.

Senior Advisor Scott Hommel will be in the office.

Senior Advisor Heather Swift will be in the office.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Director John Bockmier will be in the office.

Deputy Director Russell Newell will be in the office.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

John Tanner, Director, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill

Aaron Thiele, Advisor, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill

Taylor Playforth, Advisor, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill.

OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Todd Wynn, Director, will be in the office all week.

Ben Cassidy, Senior Deputy Director, will be in the office all week.

Tim Williams, Deputy Director, will be in the office all week.

Jason Funes, Special Assistant, will be in the office all week.

Sarah Spaulding, Special Assistant will be in the office all week.

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week

The OIEA team is facilitating introductory meetings and phone calls between new and existing Governors and Acting Secretary David Bernhardt.

The OIEA team has developed an outreach and engagement plan and materials for newly elected officials for January and February in order to proactively reach out to other state elected officials.

The OIEA team has developed an outreach and engagement plan for connecting Acting Secretary David Bernhardt with our external partners over the next quarter.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Associate Deputy Secretary Jim Cason will be in the office.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Director Julie Lillie will be in the office
Deputy Director Justin Abernathy will be in the office
Correspondence specialist, Lisa Cannuscio will be in the office

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

- **DOI Priority Rules-**

○ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Final Rule, "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Prohibitions to Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Blanket Section 4(d) Rule" (RIN 1018-BC97)-The FWS is finalizing revisions to the regulations on prohibitions that apply to species that are listed as threatened species or downlisted from an endangered species to a threatened species. The final rule is with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 12866. Nothing new to report.

○ FWS Final Rule, "Conservation of Endangered and Threatened Species; Revision of Regulations to Address Interagency Cooperation" (RIN 1018-BC87) - The FWS is finalizing revisions to its regulations for interagency cooperation pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. The final rule is with the OMB for review pursuant to EO 12866.Nothing new to report.

○ FWS Final Rule, "Endangered and Threatened Species of Wildlife and Plants; Revision of the Regulations for Listing Species and Designating Critical Habitat" (RIN 1018-BC88) -

The FWS is finalizing revisions to its regulations for listing endangered and threatened species and for designating critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act. The final rule is with the OMB for review pursuant to EO 12866. Nothing new to report.

○ Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) Final Rule, "Oil and Gas Sulfur Operations on the Outer Continental Shelf - Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control Revisions" (RIN 1014-AA39) - The BSEE is finalizing revisions to the regulations for oil and gas drilling, workover, completion and decommissioning operations on the Outer Continental Shelf. The final rule is with the OMB for review pursuant to EO 12866.Nothing new to report.

○ The Department's proposed rule titled, "Freedom of Information Act Regulations," published on December 28th, 2018. Comments are due January 28, 2019. OES was asked to prepare a draft comment extension for this rule.

● **DOI Documents Pending Federal Register Publication-**

○ A notice reopening the comment period for 30 days for the West Coast Distinct Population Segment of fisher (Pekania pennanti) as a threatened species; and

○ The proposed rule on the Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities: Arctic Coastal Plain

● **Interagency Reviews Under E.O. 12866**—no action to report.

Correspondence:

No action to report.

FOIA:

The OS FOIA office is operating.

Litigation Awareness Reviews

3:18-cv-00797/ OS-2017-01308, Sierra Club (Ellen Richmond), Non-USG communications with IOS personnel

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Congressional Hearings, and Travel

Principal Deputy Solicitor Dan Jorjani is in the office.

LITIGATION MATTERS:

Parker Drilling Management Services, Ltd. v. Newton - Non-government Case
Last week, DOJ asked for SOL's quick assessment on whether the federal government should file an amicus brief in *Parker Drilling Management Services, Ltd. v. Newton.* The question in *Parker Drilling*, is whether, under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, state law is borrowed as the applicable federal law when there is a gap in the coverage of federal law, as the Fifth Circuit has held, or whenever state law pertains to the subject matter of a lawsuit and is not preempted by inconsistent federal law, as the Ninth Circuit has held. The law at issue in the case is California state wage law. SOL communicated to DOJ that while our understanding aligns with the well-established Fifth Circuit precedent, DOI typically does not involve itself in disputes that are generally among private parties and when DOI does become involved, we are most likely to focus on case-by-case issues rather than on the application of universal principles. Here, there does not seem to be a substantial threat that the potential applicability of state law as a more general matter would cause problems for DOI efforts to carry out its particular mandates (it is primarily relevant to private party relationships). SOL will send attorneys to meetings this week that OSG has scheduled to hear the parties' arguments for why the United States should file an amicus brief on their behalf. The meetings are scheduled for January 23 and 25. DOJ is asking whether Interior will submit a recommendation letter regarding whether DOJ should file an amicus brief in this case. SOL plans to use the information learned at the meetings this week to help determine whether Interior should prepare and send such a recommendation letter to DOJ.

Northern Alaska Environmental Center et al. v. Ryan Zinke et al.
On December 6, 2018, the U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska granted Summary Judgment in favor of DOI in this action brought by a coalition of environmental groups pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and the Administrative Procedure Act. The Plaintiffs alleged that the Bureau of Land Management violated NEPA by purportedly holding its December 2017 NPR-A oil and gas lease sale without first preparing an EIS or EA or otherwise conducting an adequate assessment of the impacts of the sale. Judge Gleason held that the plaintiffs failed to demonstrate that BLM was required to conduct an EIS or EA specifically for the 2017 NPR-A lease sale. In doing so the court determined that BLM's programmatic 2012 NPR-A Integrated Activity Plan/EIS was adequate to comply with NEPA for multiple lease sales, and that plaintiffs had not raised a failure to supplement argument. As a result of the court's decision, BLM's issuance of 7 leases covering 80,000 acres was upheld. This lawsuit is similar to one filed the same day (Feb. 2) by another coalition of environmental groups (*Natural Resources Defense Council et al. v. Ryan Zinke et al*.), in which DOI also received a favorable Summary Judgment decision on December 6th. The Plaintiffs have announced an intent to appeal.

Texas v. New Mexico, No. 141 Orig.
On January 9, 2019, Special Master Melloy granted the United States' unopposed motion to vacate dates for filing responses and replies for existing motions and to extend discovery deadlines until after the government receives funding.

Atlantic Seismic Permits Injunction
On January 18, 2019, the U.S. District Court for South Carolina issued an injunction under the All Writs Act enjoining "Federal Defendants, BOEM, and any other federal agency or entity from taking action to promulgate permits, otherwise approve, or take any other official action regarding the pending permit applications for oil and gas surveys in the Atlantic" until after appropriations are restored and the court rules on certain motions. The case involves South Carolina's request to intervene in a challenge to the National Marine Fisheries Service's issuance of incidental harassment authorizations for geological and geophysical (G&G) surveys off the Atlantic coast. BOEM has yet to issue its permits for these activities and is not currently a party to the case. The court's language, while ambiguous, could be read to prevent BOEM from even conducting preparatory work on the pending Atlantic G&G permit applications while the injunction is in effect. BOEM has ceased preparatory work on the permit applications, in accordance with the court order. Interior is consulting with the Justice Department about seeking clarification of the court's order.

NON-LITIGATION MATTERS:

Oil Spill Response Exercise Fatalities
On Wednesday January 16, a tragic series of events led to two fatalities on a crew boat conducting a spill response training and equipment exercise for an Oil Spill Response Organization (MSRC) on the Mississippi River. The exercise was designed to satisfy BSEE regulatory requirements for periodic equipment and personnel deployment, but was initiated, organized, and directed by MSRC (not BSEE-initiated). A Senior Preparedness Analyst from the BSEE Oil Spill Preparedness Division attended the exercise as an observer and witnessed the events. She has been interviewed by the New Orleans Port Authority and a US Coast Guard investigator, and is preparing a written statement in consultation with the Office of the Solicitor.

BOR-Drought Contingency Plan
This week the Arizona legislature introduced a joint resolution authorizing the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to sign off on a Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan (LBDCP), as well as six companion bills regarding the intra-Arizona LBDCP, in an attempt to finalize Arizona's agreements by the January 31st deadline set by Commissioner Burman. The intra-Arizona LBDCP is comprised of a mitigation component for those impacted by water reductions under the DCP, an off-set component to replenish currently stored water in Lake Mead that is needed for mitigation, and a groundwater infrastructure program. The United States is a party to several of the intra-Arizona agreements and continues to work with ADWR and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) to finalize the Arizona package by January 31, 2019.

BLM—Upcoming oil and gas lease sale support
The Salt Lake Office has been providing legal support to the BLM's Utah State Office as it prepares to issue leases sold during its December 2018 quarterly oil and gas lease sale, and to assist with BLM's preparations for its March 2019 lease sale.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

From January 28-February 1, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Andrea Travnicek will be in the office.

From January 28-February 1, Deputy Assistant Secretary Aurelia Skipwith will be in the office.

From January 28-February 1, Deputy Assistant Secretary Ryan Hambleton will be in the office.

From January 28-February 1, Acting Director Dan Smith will be in the office.

From January 28-February 1, FWS Principal Deputy Director Margaret Everson will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

During the lapse in appropriations, most of the FWS offices, field stations, and other physical facilities will be closed to non-excepted employees and the public and most Service employees furloughed. Because of the Administration's priority on increased access, where public access to refuge lands does not require the presence of a federal employee or contractor, permitted activities on refuge lands will be allowed to continue. All areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting or other damage that cannot be adequately protected will be closed. However, FWS has some previously appropriated funding available; some of these funds are being used to resume work, for the next two pay periods, on high priority projects and activities in support of the FWS mission and on behalf of the American public. Examples of these funding uses include re-staffing certain refuges, maintaining work on some large-scale construction projects, and developing plans for prescribed burns in preparation for the upcoming fire season. FWS updated its contingency plan to reflect moving excepted employees to exempt status for two pay periods (2019-02 and 2019-03). FWS will re-evaluate this after these two pay periods.

For two pay periods:

- Re-staffing 38 National Wildlife Refuges for public use and/or resource management. These NWRs were chosen based on criteria including visitation during the month of January, opportunities, including hunting, that would otherwise be limited or unavailable during this time, and protection, management and security of public

resources. The re-staffing of these refuges will also bring economic benefits to local communities.

- FWS will continue work on large infrastructure projects that address both access and maintenance needs as well as storm damage from recent hurricanes. FWS is using previously appropriated funds to continue work on the construction projects and deferred maintenance and 2018 hurricane supplemental funds to work on storm damage projects. Generally each of these projects are in excess of $500,000.

- In addition to those employees who are already working for the safety and protection of life and resources, FWS reactivated employees to work on developing plans for prescribed burns in preparation for the upcoming fire season. This will allow FWS to stay on track to implement these fire plans.

- Increasing access to public lands is a priority of the Department and Service. In order to meet regulatory deadlines for next year's hunting season, it is important that work on proposed regulations continue over the next two pay periods. FWS is using carryover funds to continue work on streamlining regulations and bringing them in line with state regulations. This will increase coordination with our state fish and wildlife partners and provide transparency and clarity to hunters and anglers.

FWS is in the process of reactivating approximately 100 employees to work on high-priority projects throughout the country that are funded through reimbursable agreements with other entities, including other federal agencies that have funding available for the work.

National Park Service

Most National Park Service employees are furloughed with the exception of employees deemed essential for protection of life and property. Because of the Administration's priority on increased access, the NPS' open air memorials, park roads, lookouts, trails and other generally open areas will remain accessible to visitors during a lapse, though NPS will only provide limited visitor services. Where appropriate, NPS will also allow concessioners, commercial use authorization holders, and other third parties to continue operations. NPS will also accept donations from third parties (including states, friends' groups, and others) to continue operations. On January 5, 2019, the Acting Secretary of the Interior instructed the NPS to use FLREA funds to continue operations, where appropriate, on a limited basis to provide for the protection and cleanliness of resources, manage conflict issues, and provide basic visitor services. Parks that have begun using these funds include the National Mall, Grand Canyon, Sequoia-King's Canyon, Joshua Tree, and the Statue of Liberty. In addition to basic visitor services at these and other parks, NPS is reviewing the potential use of FLREA funds for other activities related to rudimentary visitor services or resource protection.

8-30 Day Outlook

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

ONGOING ITEMS

A proposed change to the implementing regulations for the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) is expected to clear DOI. The rule: 1) defines the scope of the MBTA as it applies to conduct resulting in the injury or death of protected migratory birds and 2) reduces permitting burdens by modifying existing permit exceptions and proposing new ones. This proposed regulation will be consistent with the Department Solicitor's Opinion M–37050. After clearing DOI, the rule has to go to OMB-OIRA for interagency review, which usually takes 90 days. FWS will coordinate with DOI regarding outreach. (Updated 12/19/2018)

FWS plans to publish the FY 2016 Recovery Report to Congress. The Recovery Report provides an update on the progress of federally protected species toward recovery between October 1, 2014, and September 30, 2016 (fiscal years 2015 and 2016). FWS does not anticipate controversy or opposition to the report. Planned outreach will include congressional notifications and posting the report to the web. (Updated 12/19/2018)

FWS will host information webinars outlining next steps in developing a 12-month finding on a petition to list the monarch butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. Attendees include state agency directors and tribal staff. FWS was petitioned to list the monarch in 2014 and issued a positive 90-day finding indicating the petition was substantial. FWS has finalized a species status assessment and is evaluating the monarch conservation database and other information to determine whether listing the monarch is warranted. The 12-month finding is due June 30, 2019. (Updated 12/19/2018)

FWS plans to publish a proposed rule to allow the baiting of brown bears on Kenai NWR, which is permitted under Alaska state hunting regulations. The rule would also allow the discharge of firearms along the Kenai and Russian rivers during certain times of the year; allow the use of snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and utility task vehicles on certain lakes when there is adequate snow and ice cover; and increase access to the refuge by bicycle and game cart. This proposed rule would be available for a 60-day public comment period and is likely to be strongly opposed by those who believe that baiting of wildlife for hunting is unethical or who oppose hunting (particularly of large predatory mammals). FWS plans to notify stakeholders directly by email and issue a news release to Alaska media announcing the proposed rule and public comment period. (Updated 11/21/2018)

FWS and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) will announce the final allocations for the first round of Delaware River Basin Conservation Act grants, appropriated by Congress in FY 2018. More than $6.4 million in grant applications was received and the review committee of partners named in the Act approved a final slate of $4.1 million with a non-federal match of $7.5 million. The grants will restore 626 acres of wetland habitat and 549 acres of floodplain; increase public access on 1,794 acres; create 32 new jobs; and leverage more than 3,000 volunteers in project delivery. NFWF conducted fiscal notifications

to Congress on November 16, with a 30-day response time. FWS and NFWF will notify grantees and coordinate a rollout event in January. (11/28/2018)

FWS plans to publish the FY 2017 Federal and State Endangered and Threatened Species Expenditures Report to Congress. This report provides a compilation of reasonably identifiable expenditures for the conservation of listed species reported independently by federal and state agencies. Expenditures are reported for species that were listed during FY 2017 through September 30, 2017. FWS does not anticipate opposition to the report. Planned outreach includes congressional notifications and posting the report to the FWS website.

Species	**Action**	**Current Status**	**Previously Proposed Date**
Tri-spot darter	Final listing determination, proposed 4(d) rule, and proposed critical habitat	Cleared DOI	Week of December 24
Southern Selkirk Mountain woodland caribou	Final determination of proposed relcassification as distinct population segment; list as endangered	Pending DOI clearance	Week of December 24
Meltwater lednian stonefly Western glacier stonefly	Final listing determination	Pending DOI clearance	Week of December 24
26 draft recovery plan amendments for 42 species	Draft recovery plans	Pending DOI clearance	Week of December 24
Eastern massasauga rattlesnake	Availability of draft recovery plan		On or around January 2
Endangered distinct population segment of Atlantic salmon in the Gulf of Maine	Updated final recovery plan		By January 15
Second batch of 29 draft recovery plan			On or around January 7

amendments for 42 species			
Barrens topminnow	Final listing determination		On or around January 25
Panama City crayfish	Six-month extension of the final determination of whether to list as a result of substantial scientific disagreement concerning the species; also reopen the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days		On or around January 25
Franklin's bumble bee	Proposed listing determination determined that critical habitat designation for this species is not prudent		On or around January 31
Jaguar	Announcement of the completion of the final recovery plan for the jaguar		On or around January 10
Macaw	final determination on a proposed rule to list the scarlet macaw, *Ara macao cyanoptera,* as endangered; list the northern distinct population segment (DPS) of *A. m. macao* as threatened; and list the southern DPS of *A. m. macao*		On or around January 14,

	and subspecies crosses as threatened based on similarity of appearance to *A. m. cyanoptera* and *A. m. macao*; will include a 4(d) rule that will allow for the import and export as well as interstate commerce of certain scarlet macaws without a permit.		
Fisher, West Coast distinct population segment	Notice reopening the comment period for the proposal to list as a threatened species		On or about January 14
California condor in northern California and Oregon	Proposal to designate a nonessential experimental population to help meet recovery goals for the species		On or around January 15
Borax lake chub	Proposed delisting determination due to recovery		On or around January 18
Running buffalo clover	Proposed delisting determination		On or around January 18
Gray wolf	Proposal to delist due to recovery. This proposed rule does not have any effect on the separate listing of the Mexican wolf as endangered under the ESA.		On or around January 31
Arizona eryngo	90-day findings on petitions to list		On or around January 31

Dunes sagebrush lizard Giraffe Refugio manzanita San Gabriel chestnut snail			
Neuse River waterdog Carolina madtom	12-month finding, proposed listing determination, and proposed critical habitat designation		On or around January 31

National Park Service

ONGOING ITEMS

The revisions to the NPS proposed rulemaking, *Demonstrations and Special Events on the National Mall and Memorial Parks*, are nearing completion. On November 21, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) determined that the rulemaking was significant under Executive Order 12866 due to its "novel legal or policy issues." As a result, the final rule will be reviewed by OMB for up to 90 days. The proposed rulemaking modifies how the NPS processes permit applications for demonstrations and special events. The rulemaking also identifies locations where activities are allowed, not allowed, or allowed but subject to restrictions. During the 60-day public comment period, which closed on October 15, the NPS received 140,652 comments.

The NPS expects to publish a proposed rule that would revise regulations governing the listing of properties in the National Register of Historic Places. The proposed changes would implement the 2016 Amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act, extend the timeline for the Keeper to respond to appeals, and ensure that if the owners of a majority of the land area in a proposed historic district object to listing, the proposed district will not be listed over their objections. The rule would also make several minor, non-substantive changes to existing regulations. The package for approval of the Federal Register notice is going through the surname process and is currently with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

Isle Royale National Park will implement phase two of the Wolf Relocation effort to the island. Between four and six wolves from Michipicoten Island in Ontario, Canada, will be captured by a company using net guns contracted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for Ontario. The animals will be medically examined by NPS wildlife veterinarians on Michipicoten Island, then transported via helicopter to a remote section of the park where they will be then collared and released. This is the second operation as part of the three- to

five- year plan to relocate 20 – 30 wolves to Isle Royale in order to restore predation to the ecosystem.

On February 4, the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission will hold a public meeting in Bar Harbor, Maine. The commission advises the Secretary and the NPS on matters relating to the management and development of the park. The committees under the commission will report out on topics such as park use, science, and education. The commission has also been approved to meet on June 3 and September 9. Decision to postpone will be made on February 1.

The NPS Alaska Region anticipates completing the response to comments on the Alaska Sport Hunting and Trapping proposed rule and environmental assessment. On December 14, NPS awarded a contract to one of two vendors who bid to conduct the comment summary. While the contractor has been reviewing and cataloging comments during the appropriations lapse, NPS has been unable to begin drafting responses to significant comments that have come in.

Fire Island National Seashore plans to implement the first phase of its Deer Management Plan. The plan was approved through a Record of Decision in April 2016. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will carry out the first phase at the William Floyd Estate, a unit of the Seashore. The Estate is closed to the public however, protests are anticipated near the Estate and/or at the Seashore's Headquarters. Regional and, potentially, national press coverage is expected.

Originally scheduled for on or around January 9, Golden Gate National Recreation Area plans to announce the prospectus release for the business opportunity to operate food and beverage and retail services at Muir Woods National Monument. A one-day site visit was scheduled to be provided to interested parties on February 6.

Yellowstone National Park plans to release a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for a project to replace the Lewis River Bridge located just south of Lewis Lake on the South Entrance Road within the park. This project would include replacing the existing bridge, built in 1960, on a new alignment adjacent to, and east of, the existing bridge. The project would also reconstruct associated parking areas and turnouts located at three corners of the new bridge. The existing bridge was listed as Category B in the latest bridge safety inspection on 9/26/14, which means it is seriously deficient or presents a safety hazard, but may remain in service at reduced loads with frequent inspections. The NPS prepared an Environmental Assessment for this project that was on public review for 30 days, ending November 30, 2018. During this time 11 comments were received. The proposed project is scheduled for construction in 2020-2022.

Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area plans to announce selection of the concessioner to operate the Kettle Falls Marina under a new 10-year concession contract.

In February, the prospectus for glacier landing air taxis and scenic tours at Denali National Park and Preserve will close. This solicitation was issued on November 8 for four concession contracts, with a 10-year term of January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2029.

NPS Midwest Region staff will attend a consultation meeting with the Tribal Council of the Prairie Island Indian Community Tribal Historic Preservation Office. The Tribal Council requested this consultation to discuss the Coldwater Springs sacred site, which is located in the Recreation Area.

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park will host an event in the Maritime Museum to mark the 80th anniversary of the Aquatic Park Bathhouse's construction. In addition to public programs, an event will showcase the installation of a plaque on the building which commemorates its designation as the *Sala Burton Building* in the park's enabling legislation. Members of the late Representative Sala Burton's family and Speaker Nancy Pelosi are invited to attend.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve will conduct the next scheduled listening session in Kenny Lake, Alaska, a community local to the park. In February through April, additional listening sessions will be scheduled for the following local communities: Chistochina, Fairbanks, Gakona, Glennallen, Mentasta, and Tazlina. A news release will announce the dates, times, and specific venues of the above mentioned locations. Beginning June 26, 2018, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve conducted a series of public listening sessions to engage resident zone communities and federally recognized tribal governments in discussions about management of wilderness, frontcountry and backcountry areas within the park. Specific locations were: Copper Center, Chitina, Slana, and McCarthy/Kennecott.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary Tara Sweeney is in the office.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary John Tahsuda is in the office.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Mark Cruz is in the office.

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Management Jason Freihage is in the office.

Acting Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Director Darryl LaCounte will be in Billings, Montana, but will be available as needed.

BIA Deputy Director - Field Operations Jim James will be in the Albuquerque, New Mexico, office but will be available as needed.

Chief of Staff Rich Myers will be available as needed.

BIE Director Tony Dearman will be in Anadarko, Oklahoma, but will be available as needed.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

The AS-IA will begin approval process for Office of Justice Services to begin hiring new officers.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

The BIA will move about 25 employees nationwide from furlough to excepted status, and an additional 25 employees from furlough to exempt status. The employees moved to excepted status will continue processing: 1) distribution of remaining FY18 self-determination contract funds to tribes; 2) distribution of Wind River Tribe oil and gas revenue per capita funds; 3) in coordination with the Office of the Special Trustee, distribution of elderly per capita funds to the Colville and Warm Springs Tribes; and 4) other necessary tasks of short duration. The employees moved to exempt status will begin processing necessary tasks of longer duration, including approval of revenue-producing leases and timber sales (for individual Indians and tribes); processing of lockbox payments and other payments requiring manual processing; and most importantly, child care services (such as foster care payments, home visits, and processing placements and other interactions with state agencies).

Bureau of Indian Education

The BIE will ask the Office of the Federal Register to publish as soon as possible a Notice of Public Meeting for the fourth and final Standards, Assessments and Accountability Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. The basis for this request is that the Committee's activities support currently funded BIE and that delaying publication would prevent or damage the execution of those functions.

8-30 Day Outlook

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

ONGOING ITEMS

The AS-IA and exempted and excepted senior staff continue to hold daily conference calls to address issues related to the execution of an orderly government shutdown and the preservation of property, health and safety in Indian Country.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

ONGOING ITEMS

The BIA Acting Director and Regional Directors (excepted staff) continue to hold conference calls every other day to address issues related to the execution of an orderly government shutdown and the preservation of property, health and safety in Indian Country.

Bureau of Indian Education

UPDATED ITEMS

The Navajo Nation retroceded the operation of the Borrego Pass School to the BIE, which has operated the school since January 3, 2019. The BIE is currently advertising teacher and other positions for permanent employment at the school.

The merger of the Santa Rosa Ranch and Santa Rosa Day schools on the Tohono O'odham Reservation in Arizona was successful and students from both schools returned to class after Christmas Break at the Day School on January 8. The target date for installation of modular classrooms and the resumption of class at the Santa Rosa Ranch School is on track for March, 2019. On January 24th ASIA will meet with the incoming professional project manager who will oversee the installation of modular buildings at the Santa Rosa Ranch School.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY INSULAR AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

TRAVEL

All planned travel has been suspended.

ASIIA Domenech is exempt and in the office next week.
OIA Director Pula is exempt and in the office next week.
INT Director Karen Senhadji is on furlough.
Sarah Jorgenson, Senior Advisor, is exempt and in the office next week.
Oceans Program Coordinator Liza Johnson is out on furlough/maternity leave until March 29.

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week

AS-IIA Programs Operating During the Shutdown: The Office of Insular Affairs has brought back 18 International Affairs ITAP staff to be exempt due to available permanent funding from USAID and State Department Projects from the previous fiscal year. Eight other International Affairs staff remain on furlough status. OIA policy analysis and program management activities involving previous obligated or mandatory funding have resumed. The Oceans Program Coordinator remains furloughed.

116th Congress Meetings/Action: Assistant Secretary Domenech is scheduled for the following courtesy meetings with the Congressional Delegates (pending approval from OCL):
-Thursday, January 24 - Congressman Sablan (CNMI)
-Monday, January 28 - Congressman San Nicolas (Guam)
-Tuesday, January 29 - Congresswoman Radewagen (American Samoa)
(A scheduled meeting with Congresswoman Plaskett (USVI) is expected soon.)

Guam Section 30 Funding: Next week, AS-IIA will discuss Guam Section 30 funding with the new Guam leadership to determine if the payment will be made now or if the payment will be applied in September against the $12 million offset for the Guam War Claims Fund. OIA staff completed an analysis on a request received during the shutdown from Guam for additional Section 30 funding in the amount of $6 million that IRS has indicated is owed to them. The source of funds for the Guam Section 30 payment is permanent indefinite rather than annual appropriations.

UPDATE. Insular Grants: OIA grant managers continue to review requests for payments that have been received during the shutdown and are processing payments when appropriate for grants that were previously obligated. A list of payments/draw-downs against existing grant awards can be found below.
In addition, OIA grant managers are reviewing needs for ongoing grants for items such as health, safety, and other urgent matters to determine if any short term grants need to be awarded during the next few weeks. Capital Improvement Program grant managers continue to assess performance and determine competitive criteria for future years' budgets.

<u>COMPACT/COMPACT IMPACT (Mandatory Funding)</u>
-$8,245,121 - Guam Compact Impact: Operations Offsets Related to Education
-$86,112.11 - Guam Compact Impact: Operations Offsets - Department of Public Health & Social Services
-$2,019,724 - Federated States of Micronesia Compact payments for education, health and infrastructure
<u>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (Mandatory Funding)</u>
-$25,000 - Guam Capital Improvement: Puerto Rico Dump Post-closure Monitoring Services
-$84,242.49 - CNMI Capital Improvement: Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Stipulated Order No. 2 Projects
-$73,203.34 - Capital Improvement Program, American Samoa Shipyard Authority, Slipway Renovation Project
<u>ENERGIZING INSULAR COMMUNITIES</u>
-$26,976.25 - Guam Energizing Insular Communities: Guam Power Authority Wind Turbine Project

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
-$72,051.70 - U.S. Virgin Islands Technical Assistance: Virgin Islands Housing Authority Youth Build, Virgin Islands Bureau of Economic Research 2017 Virgin Islands Consumer Price Index
-$4,150 - Republic of the Marshall Islands Technical Assistance: Marshallese Education Initiative Community Advancement
-$20,993.87 - General Technical Assistance: Partners in Development We Are Oceania, Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System Atmospheric and Wave Forecasts
-$10,997 - Technical Assistance: Guam Police Department Neighborhood Watch Program Outreach
-$14,430 - Technical Assistance: Guam Fire Department Hazmat Equipment Procurement
-$8,604.39 - Technical Assistance: American Samoa Cancer Patient Navigator Program
-$15,570.07 - Technical Assistance: Boys and Girls Club of American Samoa Youth in Action Program.
-$13,814 CNMI Technical Assistance: Invasive Species Coordinator
-$17,758 CNMI Technical Assistance: Contract Worker Survey
-$33,000 CNMI Technical Assistance: Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Detection, Eradication and Preventative Measures
MAINTENANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
-$2,400 - Maintenance Assistance: American Samoa Shipyard Apprenticeship Program
BROWN TREESNAKE PROGRAM
-$17,798.18 - Brown Treesnake Program: CNMI Brown Treesnake Interdiction Program
CORAL REEF AND NATURAL RESOURCES
-$16,871.09 - FSM Coral Reef/Natural Resources Invasive Species: Kosrae Association of Tourism Operators for Eradication of Crown of Thorns Starfish

UPDATE. Graduate School USA Activities in January:
January 28-31, 2019: Developing Interim Procurement Regulations, Majuro, RMI.
January 28-31, 2019: Preparing for the Year-End Close for Government, American Samoa.

Medicaid and CHIP Payment Access Commission (MACPAC) Meeting Regarding Territories: On January 23, officials from MACPAC, a non-partisan legislative branch agency that provides policy and data analysis and recommendations to Congress, Health and Human Services, and the states (or territories) on a wide array of issues affecting Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program will have a meeting to discuss Medicaid and the U.S. territories as well as the possibility of giving a presentation at the upcoming IGIA.

RAND Draft Report on the Freely Associated States and Chinese Influence: OIA staff will provide comments on a draft RAND report on the Freely Associate States and Chinese influence by January 31. As required under the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act, the Department of Defense is required to contract a study and assessment of U.S. security and foreign policy interests in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The deadline for submission of this report, previously due December 1, 2018, has been extended to January 31, 2019.

8-30 Day Outlook

NEW ITEMS

OIA UPCOMING SIGNIFICANT TRAVEL (Pending the end of the shutdown):
2/17-18. Chuuk, FSM. 75th Anniversary of "Operation Hailstone" WWII. At the request of the State Department, INDOPACOM, and NSC, AS-IIA Domenech and OIA Director Pula are planning to attend so long as the shutdown has concluded.

Graduate School USA Activities in February: Next month, OIA will host the following training courses under a previously awarded contract:
February 4-7, 2019: Developing Corrective Action Plans, Majuro, RMI.
February 8, 2019: Practical Ethics for Government Employees, Majuro, RMI.
February 19-22, 2019: Innovation without Additional Resources, Koror, Palau.
February 11-15, 2019: Twenty seven insular government representatives will continue their participation in the Executive Leadership Development Program through Session III in Yap, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). This Program will focus on a case study of a fictional government facing a variety of challenges common to the Pacific island governments.

Yap State Finance Office Consultations: During the week of February 11, financial experts from Graduate School USA will work with the Yap State Department of Finance and Administration in response to recent requests and by way of follow-up to several Island Government Finance Officers' Association (IGFOA) Winter Meeting initiatives. Topics include tracking finance office procurement measures, addressing FY17 audit findings, working with the current financial management information system (Fundware), and discussing procurement needs for new financial management information systems (a World Bank-funded FSM national initiative).

Yap State School Designs: OIA staff are anticipating awarding a $1.3 million Compact grant for the design of three school facilities in the Federated States of Micronesia, Yap State.

UPDATED ITEMS

UPDATE. CNMI Governor Scheduled to Meet with DHS/OMB Regarding Parole Visa Policies Relating to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and Guam: It is our understanding that Governor Torres is planning to schedule a meeting with DHS/OMB to take place around NGA/IGIA in February to discuss the proposed notice regarding the rescission of discretionary parole visa policies relating to nationals of the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation seeking entry into Guam and/or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Related to this, CNMI has written the President requesting formal Section 902 consultations on the issue. That letter has been forwarded to OIA for response, which OIA has drafted and will finalize for review.

UPDATE. OIA, U.S. Dept. of Energy and Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to Develop Energy Plan for CNMI as required by FEMA: OIA staff coordinated a

conference call with CNMI officials from the U.S. Department of Energy and Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) in an effort to assist CUC with putting together an energy recovery plan as well as sharing lessons learned from VI WAPA in preparedness and response to hurricanes that have impacted the Caribbean Islands. A follow-up conference call will take place in February to include Mr. Clinton Hedrington at VI WAPA, who has been specifically working with DOE and FEMA in USVI's resilience efforts. In addition, the DOE team agreed to review CUC's draft recovery plan, provide expertise from the National Energy Labs, and to visit CNMI and meet with the CUC team.

UPDATE. U.S. Government-Wide Comprehensive Report on Federal Grants to U.S. Insular Areas: OIA staff have been in contact with the former HHS staffer that managed the insular areas federal grants project, and he has agreed to assist in training OIA staff and to provide his procedural documents. OIA staff is working with him to set dates for training. OIA staff are working to take over an existing database from HHS and gather information from across the federal government on federal grants to U.S. insular areas. Completion is targeted for March of 2019.

POWER UPDATE. Typhoon Yutu Recovery: OIA staff continue to work with FEMA and local officials on typhoon recovery in CNMI. UPDATE: Power has been restored to 82% of homes on Saipan and 63% of the homes on Tinian.

ONGOING ITEMS

ON TRACK. 2019 Interagency Group on Insular Areas (IGIA) Senior Plenary Session: The 2019 IGIA Senior Plenary Session to be held on February 25, 2019, between 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the EEOB. The Secretary of the Interior is a co-chair of the event. It has been confirmed that Guam Governor "Lou" Leon Guerrero will attend NGA and IGIA next month, and she and her staff will also meet with AS-IIA Domenech and OIA Director Pula when she is in town. AS-IIA has been in close contact with White House Intergovernmental Affairs regarding the planning and a contingency plan should the shutdown continue through the planned IGIA date. OIA staff reached out to Governors Moliga, Torres, and Bryan's Chiefs of Staff regarding their attendance to the Plenary Session. OIA will be sending an update to the Congressional Delegates pending OCL's approval.

NO CHANGE. Winter Meeting of the Coral Reef Task Force (CRTF): The CRTF working group meetings (including the federal meeting and steering committee meeting) will occur on 2/19-2/20 at the Silver Spring Civic Center, and the business meeting and executive lunch will take place on 2/21 at EPA HQ. Pending shutdown status.

NO CHANGE. CNMI Tinian Dynasty DOJ Judgement: SOL continues to research issues related to this facility which was the subject of a (June 3, 2015) Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury, assessed $75 million civil money penalty against Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investments, Ltd., for willful and egregious violations of the Bank Secrecy Act. Specifically, as described in the assessment, Tinian Dynasty failed to develop and implement an anti-money laundering (AML) program.

ON HOLD. Census Compact Surveys: Analysis of census data on hold. With funding from OIA, the U.S. Census began its work in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) as part of the next five-year enumeration of migrants from the freely associated states (FAS) in Hawaii, Guam, the CNMI and American Samoa, as required by the Compact of Free Association (Public Law 108-188). Surveys are expected to be completed by May 2019.

NO CHANGE. Secretarial Appointments to the Board of Trustees for the Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico: The Assistant Secretary, who represents the Secretary on the Trust Advisory Council, is working with the White House Liaison to identify three Trustees to serve starting April 2019. Under the charter, two Trustees must reside in Puerto Rico, and one in the States. They are jointly appointed by the Secretary and the Governor of Puerto Rico.

Upcoming International Travel:

No international travel by senior officials is known.

Additional Known International Travel, Employees Departing January and February 2019 is unknown.

International Memoranda of Understanding and Documents Under Development:

NO CHANGE. The Netherlands: MOU on offshore wind energy cooperation, in surname. Requested by BOEM and Dutch counterparts, for signature by BOEM/ASLM, TBD, in conjunction with a potential visit to the U.S. by the Dutch Prime Minister early 2019. INT was supporting BOEM as needed. BOEM to sign.

NO CHANGE. New Zealand: MOU on wildland fire cooperation, in development. Requested by DOI and USDA to update existing wildfire arrangement, and continue mutual assistance on wildfires as needed, for signature by the U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand in early 2019 by U.S. Embassy New Zealand. INT was coordinating with Office of Wildland Fire, as they worked with New Zealand counterparts and the Departments of Agriculture and State.

NO CHANGE. Norway: MOU on energy cooperation, in development. Requested by DOI Energy Counselor and Deputy Chief of Staff, for signature by BOEM/ASLM, TBD. INT was supporting BOEM as needed, and BOEM is working with Norwegian counterparts and Department of State. BOEM is reviewing recent Norwegian revisions.

NO CHANGE. Vietnam: MOU to strengthen cooperation on law enforcement to combat wildlife trafficking, in development. Requested by FWS law enforcement, Department of State, and Vietnamese counterpart, for ASFWS/FWS signature when the Vietnamese counterpart travels to Washington, DC, in 2019. INT was coordinating with FWS Office of Law Enforcement.

AWARENESS

President's Advisory Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islanders: On January 17, President Trump announced his intent to appoint the following individuals to be Members of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. David B. Cohen of California (former DAS-IN under President George W. Bush) was appointed, along with Rep. Amata Coleman Radewagen of American Samoa.

President Trump also announced his intent to designate the Honorable Elaine L. Chao to be Co-Chair of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Supplemental Appropriations FY 2019: On January 17, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 268, a supplemental appropriations bill for disaster relief (i.e. hurricanes, typhoons, wildland fire). The Office of Insular Affairs received $2 million for Technical Assistance for financial management expenses related to the consequences of Typhoon Yutu. In addition, two amendments offered by Congressman Sablan and one amendment offered by Congresswoman Radewagen were adopted:

1. to increase funding for the Marianas food stamps block grant by $15 million to cover the cost of households, not previously eligible for aid, who remain in need of assistance because of continuing income loss after Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu;
2. to increase the funding for the Northern Marianas Medicaid program by $16 million to help the islands in recovery from Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu; and
3. to increase the amount of nutritional assistance appropriated in Sec. 101 by $5 million.

The Senate is expected to include this bill in a larger omnibus package on immigration/border wall funding.

Bribery Charge: On January 16, 2019, in the U.S. District Court of Hawaii, charges were filed against a contractor for conspiracy to violate the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and to pay a bribe to an agent of an organization receiving federal funds. The Honolulu-based contractor allegedly bribed Hawaii Government officials in order to land a $2.5 million contract. He is also accused of bribing Federated States of Micronesia officials with at least $200,000 in order to get $7.8 million in FAA contract payments. The bribes came in the form of vehicles, gifts, and entertainment for officials, and were falsely classified as business expenses. OIA staff have cooperated with authorities on this investigation.

NPS Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund: The National Park Service has approved $10,000,000 for historic preservation in the U.S. Virgin Islands. NPS initially planned to give USVI $5.6M while USVI requested $19.8M. These funds must be spent this fiscal year.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management Joe Balash will be in the office.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Casey Hammond will be in the office.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Gary Lawkowski will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week

Bureau of Land Management

FOR AWARENESS: On January 11, 2019, the BLM modified its contingency plan governing a lapse in appropriations. The BLM is continuing to bring back employees to prepare for the March and June oil and gas sales in WY, CO, MT/DK, UT, and NM. Employees are also being brought back to assist with the processing of grazing related items through the use of available carryover funds. APDs are continuing to be processed, as they are fee-based activities. Special Recreation Permits (SRPs) are being processed and administered for over 30 events taking place on federal land. The BLM is bringing on employees to focus efforts on both ongoing post-fire treatments and fuels reduction projects to prepare for the 2019 wildfire season. Carryover and cost recovery funds are being used to continue work on a variety of projects ranging from solar and mining projects to transmission lines. Wild horses and burros continue to be fed and cared for both by BLM staff and through contract work. Timber sales are in process to begin in February 2019. BLM lands continue to be open to the public, and each State Office continues to coordinate trash collection and restroom maintenance where appropriate.

Late January-Early February. BLM-DC will issue guidance on temporarily modifying the grazing authorization and billing process. BLM states are foregoing the normal courtesy application and will distribute a letter that will serve as the annual authorization for the 2019 grazing year in order to turn out livestock in accordance with the terms and conditions that are specified on the permittees ten year grazing permit or lease. Once the lapse in appropriation has been resolved and the BLM range staff resumes their duties, the BLM will contact permittees in order to process any application and/or issue they might have about the grazing bill.

January 28. BLM-WY. The protest period for the Wyoming Greater Sage-Grouse Final EIS and Proposed RMP Amendments will close on January 28, 2019.

January 29. BLM-NV. BLM NV will announce the cancellation of its Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council meeting which was initially scheduled to occur January 30, 2019. The RAC meeting will be rescheduled at a later date.

January 30. BLM-ES. The 30 day comment period on the draft EA specific to the Addition of Terms and Conditions for Renewal of Hardrock Leases, MNES 001352 and MNES 001353, has been extended until January 30, 2019. This is due to two outages directly impacting the BLM's online ePlanning database server.

January 30. BLM-AK. The public comment period on a new Integrated Activity Plan (IAP) and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A) has been extended until January 30, 2019. This is due to two outages directly impacting the BLM's online ePlanning database server.

February 1-9. BLM-CA. The King of Hammers off road race- the second largest special recreation permit issued by the BLM – will take place at the Johnson Valley Off Highway Vehicle Recreation Area in San Bernardino County, California. The desert race event attracts approximately 50,000 spectators during the nine-day period.

February 1-3. BLM-AZ. The Colorado River District will host, through a Special Recreation Permit, the 2019 Best In The Desert Off-Highway Vehicle Race. The events are expected to attract 400 race participants and approximately 5,000 spectators. A temporary closure will be put in place on selected public lands in Arizona, east of Parker in La Paz County from Feb. 1-3, to minimize the risk of potential collisions with spectators and racers. (12/14/18)

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

NEW ITEMS

Late January-Early February: BOEM intends to reopen the comment period and reschedule the public meetings for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Construction and Operations Plan (COP) submitted by Vineyard Wind LLC. BOEM cancelled the previously scheduled public meetings on the DEIS. BOEM intends to use carry over funds to begin this process in late January, 2019.

8-30 Day Outlook

Bureau of Land Management

NEW ITEMS

Late January-Early February. BLM Oil and Gas Lease Sale Dates (State-by-State Breakdown). Each state office offering oil and gas lease sales have varying deadlines in order to meet their sale dates. As such, announcements will be arriving to the Department on a rolling basis. Below are the various deadlines (*subject to slight variations*) broken out for the March (quarter 1) and June (quarter 2) oil and gas sales. For awareness, due to budgetary constraints, BLM-ES, BLM-NV, and BLM-AZ will not be holding March lease sales.

BLM-CO. BLM CO has scheduled their first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 28 and June 28. **March 28, 2019 CO Oil and gas lease sale** – 26 parcels totaling 14,000 acres. 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (November 16, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Began November 16, 2018 and concluded December 16, 2018; Two-week public review and comment period of the environmental documents -

Begins March 1 and conclude March 15, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -March 23, 2019**;** One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – March 27. **June 28, 2019 CO Oil and gas lease sale – 12 parcels totaling 4,800 acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (January 28, 2019) - posted on website and press release; 15-day public protest period - Began January 28, 2019 and concluded February 12, 2019; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins March 11 conclude March 25, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting –June 26, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – June 27.

BLM-MT. BLM-MT has scheduled one quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 2. We are awaiting a full schedule of the second quarterly sale, which is slated to take place in July. **March 21, 2019 MT Oil and gas lease sale – 322 parcels totaling 180,000 acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (November 20, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Began November 20, 2018 and concluded December 21, 2018; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents – Begins January 25 and conclude February 8, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -March 19, 2019**;** One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – March 20.

BLM-NM. BM-NM has scheduled their first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 28 and June 20. **March 28, 2019 NM Oil and gas lease sale - 55 parcels totaling 15,491 acres in NM & OK** – 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (September 28, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 10-day public protest period - Began October 5, 2018 and concluded October 9, 2018; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins February 11 and conclude February 20, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -March 26, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – March 27. **June 20, 2019 NM Oil and gas lease sale - 56 parcels in NM, KS, & OK –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (January 28) - posting on website and press release; 10-day public protest period - Begins January 28 and concludes February 8; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins March 11 and conclude March 22, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting - June 18, 2019**;** One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – June 19.

BLM UT. BLM-UT has scheduled their first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 25-26 and June 10. **March 25-26, 2019 UT Oil and gas lease sale - 156 parcels totaling 217,000 acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (November 16, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Began November 16, 2018 and ends February 25, 2019;
Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins March 1 and concludes March 15, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -March 23, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed

FONSI – March 24. **June 10, 2019 UT Oil and gas lease sale - 24 parcels totaling 41,000 BLM acres; 12 parcels 27,000 Forest Service acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (January 25) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Begins January 25, 2019 and concludes February 25, 2019; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins March 1 and conclude March 15, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting –June 8, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – June 9.

BLM WY. BLM-WY has scheduled the first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 28 and June 20. In addition, parcels that were pulled from the December 2018 sale will be offered on February 25. **February 25, 2019 WY Oil and gas lease sale - 568 parcels totaling 768,000 acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (December 21, 2018) - posted on website and press release**;** Public Notification of Supplementary Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (December 21, 2018) - to comply with a District Court Order - posted on website and press release**;** 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Begins December 21, 2018 and concludes January 22, 2019; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins February 11 and conclude February 20, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -February 23, 2019**;** One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – February 24, 2019. **March 19-20, 2019 WY Oil and gas lease sale - 146 parcels totaling 163,000 acres –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (November 13, 2018) - posted on website and press release**;** 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Began November 13, 2018 and concluded December 13, 2018;
Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins February 24 and conclude March 8, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting -March 17, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – March 18, 2019. **June 2019 WY Oil and gas lease sale –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (November 13, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) - Began November 13, 2018 and concluded December 13, 2018; Two- week public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins February 24 and conclude March 8, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting - March 17, 2019**;** One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – June 2019.

UPDATED ITEMS

February 7. BLM MT/DK. On Nov. 8, 2018, Native Ecosystems Council (NEC) served the U.S. Attorney's office (USA) with a civil lawsuit under the Administrative Procedures Act regarding four watershed decisions by BLM in southwest Montana. NEC is seeking, among other things, to enjoin the implementation of these Dillon Field Office watershed decisions that include 226,852 acres of public land. The USA, working with the Field Office, will need to reply to the 151 complaints until February 7, 2019 (a continuance was granted by the court). NEC previously appealed the final decisions for each of these watersheds between 2014 and 2017, but the appeals were dismissed by IBLA due to lack of standing because

NEC could not show that they had been on the public lands in these watersheds. Cumulatively, the watershed decisions proposed 30,599 acres of non-commercial mechanical/prescribed fire treatments to reduce hazardous fuel loading and restore sagebrush steppe, aspen, and five-needle pine. In addition, the decisions include 3,787 acres of commercial timber sales (some which have already been sold) to improve forest health and resiliency and salvage dead and dying timber; more than 27 miles of riparian conifer treatment, along with other riparian enhancement projects; renewing/revising term grazing permits/leases for 104 allotments (which have been renewed); dozens of range improvement projects (many of which have been implemented); travel management revisions/corrections; and noxious and invasive weed treatments. (11/23/18)

ONGOING ITEMS

February 4. BLM-CO. The comment period for the Grand Junction Field Office Notice of Realty Action to convey 188.04 acres to the Grand Junction Regional Airport to accommodate a second runway ends on February 4, 2019. The conveyance is in conformance with the Grand Junction RMP. The Federal Register Notice was posted on December 21, 2018. (9/11/18) DTS 2411

February 7. BLM-NM. The OK, KS, TX Joint Resource Management Plan comment period will end on February 7, 2019. Public meetings previously scheduled to be held between January 14, 2019 and January 25, 2019 across the OKT planning area were cancelled. BLM-NM intends to reschedule at a later date.

February 11. BLM-AK. The comment period Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Draft EIS closes on February 11, 2019.

February 17. BLM-NV. The competitive bidding process for the Spring Mountain Raceway modified land sale ran from January 10 to January 17, 2019. Due to the availability of cost recovery funds, the BLM will be able to complete the land sale by February 17, 2019. A 30-day public scoping period for the planning initiative, and a 45-day public comment period on the proposed sale of public land opened July 30, 2018 and will close August 28, 2018, and September 12, 2018, respectively. If the RMP amendment is approved, two modified competitive sales for not less than the appraised fair market value are anticipated to take place. Approximately 68 of the 621 acres under consideration require cadastral survey. The BLM proposes to dispose of approximately 553 acres in phase one, and the remaining 68 acres in phase two after the survey is completed.

February 19. BLM-UT. BLM –UT will respond to any oil and gas protests by February 19 to meet the 60 days requirement from the December 18, 2018 lease sale as well as sign the Decision Record/FONSI to allow the leases to be issued.

Mid-February. BLM-ID. The comment period for the Pocatello Field Office's Dairy Syncline Mine Project EIS will close on February 21, 2019.

Mid-February. BLM-OR. The Medford District will hold a timber sale auction in mid-February. The sales will be fully ready to offer at the next regularly scheduled timber sale auction. The sales include: Big Graves Salvage Sale (3.9 mmbf); Wild Bill Sale (549,000 bf); and Bear Creek Sale (949,000 bf). The Coos Bay District is also anticipating holding a timber sale auction in February. The two sales will be fully ready to offer at the next regularly scheduled timber sale auction: Churchyard (4.3 mmbf) and Beam Me Up (269,000 bf).

Early February. BLM-CO will initiate a 15-day public scoping period for the New Elk Coal Lease by application. The New Elk Coal Company, LLC applied for a coal lease of 1,279 acres of split-estate Federal coal that holds approximately 11 million tons of coal in place located in Las Animas County, adjacent to their New Elk Coal Mine. The active mine is an underground room and pillar coal mine. The lease is in a historical coal production area. (12/7/18)

January – March. BLM-ID. The Twin Falls District Fuels and Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation programs conducted regular winter fire rehabilitation, fuel break and hazardous fuels reduction projects in the Burley, Jarbidge, and Shoshone Field Office areas. BLM will implement aerial seeding treatments over 79,700 acres. Fiscal Year 2019 funding is tied to these programs. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-CA requested a Departmental Review Team regarding a Supplemental EIS that evaluates a proposal to expand and modernize the U.S. Gypsum Company (USG) mine and plant in Imperial County. USG's proposed mine expansion / modernization project is subject to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' 404 permit process. The Corps is the cooperating agency in the Supplemental EIS. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office will publish in the Federal Register (pending Washington Office approval) a Notice of Realty Action to convey approximately 43.09 acres of public land to the Town of Lake City under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. The land is about one mile south of Lake City. The Lake City Ski Hill community ski area would continue to operate under the conveyance. The package has been with SIO-REGS since December 6, 2018. (4/24/18) DTS 2329

Early February. BLM-OR/WA. Lakeview District has finalized the Environmental Impact Statement and the Record of Decision for the Tucker Hill Perlite Mine Expansion and will brief the State Director soon. The Lake County Commission supports the proposed mine expansion due to economic benefits to the county. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-CO. The Colorado River Valley Field Office will release the final Environmental Assessment (EA) for managing the Sutey and Haines parcels, which were acquired in March 2017 through the Sutey Ranch Land Exchange. Because the management plan will amend the Field Office's Resource Management Plan, the announcement begins a 30-day protest period and 60-day Governor's consistency review. The Field Office held a public scoping period and meeting over the summer, as well as a comment period and public meeting on the draft EA this fall. More than 200 comments were received during each public

comment period. Management of the 557-acre Sutey Ranch parcel will focus on protecting wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities. (11/30/18)

Early February. BLM-CO. The Uncompahgre Field Office plans to announce a 30-day scoping period for a proposal to fence the Adobe Badlands Wilderness Study Area (WSA) boundary. The WSA is adjacent to an off-highway vehicle (OHV) open riding area and the BLM has observed impacts from riders on the WSA's Colorado hookless cactus habitat, a federally-listed threatened species. To ensure riders continue to enjoy OHV use in the adjacent area and to protect the hookless cactus habitat, BLM proposes building a fence to help identify the WSA boundary. It will also help the BLM remain in compliance with no mechanized or motorized use in the WSA. The BLM is in regular coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on this proposal, and will coordinate with the County before scoping begins.. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-ID. The Shoshone Field Office plans to issue a right of way grant for the Idaho Water Resources Board (IWRB) to construct and operate aquifer recharge projects along the Northside Canal in Jerome County. These projects will support IWRB's mandate to develop and operate a long-term Managed Groundwater Recharge Program and achieve the goal of recharging an average 250,000 acre-feet per year of groundwater in the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer.. (12/14/18)

Early February. BLM-ID. The Challis Field Office will conduct media outreach to announce the issuance of patents to the cities of Challis and Clayton and Custer County as required by the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and Jerry Peak Wilderness Additions Act enacted on Aug. 7, 2015. The Act instructs the BLM to convey nine parcels of public land to these locations for various public purposes. (12/14/18)

Early February. BLM-ID. The Burley Field Office plans to issue three right-of-way grants: one for Raft River Highway District to pave 1.6 miles of the existing Idahome Road north of Malta; a second for Raft River Rural Electric to realign approximately one mile of existing power line southeast of Almo; and a third for ATC Communications to construct and maintain a 1.3-mile fiber optic line supporting existing communication sites east of Burley. (12/14/18)

Early February. BLM-ID. The Burley Field Office will issue a categorical exclusion decision on a Notice of Geophysical Exploration submitted by Walker Ranch LLC. The proposed project will consist of pedestrian surveys within existing geothermal leases to measure the spontaneous potential of the Raft River Geothermal Resource Area near Malta. (12/14/18)

Early February. BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District will publish the Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed expansion of the Coeur Rochester and Packard Mines. The silver mine currently employs about 302 people and is approximately 26 miles northeast of Lovelock, in Pershing County, Nev. (12/14/18)

Early February. BLM-MT/DK has informed the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation that transfer of the final selected lands totaling 5,816.63 acres to fulfill the long-standing entitlement made by Congress when Montana became a State in 1889 will not be completed before the end of 2018 due to the delay in publication of the classification notice in the Federal Register. Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Director John Tubbs and Montana State Land Board members expressed concern and disappointment in the delay, and believe it will impact the State's ability to offer grazing leases as planned in January 2019, which would result in impacts to revenue collection from these grazing leases. The package has been with SIO REGS since Aug. 13, 2018. The State Land Board accepted the lands, contingent on publication of the notice and final classification, on Sep. 17, 2018. (11/23/18) DTS 2211

Early February. BLM-CA. The Barstow Field Office anticipates publishing an Environmental Assessment for the Kern River Gas Transmission Company Pesticide Use Proposal project. This project proposes the use of pre-and post-emergent herbicides at fenced pump stations and use of herbicide treatments on weed species within the Kern River Gas right-of-way.

Early February. BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District will have the Notice of Intent Briefing for the DOI Review Team to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed expansion of the Coeur Rochester Mine. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District will brief the DOI Review Team on the Hycroft Mine Draft EIS Notice of Availability. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-NV. The Battle Mountain District will brief the Review Team on the Mount Hope Project Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). (11/9/18)

Late February. BLM-NV. The Humboldt River Field Office will publish the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Marigold Mine Mackay Optimization Project. Numerous groups have expressed concern with this project especially related to the potential impacts to surface and groundwater. (11/2/18)

In February. BLM-NM. The Oklahoma Field Office cancelled a public hearing originally scheduled for January 7, 2019, for the Draft Environmental Assessment for a Lease by Application (LBA) in Haskell County, Okla. We are working to determine options for rescheduling. Evans Coal Company submitted an LBA for federal coal reserves underlying 1,270.85 acres of privately-owned surface lands. Evans estimates that the proposed lease area contains nearly 3.28 million tons of recoverable coal. This may be controversial because it is coal-related and the tract lies beneath a lake used for recreation by a private club. (8/17/18) DTS 229

Early February. BLM-OR/WA. Lakeview District plans to sign the Coyote Colvin Grazing Permit Renewal Environmental Analysis, allowing an "Outcome Based Grazing Authorization". This EA involves six allotments, five of which are included in the Outcome Based Grazing program. The proposal is to expand the season of use and allow for more

flexibility in pasture rotation. The number of AUMs (9,136) would remain the same. There is a cooperative relationship with the permittee and no controversy with NGOs at this time. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-CO. The Colorado River Valley Field Office expects to complete its 30-day review of a major plan of operation modification proposal it received from RMR Aggregates, Inc., which operates a limestone quarry adjacent to Glenwood Springs. The proposed expansion includes more than 300 acres of disturbance and over 250 truck trips per day (currently around 20 acres and 20 trips per day). The proposal addresses non-compliance issues the company inherited when it purchased the quarry in 2016. Because of its visibility from Glenwood Springs, the project is highly controversial. Both the City and Garfield County have expressed concerns regarding socioeconomic and transportation impacts. (11/30/18)

Early February. BLM-WY. The Worland Field Office plans to release an environmental assessment analyzing an update to the Fifteenmile Wild Horse Herd Management Area (HMA) Plan, and gathers needed to implement the plan, for a 30-day public comment period. About half of the HMA is Greater Sage Grouse priority habitat. Due to the inherent controversy associated with wild horse management, there may be public and media interest in this comment period. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-OR/WA. The Coos Bay District plans to issue decisions and sale notices for three upcoming timber sales The timber will be sold at an oral auction on Jan. 25, 2018. The sale is expected to yield 269,000 board feet. (12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-WY. The Rock Springs Field Office will release the North Dutch John Well #1 EA, FONSI and Decision Record. The proponent requested a hold on this analysis for several years to modify the proposal, but is now prepared to move forward. Public interest in the pending decision likely will be high because the proposed well is located in the Greater Little Mountain Area, a popular hunting and fishing destination. The proposed action includes drilling a single well, constructing a well pad, upgrading a two-track road and building an access road. The proponent has committed to several mitigation measures including moving the well pad location, applying timing restrictions for crucial mule deer winter range, installing erosion control devices, burying associated pipelines and managing weeds. The BLM determined impacts to the area would be minimal due to these measures. (10/23/18)

Early February. BLM-OR/WA. The Lakeview District anticipates finalizing the Response to Comments regarding a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact analyzing the potential effects of a wild horse gather and fertility control plan for the Beaty Butte Herd Management Area. This is separate from the Warm Springs Herd Management Area gather and fertility control plan, which is currently in litigation. Two alternatives within this EA would allow BLM to gather horses below maximum AML and will likely be controversial if selected. The decision is expected to be signed by early February 2019 and a gather scheduled in fall 2019.(12/7/18)

Early February. BLM-CO. The Tres Rios Field Office will initiate public scoping for GCC Energy LLC's proposed King II Coal Mine Lease by Application (LBA). The proposed LBA includes approximately 3,200 acres north of the existing King II Coal Mine. The LBA would extend mine life for 5-7 years and use existing surface facilities and transportation routes. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement is the joint lead on the EA. (10/26/18)

Early February. BLM-ES anticipates publishing in the Federal Register a Public Land Order for the U.S. Coast Guard's relinquishment of Lot 22 of the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (ONA) in Florida. (4/11/18)

In February. BLM-NV. The Mount Lewis Field Office will issue the Record of Decision for the 3 Bars Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration Project—a programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) proposing to treat up to 127,000 acres of sagebrush steppe, riparian habitat, pinyon juniper woodland, and aspen groves within a 749,810-acre area in part of the Field Office. (8/24/18)

Early February. BLM-AK. The Eastern Interior Field Office will consult with the Tribal Governments of Chalkyitsik and the Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in (Fort Yukon). One meeting will likely occur in Fort Yukon while a second may be scheduled for Chalkyitsik. The consultation will fulfill the Tribes' request, made during consultation in 2018, that the BLM afford them an opportunity to share their priorities for implementation of the Eastern Interior Resource Management Plan. (10/26/18)

In February. BLM-NM. The Oklahoma Field Office plans to publish a Notice of Availability announcing the release of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for public comment regarding the Liberty 8 competitive coal lease. The lease sale consists of 460 acres to be mined by surface and/or underground techniques. The scoping period on the EA closed on Sep. 8. (8/17/18)

In February. BLM-CO. The Royal Gorge Field Office plans to issue a final decision for the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area (AHRA) Management Plan. The Arkansas River is the most commercially rafted river in the United States and is a major economic driver for the region. The BLM manages the AHRA in partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, which is also a signatory on the plan. The plan addresses river allocation, recreation facility development, and resource management along the entire 152-mile stretch. (8/17/18)

In February. BLM-CO. BLM CO will close on the purchase of Eagle County Open Space's 16.98-acre Two Bridges site along the Upper Colorado River in the Colorado River Valley Field Office for $500,000 through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The appraised fair market value of the Two Bridges site is $850,000. This acquisition supports perpetual river access throughout the Upper Colorado River Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) for fishing and other water-related recreation. The SRMA is heavily used throughout the year. Two Bridges is about four miles downriver from the State Bridge site. (10/9/18)

In February. BLM-NM. The Las Cruces District Office plans to publish the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Copper Flat Copper Mining Project. The New Mexico Copper Corporation submitted a proposed mining plan of operations (MPO) that would re-establish the Copper Flat Copper Mine, a poly-metallic mine and processing facility near Hillsboro, N.M., that would produce copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum. If approved, the project is expected to provide 170-270 jobs over the mine's 12-to-16-year life. (5/25/18)

In February. BLM-CO is preparing a Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Transfer of Jurisdiction of two isolated BLM-managed parcels totaling 120 acres in Mesa County to the National Park Service's Colorado National Monument which are not contiguous with other BLM lands. The Colorado National Monument's 2005 General Management Plan identified the two parcels as important for improving public access to popular trailheads. The notice would segregate the lands from location and entry under the mining laws for two years while studies are completed to recommend a 50-year withdrawal and transfer of jurisdiction. The segregation would not close the lands to mineral leasing or mineral material laws. BLM-CO is planning for a Feb. 2019 publication in the Federal Register (pending WO and DOI approval). (7/20/18)

In February. BLM-NM. The Socorro Field Office plans to publish the Notice of Availability for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Borderlands Wind Project (BLWP). (8/31/18)

In February. BLM-NV. The Black Rock Field Office will publish the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Hycroft Mine Expansion Phase II. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will issue a decision on an eagle incidental take permit based on analysis in the EIS. (8/24/18)

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

UPDATED ITEMS

BOEM continues to review its FY 2019 Contingency Plan and prepare options for ASLM pertaining to use of existing appropriated carryover funds.

Preparation of the decision documents for the Proposed National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program and draft PEIS continues. Once published, a 90-day public comment period with public meetings are expected to begin.

ONGOING ITEMS

BOEM has prepared multiple Calls for Information and Nominations (Calls) for lease sales proposed for 2019 and 2020 in the 2019-2024 Draft Proposed Program. The Mid-Atlantic Call (DTS #2257), the South Atlantic Call (DTS #2258), the Southern California Call (DTS #2388), and the Chukchi Sea Call (DTS #2385) are currently being held pending direction on the National OCS Program. (9/21/18)

Work continues on preparation of the Final Notice of Sale for Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 252, which must publish by February 15 for the Sale to be held as scheduled, and the Proposed Notice of Sale for Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 253 . Both Notices are with ASLM for surnaming.

Once appropriations are restored for the Department, BOEM expects to submit the Final Rule updating its air quality regulations related to oil, gas, and sulfur operations on the OCS to OMB for interagency review. A narrative describing the reduction to costs as compared to the proposed rule (Reduction to Costs Narrative) and the rule text are currently with the Department for review. (8/2/18, DTS #2280 (Rule), DTS #2454 (Reduction to Costs Narrative))

Once appropriations are restored for the Department, BOEM expects to publish a Request for Competitive Interest for an area proposed to be used for a right-of-way (ROW) project from Anbaric Development Partners (ADP). The application is for the New York and New Jersey Ocean Grid, an HVDC submarine system approximately 185NM (213 statute miles) in length with up to nine offshore AC to DC collector/converter platforms, which would collect and distribute power generated from existing offshore wind leases to up to six terrestrial landings at locations from Long Island, New York to Cardiff, New Jersey. The notice is in surnaming with the Department. (10/15/18, DTS #2208)

Once appropriations are restored for the Department, BOEM expects to publish a Request for Competitive Interest for an area proposed to be used for a right-of-way (ROW) project called Atlantic Link. Clean Power Northeast Development, Inc. filed an application on May 31, 2017 (revised August 22, and September 26), for a ROW grant in support of a proposed project connecting onshore wind and hydro power in Canada to the Massachusetts market via a 350 mile HVDC submarine cable traversing the OCS. The notice is in surnaming with the Department. (DTS #1773)

On January 18, 2019, the U.S. District Court for South Carolina issued an injunction enjoining "Federal Defendants, BOEM, and any other federal agency or entity from taking action to promulgate permits, otherwise approve, or take any other official action regarding the pending permit applications for oil and gas surveys in the Atlantic" until after appropriations are restored and the court rules on certain motions. BOEM has ceased preparatory work on the permit applications while Interior is consulting with DOJ about seeking clarification of the court's order.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

ONGOING ITEMS

Well Control Rule- The rule was surnamed by the Deputy Secretary, the Associate Deputy Secretary, and the ASLM on **December 11.** The rule was surnamed by the Deputy Chief of Staff for the Secretary and submitted to Exec Sec on **December 12**. Exec Sec informed us that they submitted the rule to OMB on **December 12.** OMB officially "accepted" the rule to formally start the E.O. 12866 review "clock" on **December 13**. OMB requested an E.O.

12866 inter-agency briefing on the rule for **December 20**, in which the BSEE Director and SMEs presented and discussed items with OMB staff. OMB remains on the clock. WCR was identified as a top priority for BSEE's 15 day list. Upon receipt of comments from OMB, we will gather the appropriate BSEE team to respond. BSEE is still pursuing a late February publication in the Federal Register dependent upon OMB's comments.

Arctic Rule – BSEE will finish Tribal Consultation upon the end of the government shutdown. Next steps will be to begin drafting the rule.

- § As of 1/16/19, BSEE completed 88% of the municipalities meetings (7 of 8).
- § As of 1/16/19, BSEE completed 75% of the ANCSA Corporations meetings (6 of 8)

Reg. Reform 2.0- BSEE Director engaged a variety of BSEE personnel and through this process identified 13 regulatory actions fitting this description. The BSEE Director recently requested input from 20 senior managers on their ranking of importance. Despite the variations in the rankings on the individual "ballots," there was a general consensus around the top four rankings. Those top four recommended priority rulemakings for the first half of 2019 are:

- · **Pipelines and Pipeline Rights-of-Way** (30 CPR Part 250 - Subpart J);
- · **Decommissioning Activities** (30 CPR Part 250 - Subpart Q);
- · **Incorporation of Industry Standards** (30 CPR 250.198);
- · **Suspension of Operations {SOO)/Suspension of Production {SOP)** (30 CFR Part 250 - Subpart A)

Risk Based Inspection – BSEE Office of Safety Management (OSM) trained inspectors (**December 19 and 20**) for the upcoming Performance Based Risk Inspection (PBRI) on Well Operation Hazards, and the inspection took place the week of **January 7**. Additionally, OSM has concluded their evaluation on which deep-water facility will be subject to the next Facility Based Risk Inspection (FBRI) in late January 2019.
BEST Available and Safety Technology (BAST) - On December 4, the BSEE Director requested input from the industry on the "production equipment" components that should be subject to BAST, which is expected by mid-February.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

ONGOING ITEMS

Notice of Intent to File Suit: On or about December 7, 2018, the Secretary and the OSMRE Regional Director, Western Region, received a Notice of Intent to File Suit over alleged violations of the Endangered Species Act in approving Signal Peak Energy LLC's (Signal Peak) lease at the Bull Mountains Mine from the Montana Environmental Information Center, the Sierra Club, WildEarth Guardians, and 350 Montana conservation groups. These conservation groups state that OSMRE did not assess whether the project would impact grizzly bears and numerous other species that may be impacted by coal train shipments from the mine to the coal export terminal in British Columbia that is the primary destination of the coal. SMCRA allows OSMRE 60 days to respond to the NOI before an action can be filed, which would be in early February. (12/11/2018)

OSMRE AML Emergency Reclamation Projects: OSMRE staff has been designated as "excepted" and called back from furlough to respond to Abandoned Mine Land Emergency activities. OSMRE staff working with the designated State AML programs must review the incident, declare an emergency and provide an Authorization to proceed with the reclamation using AML grant funding. More information regarding the sites is available upon request.

Citizen's Complaint Filed: On January 11, 2019, the Trustees for Alaska filed a citizen complaint (with ten exhibits) alleging the surface coal mining operations of Usibelli Coal Mining, Inc. at Wishbone Hill, are being conducted without a valid permit in violation of the Alaska Surface Coal Mining Control and Reclamation Act. They also allege that the State of Alaska has failed to administer its program in compliance with federal requirements regarding the company's failure to initiate mining operations within three years of the permit issuance, as required by Federal law and the State's regulatory program.

River Hurricane Mine, Pike County, KY: The impoundment of water within the underground mine works of the River Hurricane Mine in Pike County, KY presents the potential for a blowout which would impact the safety of residents in the Grapevine, KY community as well as the surrounding environment including the waters of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers' Fishtrap Lake. The Lexington Field Office, Office of the Solicitor, Applicant Violator System Office and AR's Technical Assistance Division took immediate action to assess and monitor the mine pool and engage relevant regulatory authorities, responsible parties and local emergency management officials to address the situation. United and its successor companies have denied ongoing responsibility over the site. A current permittee High Ridge Mining, LLC, with operations covering portions of the mine pool area, was issued an Imminent Danger Cessation Order by the KY Department of Natural Resources and ordered to begin dewatering and monitoring of the mine. While not accepting responsibility for the site, on January 6, 2019, High Ridge has re-established the blocked mine drain system and has begun to dewater the mine. As of January 10, 2019, the mine pool level dropped below the "Stand By Alert" stage to the "Intensified Monitoring and Reassessment of Stability" stage. OSMRE staff are continuing to assist KYDNR staff in monitoring and assessing the site.

Rosebud Mine (MT): The OSMRE Western Region jointly prepared an EIS with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. The EIS will be used to support a recommendation on the mining plan for Area F of the Rosebud Mine. OSMRE obtained Departmental Clearance to publish the Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Final EIS in the *Federal Register*. The NOA was published in the *Federal Register* on Friday, November 30, 2018. OSMRE is awaiting revised permit findings information from the State of Montana, prior to finalizing the Record of Decision (ROD).

Illinois' Diversion of Abandoned Mined Land (AML) Funds: OSMRE was informed by Illinois program officials that the enactment of a new state law, Public Act 100-1107, authorizes the State Treasurer to divert monies from various trust funds for utilization and investment by the State. As we were informed and have confirmed, sometime during the month of October, the State of Illinois "statutorily transferred" $50 million out of the State's

AML "Set-Aside" fund. OSMRE staff prepared a draft letter for the Acting Director's signature to Illinois Governor Rauner seeking the immediate return of the funds to their appropriate account. The SOL reviewed the draft letter and provided comment to OSMRE. OSMRE will finalize and send letter to the State. (11/27/2018)

Section 7 Consultation: OSMRE sent the IMCC the final draft Biological Assessment (BA) and BA references, and the final draft MOU, as well as responses to the IMCC's comments on the earlier draft, following the Assistant Secretary's signing of the transmittal letter to the IMCC on October 16, 2018. The IMCC's time for providing comments has been extended. (10/18/2018)

Justice Companies' Bevins Branch Mine: On January 3, 2019, a follow up site visit was conducted by OSMRE as an "excepted" activity. While Imminent Danger conditions remain, the Permittee has begun initial steps to divert drainage away from Bear Fork watershed into adjacent watersheds, but has not restored the affected area back to permitted and/or pre-mining conditions. OSMRE will continue to monitor this permit to ensure all abatement measures required are met while the permanent plan is established.

Mason Coal (KY): The Kentucky Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement (KYDMR) informed OSMRE that on or about October 25, 2018, it became aware that Mason Coal was operating an underground coal mine and surface facility without a valid mining permit. OSMRE, pursuant to 30 CFR 843.11(a)(2), issued a Federal Imminent Harm Cessation Order (IHCO) to Mason on November 1, compelling the company to cease coal mining operations. OSMRE and Mason signed a Settlement Agreement (SA) with Mason agreeing not to oppose Mason's request for temporary relief from the IHCO, under the terms of the SA. In November 2018, an ALJ with the Office of Hearings and Appeals granted Mason's request for temporary relief pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Settlement Agreement. Mason has applied to Kentucky to obtain the necessary mining permit for the operation and the permitting process is ongoing.
(11/2/2018)

Pollyanna #8 (OK): On July 10, 2018, OSMRE received approval from BLM of the Resource Recovery and Protection Plan and the coal lease modification for the Pollyanna #8 mine. OSMRE initiated the public review period on the draft EA and unsigned FONSI on November 20, 2018. The public comment period closed on December 20, 2018. Limited comments were received, Mid-Continent Region will work to finalize the MPDD once furloughed staff returns to active duty from the government shutdown. (11/27/18)

Notice of Intent to File Suit: On or about September 7, 2018, the Secretary and the Acting Director received a Notice of Intent to File Suit over an alleged failure to perform an alleged mandatory duty under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act from the WildEarth Guardians (WEG). WEG alleges that the agency failed to "promptly promulgate regulations to limit toxic blasting emissions at coal mines after granting a petition for rulemaking." SMCRA allows OSMRE 60 days to respond to the NOI before an action can be filed. The Solicitor's Office advised OSMRE on its options in response to the NOI. OSMRE sent a response letter to WEG on November 6, 2018, indicating that OSMRE would publish its

decision in the *Federal Register* within 90 days, on or before February 4, 2019. OSMRE was on track to meet this deadline before the furlough. (10/18/2018)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLICY, MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Susan Combs, Senior Adviser to the Secretary exercising the authority of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, will be in the office.

Scott Cameron, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, will be in the office.

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

No significant external meetings, travel, or Congressional hearings involving PMB are anticipated.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

PMB is revising its furlough plan to bring back as exempt additional currently furloughed or excepted employees whose jobs involve priority activities.

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Policy and Environmental Management (DAS PEM)

PPA continues to lead a review of the future external-facing role of IBC in cooperation with IBC, PAM, PFM, SOL, and BIO internally, and external partners OMB, GSA, and Treasury.

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

OMB issued guidance to facilitate the payment of contract invoices during the lapse in appropriations. The Business Integration Office is implementing plans to process an increased number of invoices submitted to FBMS. PAM is providing guidance to the bureaus on how to address the OMB guidance.

The Office of Budget is analyzing information from bureaus and offices that was due Friday, January 25 on recurring major discretionary or mandatory funding disbursements (payments or awards) which would normally occur. This information will be used to anticipate and address concerns regarding upcoming standard payments and awards.

The Office of Budget is analyzing information from bureaus and offices to respond to a request from the White House to provide a list by January 25 of programs where funds will run out between now and April 16.

The Office of Budget will issue biweekly data call to bureaus and offices to capture pay period costs and the burn rates of unobligated balances. The next report will include costs for the pay period ending January 19th, which are posted on January 30.

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services (DAS PRE)

A hiring plan will be prepared to allow recruitment of fire season workers, including staffing by HR specialists and bureau fire managers.

An internal training plan will be developed to provide critical training to OAS inspectors, mechanics and pilots which has been cancelled as a result of the shutdown.

OWF is exploring the possibility of accelerating the obligation of available fuels treatment and burned area rehabilitation funds to put currently furloughed bureau employees to work.

OEM is preparing plans to respond to COOP requirements in the event the State of the Union address takes place on the 29th. Additional information will be known on January 25th.

8-30 Day Outlook

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

We are awaiting direction from OMB on a new release date for the President's FY 2020 budget, which will in turn determine deadlines for bureau and office budget justification development.

Work continues on the GrantSolutions migration, with a cost estimate expected from HHS on or about February 15, 2019.

Review of draft deliverables from Grant Thornton LLP contract on procurement shared services is continuing.

Chief Information Officer (CIO)

NEW ITEMS

The Department is responding to the directive of January 22, DHS's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Director Christopher Krebs on Emergency Directive 19-01: Mitigate DNS Infrastructure Tampering. The Directive requires all agencies to mitigate risks from undiscovered tampering, enable agencies to prevent illegitimate DNS activity for their domains, and detect unauthorized certificates. The deadline for response is February 5, 2019.

OWF is preparing a contingency plan and risk analysis to assess the implications for the fire program if the government shutdown continues until March 1, April 1, or May 1.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR WATER AND SCIENCE

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary Tim Petty will be in the office.

Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman is scheduled to be in Washington, D.C.

USGS Director Reilly will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

Central Utah Project Completion Act Office

Utah Lake System South Fields Reach Environmental Assessment: The Central Utah Water Conservancy District (CUWCD), Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, and the Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA) Office, as Joint Lead Agencies, are evaluating realignment of a portion of the South Fields Reach of the Spanish Fork – Santaquin Pipeline, which is part of the Utah Lake Drainage Basin System (ULS) of the Central Utah Project. The Spanish Fork – Santaquin Pipeline was initially evaluated in an Environmental Impact Statement completed in 2004. Scoping for NEPA compliance of the realignment has been initiated, comments received, and a preferred alignment identified. The Joint Lead Agencies are moving forward in preparing a Draft Environmental Assessment to evaluate potential impacts associated with the realignment alternatives. (1/23/2019)

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Between January 27 and February 8, Reclamation plans to announce the funding opportunity for the Fiscal Year 2019 Water and Energy Efficiency Program. Water and energy efficiency grants focus on projects that conserve and use water more efficiently. A news release will be issued. (01/09/2019)

Between January 27 and February 8, Reclamation plans to announce the funding opportunity for the Fiscal Year 2019 Drought Response Program. The Drought Response Program supports a proactive approach to drought by aiding water managers to develop and update comprehensive drought plans and implement projects that will build long-term resiliency to drought. A news release will be issued. (12/03/2018)

Between January 27 and February 8, Reclamation plans to announce the funding opportunity for WaterSMART's Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects. Through this program, Reclamation provides 50/50 cost-share funding to irrigation and water districts, tribes, states

and other entities for small water efficiency improvements that have been identified through previous planning efforts. A news release will be issued. (12/03/2018)

Between January 28 and February 8, Reclamation plans to post the Klamath River Basin Study to its website. Reclamation partnered with the State of California Department of Water Resources and State of Oregon Water Resources Department to conduct the study. The study area encompasses 12,100 square miles along the boundary of California and Oregon. No news release will be issued but talking points will be developed to respond to questions. (12/17/2018)

On January 28, Reclamation plans to issue a contract to Precision Surveys Inc. for professional surveying services throughout the Upper Colorado Region. The contract will be an Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity for up to five years with a cost ceiling of $24.5 million. Reclamation anticipates most work activities will be performed in central south Colorado, New Mexico, and northwest Texas with most of the work being performed along the Rio Grande corridor. (12/17/2018)

During the week of January 28, Reclamation is planning to release a Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the Funding of Routine Operation, Maintenance, and Replacement of Associated Water Transmission Facilities of the Mni Wiconi Rural Water Supply Project, South Dakota. The comment period ended January 11, 2019 – no significant comments were received. (11/26/2018)

Between January 28 and February 1, Reclamation will post a web story announcing the funding of 14 additional science and technology projects that Reclamation will be studying this fiscal year. These are in addition to the selection of 49 projects Reclamation announced in October. (12/17/2018)

Between January 28 and February 8, Reclamation will announce the winners of the year-long sub-seasonal climate forecast rodeo prize competition. This forecasting prize competition had solvers submit forecasts of temperature and precipitation for one year, competing in real-time against other teams as well as forecasts from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA was a partner with Reclamation on this project. (12/03/2018)

On January 29, Reclamation has been invited to present its invasive mussel research activities at the 79th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Cleveland, Ohio. This annual event will attract nearly 800 biologists, students, and scientists from local, state and provincial, federal, and tribal natural resources agencies, universities, and private companies across the 12 Midwestern states and Canadian provinces. (12/03/2018)

Around January 30, Reclamation is planning to publish the Green River Block Water Exchange Contract Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact. The contract is between Reclamation and the State of Utah along the Green River between Flaming Gorge and Lake Powell (Eastern Utah and Northwest Colorado). The Final

EA will reflect the comments made during the 50-day comment period in a matrix that will be published as an appendix. (12/31/2018)

On January 28, Reclamation will host a meeting with the Friant Division Contractors at its Fresno, California, office. The meeting is expected to cover revisions to the Friant Operational Guidelines. The operational guidelines are written to establish procedures guiding water supply management of the Friant Division, Central Valley Project, California. No media interest is expected. (01/22/2019)

On January 28, Reclamation plans to distribute a news release announcing light construction on the dikes at Folsom Dam and Reservoir (California) under the Safety of Dams program. Weather permitting, construction is scheduled to begin the week of January 28. The area is highly trafficked with a large bike trail, but no major traffic delays are expected. Media or local attention may occur. (01/22/2019)

On January 30, Reclamation will host a meeting with the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD) at the Fresno, California, office. The meeting is expected to cover a review of the fish surcharge and flood operation tools that Stetson Engineers developed for the County of Santa Barbara and the SYRWCD. Tabletop exercises involving historical storm events are planned. No media interest is expected. (01/22/2019)

On January 31, Reclamation plans to issue a request for input by the Governors of the seven Colorado River Basin States and others, regarding recommendations for potential Departmental actions in the event that Drought Contingency Plans cannot be completed and promptly adopted. This request will be issued in the event the seven Colorado River Basin states have not completed and approved the Drought Contingency Plans by that time. Significant media interest is expected. (01/22/2019)

On January 31, the Biological Assessment on the Reinitiation of Consultation on the Coordinated Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project in California is expected to be provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service to initiate the consultation process under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Reclamation is contemplating a news release. The document will be posted on Reclamation website. (01/08/2019)

On or about January 31, Reclamation plans to sign the Cottonwood Creek Daylighting Project Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The Final EA and FONSI are for a WaterSMART grant to restore this portion of Cottonwood Creek to its natural condition. The creek, located in downtown Boise, Idaho, currently flows through a culvert. A news release may be issued early February. (1/11/2019).

In January, Reclamation plans to close Road 12 (Washington) located in a topographical low spot to install a metal swing gate for public safety. The new gate will not require a cultural survey and is noncontroversial. Reclamation and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife are working together on the project. A legal notice and press release are currently being developed. (12/06/2018)

U.S. Geological Survey

Shutdown Status: To the extent possible, USGS is calling staff back to support projects that we can identify as critical to safety and preservation of lives and property. We are evaluating every project for potential losses of critical science and, where possible, bringing personnel in to support those efforts. We are also assessing where we might find the funding to bring back some staff on an exempt basis. Our 2018 Appropriated carryover is limited, and we are assessing fund availability and reprogramming flexibility to cover resources within a program. We also will be activating employees to work on all signed reimbursable activities and have requested that we reach out to those customers to confirm the agreements are still in effect.

The Water Mission Area is maintaining executive coordination pertaining to network monitoring systems and working in coordination with other Federal agencies in case of a natural disaster (flood). Primary focus is on the streamgage monitoring network. To date approximately 400 sites have been serviced or repaired to ensure our partners have the information needed to help protect lives and property.

We are continuing to monitor and report on domestic and global earthquakes through the 24X7 National Earthquake Information Center (NEIC) in Colorado. Staff at USGS volcano observatories are continuing to provide basic monitoring of potential eruptive activity at US volcanoes.

The USGS is maintaining servers for the ShakeAlert West Coast earthquake early warning system as well as continuing to approve and monitor pilot projects for the ShakeAlert system and to work to permit and install seismic stations for earthquake early warning funded by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

The USGS has called staff back as needed to update debris flow hazard thresholds for burned areas of California where the National Weather Service (NWS) needs refined rainfall thresholds to forecast and communicate the potential magnitude of post-wildfire debris flows based on rainfall projections. This is the rainy season in California, and following the severe fires experienced this past summer and fall, the rainfall threshold information is critical for debris-flow early warning. NWS is counting on USGS to provide this information to help protect lives and property. (1/23/2019)

8-30 Day Outlook

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

NEW ITEMS

Between February 4 and 8, Reclamation plans to release inflow forecasts for Wyoming Area Office Bighorn Basin Reservoirs and will prepare a joint news release with Montana Area Office to address forecasted inflow to Bull Lake, Boysen Reservoir, Buffalo Bill Dam, and

Bighorn Reservoirs, all of which are in Wyoming. Inflow forecasts will also be prepared for the North Platte Basin reservoirs, also located in Wyoming. Inflow forecasts will be updated monthly and corresponding joint news releases will be issued near the beginning of the months of February through June. (1/21/2019)

UPDATED ITEMS

In early February, Reclamation plans to issue a news release inviting a two-week public review and comment period on a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) titled *Implementation of Short Term Klamath Project Interim Operating Procedures in Siskiyou and Modoc Counties, California and Klamath County, Oregon.* The EA will evaluate the proposed operations for the Klamath Project as described in the 2018 Biological Assessment released in December 2018. This effort is part of the accelerated Klamath Reinitation of Consultation process that is expected to culminate in joint Biological Opinions from the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service at the end of March 2018. Media interest is expected. (01/14/2019)

On February 12-13, Alan Mikkelsen, the Senior Advisor to the Secretary, may be in Medford, Oregon, to facilitate his "Coalition of the Willing" working toward a Klamath Basin-Wide agreement. This meeting is tentative, pending government shutdown termination. (01/14/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

In February, Reclamation will launch the Streamflow prize competition. This prize competition's goal is to significantly reduce the cost of continuous streamflow monitoring and increase the availability of streamflow data that are vital to the effective planning, design, and operation of water resource projects. Reclamation is partnering with the USGS on this competition. A news release will be issued. (12/03/2018)

On February 12-13, the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program Annual Reporting meeting is scheduled in Phoenix, Arizona, at the Arizona Department of Water Resources. This annual reporting meeting is held in accordance with the Long-Term Environmental and Management Plan Record of Decision to serve as an initial platform to discuss potential future experimental actions as well as a forum for presentations based on the previous research and monitoring. The annual reporting meeting is open to all interested stakeholders. (01/14/2019)

On February 14, the Glen Canyon Dam Technical Work Group meeting will be held at the Arizona Department of Water Resources in Phoenix, Arizona. Topics of discussion will include the Adaptive Management Program budget and workplan for fiscal year 2019, possible experiments at Glen Canyon Dam in 2019 including planning for future High-Flow Experiments, current basin hydrology, Long-Term Experimental and Management Plan Biological Opinion Conservation Measures, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plans for a Colorado Pikeminnow Reintroduction Feasibility study, Razorback Sucker five year review,

Tribal Monitoring Program presentation, and other administrative items as needed. The meeting is open to media and the public. (01/14/2019)

On February 20 through 22, the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum's Work Group will meet in Phoenix and Scottsdale, Arizona. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss ongoing and future salinity control activities with the federal agencies of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and United States Geological Survey of the Department of the Interior; and the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture. Meeting is open press. (01/07/2019)

In February, Reclamation expects to announce the projects selected to receive Fiscal Year 2018 Title XVI, Water Reclamation and Reuse funding. Reclamation provides funding through the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program for projects that reclaim and reuse municipal, industrial, domestic or agricultural wastewater and naturally impaired ground or surface waters. (09/10/2018)

In February, Reclamation plans to announce the Title XVI Authorized Projects Funding Opportunity Announcement for Fiscal Year 2019. Through the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program, Reclamation provides financial and technical assistance to local water agencies for the planning, design, and construction of water reclamation and reuse projects. A news release will be issued. (01/09/2019)

U.S. Geological Survey

Nothing to report due to the shutdown.

From:	Dermody, Matthew
To:	Alan Mikkelsen; Alex Hinson; Alex Sterhan; Amanda Kaster-Averill; Andrea Travnicek; Appel, Elizabeth; Aurelia Skipwith; Benjamin Cassidy; Billy Dove; Brenda Burman; Brian Steed; Cally Younger; Cara Macdonald; Caroline Boulton; Casey Hammond; Casey Stemler; Catherine Gulac; Chris Prandoni; Christina Summers; Cole Rojewski; Daniel Jorjani; Doug Domenech; Edward Keable; Eli Nachmany; Elinor Werner; Evan Wilson; Faith Vander Voort; Gareth Rees; Gary Lawkowski; George Triebsch; Heather Swift; Hubbel Relat; James Reilly; James Schindler; James Voyles; Jim Cason; Joe Balash; John Bockmier; John Tahsuda; John Tanner; Joshua Campbell; Juliette Lillie; Karen Budd-Falen; Kathleen Benedetto; Katie Mills; Kerry Rae; Kiel Weaver; Kimberly Edwards; Lacey Smethers; Leila Getto; Lisa Pelstring; Lori Mashburn; MacGregor, Katharine; Mariagrazia Caminiti; Marshall Critchfield; Matthew Dermody; Maureen Foster; Melissa Beaumont; Michael Argo; Moody, Joan; Nikolao Pula; Richard Myers; Ronald Klawitter; Russell Newell; Ryan Hambleton; Ryan Nichols; Samantha Hebert; Sarah Jorgenson; Sarah Spaulding; Scott Angelle; Scott Cameron; Scott Hommel; Shelby Hagenauer; Steve Wackowski; Susan Combs; Tara Sweeney; Tim Petty; Tim Williams; Todd Willens; Todd Wynn; Wendy Fink; Zack Gambill
Subject:	Weekly Report to the Secretary, March 17-23
Date:	Thursday, March 14, 2019 2:30:17 PM
Attachments:	Weekly Report to the Secretary March 17-23.docx

All,

Attached is the Weekly Report to the Secretary in both Word and Google Doc formats. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Matthew Dermody
Special Assistant
Office of the Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-513-7778 (office)
202-570-5029 (cell)

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

Weekly Report to the Secretary March 17-23.docx

WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MARCH 17-23, 2019

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Acting Chief of Staff Todd Willens will be in the office.

Deputy Chief of Staff Katharine MacGregor will be in the office.

Director of Scheduling and Advance Samantha Hebert will be in the office.

Senior Advisor Scott Hommel will be in the office.

Senior Advisor Heather Swift will be in the office.

Advisor Mike Argo will be in the office.

Advisor Rick May will be in the office.

Special Assistant Matthew Dermody will be in the office.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Director John Bockmier will be in the office.

Deputy Director Russell Newell will be in the office.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

Cole Rojewski, Director, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill

Aaron Thiele, Advisor, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill

Taylor Playforth, Advisor, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill.

UPCOMING HNR OVERSIGHT HEARINGS: The Department of the Interior will be participating in the following House Natural Resources oversight hearings:

- **S/C on National Parks, Forest, and Public Lands hearing to *"Examining the Spending Priorities and Mission of the National Park Service":*** Witness is Danny Smith, Acting Director, NPS
  Timing: April 3, 2019
  Contact: Taylor Playforth, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

- **S/C on National Parks, Forest, and Public Lands hearing to *"Examining the Spending Priorities and Missions of the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management":*** Witness is TBD
  Timing: April 10, 2019
  Contact: Taylor Playforth, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

UPCOMING SCIA OVERSIGHT HEARINGS: The Department of the Interior will participate in the following Senate Committee on Indian Affairs oversight hearings:

- **Full Committee Field Hearing *"TO PROTECT AND SERVE: JOINT LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS IN BUILDING SAFE TRIBAL COMMUNITIES AND STOPPING DANGEROUS DRUGS FROM ENTERING INDIAN COUNTRY"*** Witness is Charles Addington, Director Office of Justice Services, BIA.
  Timing: March 20, 2019
  Contact: Aaron Thiele, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

- **Full Committee hearing on "*BUILDING OUT INDIAN COUNTRY: TOOLS FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT*"** Witness is Tara Sweeney, ASIA.
  Timing: April 10, 2019
  Contact: Aaron Thiele, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Todd Wynn, Director, will be in the office all week.

Benjamin Cassidy, Senior Deputy Director, will be in the office all week.

Tim Williams, Deputy Director, will be in the office all week.

Jason Funes, Special Assistant, will be out of the office on personal leave

Sarah Spaulding, Special Assistant will be in the office all week.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

The OIEA team is working with the BLM to set up a grazing roundtable.

The OIEA team is helping to plan for both PRDJ and AML grant disbursement events.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Associate Deputy Secretary Jim Cason will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions

The Department will sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Defense expanding the role of the DoD liaison to include all issues between the two departments. The MOA will implement the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2018. The package has cleared DOI surnaming and is awaiting concurrence from DoD.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

● Director Julie Lillie will be on leave, Thursday, March 21 thru Friday, March 22. Deputy Director for Regulatory Policy, Justin Abernathy will be Acting Director during this time.
● Deputy Director of Regulatory Affairs, Bivan Patnaik, will be on leave Wednesday, March 20 thru Friday March 22, 2019.
● The Department of the Interior's submission for the Spring 2019 update of the "Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions" will be sent to the Office of Management and Budget on Wednesday March 12, 2019. The Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs is currently working with Bureau/Office regulatory contacts to compile information for the Department's Agenda submission.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

● DOI Priority Rules

○ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Final Rule, "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Prohibitions to Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Blanket Section 4(d) Rule" (RIN 1018-BC97)-The FWS is finalizing revisions to the regulations on prohibitions that apply to species that are listed as threatened species or downlisted from an endangered species to a threatened species. The final rule is with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 12866. DOI received interagency review comments and is reviewing and preparing responses.
○ FWS Final Rule, "Conservation of Endangered and Threatened Species; Revision of Regulations to Address Interagency Cooperation" (RIN 1018-BC87) - The FWS is finalizing revisions to its regulations for interagency cooperation pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. The final rule is with the OMB for review pursuant to EO 12866. DOI received interagency review comments on and is reviewing and preparing responses.
○ FWS Final Rule, "Endangered and Threatened Species of Wildlife and Plants; Revision of the Regulations for Listing Species and Designating Critical Habitat" (RIN 1018-BC88) - The FWS is finalizing revisions to its regulations for listing endangered and threatened species and for designating critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act. The final rule is with the OMB for review pursuant to EO 12866. Interagency comments were also provided to DOI on and is reviewing and preparing responses.
○ Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) Final Rule, "Oil and Gas Sulfur Operations on the Outer Continental Shelf - Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control Revisions" (RIN 1014-AA39) - The BSEE is finalizing

revisions to the regulations for oil and gas drilling, workover, completion and decommissioning operations on the Outer Continental Shelf. The final rule is with the OMB for review pursuant to EO 12866. On February 8, 2019, OMB provided

DOI/BSEE with an initial round of EO 12866 interagency comments. On March 13, 2019, BSEE submitted drafts of revised final rule documents, which include responses to the comments received from OMB and revised regulatory text, for Departmental review. The revised final rule documents and comment responses are currently under review.

● Interagency Reviews Under E.O. 12866

○ EPA's NPRM titled, "Aquatic Life Criteria for Aluminum in Oregon." Comments due to OMB on March 12, 2019.
○ EPA's NPRM titled, "Vehicle Test Procedure Adjustments for Tier 3 Certification Test Fuel." Comments due to OMB on March 11, 2019.

Committee Meetings

Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council - Council is scheduled to meet March 21, 2019 in Washington, DC
Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission - Commission is scheduled to meet via teleconference on March 27, 2019
Secretarial Appointments
400 Years of African-American History Commission - Appointment of Mr. Haywood Swygert
Correspondence
NPS is working on an upcoming draft proclamation for an addition to the U.S. Civil Rights Network with a tentative timeline for end of March.
Incoming Congressional Oversight Requests
February 28, 2019 request from Chairman Grijalva, Committee on Natural Resources, on marine
national monuments. EST #00011691
March 11, 2019 request from Chairman Grijalva, House Committee on Natural Resources, and
Chairman Alan Lowenthal, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, on incidents of noncompliance issued by the BLM's Inspection and Enforcement program. EST #00011754

FOIA Litigation Awareness Reviews

1:17-cv-02111/ OS-2017-00770 and OS-2017-01221, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (Joe
Bushyhead), Records concerning R.S. 2477 settlement negotiations in Utah

1:17-cv-00996/ OS-2017-00207, Western Values Project (Chris Saeger), Pre-1/20/17 monuments
establishment materials
1:18-cv-01216/ OS-2018-00570 and OS-2018-00843, American Oversight (Austin Evers), Communications regarding offshore drilling

1:18-cv-00534/ OS-2018-00249, American Oversight (Austin Evers), Calendars for IOS personnel

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

Principal Deputy Solicitor Daniel Jorjani will be in the office.

Litigation:

In *Weyerhaeuser v. USFWS (dusky gopher frog)*, the United States will seek remand, without vacatur, of the current regulation as to Unit 1.

Endangered Species Act Section 4 Litigation:

- Deadline Lawsuits—We have 13 pending lawsuits regarding 19 species (5 of them are currently stayed). Of these lawsuits, 0 were filed in the past week. We received 0 new notices of intent to sue during the past week.
- Merits Lawsuits—We have 19 pending lawsuits challenging the merits of petition findings (7 cases), final listing or delisting determinations (6 cases), final critical habitat designations (5 cases), and the species status assessment process (1 case). Of these lawsuits, 0 were filed in the past week. We received 0 new notices of intent to sue during the past week.

Multiple Lawsuits Related to the Emergency Declaration on the Southern Border
The Department has been named in several lawsuits challenging President Trump's declaration of an emergency on the Mexican border (*Center for Biological Diversity et al. v. Trump et al.*, 1:19-cv-00408 (D.D.C.); *California et al. v. Trump et al.*, 3:19-cv-00872 (N.D. Cal.); *El Paso County, et al., v. Trump et al.,* 3:19-cv-00066 (W.D. Tex.)). General Law is working with the Department of Justice to identify Departmental equities and to get litigation holds in place.

Creating an Inter-Agency Agreement between NPS and the U.S. Secret Service, Architect of the Capitol, and GSA for sharing the design and mold of White House Security Bollards
Several Government agencies have requested the use of the mold for the White House security bollards. NPS designed the molds and limits the use by other Government agencies and prohibits third party use. Currently, there are no active access agreements. DGL will draft a Use Agreement (Inter-Agency Agreement) that will allow inter-agency use of the security bollards and restrict their re-use or reproduction of the bollards, both physical copies and its intellectual property.

Potential Claims Based on Alleged Radiation Exposure at the Grand Canyon
The Torts Practice Branch is coordinating with the Department of Justice to address the potential tort claims of visitors to the Grand Canyon who may have been exposed to rock

samples containing uranium ore housed in the Grand Canyon Museum Collections Building between 2000 and 2018. To date, the Department of the Interior has not received any FTCA claims related to such exposure. NPS employees exposed to uranium ore would likely be barred from bringing an FTCA claim and their potential remedy would fall under the Federal Employee Claims Act.

Petition for Rulemaking
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service anticipates publication in the Federal Register of a petition for rulemaking seeking revision to existing rules pertaining to the religious use of bald eagle and golden eagle feathers and parts for Native Americans. The petition is being published pursuant to the terms of a settlement agreement entered into in 2016 by the United States with McAllen Grace Brethren Church and the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty. Any changes to existing rules will be subject to a public comment period and tribal consultation consistent with Executive Order 13175.

City of Beaufort v. NMFS (D.S.C.) -Atlantic G&G IHAs
DOJ filed its opposition brief to most of the Plaintiffs' preliminary injunction motions on Wednesday, March 13. These plaintiffs have until March 25 to file their reply. DOJ filed a motion seeking a one-week extension until March 22 to file its opposition to the State of South Carolina's PI motion, with the State then having until April 2 to file its reply.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

From March 18-22, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Andrea Travnicek will be in the office; on March 21, she will be attending the Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council Meeting at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

From March 18-22, Deputy Assistant Secretary Aurelia Skipwith will be in the office.

From March 18-21, Deputy Assistant Secretary Ryan Hambleton will be in the office; on March 22, he will be on annual leave.

From March 18-22, NPS Acting Director Dan Smith will be in the office.

From March 18-22, FWS Principal Deputy Director, Margaret Everson will in the office; on March 21, she will be participating in the Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council Meeting. On March 22, she will speak at the FWS, Special Agent Course at NCTC in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

On or around March 18, FWS will publish in the *Federal Register* a final rule amending the depredation and control orders to allow destruction of resident Canada goose nests and eggs at any time of year. In 2006, FWS implemented several actions intended to reduce, manage, and control resident Canada goose populations in the continental United States and to reduce related damages. Those actions included depredation and control orders that allow destruction of their nests and eggs by authorized personnel between March 1 and June 30. However, some resident Canada geese currently initiate nests in February, particularly in the southern United States, and it seems likely that in the future, nest initiation dates will begin earlier and hatching of eggs could end later. This change will give the states more flexibility to address specific, local damage problems caused by resident Canada geese. If-asked talking points will be available. Information will also be posted to the web. (Updated 03/13/2019)

On or around March 18, FWS will publish in the *Federal Register* a proposed rule to amend the agricultural depredation order to allow take of resident Canada geese at agricultural facilities between April 1 and August 31 in Atlantic Flyway states. In 2006, FWS implemented several actions intended to reduce, manage, and control resident Canada goose populations in the continental United States and to reduce related damages. Those actions included an agricultural depredation order that allows take of resident Canada geese at agricultural facilities by authorized personnel between May 1 and August 31. This time period, however, is too restrictive in portions of the Atlantic Flyway where specific crops are now being planted and depredated prior to May 1. This change only applies to Atlantic Flyway states because the other flyway states opted not to request a similar change. If-asked talking points will be available. Information will also be posted to the web. (Updated 03/13/2019)

On or about March 20, FWS, as co-chair of the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee (ACRCC), will release the 2019 Asian carp action plan. The action plan is developed annually and provides the ACRCC partnership with a portfolio of strategic measures to prevent the spread of invasive Asian carp in the Great Lakes. The action plan addresses priorities for early detection and monitoring, support for the electric dispersal barrier, secondary pathway mitigation, and stakeholder communication and outreach. Key initiatives for 2019 include the field testing of underwater sound and carbon dioxide as potential Asian carp deterrents and coordinated efforts to address the growing threats from black and grass carp. Planned outreach will be a news release from ACRCC. (Updated 03/13/2019)

By March 21, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a proposed incidental take regulation (ITR) and associated draft environmental assessment for Hilcorp and Alaska LNG's multi-year activities in the Cook Inlet that have the potential to result in incidental harassment of northern sea otters. FWS and Hilcorp have worked together to develop a mutually agreeable timeline for the Cook Inlet ITR and an estimated date of publication of the final ITR and issuance of the associated Letter of Authorization (LOA). Under this proposed schedule, a final ITR would publish on May 3 and a LOA would be issued that

same day. Activities are scheduled to begin in Cook Inlet as early as mid-May. FWS has shortened various steps in the internal and public reviews, but proposal must publish by March 21 to meet the timeline. Outreach will include an email to stakeholders. (Updated 03/13/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

On March 21, FWS will host the meeting of the Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council at the Department of Agriculture's Whitten Building. The Council was established to provide advice and recommendations for implementing Secretarial Orders 3347 and 3356, as well as Executive Order 13443, and to make recommendations related to hunting and shooting sports that will expand opportunities, conservation efforts, and the economic benefits to the national and local economies. Meeting agenda items include updates on the implementation of outdoor recreation secretarial orders, updates on efforts to create or expand hunting and recreational shooting opportunities on federal lands, council subcommittee reports and discussion of possible recommendations, and a public comment period. (02/20/2019)

On or around March 22, FWS and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) will announce the final allocations for the first round of Delaware River Basin Conservation Act grants, appropriated by Congress in FY 2018. More than $6.4 million in grant applications were received and the review committee of partners named in the Act approved a final slate of $4.1 million with a non-federal match of $7.5 million. The grants will restore 626 acres of wetland habitat and 549 acres of floodplain; increase public access on 1,794 acres; create 32 new jobs; and leverage more than 3,000 volunteers in project delivery. NFWF conducted fiscal notifications to Congress on November 16, with a 30-day response time. (Updated 02/20/2019)

A proposed change to the implementing regulations for the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) has cleared DOI and was sent to OMB-OIRA where it is in delayed status until it receives a regulatory impact analysis (RIA) from DOI. FWS submitted a draft RIA to DOI on February 22 and is currently revising the RIA. The next draft is scheduled to be completed by March 15. Once the RIA is received by OMB-OIRA, it may initiate interagency review, typically taking up to 90 days. The rule: 1) defines the scope of the MBTA as it applies to conduct resulting in the injury or death of protected migratory birds and 2) reduces permitting burdens by modifying existing permit exceptions and proposing new ones. This proposed regulation will be consistent with the Department Solicitor's Opinion M–37050. (Updated 03/06/2019)

On February 28, FWS notified the states, territories, and the District of Columbia of the FY 2019 apportionment of funds under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act, the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act and of the State Wildlife Grant Program. Wildlife Restoration funds totaled $673,586,164 and can be used by the states for projects to restore, conserve, manage, and enhance wild birds and mammals and their habitat. Projects also include providing public use and access to wildlife resources, hunter education, and development and management of shooting ranges. Sport Fish Restoration funds totaled

$365,396,740 and can be used for fishery projects, boating access, and aquatic education. State Wildlife Grant funds totaled $52,028,789 and can be used for developing and implementing programs that benefit wildlife and their habitats, including species that are not hunted or fished. Outreach is being developed for these awards of funds, and FWS is working with DOI-OCO on a possible event to announce the PRDJ awards. (03/06/2019)

National Park Service

NEW ITEMS

On or around March 18, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail will issue permits to Sunoco Pipeline, LP to build the second of its Mariner East 2 natural gas liquids pipelines in an existing 325-foot deeded easement crossing the Trail in a developed section of south central Pennsylvania. NPS staff are completing compliance materials, including a thorough assessment of extraordinary circumstances with use of a categorical exclusion, to support a five-year operations and maintenance special use permit and a construction special use permit. (03/13/2019)

The week of March 18, Death Valley National Park anticipates announcing the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Modification to Keystone Mine Plan of Operations Environmental Assessment (EA). The NPS adopted a BLM EA to prepare this FONSI. This will authorize the diversion of water from Sourdough Spring within the park to Keystone Mine, which is outside the park on land under BLM jurisdiction. (03/13/2019)

On or around March 18, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area will notify the public that campground reservations will not be available between July 8 and September 2 due to an asphalt resurfacing project jointly funded by the Federal Highway Administration and the NPS. During this time, campgrounds will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, with areas of work closed as needed for construction and visitor safety. Existing reservations will be cancelled and fees refunded. (03/13/2019)

On or around March 18, 2019, Grand Canyon National Park anticipates releasing the Finding of No Significant Impact for the Transcanyon Water Distribution Pipeline (TCWL)/Environmental Assessment. The selected alternative prepared for the project will relocate the water intake for the TCWL, replace three miles of the TCWL, and construct treatment plants, pump stations, and distribution lines to support the water system. The NPS held two public meetings and one webinar during the public review period. Public comment was held from October 10 through November 10, 2018. (03/13/2019)

Between March 18 and 27, Zion National Park anticipates acquiring a ± 4.95 acre inholding tract (Number 06-140) with a main house and separate cabin located on the property. The provisions of the acquisition include a 6-year Use and Occupancy Reservation on behalf of the owners. The property is located in the park's Cave Valley, noted for its striking geologic features and wildlife habitat frequented by scores of mule deer as key winter range. (03/13/2019)

On or around March 20, Joshua Tree National Park anticipates opening the 30-day public comment period on a draft Environmental Assessment, prepared by contractors on behalf of Southern California Edison with input and review by park staff. This project will address a right of way permit and proposed relocation of a failing underground cable along Park Route 12 entering the park from Twentynine Palms. (03/13/2019)

From March 23 - April 14, the 21st annual National Cherry Blossom Festival will run. The festival's welcome area at the Tidal Basin along the National Mall will be open on weekends starting March 23, and weekdays during peak bloom. The estimated date for peak bloom is April 3 and can last up to 14 days. Official events will occur throughout the greater Washington, DC area, including locations within the National Mall and Memorial Parks (Freedom Plaza, Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in World War II, Tidal Basin, Washington Monument Grounds) and National Capital Parks–East (Anacostia Park, Oxon Run Park). (03/13/2019)

March 23, Prince William Forest Park will host the Marine Corps Marathon's 17.75K event. The course runs almost entirely within the park. Some areas will briefly close to regular visitation during the event. More than 3,000 runners are expected. (03/13/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

On March 18, Olympic National Park will release the park’s Fire Management Plan/Environmental Assessment and begin the 30-day public review period. (03/06/2019)

On March 18, Prince William Forest Park will release the Comprehensive Trails Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA) for public comment. The plan/EA provides comprehensive guidance for enhancing the park’s trails system and visitor experience in a manner that balances resource protection with recreation. (02/20/2019)

On March 18, Rock Creek Park will release the Nature Center Complex Development Concept Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA) for public review. The plan/EA establishes a vision and clear guidance for managing the park's Nature Center, public horse center, maintenance yard, and associated grounds. A public meeting is scheduled for April 3. (02/20/2019)

By March 18, the NPS plans to accept the donation of the Bauvais-Amoureux House, Tract 01-101, from the State of Missouri. The 0.12-acre tract is improved with a historic structure. This will be the first tract acquired at Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park. (02/27/2019)

On March 19 and 20, Camp Nelson National Monument (established October 2018) will host public and stakeholder meetings to solicit comments on the future of the National Monument as part of efforts to develop a Foundation Document for the park. Public comment will also be sought via parkplanning.nps.gov for 30 days beginning on March 1. (02/27/2019)

On March 20, National Mall and Memorial Parks will begin taking reservations on Recreation.gov for the spring season at the Parkway Drive Volleyball Courts near the

Lincoln Memorial. The 2019 season will start earlier than in the past to provide increased access and opportunities for the public to play (beginning on April 15 instead of May 1). The park will coordinate public announcements with DOI. (02/20/2019)

On or around March 20, Golden Gate National Recreation Area intends to release a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the lease and operation of an historic boat shop and marina at Fort Baker, near the Golden Gate Bridge. A site visit for potential RFQ respondents is scheduled for April 3, with RFQ responses due May 31. A public tabling session by RFQ respondents in Sausalito will follow on June 4. A short-list of RFQ respondents will be invited to respond to a more detailed Request for Proposals (RFP) in late 2019. The project lessee will be responsible for rehabilitation of the historic site to be used as a waterfront community center with food, beverage, and meeting space. (02/27/2019)

On or around March 20, the NPS will announce that it has selected the businesses which will provide exclusive cruise ship services in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve starting this fall. A prospectus soliciting proposals for cruise ship services was issued in May 2018. A panel of technical experts reviewed each proposal package and five new ten-year concession contracts will be awarded. Two of the contracts are set aside for the two historic operators identified through the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) legislation. (Updated 03/06/2019)

8-30 Day Outlook

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

NEW ITEMS

By end of March, FWS will fully integrate pay.gov, an electronic payment receivable system, into its existing Service Permits Issuance and Tracking System (SPITS). Permittees will be able to pay for permits electronically rather than with paper checks. Permit processing times will be reduced; FWS efficiencies will increase with the reduction of paper check handling. The pay.gov integration process is in testing phase now. (03/13/2019)

On or around March 30, FWS plans to announce approximately $20.6 million in federal funding approved for the FY 2019 Boating Infrastructure Grants (BIG). The BIG Program provides grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas to construct, renovate, and maintain tie-up facilities with features for transient boaters in recreational vessels 26 feet or more in length, and to produce and distribute information and educational materials about the program. (03/13/2019)

By the end of March, FWS expects to finalize the biological opinion (BiOp) for the East Collier County, Florida Multispecies Habitat Conservation Plan. The plan would minimize impacts to 20 species while developing 45,000 acres of residential and commercial areas, and mining within more than 150,000 acres of rural, agricultural, and wild lands in Collier County. FWS is making progress in developing the BiOp, final environmental impact

statement, and associated documents and remains on target with the requested revised timeline, under which it would make the final permit decision by mid-July. (03/13/2019)

On or around April 15, FWS anticipates submitting to the *Federal Register* a draft conservation agreement involving FWS and transportation and energy partners across the lower 48 states that would address conservation needs of monarch butterflies on millions of acres of rights-of-way and associated lands. More than 30 companies will carry out measures to reduce or remove threats to the monarch butterfly caused by ongoing maintenance and modernization activities on rights-of-way. The draft agreement encourages the creation of new monarch habitat, as well as the maintenance of existing habitat across enrolled lands. A mid-April submission would mean a public comment period through mid-June. (03/13/2019)

UPDATED ITEMS

Around March 25, FWS and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team will announce completion of the final recovery plan for the jaguar. The plan sets goals for improving the species' status through its entire 19-country range and provides a framework for achieving recovery. The recovery plan focuses on the cat's population in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States – recommending site-specific conservation actions and borderland dispersal corridors such that the population can most effectively rebound and contribute to the entire species' recovery. Recovery team and cooperating partners have been advised. Outreach includes a news release, social media, and emails to congressional offices and stakeholders. (03/13/2019)

On or around April 15, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for a draft habitat conservation plan (HCP) Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI), California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and FWS have been working to develop for the northern spotted owl and California spotted owl. The 50-year incidental take permit would cover 1.6 million acres of commercially managed SPI timberlands in California (0.4 million acres in Northern spotted owl range and 1.2 million acres in California spotted owl range). USFS is a NEPA Cooperating Agency on the DEIS. A listing decision for California spotted owl is currently due September 30, 2019, by court order. The SPI HCP is part of a suite of California spotted owl pre-listing conservation efforts. Planned outreach includes a local news release. On April 5, FWS plans a briefing for the DEIS. (Updated 03/13/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

On or around March 25, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* the proposed 2019-20 hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. FWS annually prescribes frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow state selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications. (Updated 03/06/2019)

On or around March 29, pending final clearance by OMB, FWS and NOAA Fisheries (NMFS) plan to send to the *Federal Register* final revised regulations of the Endangered Species Act. FWS and NMFS sent the draft final revised regulations pertaining to interagency cooperation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA and the procedures for listing of species and designation of critical habitat pursuant to section 4 of the Act to OMB for review on December 21, 2018. FWS previously submitted to OMB on November 26 a draft final withdrawal of the blanket 4(d) rule for newly listed threatened species to recognize the difference between endangered and threatened species and align with NMFS's current practice. The interagency review concluded on the 4(d) rule in December and on the section 7 and section 4 rules on February 13. FWS and NMFS have received interagency review comments from OMB on all three rules, reviewed those comments, and distributed the drafting teams' assessment of those comments to DOI policy officials. (Updated 03/06/2019)

On or before March 30, FWS will publish in the *Federal Register* an interim final rule allowing migratory bird subsistence harvest regulations in Alaska for the 2019 season. These regulations are a continuation of the 2018 regulations and allow for the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives. The rulemaking is necessary because the regulations governing the subsistence harvest of migratory birds in Alaska are subject to annual review. This rulemaking would establish region-specific regulations that would go into effect on April 2, 2019. Planned outreach will include a release and notifications to tribes and Congress. (02/20/2019)

By the end of March, FWS will release a five-year status review with a species status assessment for the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. The review finds that recovery efforts have been successful and recommends downlisting from endangered to threatened. With the release of the five-year review, FWS will begin work on a proposed rule. This recommendation and the subsequent proposed rule are expected to be controversial. Planned outreach likely will include a news release and congressional notifications. (Updated 03/06/2019)

By April 10, FWS will notify appropriate local landowners of the start of the land protection planning process to establish Green River NWR in Henderson County, Kentucky. FWS was directed by Congress in FY 2018 and FY 2019 appropriations reports to establish the refuge. The FY 2019 language directs FWS to forgo the development of the preliminary land protection strategy and go directly to the land protection plan (LPP) in order to expedite the refuge's establishment. In close partnership with Kentucky and local elected officials, FWS is moving forward with the land protection planning process. Affected Indian tribes have already been notified of FWS's initiation of the planning process. FWS anticipates releasing the draft LPP and associated environmental assessment for public review and comment by early summer. (02/27/2019)

On or around April 15, FWS plans to publish a proposed rule to allow the baiting of brown bears on Kenai NWR, which is permitted under Alaska state hunting regulations. The rule

would also allow the discharge of firearms along the Kenai and Russian rivers during certain times of the year; allow the use of snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and utility task vehicles on certain lakes when there is adequate snow and ice cover; and increase access to the refuge by bicycle and game cart. This proposed rule would be available for a 60-day public comment period and is likely to be strongly opposed by those who believe that baiting of wildlife for hunting is unethical or who oppose hunting (particularly of large predatory mammals). FWS plans to notify stakeholders directly by email and issue a news release to Alaska media announcing the proposed rule and public comment period. (Updated 02/27/2019)

Endangered Species Act Actions through April 14:

Species	**Action**	**Current Status**	**Target Date to FR (dates in bold are litigation deadlines)**	**Outreach**
California condor in northern California and Oregon	Proposed designation of a nonessential experimental population	Pending Exec-Sec clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Southern Selkirk Mountain woodland caribou	Final reclassification as distinct population segment, endangered	Pending Exec-Sec clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Meltwater lednian stonefly, Western glacier stonefly	Final listing determination as threatened	Pending Exec-Sec clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release

Arizona eryngo, Giraffe, Refugio manzanita, San Gabriel chestnut snail	90-day findings on ESA petitions	Pending FWP clearance	As soon as it clears (lawsuit filed on giraffe)	National release (controversy)
Franklin's bumble bee	Proposal to list as endangered	Pending FWP clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Batch of 29 draft recovery plan revisions for 42 species (APG Batch 2)	Notice of availability of draft recovery plans	Pending FWS Director clearance	As soon as it clears	National and regional releases
Panama City crayfish	Six-month extension of the final listing determination	Pending FWS Director clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Bi-State Population of greater sage-grouse	Comment period reopening on proposed listing	Pending FWP clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Neuse River waterdog, Carolina madtom	Proposed listing of Neuse River waterdog as threatened and Carolina madtom as endangered, with proposed critical habitat	Pending FWP clearance	As soon as it clears (deadline litigation stayed until March 1)	Regional release

2016 Recovery Report to Congress	Transmittal of 2016 Biennial report	Pending FWS Director Clearance	As soon as it clears (release to Congress; will not be published in the FR)	National - Congressional notifications and post the report online
Barrens topminnow	Final listing determination as endangered	Pending FWS Director clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Batch of 29 draft recovery plans for 43 species (APG Batch 2.5)	Notice of availability of draft recovery plans	Pending FWS Director clearance	As soon as it clears	National and regional releases
Running buffalo clover	Proposed delisting	Pending FWS Director clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
34 NMFS Species	Adding 16 NMFS Species, Removing One NMFS Species, and Updating Entries for 17 NMFS Species on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Pending FWP Clearance	March 25	N/A - NMFS completed outreach on these species during their rulemaking process.
Arkansas mudalia, ashy darter, Barrens darter, Chihuahua scurfpea, Coldwater Crayfish, Eleven Point River Crayfish, Spring River Crayfish, and	12-month findings on ESA petitions	Pending FWS Director clearance	March 29 (March 31 is settlement agreement deadline for ashy and Barrens darters)	Regional releases

red-crowned parrot				
Eastern hellbender	12-month finding and proposed listing	Pending FWS Director Clearance	March 29 (March 31 is settlement agreement deadline)	Multi-regional release
ESA Revised Regulations	Listing Species and Designating Critical Habitat, Prohibitions, Interagency Cooperation	Under OMB interagency review	March 29	National release
Texas Hornshell	Proposed Critical Habitat	Pending FWS Director clearance	April 11	Regional release

National Park Service

NEW ITEMS

On March 27, the Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee will be holding a public meeting in Apopka, Florida. The committee advises on the development and

implementation of projects as part of the comprehensive management plan for the Wekiva Wild and Scenic River. (03/13/2019)

On or about March 29, the Acting Regional Director for the National Capital Region will sign a Finding of No Significant Impact for the Environmental Assessment for safety improvements for the Memorial Circle area of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. The purpose of this project is to improve transportation safety at and near the circle, reduce risks at key locations within the corridor, and conflicts between trail, walkway, and roadway users, while maintaining the memorial character of the area. (03/13/2019)

By March 29, Death Valley National Park anticipates announcing the Finding of No Significant Impact for the Scotty's Castle Flood Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment (EA). The projects analyzed in this EA are needed to reopen the historic district to the public after significant damage from a flash flood in 2015. (03/13/2019)

By March 29, Death Valley National Park anticipates announcing the Finding of No Significant Impact for the Rogers Peak Telecommunications Site Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA analyzed the proposed construction of a Navy radome, AT&T cell tower, a replacement California Department of Transportation communications tower, and associated infrastructure on a non-wilderness mountain summit. (03/13/2019)

On March 29, the Gateway National Recreation Area Fort Hancock 21st Century Advisory Committee will hold a public meeting. The committee provides advice on matters related to the Fort Hancock Historic District. The meeting will include an update on the leasing program. (03/13/2019)

On March 29, Glacier National Park anticipates releasing the Westslope Cutthroat Trout and Bull Trout Conservation in the Upper Camas Drainage Environmental Assessment for public review. The proposed action would use rotenone, a fish toxicant, to remove non-native fish from Camas Lake, Lake Evangeline, and upper Camas Creek, followed by translocation (i.e., stocking) of native westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout to the lakes. This would be done to establish a native fish community that is secure against the threats of non-native fish and climate-related habitat degradation. (03/13/2019)

On March 30, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park – Seattle Unit will commemorate the 77th anniversary of the forced removal of Japanese Americans from Bainbridge Island, Washington, under Executive Order 9066. The park will commemorate the day through social media and participation in events at the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial (a unit of Minidoka National Historic Site) and in the community of Bainbridge Island. (03/13/2019)

On April 1, Budweiser, a National Park Foundation Find Your Park partner, will open their summer national cause marketing campaign (April 1, 2019 through September 15, 2019) with the rollout of a line of limited edition national park inspired aluminum can and bottle designs. Budweiser will donate $1.00 per limited edition case sold through select grocery and retail stores in all 50 states for a maximum donation of $1 million. The National Park

Foundation will be promoted in retail signage, on packaging, social media, and other advertising and promotional materials. (3/13/2019)

On or around April 1, the teardown and rebuild of Maswik South lodging in Grand Canyon National Park is expected to begin. The buildings are at the end of their useful life and this project will replace the existing 90 basic rooms with 120 mid-scale rooms, 30 of which will have kitchenettes. The total cost of the project is approximately $30 million. This was a contractual requirement of the concession contract awarded to Xanterra in 2016. A Finding of No Significant Impact for the project was signed February 14. (03/13/2019)

On April 3, the Denali National Park Subsistence Resource Commission (SRC) will hold a public meeting via teleconference. The purpose of an SRC is to devise and recommend to the Governor of Alaska and the Secretary a program for subsistence hunting within Alaska national parks where subsistence is authorized. The SRCs were established under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. (03/13/2019)

On or around April 4, the Acting Regional Director for the National Capital Region will sign a Finding of No Significant Impact for the proposed enhancement of the former Pershing Park as a national World War I Memorial. The project will enhance the General John J. Pershing Commemorative Work as a national World War I Memorial by constructing appropriate sculptural and commemorative elements, including landscaping as provided within Public Law 113-291. (03/13/2019)

On April 9, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park will host a public meeting and open a comment period about the park's proposal to relocate its headquarters to Williamsport, Maryland. This meeting will include information about the historic structures and the cultural landscape of the proposed relocation site. An announcement will be made at least two weeks prior to the meeting and will be coordinated with the Department. (03/13/2019)

On or around April 10, Cabrillo National Monument anticipates releasing the park's draft Trail Management Plan/Environmental Assessment (EA) for a 30-day public review and comment period. The plan/EA addresses proposed trail improvements to diversify recreational opportunities, improve connectivity between features of interest, eliminate unsustainable routes, improve visitor safety, and protect park resources. The park plans to hold a public meeting on April 25 to answer questions and solicit feedback on the draft EA. (03/13/2019)

On April 12, Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park support group, Friends of Fletchers Cove, will host a ribbon cutting ceremony for a new boat dock at Fletchers Cove located 3 miles north of Georgetown in Washington, D.C. The installation of the new dock was approved by the NPS and is being facilitated by park concessioner Guest Services Inc. with help of the Friends of Fletchers Cove. Park Superintendent Kevin Brandt has been invited to speak at the event. D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser and Congressman Jamie Raskin (D-MD-8) have indicated they will attend. (03/13/2019)

On April 16-17, the Gates of the Arctic National Park Subsistence Resource Commission (SRC) will hold a public meeting in Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska. The purpose of an SRC is to devise and recommend to the Governor of Alaska and the Secretary a program for subsistence hunting within Alaska national parks where subsistence is authorized. The SRCs were established under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. (03/13/2019)

UPDATED ITEMS

On March 29, the acting National Capital Regional Director is expected to sign a Finding of No Significant Impact for the George Washington Memorial Parkway Arlington County and Vicinity Boathouse Environmental Assessment (Plan/EA). The Plan/EA evaluates the proposed construction and operation of a non-motorized boathouse on lands administered by the George Washington Memorial Parkway along the Potomac River along with a series of low-impact access points to the river to accommodate canoes and kayakers. The project has been delayed three times in recent months as work to finalize the FONSI and Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement continued. (Updated 03/13/2019)

On March 29, a final report is due from the contractor which will summarize public comment and develop various concern statements with regard to the Alaska Sport Hunting and Trapping proposed rule. In the interim, the Alaska Region NPS team has completed its review of all correspondence received on the EA and compiled substantive comments. Subject matter experts are also reviewing supplemental information received from commenters and substantive comments on the EA related to environmental impacts. Concurrently, the workgroup, which is comprised of AKR staff, DOI solicitors and NRSS staff, is working on response to comments on both the EA and the rule. NPS received the draft comment summary report from the contractor on March 8. (Updated 03/13/2019).

In March, the contract for repairs to the visitor loading ramp at the USS Arizona Memorial will be awarded. Despite the efforts of park staff and partners to implement an expedited plan for repair, the Memorial will not open in March 2019 as expected. Additional severe damage to the structure was discovered in May 2018, during the first phase of the project; it had not been identified in early surveys. The NPS and Navy are meeting regularly; they received and are reviewing an updated proposal from the contractor. Negotiations with the contractor for the repair of the anchoring system, and for damage to the USS Arizona Memorial resulting from the failure of the anchoring system, are complete. The NPS contracting officer and engineer are working through the technical evaluations. The Solicitor has been asked to expedite the contract review. There may be additional negotiations; once that is complete, the contract will be prepared for signature. On March 12, the Congressional delegation requested a monthly written update on the project. While the repair process continues, park staff and partners will offer supplemental visitor services and amenities to provide the best possible experience. (Updated 03/13/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

On March 25, the 30-day comment period will close for proposed changes to the Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve 2019 compendium. Two modifications are proposed: one relating

to the collection of gull eggs and the other updating the availability of the park public use cabin to reflect changes in state hunting seasons. (03/06/2019)

Before March 31, the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will conduct a deer cull at Fire Island National Seashore. On February 26, the Eastern District Court of New York denied the request for a temporary restraining order at Fire Island National Seashore that was filed by the Animal Welfare Institute. After this ruling the park resumed pre-baiting in preparation for the deer culling operations. The Animal Welfare Institute is a party to a lawsuit against the park related to its plan to initiate a deer cull. On February 11, 2019 the park announced via press release plans to implement deer removal operations per its approved Deer Management Plan. On February 13, Seashore staff began pre-baiting, commonly conducted for two weeks prior to a cull. On February 19, the court granted the TRO, which required the park to stop pre-baiting activities. (Updated 03/06/2019)

On April 1, the NPS will conclude its call for applications for $5 million in grants to support the preservation of historic buildings in rural communities across the country that are listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places through the Historic Revitalization Subgrant Program. The grant announcement opened on February 7. (Updated 02/06/2019)

On April 2, the extension of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Steamtown National Historic Site and the Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority (PNRRA) that defines terms of rail use by both parties will expire. This most recent 45-day extension of the current MOA does not incur any expenses by NPS while negotiating a new General Agreement. Even if a new agreement is signed by April 1, it is likely this extension will cause a delay to the start of the Steamtown NHS operating season while contracts are put in place. If an agreement is not reached, there will be no additional extensions offered. Without an agreement in place PNRRA and their commercial freight operations are in violation of Surface Transportation Board (STB) requirements. Negotiations are tentatively set for March 13 and 14, 2019. Representative Cartwright (D-PA-17) has expressed interest in a meeting with the Steamtown Acting Superintendent and NPS staff after the negotiations take place. (Updated 02/27/2019)

On April 2, Cape Hatteras National Seashore, in coordination with Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, will host and participate in a large grand reopening and possible renaming event for the new 3-mile long Bonner Bridge that spans the Oregon Inlet. The Governor of North Carolina, other elected officials, and the Superintendent may speak at the event, which is expected to be open to the press. (Updated 03/06/2019)

(**Close Hold**) On April 3, National Mall and Memorial Parks, in partnership with the Trust for the National Mall and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will announce at a press conference a new partnership to build public awareness of the challenges facing the iconic Tidal Basin on the National Mall. With funding from a supporting partner, the Trust for the National Mall and the National Trust for Historic Preservation will engage diverse professionals in an *Ideas Lab* to develop strategies for a sustainable future for this important

landscape. The Ideas Lab and other public awareness activities will be conducted from 2019 to 2021, and will result in a report to the NPS. (03/06/2019)

On April 4, Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park, in partnership with Georgetown Heritage, the park's non-profit partner in Georgetown, will hold a public meeting to share updated design concepts for the Georgetown Canal Plan. The Plan/Environmental Assessment is intended to revitalize and reactivate the one-mile section of the C&O Canal in Georgetown. The last public meeting was in November 2017. The public comment period is April 4 – May 11. (03/06/2019)

On April 13, a group is planning to reenact an event at Independence National Historical Park, pending permit approval. The event occurred in 1919 when Korean political, religious and community leaders marched to Independence Hall to bring awareness to the need for Korean independence. The reenactment will include a ceremony on Independence Mall with up to 1,000 people. Congressman Evans and the Mayor of Philadelphia will be in attendance. (02/13/2019)

By April 15, Gateway National Recreation Area (GATE) anticipates executing a General Agreement (GA) related to the Staten Island South Shore buried seawall project that crosses GATE property at Miller Field. Overall construction of the 5.3 mile project is expected to occur over the next 5 years. On February 15, the City, State and the Army Corps signed a Project Partnership Agreement that will keep the project funded and moving forward while the GA is developed. At issue has been the challenge of finding a legally acceptable means of assigning responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the completed project on National Park Service property to the City of New York. The GA will delineate the path forward for a Cooperative Management Agreement and also layout an alternative, more desirable path should Congress authorize GATE to issue an easement for the permanent management and operation of the project. (Updated 02/20/2019)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

In the Office:

Assistant Secretary Tara Sweeney

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary John Tahsuda

Deputy Assistant Secretary Mark Cruz

Acting Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Director Darryl LaCounte

BIE Director Tony Dearman

Chief of Staff Rich Myers

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week (March 17-23)

During the week of March 18, the BIA Deputy Bureau Director for Field Operations will be participating in Superintendent meetings in Pacific Region (at the Cabezon Hotel in Indio, California) and Northwest Region (at the Portland BIA office).

During the week of March 18, AS-IA plans to send a letter to the recognized leadership of the Cayuga Nation (i.e., the Halftown Council) to inform the Tribe that the Department cannot approve its trust acquisition application because the application includes geographic areas that have not been accessed to conduct necessary contaminant surveys. A rival leadership group is blocking access to the geographic areas.

During the week of March 18, AS-IA plans to publish a Federal Register notice to reopen the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) comment period for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians' request to acquire approximately 60 acres in trust in Muskegon County, Michigan. The original comment period expired during the partial government shutdown.

During the week of March 18, a "deemed approved" notice of the Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact amendment between the Forest County Potawatomi Community and State of Wisconsin will publish in the Federal Register. The notice was deemed approved by law on January 7, 2019, during the partial government shutdown.

On March 18, the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) staff will meet with BIE Director Dearman in Washington, DC.

March 20-21, BIA and Oklahoma University (OU) will kick off their Indian Child Welfare Training Academy—a certification program for social service professions. The Academy training sessions are part of BIA's strategic performance plan to develop BIA child welfare and child protection specialists' capabilities and fulfill recommendations from a March 2013 OIG Report and OMB review findings.

8-30 Day Outlook

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

NEW ITEMS

The week of March 31, AS-IA representatives will participate in the 2019 Annual Self-Governance Conference in Traverse City, Michigan, and will host Department of the Interior sessions on April 3 and 4.

April 8-11, the Tribal-Interior Budget Council will be in Washington, DC, to develop and align regional and national priority ranking results for the 2021 budget.

April 22-23, AS-IA representatives will participate in the Self-Governance Advisory

Committee meeting in Washington, DC.

UPDATED ITEMS

On March 26, the AS-IA will give the keynote address at the Reservation Economic Summit (RES) Conference hosted by the National Center for American Indian Economic Development in Las Vegas, Nevada.

On April 10, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs will hold a hearing on "Building in Indian Country" including the BIA loan guarantee program. The hearing was rescheduled from March 6.

ONGOING ITEMS

The Deputy Assistant Secretary - Management (DAS-M) continues to work with Office of Justice Services (OJS) to obtain an approved process from the Solicitor for the appointment of CFR court judges. It is necessary to get an approved process as soon as possible so the judges can be appointed as Federal employees by March 31, 2019, which is when the current contract the judges are working under expires.

The final rule adjusting civil penalty amounts to account for inflation in Indian Affairs regulations (25 CFR) is pending final approval for publication with the Office of the Secretary. The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 requires annual adjustments by January 15 of each year.

The final rule exempting (under certain circumstances) State, local, and Tribal governments from the bonding, insurance, and security requirements for obtaining a right-of-way on Indian land is currently in surname.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

NEW ITEMS

During the week of March 18, the Deputy Bureau Director, Field Operations will be participating in Superintendent meetings in Pacific Region (hosted at the Cabezon Hotel in Indio, California) and Northwest Region at the Portland office.

Bureau of Indian Education

NEW ITEMS

U.S. Department of Education OSEP will visit three BIE-Funded schools in March and April 2019, including Rock Point Community School in Arizona on March 29; Chemawa Indian School in Oregon on April 9; and St. Francis Indian School in South Dakota on April 11, 2019.

On April 18, the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) commencement speaker will be U.S. Representative Deb Halaand (D-NM).

UPDATED ITEMS

On March 25, PDAS Cruz and BIE Director Dearman will travel to Santa Rosa Ranch School on the Tohono O'odham Reservation in Arizona, to welcome students back to their school after their spring break to their new modular classrooms. They also plan to visit with students, staff, and Tribal leadership to provide support and address any concerns.

ONGOING ITEMS

Haskell Indian Nations University is cooperating with the City of Lawrence, Kansas effort to have the Haskell campus designated by the U.S. Park Service as a National Historic Site with a historical interpretive center built on the campus to tell the story of the off-reservation Indian Boarding Schools.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY INSULAR AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel for the upcoming week, March 17 - March 23

TRAVEL

AS-IIA Domenech will be in the office all week except March 21-22 when he will be attending an in-town conference. (*Note: AS-IIA Domenech will be out on personal leave the week of March 25.)

OIA Director Pula will be out of the office in Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia, and Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

INT Director Karen Senhadji will be out of the office March 21-22.

Sarah Jorgenson, Senior Advisor, will be in the office all week.

Oceans Program Coordinator Liza Johnson is out on maternity leave until March 29.

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week (March 17 - March 23)

902 Consultation Process: The formal 902 Consultation process continues in response to CNMI Governor Torres' request to the President. OIA is preparing for the second round in CNMI on Tuesday, April 2.

American Samoa Hospital Assessment: The 2019 Consolidated Appropriations Act report language (HR 116-9) contains a Congressional directive requiring OIA "to provide

information, within 90 days of enactment of this Act, to the Committee on the condition of the hospital; the estimated cost of building a new hospital; the estimated cost of completing all renovations necessary to modernize the hospital; and estimates of whether a renovated facility has sufficient capacity to meet American Samoa's needs." OIA is finalizing the scope of work for the project and preparing the interagency agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to meet the Congressional directive and meet the tight deadline. The cost will be approximately $320,000.

Freely Associated States Joint Economic Management Meetings: OIA Director Nik Pula will chair mid-year bilateral meetings of the Joint Economic Management (JEM) Committees on March 19, 2019 in Chuuk State (Federated States of Micronesia) and on March 21, 2019 in Majuro (Republic of the Marshall Islands). The mid-year JEM meetings will focus on the FY 2020 budget proposals for the use of sector grant funding provided under the Compact of Free Association provided to both countries. Compact assistance is provided through a permanent appropriation from Fiscal Year 2004 through Fiscal Year 2023 whereafter U.S. financial assistance is currently scheduled to transition to trust funds for each nation that are currently in accumulation phases. The FSM and the RMI Governments are represented at a senior level by their respective Ministers of Foreign Affairs. The U.S. is also represented by the State Department and Health and Human Services.

Conference on Illegal Fishing in the Pacific: On March 21-22, 2019, the Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands and the Pew Charitable Trusts will host a conference on illegal fishing in the Pacific. The event will convene national security officials and civil society experts with the objective of identifying challenges facing partner nations in the Pacific and to develop a portfolio of actions that the U.S. government can undertake to address illicit fishing and related development challenges. The event will take place in Washington, DC, and AS-IIA Domenech and Senior Advisor Jorgenson will attend.

Marine Monument Reviews: The Department continues to work with the White House on proposing changes to Marine Monument proclamations to allow for commercial fishing. SOL is drafting the document.

London Protocol Meeting on Offshore Energy in Canada: BSEE will send a senior staff member, Ms. Julie Fleming, to participate in the U.S. delegation to the 42nd meeting of the Scientific Groups under the London Convention and 13th meeting of the Scientific Groups under the London Protocol. The meeting will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from March 18-22. The U.S. delegation is comprised of a representative from the Environmental Protection Agency (lead), Department of State, Department of the Interior, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The agenda includes a session for members to review the latest draft revised Specific Guidelines for Assessment of Platforms or Other Man-made Structures at Sea, with a view to its finalization and subsequent discussion and approval at the fall 2019 meeting of the governing bodies. The latest revision incorporates DOI's edits from late November 2018, plus suggested revisions submitted by other international members of the intersessional Correspondence Group. BSEE, BOEM, and SOL coordinated on the development of an initial draft U.S. position paper regarding this agenda item at the end of January. The document has been finalized and surnamed through the ASLM. Ms. Fleming

will participate in efforts to develop revisions to the Specific Guidelines for assessment of platforms and other man-made structures at sea. She will focus on preserving flexibility in addressing DOI/BSEE equities in decommissioning activities.

Planning for Cooperation under the Free Trade Agreements with Jordan and Oman: At the request of and funded by the U.S. State Department, DOI-ITAP Senior Project Managers will travel to Amman, Jordan and Muscat, Oman from March 9-20 to meet with U.S. Embassy personnel and government counterparts to initiate cooperation between the U.S. and each country on issues related to CITES implementation and training wildlife inspectors and law enforcement officers.

Wetland Monitoring in Indonesia: DOI-ITAP will send two technical experts to install several rod surface elevation table (RSET) units in strategically identified locations throughout Sebangau National Park in Central Kalimantan, March 10-26. These RSET units will be used to measure the ecological health in the surrounding wetlands, and serve as a model for similar research activities throughout protected tropical forests in Indonesia. In addition to the installation, FWS Refuge Manager Chris Lowie will be assessing the progress made on Sebangau's park interpretations infrastructure and advising on next steps. This program is funded by USAID under the Strengthening Indonesia's Protected Areas program.

Cambodia Environmental Law and Regulation: DOI-ITAP has been requested by Cambodia's Ministry of Environment to train a group of recently designated legal focal points on enforcement and development of environmental regulations, March 18-21. This effort is taking place under the Smart Infrastructure for the Mekong program and follows up on a previous legal capacity building assessment completed by staff from DOI's Office of the Solicitor and USEPA for the Ministry in May 2018, plus past assistance with development of a comprehensive environmental code currently going through the inter-ministerial review process. This work is funded by USAID.

8-30 Day Outlook (March 23-April 19)

NEW ITEMS

USVI and PR Hurricane Recovery: The Department's coordination efforts in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands continue on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Recovery team. In its role on the National Disaster Recovery Framework, the Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance leads the coordination efforts for natural and cultural resource recovery on behalf of the federal family. Now, after more than a year of working on disaster recovery within the Territories, the Department is transitioning to Inter-Agency Agreements with FEMA that allow for the reimbursement of travel costs for all staff and reimbursement of salary for term employees. The agreement for Puerto Rico also reflects the services being provided by our Inter-Agency partners, including the U.S Department of Agriculture, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Endowment of the Arts, and the General Services Administration. The Department will continue to

provide staff to coordinate actions among the federal agencies to enhance the capacity and expertise within the territorial governments.

Conservation Law Enforcement Database Needs Assessment, Morocco: DOI-ITAP will send two Project Managers and two subject matter specialists, one from FWS, the other from BLM, to work with in-country counterparts to identify conservation law enforcement database development needs, from April 6-17. This activity is funded by the State Department.

Fisheries Environmental Law Enforcement Training, Philippines: DOI-ITAP will send a retired DOI/FWS Special Agent to the Philippines to provide an advanced training on environmental law enforcement to members of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), from April 8-12. This activity is funded by USAID/Philippines.

UPDATED ITEMS

UPDATE. Guam War Claims: OIA continues to work on an administrative or legislative solution to authorize the Treasury Department to issue checks from the account.

UPDATE. NSC Meeting on Compacts of Free Association: On Monday, March 25, the National Security Council is expected to hold a meeting on the Compacts of Free Association. DOI/OIA will lead part of the discussion. In addition, the Department of State is starting to circulate its Circular 175 (C-175) request, which will begin a formal process of looking into options of potential Compact funding extensions (the annual financial contribution portion of the Compact for the FSM and RMI expires in 2023 and 2024 for Palau). OIA has plans to meet with State Department to coordinate efforts prior to this meeting.

UPDATE. Winter Meeting of the Coral Reef Task Force (CRTF): The winter meeting of the Coral Reef Task Force (CRTF) will be held the first week of April (April 1-5). NOAA is the lead agency for the event, and OIA Director Pula will co-chair the all-day business meeting on Thursday, April 4. It is expected that there will be coordination calls on this event over the next few weeks.

UPDATE. Interagency Group on Insular Areas (IGIA): Discussion from the annual IGIA meeting (held on February 25) will be used to prioritize issues and to establish issue oriented workgroups from relevant federal agencies. In addition, workgroups will meet between March and August to develop policy recommendations that will be included in an annual report of the work of the IGIA that will be sent to the President in September.

ONGOING ITEMS

NO CHANGE. FAS Trust Fund Conference Call: At a date and time to be determined in April, OIA Director Pula will host quarterly meetings of the FSM and RMI Trust Fund Committees, both of which the Director chairs.

NO CHANGE. Coast Guard NAVAID: OIA received a request for funding (approximately $500,000) from the Coast Guard to assist in funding NAVAID marker (navigational markers)

improvements in Palau. The existing markers in the channels need to be renovated, relocated, and/or replaced to ensure that vessels can safely navigate. This project is on hold pending receipt of additional information from the State Department.

NO CHANGE. Paris Auction of Native American Objects: The Eve auction house has announced an auction on April 10 of pre-Columbian and American Indian Art. Over the past 5 years, this auction house has sold numerous objects considered sacred by Indian Tribes. If Tribes identify problematic items once the catalogue is released for this auction, and request federal government intervention, INT will coordinate with experts across DOI and the State Department to assist.

NO CHANGE. U.S. Government-Wide Comprehensive Report on Federal Grants to U.S. Insular Areas: OIA Policy Director, Basil Ottley, continues to work to finalize the database and will partake in a training this week.

NO CHANGE. POTUS Meeting with FAS Presidents: It has been indicated that a formal invitation will be sent to the Presidents of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau to meet with the President for a date this spring (likely May). This first ever meeting is important in U.S. efforts to engage in the President's Indo-Pacific strategy. There may be a delay pending the final outcome of the FSM Presidential vote.

NO CHANGE. Oversight of Contractor Gas Work in South Africa: At the request of and funded by the Department of State Energy Resources Bureau, a DOI-ITAP contract team will travel to Cape Town, South Africa during the week of March 25th to lead a workshop on drafting effective environmental and technical regulations for officials governing the natural gas sector in the Western Cape Province (WCG).

AWARENESS

OIA Recent and Upcoming Media: All press releases are posted on the OIA website and tweeted by @ASIIADomenech). Please see below for the most recent OIA media:
DOI Budget Roll Out, OIA Press - President Proposes $611 Million FY 2020 Budget for the U.S. Territories and the Freely Associated States (Monday 3/11)
Coral Reef Natural Resources Grant Announcement - Deadline for Applications May 15, 2019 (Tuesday 3/12)
Interior Praises President for Signing Bipartisan Public Lands Bill Bringing Parity for U.S. Territories and States (Tuesday 3/12)
Executive Leadership Development Program for Island Public Officials Concludes Third Session in Yap, Federated States of Micronesia (Wednesday 3/13)
Interior Applauds Treasury's Rejection of EU Inclusion of U.S. Territories on List of High-Risk Jurisdictions (Wednesday 3/13)
Prior Service Trust Fund Grant Funding (Thursday 3/14)
Palau Initiative Training Program (Friday, 3/15)

UPDATE. FSM Elections Results: Vice President Yosiwo George won his election in Kosrae (by 10 votes) and will be back in Congress. FSM President Peter Christian lost his

election in Pohnpei to David Panuelo (by 59 votes) - numbers show that he won in his district, but lost to Panuelo in other districts and overall lost across all seats. The FSM Congress members will make a choice (by secret ballot) as to who will be the next President and Vice President. There is speculation that the next President will be Wesley Simina of Chuuk, who is the current Speaker of Congress. There is also the chance that FSM Vice President Yosiwo George may be the next President as the State of Kosrae has not yet had its chance to hold the Presidency since the FSM became a country in 1986. Though not written in law, there is a "gentlemen's agreement" that the Presidency will rotate among the four states. As determined by population size, the State of Chuuk holds 6 seats in the FSM Congress, thus 6 votes, Pohnpei 4, Kosrae 2 and Yap 2. Inauguration is typically in May.

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials: Insular Area Health Officers will be in Washington, D.C. for meetings on the Hill this week and with federal officials to exchange information on policy challenges and solutions unique to their respective island jurisdictions. They are sponsored by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, a body charged with making recommendations on policy actions and recommendations unique to the insular areas for consideration by Congress and legislative action.

Puerto Rico CODEL: On March 15-18, House Natural Resources Chairman Grijalva (D-AZ) will lead a Congressional Delegation (CODEL) trip to Puerto Rico with Reps. Bishop, Sablan, Velazquez, Soto, and Gonzalez-Colon. The purpose of the CODEL is to review ongoing recovery efforts in the territory following Hurricane Maria, meet with FEMA, and meet with the Financial Oversight and Management Board.

DOC Funding for USVI Airports: The Department of Commerce is awarding $27 million in grants to the U.S. Virgin Islands to help expand and renovate two airports damaged by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. $20 million will be used to build a parking and transportation center at the Cyril E. King Airport in St. Thomas. Another $7 million will help renovate and expand the Henry E. Rohlsen Airport in St. Croix. The projects are expected to create up to 158 jobs and generate an estimated $6.1 million in private investment.

U.S. Territories Removed from European Commission Blacklist: The U.S. Virgin Islands and other U.S. territories are no longer on a list of 23 high-risk jurisdictions the European Commission claimed were "posing significant threats" to the European Union's financial system, including threats of terrorism. The Department of Treasury had previously told American banks to ignore the list, calling into question the EU's methodology for developing the list.

<u>Upcoming International Travel</u>:

OIA Director Nik Pula: Chuuk State, FSM and Majuro, RMI. March 17-24.

From April 7-12, 2019 twelve USGS employees will attend the European Geosciences Union General Assembly in Vienna, Austria as invited speakers, session chairs and/or presenters.

Additional known international travel departing March 17-23:

03/17/19	Jamaica	Monitor marine conservation grant	Amanda Gonzalez	FWS
03/17/19	Switzerland	Earth observation data exchange	Virginia Burkett	USGS
03/17/19	UK	Wildlife crime collaboration	Stephanie Romanach	USGS
03/18/19	Australia	Satellite technology coordination	Cody Anderson	USGS
03/19/19	Chile	Translational ecology fieldwork	Toni Morelli	USGS
03/20/19	Tanzania	CITES technical exchange	Ennis Brandon	FWS
03/20/19	Costa Rica	Groundwater mapping field work	Saud Amer	USGS
03/20/19	Japan	Earthquake technical collaboration	Elizabeth Cochran	USGS
03/20/19	Japan	Earthquake technical collaboration	Sarah Minson	USGS
03/21/19	Costa Rica	Volcano monitoring field work	Maurizio Battaglia	USGS
03/22/19	S. Africa	Earth sciences collaboration	Jeff Doebrich	USGS
03/23/19	Netherlands	Freshwater modeling exchange	Christian Langevin	USGS
03/23/19	Netherlands	Freshwater modeling exchange	Joseph Hughes	USGS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management Joe Balash will be in the office.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Casey Hammond will be in the office.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Gary Lawkowski will be in the office.

Director Angelle will be in the office.

Exempt Federal Register Notices (First Week Notice)

Oil and Gas Proposed Class II Reinstatement Notices:
Notice of Proposed Class II Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease UTU87659, Utah
Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease WYW173785, Wyoming
Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease WYW185474, Wyoming

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week

Bureau of Land Management

By March 20. BLM-WY plans to issue a Record of Decision for Lost Creek uranium expansion project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS analyzes Lost Creek ISR, LLC's proposal to expand its existing uranium mine in Sweetwater County, Wyo., continuing employment and expanding production at the mine. (2/5/19)

By March 20. BLM anticipates submitting an Instruction Memorandum on implementing Federal Land Policy and Management Act Section 512 for power line Rights of Way (ROWs), as well as Secretarial Order 3372 Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management. The policy will outline agency requirements for managing authorized activities on public lands for vegetation management, facility inspection, and operation and maintenance of power line ROWs. (2/12/19) DTS 17100

March 18. BLM-ID. The Shoshone Field Office anticipates publishing a Notice of Realty Action (NORA) in the Federal Register identifying 13.78 acres of public land as suitable for conveyance to Lincoln County under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. Lincoln County proposes to use the land for operating and maintaining a municipal solid waste transfer station. BLM-ID is preparing to submit a request to brief the BLM Director's office on this project. The NORA package is currently under review in the Washington Office. (8/28/18)

March 18. BLM-NV. Rep. Mark Amodei (R-NV-2) will host a meeting with the BLM in Reno to continue exploring alternatives and accommodations for grazing permittees affected by the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization. The proposed modernization includes renewal of the Navy's current public land withdrawal; land range expansion through additional withdrawal of public lands and acquisition of non-federal land; airspace expansion and modifications; and upgrades to range infrastructure. A consideration he would like to discuss further is the opening of vacant allotments, or amending existing allotments to allow the permittees to continue operations. BLM-NV State Director Jon Raby, Deputy State Director for Resources Raul Morales, Winnemucca and Carson City District staff, and U.S. Navy representatives will attend. (3/5/19)

By Late March. BLM-AK is preparing a Federal Register notice to revoke Public Land Order (PLO) 5179 issued in 1972 by DOI. The package will be submitted to the Washington Office for review. This order will affect 243,653 acres of BLM-managed land withdrawn near the Bering Glacier area of Alaska. The action will open those acres to surface entry, mining and mineral leasing, subject to valid existing rights. The PLO was issued pursuant to Sec. 17(d)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The East Alaska Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision, finalized in 2007, recommended partial revocation of these withdrawals. BLM-AK plans to hold a signing ceremony for ASLM to sign the PLO. (1/30/19) DTS Lands 186

Late March. BLM anticipates submitting the royalty rate reduction rule for non-energy minerals to OMB. The rulemaking package is currently with DOI for review, and BLM will address any comments before sending to OMB. (3/5/19)

Late March. BLM-AK will publish constructive notice of a decision approving 704.60 acres for conveyance to Emmonak Corporation, for the Native village of Emmonak, under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). The surface lands will be conveyed to Emmonak Corporation and the subsurface estate will be conveyed to Calista Corporation, the regional corporation. Conveyance of the lands will fulfill Emmonak's entitlements under

Secs. 12(a) and 12(b) of ANCSA. The Federal Register package is currently in review at the Alaska State Office. (3/12/19)

Late March. BLM-CO. The Little Snake Field Office expects to sign the Decision Record on the Environmental Assessment for Peabody Twentymile Coal LLC's Coal Lease-by-Application (LBA). Peabody proposes expanding its Twentymile Coal Foidel Creek Mine near Hayden in Routt County by 640 acres. If approved, the lands in the LBA would be mined by underground methods with no surface disturbance. The tract is private surface overlying federal coal. Peabody estimates it could recover 4.7 million tons of coal from this lease, generating approximately $13 million in royalties, half of which would go to the State of Colorado. Peabody's current employment of 366 mine workers would remain the same. (5/29/18)

Late March. BLM-CO. The Army National Guard completed two Records of Decision (RODs) for the Craig National Guard Training Site Munitions Response Area and the Delta National Guard Complex to remediate munition sites on BLM-managed land in the Northwest and Southwest districts. Per DOI policy, review from BLM management and signature from the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget are required to provide the Army National Guard access to BLM lands. BLM-CO will have briefing materials prepared for the ROD and surname process by late March. (2/12/19)

Late March. BLM-ID is aiming to finalize the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Owyhee Land Exchange. The exchange between BLM and the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) was developed to acquire State inholdings in Idaho wilderness areas designated by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. BLM will convey 31,030 acres of federal land to the IDL in exchange for 23,878 acres of State land. Staff are working to complete State Historic Preservation Office consultation, and the preliminary EA has been sent to the Solicitor's Office for review. (12/18/18)

Late March. BLM-NV. The Bristlecone Field Office will issue final decisions for the Wilson Creek Allotment Grazing Term Permit Renewals. The decisions include various range improvements and additional flexibility for grazing operations. The 1.1-million-acre common allotment has nine grazing permittees. There is conflict between the permittees and controversy due to the various resources impacted including wild horses and sage grouse. (3/12/19)

Late March. BLM-NV. The Department of Energy, Office of Legacy Management, has applied to the BLM for withdrawal of approximately 361 acres of public land surrounding part of its Central Nevada Test Area. The Battle Mountain District is working on a Public Land Order to be published in the Federal Register for public review and comment. This includes an Environmental Assessment (EA) that has been prepared to analyze the potential impacts of withdrawing this acreage. BLM-NV anticipates that it will send the EA and Public Land Order package to the Washington Office for review in late March. (3/5/19) DTS 2474

Late March. BLM-NV. The Southern Nevada District plans to complete the briefings for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Gemini Solar Project. The proposed project –

on the FAST-41 Dashboard and a priority project for Nevada – would consist of the construction, operation, maintenance, and eventual decommissioning of a photovoltaic solar field and ancillary facilities (to include battery storage) on approximately 7,100 acres. Proposed energy production is 690 megawatts. (3/5/19)

Late March. BLM-NV plans to brief the BLM Director's Office on the Hycroft Phase 2 Mine Expansion and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Notice of Availability the week of March 18, and the DOI Review Team in late March. BLM-NV anticipates releasing the Draft Hycroft Mine EIS in late March. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will issue a decision on an eagle incidental take permit based on analysis in the EIS. (12/7/18)

Late March - June. BLM-MT/DK. The North Central Montana District plans to conduct three prescribed fires, weather and fuel conditions permitting: the 7,300-acre Crooked Creek Unit "K" prescribed fire (which includes 2,180 acres on the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge, in partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service); the 50-acre North Moccasin prescribed fire; and the 400-acre Woods Bottom Prescribed Fire, which is in the Upper Missouri Breaks National Monument. (3/5/19)

March 21. BLM-NM. Senator Tom Udall (D-NM) is planning an event in the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument to celebrate the recent public lands package. His office has inquired as to whether a Special Recreation Permit is needed. The Las Cruces District Office is working on the request. (3/12/19)

By March 22. BLM plans to issue an Instruction Memorandum (IM) to help field staff comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding oil and gas activities producing federal minerals on non-federal/private land. The IM supplements Permanent IM 2018-014 on directional drilling from well pads on non-federal locations, also known as fee-fee-fed wells. This guidance will help ensure that BLM activities are appropriately limited. Interest has been expressed by Rep. Liz Cheney's (R-WY) office, as well as the Petroleum Association of Wyoming. The IM is currently under review in ASLM. (2/12/19)

By March 22. BLM-MT/DK. The Department of Veterans Affairs and the National Cemetery Administration are awaiting acknowledgement from the Secretary of the Interior that will establish the official date of administrative transfer and allow updating of the federal land records of 181.32 acres of BLM land near Sturgis, S.D., for cemetery purposes in accordance with the Black Hills National Cemetery Boundary Expansion Act. A letter is circulating for the Acting Interior Secretary's signature. (1/29/19) DTS 16960

By March 22. BLM-MT/DK is awaiting DOI approval to publish an in lieu classification notice in the Federal Register to finalize the State of Montana In Lieu effort, which would convey final selected lands totaling 5,816.63 acres to fulfill the long-standing entitlement made by Congress when Montana became a State in 1889. BLM has coordinated closely with the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. The State of Montana Land Board accepted the lands on Sep. 17, 2018, contingent on publication of the notice and final classification. There has been little controversy associated with this effort. Delayed

publication has generated inquiries and concern from grazing permittees. (11/23/18) DTS 2211

March 22. BLM-AZ. The Phoenix District plans to publish in the Federal Register a Notice of Availability for the Final Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Sonoran Valley Parkway Project (SVPP) by the City of Goodyear in Maricopa County. The SVPP will help expand transportation infrastructure to support economic development and emergency services in the Southwest Phoenix exurbs. (3/12/19)

March 22. BLM-CA will brief the Departmental Review Team on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Notice of Availability for the Haiwee Geothermal Leasing Project. The Draft Supplemental EIS analyzes proposed leasing of BLM-managed lands for geothermal exploration, development, and utilization in the Haiwee Geothermal Leasing Area in Inyo County. The Draft Supplemental EIS assumes two 30-megawatt plants operating for 30 years each, and creation of 250 temporary and 65 permanent jobs. The BLM has received three pending geothermal lease applications for public lands within the proposed leasing area. (2/22/19)

March 22. BLM-NV. The Humboldt River Field Office anticipates releasing the draft Lone Willow and Santa Rosa Travel Management Plan and Environmental Assessment. Humboldt County has expressed concern about impacts they assume would result from the project such as access restrictions to private land, range improvements, mines, and other activities. Release of the draft documents may reduce concerns. (3/12/19)

March 23. BLM-NV. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will hold a Naturalization Ceremony at the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Visitor Center. The event has been held there annually for the past six years. More than 70 new citizens were sworn in at the 2018 ceremony. (3/12/19)

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

On March 1, 2019, BOEM finalized the Environmental Assessments (EAs) on the four pending Atlantic G&G 2-D seismic permit applications with both Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) concurrence and Incidental Harassment Authorizations (IHA) approval. On March 7, 2019, Solicitor gave final approval to the additional documentation requested that explains for the record the differences in impacts from the four permits. The permits are now under Solicitor review. The ION permit application has Department of Defense approval for the crew and vessel. The Spectrum, TGS and PGS permit application are awaiting crew and vessel approval. (11/30/18)

In March, BOEM expects to finalize an MOU with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA). The MOU is focused on working collaboratively on communications, and identifying research and monitoring needs specific to offshore wind development and fisheries. RODA is an alliance of fishing industry members from Maine to North Carolina, representing many fisheries and

gear types with an interest in offshore development activities. The draft MOU is with ASLM. (2/28/19, DTS #2658)

In March, BOEM expects to publish the Final Rule adjusting for inflation the level of maximum civil monetary penalties contained in the BOEM regulations. BOEM is submitting this Final Rule pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (FCPIA of 2015) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance (OMB Memorandum M-18-03). The Final Rule is currently with the Department for review. (2/4/19, DTS#2484)

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

FY 2019 Abandoned Mine Land Mandatory Grants Distribution: The AML distribution package that includes a memo, distribution numbers and draft communication press release was submitted to ASLM the week of March 4, 2019, for approval. The distribution package was approved by ASLM on March 8, 2019.

Status of Revisions to the Policy on Reclamation Fees for Coal Mine Waste: In accordance with its identification in the October 24, 2017 Review of DOI Actions that Potentially Burden Domestic Energy, OSMRE has proposed revisions to its 1994 Policy on No Value Determinations. A work group is reviewing the proposal. The proposal encourages the remining and use of waste coal for domestic energy production and promotes the reclamation of abandoned coal waste sites that would otherwise be made at the expense of the AML Fund. The revision will also result in more effective management of No Value Determinations by establishing clear and consistent criteria for audit.

Request for Updated Abandoned Mine Land State Reclamation Plans - 884 Letters: On March 7, 2019, OSMRE issued 884 letters to the 5 certified States (Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Wyoming, Texas) with a response due no later May 7, 2019, (60 days) requesting revisions to their AML State Reclamation Plans.

Illinois' Diversion of Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Funds: OSMRE staff used the Illinois Comptroller website (illinoiscomptroller.gov) to verify that the $50M, plus some $658K in interest, were transferred back to the proper AMD set aside fund (fund #0257). (11/27/2018)

Scoping for Dry Fork Mine Mining Plan Modification EA (WY): OSMRE will delay publication of a notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) in the *Gillette News Record* regarding its intent to initiate a 30 day comment period to ensure its decision to prepare an EA is adequately documented. Recent court decisions have found that OSMRE's NEPA documents have not adequately documented the decision not to prepare an EIS. The WR project team, HQ OSMRE PSD staff and HQ Solicitors are reviewing the Department manual 5.16, chapter 13, section 13.4 to ensure consistent and appropriate application of the applicable criteria identifying when an EIS is required. (2/28/19)

Scoping for King II Mine Dunn Ranch LBA and Mine Extension EA (CO): The BLM and OSMRE are co-lead agencies on preparation of the Environmental Assessment EA. This project has been identified as a BLM/OSMRE NEPA Coordination "Pilot Project" that will be used to support bureaus' respective leasing and federal mining plan decisions. On March 4, 2019, Wild Earth Guardians (WEG), et al. requested a 30-day extension of the scoping comment period. On March 5, OSMRE and BLM replied to WEG denying their request. The scoping comment period closed on March 11, 2019. Completion of the EA is expected in July of 2019.

Scoping for Caballo Mine West Lease Tract EA (WY): OSMRE is preparing an EA for the Caballo Mine West Lease Tract federal mining plan. OSMRE initiated a 30-day public scoping period on December 19, 2018 with the scoping period expected to close on January 18, 2019. Due to the government shutdown, OSMRE noticed a 15-day extension of the scoping period on February 7, 2019. The comment period closed on February 22, 2019. OSMRE is currently working with the consultant to review and consider comments during the drafting of the EA.

The Justice Companies' Kentucky Fuels' Bevins Branch Mine: On February 19, 2019, the Solicitor's Office filed a "Joint Status Report" and a "Request to Hold Case in Abeyance for 60 Days" with the Office of Hearings and Appeals to allow OSMRE and the Company time to complete a settlement agreement or give the Company time to finish all of the abatement measures required by the IHCO. During a March 1, 2019, meeting with OSMRE, the Office of the Solicitor, and principals of the Justice Companies, progress was made toward identifying the steps necessary to resolve the outstanding Bevins Branch IHCO. The principals of the Justice Companies committed to aggressively resolve the issues.

Justice Group of Companies: The Justice Group of Companies, consisting of eleven coal mining companies operating in the Appalachian Region, have been and continue to be engaged in serial non-compliance with the requirements of SMCRA (the "Act") and other federal and state laws in four states that they operate in within the Appalachian Region. The Justice Companies have: (1) violated the Act in VA, KY, and TN and failed to comply with the orders of the Secretary, (2) failed to pay civil penalties in VA, KY, and TN, and (3) failed to pay reclamation debt in VA, KY, and WV. The Act authorizes the Secretary to ask the Department of Justice to file lawsuits seeking ((1) injunctive relief against a corporate permittee and its agents for failing to comply with orders of the Secretary, (2) recovery of unpaid civil penalties, and (3) recovery of unpaid Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Fees. OSMRE has provided documentation of the non-compliances, failures to pay penalties, and failures to pay reclamation debts to the Knoxville Solicitor's Office (the "SOL") for consideration of referral to DOJ. On February 12, 2019, a proposed referral package completed review by OSMRE (Acting Director, Field Office Directors, Financial Office, AVS Office, and the Regional Director), SOL DMR, and Deputy Solicitor EMR. The SOL is now moving to finalize the referral package; including updating the status of violations, penalties and fees due, and the package will be elevated to the Principal Deputy Solicitor for review and approval. On March 1, a meeting was held with the attorney for the Justice Companies, the AR-RD, Lexington Field Office and the Office of the Solicitor to discuss the status of the various violations of the Justice Companies. The message was delivered that the

Department is taking legal action to seek enforcement against all possible parties, on individual and corporate levels, for the various violations and debts owed. The attorney for the Justice Companies is prepared to advise his clients that they need to enter into a structured abatement plan outlining the various steps they will undertake and a timeframe for implementation. OSMRE has advised that it will not consider such a plan without meaningful enforcement measures associated with it. The Office of the Solicitor continues to perfect the referral package and expects review of same.

Tennessee Primacy: Communications with the State of TN have restarted following the passage of the OSMRE appropriations bill which included funds for regulatory program development for states such as TN, wishing to assume regulatory primacy.

River Hurricane Mine, Pike County, KY: The impoundment of water within the underground mine works of the River Hurricane Mine in Pike County, KY presents the potential for a blowout which would impact the safety of residents in the Grapevine, KY community as well as the surrounding environment including the waters of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers' Fishtrap Lake. The Lexington Field Office, Office of the Solicitor, Applicant Violator System Office and AR's Technical Assistance Division took immediate action to assess and monitor the mine pool and engage relevant regulatory authorities, responsible parties and local emergency management officials to address the situation. United Coal Company and its successor companies have denied ongoing responsibility over the site. A current permittee, High Ridge Mining, LLC, with operations covering portions of the mine pool area, was issued an Imminent Danger Cessation Order by the KY Department of Natural Resources and ordered to begin dewatering and monitoring of the mine. While not accepting responsibility for the site, on January 6, 2019, High Ridge has re-established the blocked mine drain system and has begun to dewater the mine. As of January 10, 2019, the mine pool level dropped below the "Stand By Alert" stage to the "Intensified Monitoring and Reassessment of Stability" stage. On January 7, 2019, KYDNR issued two Notices of Non Compliance for Water Quality and another for Effluent Limits in the Grapevine Creek area (the non- permitted side of the mine). The abatement measures require the permittee to obtain permits with the Kentucky Division of Water (DOW) for the two identified areas. Also, KYDNR is in the process of determining if the off-site impacts (mineral deposits in the stream) that were observed at the site by OSMRE staff warrant an Imminent Harm Cessation Order due to environmental impacts. The permittee was notified of the site conditions, and attempted to make adjustments to their treatment system to address the problem. DOW issued violations to the company during their site visit on February 7, 2019. Staff from the Lexington Field Office continue to work with the KYDNR in monitoring the mine pool and seeking a permanent solution to the drainage issues at the site. With the recent influx of rain the emergency measures put in place to dewater the mine are having difficulty keeping up. The operator conducting the pumping at the site has filed an administrative appeal of the Kentucky violations. OSMRE staff will be assisting KYDNR, as necessary and appropriate, in defense of the violations.

Failure to Initiate Surface Coal Mining Operations (Republic Energy, Inc. /Marfork Coal Company): Under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) section 506(c), a coal mining permit terminates by operation of law when mining operations

have not commenced within three years and a valid extension has not been expressly granted. The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) issued a permit to Marfork Coal Co. (Marfork), under WVDEP's counterpart to SMCRA in 2008. In 2012, a citizen complaint was filed claiming that the permit issued to Marfork had terminated due to the company's failure to begin mining within three years of permit issuance, despite the fact that an extension was issued to Marfork by WVDEP after the three year deadline. OSMRE issued a ten day notice (TDN) to WVDEP. On August 20, 2013, OSMRE's Deputy Director reversed a Charleston Field Office (CFO) determination on the matter. Among other things, her decision found that: WVDEP did not act arbitrarily or capriciously when it found that Marfork's permit had not terminated by operation of law, but was instead subject to termination by WVDEP; and WVDEP acted within the scope of its discretion when it followed its 1993 policy allowing an extension after three years. On October 21, 2013, Coal River Mountain Watch (CRMW) filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court challenging the informal review decision as a de facto rulemaking and as contradicting the plain language of SMCRA and OSMRE's implementing regulations. At the same time, in a similar case in Alaska (*Castle Mountain Coal. v. Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enf't*.), a District Court held that SMCRA is unambiguous, in that a permit terminates by operation of law when mining operations have not commenced within three years and a valid extension has not been granted. The court alluded to the possibility that a permit could be extended even after it had terminated, provided the statutory grounds for an extension were met. In the *CRMW* case, following the Government's motion for vacatur and voluntary remand to consider its position in light of the *Castle Mountain* decision, the Acting Director issued a new informal review decision finding that WVDEP's "implicit extensions*", i.e.,* assumptions that a permit was extended based upon other action by the regulatory authority, were not acceptable. The Acting Director ultimately upheld WVDEP's actions finding that a permit could be extended after it had terminated, provided the statutory grounds for an extension had been met. The Acting Director also required the CFO to issue a new TDN with respect to subsequent extensions that were granted to Marfork, now operating as Republic Energy, Inc. (Republic), by WVDEP. On February 15, 2019, the CFO issued a decision upholding WVDEP's actions in retroactively granting extensions to Marfork/Republic based upon the criteria set forth in SMCRA.

Citizen's Complaint Filed: On January 11, 2019, the Trustees for Alaska filed a citizen complaint (with ten exhibits) alleging the surface coal mining operations of Usibelli Coal Mining, Inc. at Wishbone Hill, are being conducted without a valid permit in violation of the Alaska Surface Coal Mining Control and Reclamation Act. They also allege that the State of Alaska has failed to administer its program in compliance with federal requirements regarding the company's failure to initiate mining operations within three years of the permit issuance, as required by Federal law and the State's regulatory program. The Western Regional Director is preparing a response to the citizen complaint.

Section 7 Consultation: OSMRE sent the IMCC the final draft Biological Assessment (BA) and BA references, and the final draft MOU, as well as responses to the IMCC's comments on the earlier draft, following the Assistant Secretary's signing of the transmittal letter to the IMCC on October 16, 2018. The IMCC sent its comments on January 31, 2019. OSMRE, FWS and the Solicitors held a call on February to discuss the comments. The BA comments

are being reviewed and a plan and timeline for addressing them has been developed. In addition the overall schedule for completing the consultation has been updated. (10/18/2018)

Rosebud Mine (MT): The OSMRE Western Region jointly prepared an EIS with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. The EIS will be used to support a recommendation on the mining plan for Area F of the Rosebud Mine. OSMRE obtained Departmental Clearance to publish the Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Final EIS in the *Federal Register*. The NOA was published in the *Federal Register* on Friday, November 30, 2018. OSMRE is awaiting written permit findings from the State of Montana, prior to finalizing the Record of Decision (ROD). We are assessing the implications of further delay in publishing the ROD.

Coyote Creek Mining (ND): BLM and OSMRE have identified a "pilot" project for the leasing and permitting actions reflected in the mine plan decision document, that will be used to begin the process of closer coordination and concurrent NEPA analyses. Lease application NDM 110277 was submitted by Coyote Creek Mining Company, LLC (CCMC) on December 13, 2017, and proposes a new lease to mine approximately six million tons of coal on 320 acres (two 160-acre tracts) in Mercer County, approximately 11 miles south of Beulah, North Dakota. The contractor has completed the draft EA which OSMRE and the cooperating agencies have reviewed. OSMRE and BLM reconciled their comments and submitted them to the contractor on March 1, 2019.

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Reorganization: OSMRE sent ADEQ a letter on November 27, 2018, regarding the reorganization of the Mining Program. This was in response to structural changes being implemented at ADEQ. During the Government Shutdown OSMRE was informed by the ADEQ that House Bill 1215 has been introduced that would reduce direct reports to the Arkansas Governor from over 40 to just 15. This measure is expected to pass and will create a Department of Energy and Environment (DEE). The current ADEQ would become the Division of Environmental Quality within DEE. The ADEQ Mining Program is currently modifying an O&C rule package for the previous ADEQ reorganization and now proposes to add these new organizational changes before they submit it to OSMRE for review. It is expected that all changes will occur by July 1, 2019. OSMRE is working with the ADEQ Mining Program on these current and proposed program changes.

Notice of Adoption and Record of Decision for West Elk Mine (CO): OSMRE is proceeding with the adoption of the Forest Service's Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (SFEIS) for Federal Coal Lease Modifications COC-1362 and COC-67232. The OSMRE Western Region briefed OSMRE Headquarters on February 13, 2019, and the DOI Clearance package requesting approval to publish was submitted on February 19, 2019. Clearance was granted on February 24, 2019. OSMRE will publish the Notice of Adoption and availability of their Record of Decision in the *Federal Register* on or around March 15, 2019.

Montana Magistrate's Findings and Recommendation, Spring Creek Mine (MT): On February 11, 2019, the Magistrate Judge (Magistrate) for the U.S. District Court for the

District of Montana Billings Division issued a recommendation deferring vacatur of OSMRE's 2016 Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact prepared for the 2016 Spring Creek Mine mining plan decision. The Magistrate determined that the 2016 EA failed to (1) properly analyze the impacts of transporting coal, (2) properly analyze the non-greenhouse gas emissions during combustion, (3) justify its decision not to quantify the economic costs of GHG emission, and (4) follow its own internal guidelines when deciding not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). In its recommendation, the Magistrate is allowing OSMRE 240 days from the final order to correct the EA or seek leave from the court for a new deadline if OSMRE determines it needs to do an EIS. OSMRE has 14 days to object the Magistrate's recommendation before the District Court Judge issues her ruling. OSMRE expects the District Court Judge will concur with the Magistrate's recommendation and issue her ruling accordingly. OSMRE was granted an extension of time and is currently working with the Solicitor's Office to appeal the Magistrate's recommendation. Solicitor's Office is coordinating with DOJ on draft Objections which is due on March 14, 2019. (2/11/19)

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

Well Control Rule (WCR) (AA39) - Revised Reg Text, Preamble, RIA and EA were submitted to Exec Sec and Exec Sec has provided to DOI Deputy Chief of Staff for review. OMB hosted an E.O. 12866 listening session on February 26, 2019, by and between industry and the federal government to provide an opportunity for the federal government to listen to industry concerns and to clarify comments submitted regarding this rulemaking. During this listening session, industry reiterated its view that BSEE should permit operators to seek approval of alternative drilling margins at the APD (Application for Permit to Drill) or the DWOP (Deepwater Operational Plan) stage. The current regulations only provide for this information to be received by BSEE at the APD stage. It should be noted that industry did not suggest the criteria by which the decision to approve alternative drilling margins would be made would be different at the DWOP versus the APD stage, but rather that they are seeking to create a path for an option to submit the same information under the same criteria at an earlier stage (the DWOP Conceptual Plan stage). Inasmuch as the criteria under which BSEE would make its decision would not be changed in creating this option, there is no impact to safety. Obviously, should conditions change between the DWOP and the APD stage, BSEE would need to retain the right to amend decisions made at the DWOP stage. BSEE provided a memo on February 28 to the ASLM summarizing the details of the listening session and the consequences of incorporating these suggestions. In conjunction with SOL and the Well Control Rule Revision team, BSEE authorized the team to commence the effort necessary to accomplish final rule status incorporating these suggestions. BSEE submitted updated RIA and Reg Text on March 13 with the changes referenced above to Exec Sec for DOI clearance and submittal to OMB.

Risk Based Inspection – BSEE Office of Safety Management (OSM) concluded the Performance Based Risk Inspection (PBRI) on Well Operation Hazards, and the OSM Staff is initiating follow-up evaluations and report documenting the inspection and findings will be completed by March 31. Additionally, OSM has concluded their evaluation on which deep-

water facility (Marco Polo) will be subject to the next Facility Based Risk Inspection (FBRI) in late March 2019. BSEE will be receiving documentation next week for the May FBRI at Walter's EW 834 A and developing the FBRI protocol shortly thereafter.

8-30 Day Outlook

Bureau of Land Management

NEW ITEMS

March 29. BLM-ES expects to issue a patent transferring by quiet title deed, a former railroad right-of-way (ROW) to the Village of Forsyth in Macon County, Ill. The Village of Forsyth requested the ROW transfer for use as a recreational trail, under authority of the National Trails System Act. The ROW is 200 feet wide and totals approximately 18 acres. This action has been reviewed by the Pittsburgh Field Solicitor's Office and the Washington Solicitor's Office. The transfer is supported by Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL-13). (3/12/19)

March 29. BLM-WY will sign the Decision Record on the Big Dry Creek Sodium Lease Sale Environmental Assessment (EA) for the competitive sale of three parcels totaling 5094.72 acres in the Kemmerer Field Office, approximately 15 miles southwest of Green River, Wyo. The EA will be made publicly available on ePlanning and the public sale notice will appear in local newspapers on April 3, 10, and 17 in accordance with regulations. (3/12/19)

April 2. BLM-ES plans to approve a Decision Record authorizing a competitive coal lease sale for seven federal tracts encompassing 432.44 acres within the Wayne National Forest, in Perry and Morgan counties, Ohio. The federal tracts contain an estimated 1.6 million tons of sub-surface mineable coal resources. BLM-ES is offering these federal coal resources in response to a coal lease by application (LBA) filed by Westmoreland Coal Company (formerly Buckingham Coal Company), which operates an adjacent, privately-owned underground coal mine called the Burr Oak No. 6. The target sale date is July 1, 2019. (3/12/19)

April 3-8. BLM-AK. The Eastern Interior Field Office will host four open house public meetings in early April to seek input on travel and transportation in the White Mountains National Recreation Area and Steese National Conservation Area. The Records of Decision for Eastern Interior resource management plans, approved in Dec. 2016, committed to completing a transportation and travel plan for the Steese and White Mountains planning areas within five years. Meetings are scheduled for Fairbanks, Anchorage, Central, and Fort Yukon. (3/12/19)

Mid-April. BLM-NV. The Mount Lewis Field Office anticipates releasing for public comment a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzing potential impacts of hauling water to wild horses on the Fish Creek Herd Management Area southwest of Eureka, Nev. The proposed action is needed to avert animal health emergencies until excess horses can be removed to a level that is consistent with the Appropriate Management Level and/or the

ability of the natural water sources to provide for the needs of the wild horse populations. The Field Office expects to have the Draft EA out for public comment in mid-April. (3/12/19)

UPDATED ITEMS

March 25. BLM-UT plans to publish a Notice of Exchange Proposal for the Utah Test and Training Range (UTTR) Land Exchange in local newspapers for four weeks. The FY17 National Defense Authorization Act directed a land exchange between the BLM and State of Utah's School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration. The Federal lands (95,737.13 acres) and State lands (83,609.38 acres) are located throughout western Utah. The purpose of the exchange is to: 1) remove State ownership of lands where development would be incompatible with the critical national defense uses of the UTTR and Dugway Proving Ground; 2) consolidate land ownership for both the State of Utah and the United States; 3) place valuable conservation and recreation lands and mineral interests into public ownership, including lands within and contiguous to the Cedar Mountain Wilderness; and 4) place lands with a high development potential into State ownership for the benefit of Utah public schools. (2/19/19) DTS L18

March 27. BLM-AZ. The Hassayampa Field Office and Maricopa County Parks will issue a joint press release announcing a new lease of approximately 1,046 acres of public lands near Wickenburg, Ariz., to Maricopa County, under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. An Environmental Assessment analyzing potential environmental impacts of the lease, which allows the construction of recreation facilities, including picnic and campground facilities, restrooms, trails, a nature center, and an amphitheater was signed Jan. 31, 2019. The lease will support the County's efforts to expand recreation access to residents of the fastest growing county in the U.S. (1/30/19)

March 29. BLM-AZ. The Gila District Manager plans to participate in a Review Team briefing on the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) / Proposed Plan Amendments for the Ray Land Exchange. This proposed land exchange has the potential to create hundreds of Arizona mining-related jobs as well as improve access to existing public lands for traditional uses such as hunting, fishing, and family recreation. The original Final EIS was deemed insufficient by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals as it failed to analyze the different environmental consequences of the proponent's likely mining operations, with or without the exchange and federal oversight. This Final Supplemental EIS provides the analysis lacking in the original Final EIS. BLM plans to release the Final Supplemental EIS /Proposed Plan Amendments in April 2019 and a Record of Decision in June 2019. (2/19/19)

March 29. BLM-ID anticipates having the Decision Record package on the Big Lost Land Exchange ready for Washington Office review. The owner of the Big Lost Ranch in the Mackay area is interested in acquiring some BLM lands that are adjacent to the ranch and difficult for both BLM and the ranch to manage. Approximately 208 acres of BLM-managed lands would be exchanged for 495 acres of private land. The private land was appraised at $19,000 more than the BLM land; however, the ranch owners will donate a portion of their land to equalize the values. No known controversies exist at this time. (7/27/18)

March 29 (pending). BLM-MT/DK. The U.S. Department of State (DoS), as lead agency, expects to publish a Notice of Availability for a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Keystone XL pipeline for public comment and review. The BLM is a cooperating agency and provided comments to DoS on the internal Draft Supplemental EIS. The document considers direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts related to changes in the project since 2014 and incorporates updated information and new studies, as well as the alignment shift of the route in Nebraska. (2/5/19)

March 29. BLM-NV. The news release on the Argenta Allotment Environmental Assessment (EA) will be distributed announcing the opening of a 30-day comment period. The EA is tied to the grazing permit renewal on the Argenta Allotment in the Battle Mountain District. (2/12/19)

March 29. BLM-NM plans to publish the Notice of Availability for the proposed Copper Flat Mine Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The New Mexico Copper Corporation submitted a proposed mining plan of operations that would re-establish the Copper Flat Copper Mine, a poly-metallic mine and processing facility near Hillsboro, N.M., that would produce copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum. If approved, the project is expected to provide 170-270 jobs over the mine's 12-to-16-year life. (5/25/18)

March 29. BLM-OR/WA. The Lakeview District plans to sign the Coyote Colvin Grazing Permit Renewal Environmental Assessment (EA), allowing an Outcome Based Grazing Authorization. This EA involves six allotments, five of which are included in the Outcome Based Grazing program. The proposal is to expand the season of use and allow for more flexibility in pasture rotation. The number of AUMs (9,136) would remain the same. There is a cooperative relationship with the permittee and no controversy with NGOs at this time. (12/7/18)

Early April. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office plans to publish a Notice of Availability (pending Washington Office and DOI approval) for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess domestic sheep permit renewals on nine livestock grazing allotments in Gunnison, Hinsdale, and Ouray counties totaling approximately 65,000 acres. BLM-CO briefed the DOI Review Team on the Draft EIS on March 8. The Draft EIS evaluates reducing contact between domestic sheep on BLM lands and wild sheep populations to minimize disease transmission. (4/10/18) DTS 2507

Early April. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office plans to publish in the Federal Register (pending Washington Office approval) a Notice of Realty Action to convey 43.09 acres of public land to the Town of Lake City under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. The land is about one mile south of Lake City. The Lake City Ski Hill community ski area would continue to operate under the conveyance. (4/24/18) DTS 2329

Early April. BLM-CO. The Royal Gorge Field Office plans to publish a Notice of Availability (pending Washington Office and DOI approval) for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan (RMP). BLM-CO

briefed the DOI Review Team on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on March 1. The Draft RMP includes decisions on approximately 658,200 acres of BLM-administered lands and 3.3 million acres of subsurface mineral estate across 37 counties. The Eastern Colorado RMP will replace the 1996 Royal Gorge RMP and 1986 Northeast RMP. (4/24/18) DTS 2484

Mid-April. BLM-CO. The Royal Gorge Field Office is preparing a Notice of Availability of its Environmental Assessment (EA) for New Elk Coal Company LLC's Lease-by-Application (LBA), which includes a Notice of Public Hearing for public comment on the EA, as well as to discuss fair market value and maximum economic recovery. The 15-day public scoping period for the LBA closed Feb. 26. The New Elk Coal Company, LLC applied for a lease of 1,279 acres of split-estate federal coal that holds approximately 11 million tons of coal in place located in Las Animas County, adjacent to their New Elk Coal Mine. The active mine is an underground room and pillar coal mine. The proposed lease is in a historical coal production area. The Field Office's target publication date in the Federal Register is mid-April (pending WO and DOI approval). (12/7/18)

Mid-April. BLM-NV anticipates publishing the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Barrick Deep South Mine Project in the Federal Register following Solicitor review. The project was briefed to the Executive Review Team and received approval to move forward with publication. BLM has prepared detailed responses to cooperating agency and interested public comments, which the Solicitor's Office is reviewing. Publication of the Final EIS will set the stage for BLM to prepare a Record of Decision in the second quarter of 2019. The proposed project proposes major changes to a complex of open pit and underground gold mining operations at the Cortez Gold Mines in Lander and Eureka County, approximately 24 miles south of Beowawe, Nev. (3/5/19)

April 19. BLM-OR/WA. The Lakeview District plans to sign the decision regarding a draft Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact analyzing the potential effects of a wild horse gather and fertility control plan for the Beatys Butte Herd Management Area. A gather is expected to be scheduled in fall 2019. (12/7/18)

April 19. BLM-WY plans to publish the Notice of Availability and release the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Moneta Divide oil and gas development project near Lysite, Wyo. BLM-WY briefed the Review Team on March 8; the team requested that the Draft EIS be delayed and updated following release of the Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan (RMP) revisions. No follow-up briefing was requested. The proposed project, from Aetheon and Burlington Resources, could recover up to 18 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and 254 million barrels of oil over its estimated 65-year life and support around 6,400 jobs during the 15-year development phase. The Draft EIS analyzes amendments to the Casper RMP, including potential impacts to approximately 1.2 million acres of Greater Sage-grouse Priority Habitat Management Areas. Once the Draft EIS is updated, following release of the Greater Sage-Grouse RMP revisions, the Federal Register notice would publish, beginning a 90-day public comment period. (2/5/19)

April-May. BLM-MT/DK. The Butte Field Office plans to conduct the second phase of the Iron Mask prescribed fire, covering 450 acres five miles northwest of Townsend, Mont. The project will utilize fire to reduce conifers that are expanding into shrub and grassland habit to promote biodiversity and improve wildlife habitat. (3/5/19)

ONGOING ITEMS

March 24. BLM-NM. The public comment period ends for the Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas (OKT) Draft Joint Environmental Impact Statement / Resource Management Plan and Bureau of Indian Affairs Integrated Resource Management Plan. On Nov. 9, 2018, the BLM Oklahoma Field Office, in coordination with the BIA Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office and Southern Plains Regional Office, released a revised land use management plan for administration of federal and Indian lands across Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas. The amended draft plan addresses future land-use allocations; resource management actions; resource data and impact analysis; and laws, regulations, and policies applicable to BLM- and BIA-administered lands. (12/18/18)

By March 25. BLM-NM plans to publish a corrected Federal Register Notice (FRN) rescheduling a postponed public hearing originally scheduled for Jan. 7, 2019, for the Draft Environmental Assessment for a Lease by Application (LBA) in Haskell County, Okla. The LBA was delayed due to the partial government shutdown. Evans Coal Company submitted an LBA for federal coal reserves underlying 1,270.85 acres of privately owned surface lands. Evans estimates that the proposed lease area contains nearly 3.28 million tons of recoverable coal. This may be controversial because it is coal-related and the tract lies beneath a lake used for recreation by a private club. (8/17/18) DTS 2501

March 25. BLM-NV. The Ely District, Bristlecone Field Office begins a 15-day public comment period on a preliminary Environmental Assessment analyzing a Kinross Gold Corporation proposal to expand operations at the Bald Mountain Mine on private and public lands about 65 miles northwest of Ely, Nev. The comment period concludes April 9. (2/19/19)

March 25. BLM-UT. The Salt Lake Field Office will issue a decision for the Invasive Species Management Plan, which will manage invasive species through the use of new approved herbicides to treat weeds across the Field Office. The proposal also includes use of early-detection and rapid response; manual, mechanical, chemical and biological control; prescribed grazing and browsing; seeding, seedling planting, live staking, application of soil amendments, mulching, and prescribed fire. The project was developed in coordination with counties, the Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other affected parties. (12/17/18)

March 27. BLM-UT. The West Desert District is working with Solicitors and DOJ on a settlement motion in favor of the BLM, seeking approval of $5 million in reclamation, CERCLA, and other claims on Magnesium Corporation of America (MagCorp) through its bankruptcy proceedings. MagCorp was mining magnesium by collection and concentration of salt brines pumped from thousands of acres of public lands. These funds are needed to

rehabilitate public lands that MagCorp abandoned when it declared bankruptcy in 2001. Once an agreement is met, a public notice will be posted, initiating a public comment period. (7/27/18)

March 28. BLM-OR/WA. The Coos Bay District will issue decision records and sale notices for three upcoming timber sales: Sister Sweeden, Glide Path, and Slater 21. The District will offer the three sales at an oral auction on Apr. 26. Sister Sweeden includes 196 acres of commercial thinning in the late successional reserve land use allocation, and is expected to yield 4.9 million board feet. Glide Path is a regeneration harvest on 141 acres in the harvest land base land use allocation, and is expected to yield 4.9 million board feet of timber. Slater 21 includes a combination of thinning and regeneration harvest on 61 acres in the harvest land base. It is expected to yield 1.1 million board feet of timber. The District analyzed the Sister Sweeden sale as part of the West Fork Smith Environmental Assessment (EA). Both Glide Path and Slater 21 were analyzed in the Upper Rock Creek EA. These sales will contribute to the District's target of offering 30 million board feet of timber for sale in FY19. (2/26/19)

By March 29 (to be confirmed). BLM-CA. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in coordination with the BLM El Centro Field Office, anticipates issuing a Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and joint Decision Record for the Ocotillo Wind Energy Project on BLM-managed land in Imperial County. The EA analyzed an Eagle Take Permit application and an amendment to the right-of-way grant for the Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility, a 112-turbine project operated by Pattern Energy and authorized by the BLM in 2012. The BLM is a cooperating agency on the EA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the lead federal agency for NEPA and Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act. (2/26/19)

March 29. BLM-CA. The Ridgecrest Field Office plans to release for public comment the Crater Mine Exploration Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA evaluates a proposal to conduct exploratory drilling and bulk sampling to determine the extent of sulphur deposits. The area of interest is located within the Last Chance Canyon Range, Inyo County, which is within the Basin and Range National Conservation Lands and a BLM inholding surrounded by Death Valley National Park. This parcel is proposed to be transferred to Death Valley National Park under S. 47, the Natural Resources Management Act, which passed the Senate on Feb. 12 and the House on Feb. 26. The anticipated date for release for public comments for the EA is Mar. 29. (2/26/19)

March 29. BLM-ID. The Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area is preparing an EA for the Idaho Army National Guard's Master Plan No. 1, which would include improvements to three ranges; four ammo transfer and holding points; and 25 concrete tank turning pads. These projects are being analyzed in one EA. BLM is a co-lead on this project with the National Guard. The 30-day public comment period began Dec. 17. Due to the volume of comments, a final decision will be ready for release at the end of March. (7/20/18)

March 30. BLM-CO. The Grand Junction Field Office is preparing to commemorate the upcoming 10-year anniversary of the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area. The

BLM is working with community partners to plan an event to celebrate the milestone. BLM staff will prepare materials and provide logistical support for the celebration and an invitation has been sent to Acting Secretary David Bernhardt. (2/5/19)

March 31. BLM-CO. The 30-day public comment period will close for the Kremmling Field Office's programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to streamline Special Recreation Permit (SRP) processing. This programmatic EA consolidates the authorization process for many commercial, competitive, and organized group events and recreational activities in the Field Office, rather than preparing an individual EA for each new SRP application or renewal. This proposal would expedite the SRP process and reduce the amount of time, burden and expense required for applicants, existing permittees and BLM staff. (2/12/19)

Early April. BLM-CO plans to finalize a settlement agreement for two oil and gas wells in trespass through a limited-fee railroad ROW north of Denver. SRC Energy, Inc. agreed to terms set by the Department of Justice and will pay $723,236 to the U.S. Treasury. (2/19/19)

Early April. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office plans to publish a Notice of Realty Action in the Federal Register (pending Washington Office and DOI approval) on a proposal for a direct (non-competitive) sale of 0.21 acre of public land in Saguache County to Lucky 3, Inc. The sale will resolve an inadvertent, unauthorized occupancy on the public lands proposed for offer. The parcel is approximately 30 miles southeast of Gunnison. (2/26/19)

Early April. BLM-NV. The Southern Nevada District plans to complete briefings for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Yellow Pine Solar Project. Yellow Pine Solar, LLC has submitted to BLM a Right-of-Way application proposing to construct, operate, maintain, and decommission up to a 500-megawatt photovoltaic solar generation power plant and ancillary facilities on approximately 3,000 acres of BLM-managed land in Clark County, Nev. Construction is proposed to commence in 2020. (3/5/19)

April 1. BLM-CO. The 30-day public comment period will close for the Uncompahgre Field Office and Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forest's Revised Preliminary Environmental Assessment of the Gunnison Energy LLC North Fork Mancos Master Development Plan. The project encompasses five federal oil and gas units and includes nearly 35,000 acres of National Forest and split-estate lands in the North Fork Valley 12 miles northeast of Paonia. Up to 35 wells are proposed on five well pads (three on National Forest and two on private land), which could produce up to 700 billion cubic feet of natural gas over 30 years. The proposal and oil and gas development in the North Fork Valley has generated controversy. (2/19/19)

April 1. BLM-UT. The Monticello Field Office will issue a news release on enhanced visitor services at the Edge of the Cedars Museum in Blanding, Utah. The BLM is partnering with the Museum, who will host a BLM employee to answer visitor questions about the area, including Bears Ears National Monument. This partnership focuses on shared stewardship goals, educating visitors about responsible recreation, particularly around sensitive cultural sites, and addressing increasing recreation demands in the region. Through this partnership, the BLM also plans to issue firewood permits, which extends the hours and locations for

local residents to obtain permits closer to popular wood cutting areas. This is a pilot project, and the BLM will determine later whether the service can be offered on a continuing basis. (10/23/18)

April 4 and 5. BLM-OR/WA. The Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will meet at the Vale District Office. Agenda items include the Vale District Southeast Oregon Resource Management Plan Amendment; the Lakeview Resource Management Plan Amendment; updates on rangeland and grazing, energy and minerals, recreation; and any other business that may reasonably come before the RAC. (2/6/19)

April 6. BLM-ID. The Bruneau Field Office anticipates issuing two proposed grazing decisions to renew grazing permits, restore riparian areas, and incorporate range improvements across 187,537 acres of BLM-administered lands in the Big Springs Allotment. Affected lands lie entirely within a Greater Sage-Grouse Priority Habitat Management Area and contain Wilderness Areas and Wild and Scenic River segments. There is no anticipated reduction in Animal Unit Months as a result of the forthcoming decisions. Three environmental groups (Wilderness Watch, Western Watersheds Project, and WildLands Defense) are expected to protest and appeal the decisions. (2/7/18)

April 6. BLM-UT. The Fillmore Field Office plans to issue a Decision Record for the Sawtooth Pipeline project in Millard County. The proposed project would connect the Sawtooth Salt Cavern Storage Facility to the UNEV pipeline and greatly increase the region's refined fuel storage capacity. Of the 2.8 miles of right-of-way corridor that would be issued with this grant, 2.48 miles is slated for transfer to the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) under the Utah Test and Training Range land exchange. SITLA supports BLM issuance of the right-of-way grant. The interconnection site and remaining 0.32 miles of right-of-way would remain under BLM management. The Draft Environmental Assessment was posted to ePlanning in Dec. 2018. No public comments were received on the proposal. (3/5/19)

April 8. BLM-CO. The Uncompahgre Field Office plans to announce a 30-day public comment period on an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed Recreation and Public Purposes Act lease for approximately 44 acres of public land to Montrose County for an OHV staging area and skills course. These lands would eventually be conveyed to Montrose County. The staging area would serve as the starting point for OHV travel on the 160-mile RimRocker Trail, which starts in Montrose and connects to trails in Moab, Utah. The EA also considers a proposal from the Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Association for 20 miles of new non-motorized single-track trails adjacent to the staging area and establish guidelines for special recreation permits on the new trails. The Field Office plans to conduct a public meeting on April 25 at the Montrose County Fairgrounds Event Center. (3/5/19)

April 9. The American Exploration and Mining Association has requested BLM's participation at a Summit Conference on Advancing Abandoned Mine Land Cleanup, With or Without Good Samaritan Legislation, being held in Reno, Nev. The meeting is sponsored by the Mining and Metallurgical Society of America; University of Nevada, Reno; Colorado School of Mines; and Trout Unlimited. The meeting is a follow-up to a conference held last

year in Golden, Colo. that BLM attended. Currently, BLM's Acting Division Chief for Environmental Quality and Protection plans to attend. (3/5/19)

April 10. BLM-ID. The Four Rivers Field Office is working to develop the Four Rivers Resource Management Plan (RMP). Publication of the Draft RMP will occur after approval from the DOI Review Team, with a target date of April 10 for publishing the Draft RMP in the Federal Register for public comment. The Field Office has submitted a request to brief the BLM Director's Office. (7/23/18)

April 11. BLM- MT/DK. The Butte Field Office plans to issue a Record of Decision for fuels treatment on 1,000 acres of BLM land within the Tenmile study area. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has concurred with the Field Office's effects determination on the Tenmile–South Helena Project, which is a cooperative project between the Helena National Forest and the Butte Field Office. The project area includes all ownerships in 61,395 acres, of which 1,043 acres are administered by the Butte Field Office. The project is intended to maintain consistent quantity and quality of water within the Helena municipal watershed and improve conditions for public and firefighter safety across the landscape. (12/18/18)

April 12-13. BLM-WY. The High Desert District and Rock Springs Field Office will hold a wild horse and burro adoption at the Rock Springs Wild Horse Holding Facility. The BLM will offer approximately 60 horses for adoption at the event. Most of the offered horses were gathered from the Green Mountain and Stewart Creek areas in Sep. 2018. (3/5/19)

Oil and Gas Lease Sale Updates

BLM-CO. BLM-CO has scheduled its first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, Mar. 28 and June 28. **The March oil and gas lease sale will offer six parcels totaling 1,091 acres.** 45 days out – Post Sale Notice and begin 10-day protest period (Feb. 12, 2019) – 30-day public review and comment period on NEPA documents began Nov. 16, 2018 and concluded Dec. 16, 2018; Two-week public scoping period began on Oct. 10, 2018 and ended on Oct. 16, 2018; Two days prior to sale – Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting – Mar. 26, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – Mar. 27, 2019. **The June oil and gas lease sale will offer 12 parcels totaling 4,804 acres.** Two-week public scoping period began on Jan. 29, 2019 and closes on Feb. 12, 2019. Two-week public review and comment period on NEPA documents will begin on Mar. 12, 2019 and closes on Mar. 26, 2019. 45 days out – Post sale notice and begin 10-day protest period (May 14, 2019 – May 23, 2019). Two days prior to sale – Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting – June 26, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – June 27, 2019. Sep. 2019 CO oil and gas lease sale – Mar. 1, 2019 was the cut-off for accepting Expressions of Interest.

BLM-ES. BLM-ES has scheduled a quarterly oil and gas lease sale June 20, 2019. Twenty-nine parcels totaling 1,899.165 acres will be offered. The Sale Notice will be posted March 13, 2019, initiating a 10-day protest period. A 30-day public review and comment period on NEPA documents began Dec. 11, 2018, and ended Feb. 1, 2019. The final NEPA document

was posted to the ePlanning website Feb. 15, 2019. The Sale Notice protest period will end Apr. 1, 2019.

BLM-MT/DK. BLM-MT/DK has scheduled its first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 25-27 and July 30. **March 27, 2019 MT-DK Oil and Gas Lease Sale - 305 parcels totaling 166,999 acres.** Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale was posted and a news release issued on October 11, 2018. The 30-day public review and comment period of the environmental documents began on Nov. 21, 2018 and concluded Dec. 21, 2018. Sent final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting on Jan. 31, 2019. The 30-day public protest period began Feb. 1, 2019 and ended Mar. 3, 2019. Decision Record and FONSI will be signed on March 19. **July 30, 2019 MT oil and gas lease sale - 35 parcels totaling 10,076 acres.** Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale was posted and a news release issued on January 30. The 30-day public review and comment period of the environmental documents begins on March 13, 2019, and concludes April 11, 2019. Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting on June 11, 2019. The 30-day public protest period begins June 12, 2019, and concludes July 12, 2019. Decision Record and FONSI to be signed on July 26.

BLM-NM. BLM-NM has scheduled its first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 28 and June 20. **March 28, 2019 NM oil and gas lease sale - 37 parcels totaling approximately 12,500 acres in NM & OK** – 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale - posted on website and press release; public scoping period - Began Oct. 5, 2018 and concluded Oct. 19, 2018; public protest period of the environmental documents - Began Feb. 11 and concluded Feb. 20, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting – Mar. 26, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – Mar. 27. **June 20, 2019 NM oil and gas lease sale - 56 parcels in NM, KS, & OK –** 45 days out - Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale - posting on website and press release; public scoping period - Began Jan. 30 and concluded Feb. 10; public review and comment period of the environmental documents - Begins Mar. 11 and concludes Mar. 22, 2019; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting - June 18, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – June 19.

BLM-NV. BLM-NV plans on conducting an oil and gas lease sale June 11, 2019. The sale will involve 172 parcels totaling 339,081 acres on the Battle Mountain (123 parcels, 264,076 acres) and Elko Districts (49 parcels, 75,005 acres). The sale notice will post April 12 and the protest due date is May 13. The NEPA comment period for the Battle Mountain District runs from Feb. 19 to Mar. 20. The NEPA comment period for the Elko District runs from Feb. 16 to Mar. 19.

BLM-UT. BLM-UT has scheduled their first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 25-26 and June 10. **March 25-26, 2019 UT oil and gas lease sale - 156 parcels totaling 217,000 acres –** Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale will be posted on website and news release (TBD, NLT 45-days out). The 30-day public protest period (for the Greater Sage-Grouse areas) began Feb. 7, 2019 and ended Mar. 1, 2019. The 30-day public review and comment period of the environmental documents began on Nov.

15, 2018 and concluded Dec. 17, 2018. Final sale parcel list sent to Energy Net for posting on Feb. 11, 2019; Decision Record and signed FONSI on May 24. **June 10, 2019 UT oil and gas lease sale - 8 parcels totaling 11,557.73 BLM acres; 12 parcels 27,000 Forest Service acres –** Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (45-days notice on April 25) will be posted on website and in a news release. The 15-day public review and comment period of the environmental documents begins Feb. 15 and concludes Mar. 4, 2019. The 10-day public protest period (no Greater Sage-Grouse areas) begins Apr. 25, 2019 and concludes May 6, 2019. Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting on Apr. 26, 2019; Decision Record and signed FONSI on Aug. 9.

BLM-WY. BLM-WY has scheduled the first two quarterly oil and gas lease sales in 2019, March 19-20 and June 17. March 19-20, 2019 WY oil and gas lease sale - 140 parcels totaling 148,908 acres – Public Notification of Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (Nov. 13, 2018) - posted on website and press release; 30-day public protest period - Began Jan. 30 and concludes March 1; Two days prior to sale - Send final sale parcel list to Energy Net for posting – Mar. 17, 2019; One day prior to sale – Decision Record and Signed FONSI – Mar. 18, 2019. June 2019 WY oil and gas lease sale – 160 parcels totaling 205,885 acres – Public comment period for EA ends Mar. 27.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

NEW ITEMS

In late March, BOEM expects to publish a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) for leasing offshore the New York Bight. The NOI will be published concurrent with identification of the New York Bight WEAs. The NOI is with ASLM for surnaming. (3/8/19, DTS #2514)

On April 4, the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee has scheduled a FY 2020 Budget Hearing for BLM, BOEM and BSEE. The Acting Director expects to testify. (3/8/19)

UPDATED ITEMS

The analytical and decision chapters for the Proposed 2020-2025 National OCS Oil & Gas Leasing Program are with ASLM for review. The *Federal Register* Notice is with ASLM and the transmittal letters are with BOEM for review. (9/7/18)

BOEM has prepared multiple Calls for Information and Nominations (Calls) for lease sales proposed for 2019 and 2020 in the 2019-2024 Draft Proposed Program. The Mid-Atlantic Call (DTS #2257), the South Atlantic Call (DTS #2258), the Southern California Call (DTS #2388), and the Chukchi Sea Call (DTS #2385) are currently being held pending direction on the National OCS Program. (9/21/18)

On March 5, BOEM provided the updated version of the proposed financial assurance rule to SOL for review. On March 5, BOEM also returned revisions to Regulatory Impact Analysis

(RIA) to SOL. Based on a change in policy direction, BOEM has revised the proposed rule and associated RIA. Currently, the estimated cost-savings of the rule are about $16 million annually. BOEM briefed OIRA on March 11. (8/27/18, DTS #2343)

In mid-March, BOEM's Marine Minerals Program expects to execute the negotiated agreement revisions for the Sandbridge Beach, VA lease. SOL has surnamed the lease package and BOEM is finalizing the package for signature by the BOEM Chief of the Office of Strategic Resources. (2/4/19, DTS#2630)

ONGOING ITEMS

On March 20, BOEM will hold Gulf of Mexico Oil and Gas Lease Sale 252. The Sale will be live-streamed from BOEM's New Orleans office. (3/1/19)

On March 29, BOEM expects to publish the Notice of Availability of the Area Identification covering the Gulf of Mexico GOM oil and gas lease sales in the 2020-2025 National Program (excluding the area currently under the GOMESA moratorium) is currently in surnaming with SOL. (2/22/19, DTS#2631)

In March, BOEM expects to submit the Final Rule updating its air quality regulations related to oil, gas, and sulfur operations on the OCS to OMB for interagency review. This Final Rule significantly decreases the regulatory burden on industry compared to the Proposed Rule, while still meeting BOEM's statutory responsibilities under the OCSLA. A narrative describing the reduction to costs as compared to the proposed rule (Reduction to Costs Narrative and the rule text are currently with the Department for review. (8/2/18, DTS #2280 (Rule), DTS #2454 (Reduction to Costs Narrative))

In March, BOEM expects to publish a Request for Competitive Interest for an area proposed to be used for a right-of-way (ROW) project called Atlantic Link. Clean Power Northeast Development, Inc. filed an application on May 31, 2017 (revised August 22, and September 26), for a ROW grant in support of a proposed project connecting onshore wind and hydro power in Canada to the Massachusetts market via a 350 mile HVDC submarine cable traversing the OCS. The notice is in surnaming with the Department. (DTS #1773)

In March, BOEM expects to publish a Request for Competitive Interest for an area proposed to be used for a right-of-way (ROW) project from Anbaric Development Partners (ADP). The application is for the New York and New Jersey Ocean Grid, an HVDC submarine system approximately 185NM (213 statute miles) in length with up to nine offshore AC to DC collector/converter platforms, which would collect and distribute power generated from existing offshore wind leases to up to six terrestrial landings at locations from Long Island, New York to Cardiff, New Jersey. The notice is in surnaming with the Department. (10/15/18, DTS #2208)

On April 8, BOEM will be hosting the inaugural meeting of the Global Offshore Wind Regulators Forum (GOWRF) in New York City. The meeting will coincide with the 2019 International Partnering Forum conference. This multilateral group of federal regulators will

discuss priority topics associated with planning and oversight of offshore wind energy development. Participants are expected to include lead government regulators representing both experienced and emerging offshore wind markets. The forum will present a unique opportunity for sharing lessons learned and discussing best practices. (2/8/19)

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

Arctic Rule (AA01) –This is a joint BSEE BOEM rule and BSEE has been tasked as the lead agency by the ASLM for revisions to this rule. Although the scheduled tribal consultations were impacted by the drowning of a Native whaling captain and crewmember as well as the Alaskan earthquake, all have taken place. A meeting with the BSEE/ BOEM regulatory team took place on February 13 to discuss comments and path forward. A joint BSEE BOEM memo on the path forward has been drafted and was subject to ASLM/BSEE discussion on February 25. Additions were requested and a revised memo was delivered by the BSEE Director to the ASLM in a meeting on February 28. A revised, signed Arctic Rule memo complete with milestone timeline and team membership was delivered to the ASLM on March 11. The memo was executed by the ASLM on March 11. On March 13, BSEE, BOEM, and staff SOLs met to discuss coordination efforts to prepare a proposed rule package. Topics discussed include the roles and responsibilities of individuals within each bureau, and expectations under the rulemaking schedule. Before the end of this week (week of 3/11), the BSEE team will have prepared draft reg text, upon which the team will begin drafting the preamble, environmental assessment, information collection compliance statements, and initial regulatory analysis beginning next week.

London Convention

BSEE will send a senior staff member, Ms. Julie Fleming, to participate in the U.S. delegation to the 42nd meeting of the Scientific Groups under the London Convention and 13th meeting of the Scientific Groups under the London Protocol. The meeting will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from March 18-22. The U.S. delegation is comprised of a representative from the Environmental Protection Agency (lead), Department of State, Department of the Interior, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The agenda includes a session for members to review the latest draft revised Specific Guidelines for Assessment of Platforms or Other Man-made Structures at Sea, with a view to its finalization and subsequent discussion and approval at the fall 2019 meeting of the governing bodies. The latest revision incorporates DOI's edits from late November 2018, plus suggested revisions submitted by other international members of the intersessional Correspondence Group. BSEE, BOEM, and SOL coordinated on the development of an initial draft U.S. position paper regarding this agenda item at the end of January. The document has been finalized and surnamed through the ASLM. Ms. Fleming will participate in efforts to develop revisions to the Specific Guidelines for assessment of platforms and other man-made structures at sea. She will focus on preserving flexibility in addressing DOI/BSEE equities in decommissioning activities.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Notice of Intent to File Suit: On or about September 7, 2018, the Secretary and the Acting Director received a Notice of Intent to File Suit over an alleged failure to perform a mandatory duty under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act from the WildEarth Guardians (WEG). WEG alleges that the agency failed to "promptly promulgate regulations to limit toxic blasting emissions at coal mines after granting a petition for rulemaking." SMCRA allows OSMRE 60 days to respond to the NOI before an action can be filed. The Solicitor's Office advised OSMRE on its options in response to the NOI. OSMRE sent a response letter to WEG on November 6, 2018, indicating that OSMRE would publish its decision in the *Federal Register* within 90 days, on or before February 4, 2019. On January 31, 2019, OSMRE notified WEG that an extension of time would be needed due to the 35 day government shutdown. The Solicitors are working with the ASLM's office to resolve suggestions made on the draft notice.

Pollyanna #8 (OK): The FONSI was signed on February 11, 2019. The final MPDD was signed by the Regional Director on February 13, 2019. A hard copy and DTS copy were submitted for HQ routing on February 14, 2019. The Acting Director approved the MPDD on March 1, 2019, and it has been routed to the ASLM for review. This approval includes shadow area only for 520 acres of federally owned coal (1.7 million tons recoverable). (11/27/18)

Narley No. 3 (AL): OSMRE Mid-Continent Region began scoping for the Best Coal Narley No. 3 Mine in February 2019. The NOI was posted on the OSMRE Mid-Continent website on February 22, 2019. Public comments will be accepted through March 25, 2019. (1/30/19)

Notice for San Juan Mine Deep Lease Extension Final EIS ROD (NM): The DOI Clearance Briefing was held on March 1, 2019. OSMRE will now publish the announcement in the *Federal Register* on or around March 15, and OSMRE expects to issue its Record of Decision (ROD) on or around April 25, 2019. The Final EIS will inform OSMRE's recommendation to the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management on whether to approve the federal mining plan.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLICY, MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel for the upcoming week

Susan Combs, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the authority of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, will be out of the office on personal leave Monday through Friday.

Scott Cameron, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, will be in the office.

Immediate Actions and Announcements for the Next Week

Director - Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR)

From March 19-21, the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) will host the State and Tribal Royalty Audit Committee (STRAC) meeting in Denver, Colorado. Representatives from ONRR, States and Tribes, Bureau of Land Management, Interior Business Center, the Solicitors office, and the Office of Inspector General will attend. Agenda items include ONRR Updates, Royalty Policy Committee Updates, IT System Updates, Business Process Reengineering, and STRAC agreement updates. (03/13/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services (DAS PRE)

From March 20-21, the Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES) Acting Director will attend a joint Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI)/FBI security conference at the Hoover Dam and the FBI Phoenix Field office. The conference is hosted by the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and focuses on coordination of sharing classified and sensitive intelligence information as it relates to threats against the Department's critical infrastructure and public lands in the western United States. (02/27/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

On March 18th, the remaining volumes of the President's Budget will be released publicly. DOI Greenbook volumes will be released the same day. (03/13/2019)

No later than March 29th, all remaining Bureaus' and Offices' FY 2019 spend plans are due to the Office of Budget. The Office of Budget continues to review the spend plan submissions. (03/13/2019)

DOI participated in a call with OMB on March 12th to address questions raised by OMB during the informal review of the DOI's Notice of Proposed Rule to establish the DOI Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR). The FAIR is DOI's regulatory supplement to the Uniform Guidance, and will consolidate DOI's financial assistance regulations and policies. Based on the meeting DOI is making minor changes to the rule and will send to the Federal Register the week of 3/18/2019. (03/13/2019)

The week of March 18, two additional GrantSolutions meetings are scheduled in order to resolve outstanding concerns as a result of the bureau Fit/Gap review. (03/13/2019)

8-30 Day Outlook

Susan Combs, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the authority of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, will be attend the Western Caucus Foundation's Energy Policy Roundtable on Friday March 29th in Houston, Texas. Ms. Combs will participate as a speaker discussing the Department's role in helping to maintain America's energy independence. (03/13/2019)

From April 2-3, the RESTORE Council Steering Committee will meet in St. Petersburg, FL to discuss criteria to select proposals for the next Funded Priorities List in 2020, in accordance

with the RESTORE Act. The RESTORE Council Steering Committee is composed of Federal agency and Governor's representatives. (03/13/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Human Capital and Diversity

NEW ITEMS

During the week of March 25, the Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development and the Office of Human Capital will execute the first iteration of early adopters for the automated performance management portion within DOI Talent. The early adopters will include ~800 human resource employees that will test the system and learn the new process. This will enable the HR community to gain advance understanding of the new process and provide better support upon implementation more broadly. (03/13/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary – Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services (DAS PRE)

ONGOING ITEMS

From March 26-29, Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) Director will participate in a panel at the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Conference in Reno, NV. The conference provides a venue for inter-agency cooperation and discussion on emerging issues in wildland fire management. (03/06/2019)

From April 1-5, Office of Aviation Services (OAS) Director will be in Washington, DC to participate in planning meetings with DHS, DOD, NASA, and the FAA on a proposed demonstration of the Unmanned Traffic Management system in the National Capital Region later this year. (03/06/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Policy and Environmental Management (PEM)

NEW ITEMS

The Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) program is developing a task order to assist NRDA staff in documenting the business process and internal controls associated with the receipt, management and disbursement of NRDA Funds. PMB is on schedule to award the task order in early April. PPA continues to participate in a PMB effort to identify options for guidance, policy, and DM changes in support of NRDAR program restoration efforts. (03/15/2019)

UPDATED ITEMS

From April 3-4, the Office of Policy Analysis (PPA) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) are meeting with technical experts in Fort Collins, CO, to discuss the findings for potentially using social media data to supplement traditional methods for estimating recreation visits on public lands (such as in-person counts). PPA is assisting with drafting a report using data

collected during summer 2018 at four locations in northern New Mexico, with a follow-up stakeholders' workshop planned in summer or fall in D.C. for a more general audience. (03/13/2019)

PPA is working with IBC and PMB offices to review options and considerations for reducing IBC's services to external customers. PPA is evaluating four options for each of IBC's three lines of business. PPA is also developing recommendations for implementing the decision to reduce IBC's external customers. PPA will provide a draft report by April 1. (03/13/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

NEW ITEMS

GAO met with the Office of the Chief Information Officer in an entrance conference to discuss "Information Technology (IT) Supply Chain Cybersecurity" (Job Code 103187) in response to a request made by Chairman Johnson of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and Chairman Cummings of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The GAO will review:

(1) whether Federal agencies manage IT supply chain cyber risks in alignment with key practices

(2) how selected agencies have implemented information security controls to manage IT supply chain cyber risks

(3) any other aspects of cybersecurity management or planning in the IT procurement process. (03/13/2019)

The OIG initiated the new audit "The Bureau of Land Management's Compensatory Mitigation Program Fund" (2019-FIN-022) which will examine the BLM's internal review of the fund and independently determine whether appropriate supporting documentation and internal controls are in place. (03/13/2019)

UPDATED ITEMS

FY 2020 Budget Hearings. Three of the four budget hearings have been scheduled as shown below. The Office of Budget is coordinating with OCL to schedule the Senate Energy and Natural Resources hearing. (3/13/2019):

- March 26 - The House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee hearing
- March 27 - The House Natural Resources Committee hearing
- April 10 - The Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee hearing

The House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee has identified the following dates for Bureau specific budget hearings:

- April 3 - NPS, FWS, USGS – still confirming attendance.
- April 4 - BLM, BOEM, BSEE
- April 30 - BIA, BIE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR WATER AND SCIENCE

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary Tim Petty will be in the DC office. On March 20, he will speak at the State Department's U.S. Global Water Strategy forum on World Water Day.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Kiel Weaver will be in the DC office.

On March 18, Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman is scheduled to be out of the office. Commissioner Burman is scheduled to be in Washington, D.C. March 19 – 22.

During the week of March 18, USGS Director Reilly will be out of the office March 18, and in Reston, VA the remainder of the week.

During the week of March 18, Acting USGS Deputy Director Lodge will be in Reston, VA.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

Bureau of Reclamation

Between March 17 and March 23, Reclamation plans to issue a press release announcing a spring photography contest at New Melones Lake in California. The contest is open to amateur photographers and the deadline for submissions will be June 3. Local media coverage is not expected. (03/11/2019)

Between March 17 and March 23, Reclamation plans to issue a draft environmental assessment detailing the proposed plan to store Central Arizona Project (CAP) water leased from the Gila River Indian Community at select Arizona Department of Water Resources permitted Groundwater Savings Facilities (GSFs). The GSFs seek to use up to 25,000 acre-feet of water annually of the community's CAP water in lieu of pumping groundwater for their irrigation customers. The community seeks long-term storage credits. No significant press coverage is expected. (03/04/2019)

Between March 18 and March 26, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the award of a construction contract for the Minidoka Switchyard Modernization Project at Minidoka Dam in southwestern Idaho. The contract award is approximately $2 million. The contract will replace high-voltage equipment that is worn beyond its intended service life. (03/11/19)

On March 18, Reclamation will publish a funding opportunity to solicit proposals from federally recognized Indian tribes for projects that help tribes manage, protect, and develop their water resources. It does not require a non-federal cost-share contribution. This is being coordinated through the Native American Affairs Technical Assistance Program. It will be open for a minimum of 60 days once published. (03/11/2019)

On March 18, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the 15-day public comment period for the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact for festivals and special events at East Park Reservoir, California. East Park Reservoir is owned by Reclamation and managed by Colusa County. The festivals and special events will conform to best management practices and will be subject to individual approval by the county and Reclamation. (03/11/2019)

On March 19, the Folsom Dam (California) Security and Law Enforcement Contract will be on the public agenda for the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors' meeting for approval to meet Reclamation's contract award date. Reclamation and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department negotiated an agreement on January 24, 2019. Media attention is expected. (01/28/2019)

On March 20, Reclamation will attend the annual Pecos Stakeholder's Meeting in Fort Sumner, New Mexico, at the Bosque Redondo Visitor's Center. The meeting offers an opportunity for stakeholders such as Reclamation, irrigation districts, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and others to share information on projects and forecasts plans for the upcoming irrigation season. No press coverage is expected. (03/11/2019)

On March 20, Reclamation and the State of Utah will sign the Green River Block Water Exchange Contract. This contract will facilitate the development of the Green River Block portion of the state's Ultimate Phase water right. Releases from Flaming Gorge Dam (eastern Utah) could be altered to meet annual water demands under this exchange contract. (03/04/2019)

On March 20, Reclamation plans to attend the Lakehead Community Safety Meeting in Lakehead, California. Reclamation will provide a short update on the Shasta Dam and Reservoir Enlargement Project. Representatives from U.S. Forest Service, CalFire and the county will also provide updates on safety-related topics. Possible media interest. (02/25/2019)

Around March 22, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing a $1.65 million salinity grant to the Crawford Clipper Ditch Company, located in Crawford, Colorado. The grant will be used to replace approximately 34,204 feet of open earthen ditch and 1,525 feet of natural drainage ditch with buried pipeline. The purpose of the project is to prevent seepage and reduce salinity loading in the Colorado River Basin. (02/25/2019)

Around March 22, Reclamation plans to award a $6.5 million grant to the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) and a $5.6 million grant to the Larval Fish Laboratory at Colorado State University (CSU) to assist with the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program. The grants will allow UDWR and CSU to continue assisting with implementation solutions to meet the water needs of growing western communities, while protecting endangered fish in the Colorado River Basin. No press releases will be issued. (02/25/2019)

On March 22, the Environmental Protection Agency plans to publish a notice in the *Federal Register* announcing Reclamation's release of the draft environmental impact statement for the B.F. Sisk Dam Safety of Dams Corrective Action Project, in coordination with California's Department of Water Resources. A public comment period of 45 days will begin upon publication in the *Federal Register.* Two public meetings will be scheduled to gather comments. A news release announcing the draft environmental impact statement will be issued. Dates for the public meetings will be announced in a subsequent news release. (02/11/2019)

On March 22, Reclamation plans to release final environmental documents that analyze the proposed execution of a series of annual transfers of water over a 5-year period (calendar year 2019 through 2023) of up to 7,500 acre-feet per year of Firebaugh Canal Water District's Central Valley Project contract water supplies to Pacheco Water District, San Luis Water District and Westlands Water District (California). The proposed transfers would occur from April through December of each year that water is transferred and would not exceed the maximum of 37,500 acre-feet over the five-year period. (03/11/2019)

On March 22, Reclamation plans to release draft environmental documents that analyze the proposed water banking program between Arvin-Edison Water Storage District and Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (California). The program would allow the annual transfer of up to 100,000 acre-feet of Arvin-Edison's available Central Valley Project water supplies to Rosedale for banking. In return, Rosedale would deliver their State Water Project water supplies, Kern River water, and/or groundwater supplies, or internally transfer CVP water from other banking partners' accounts, at a rate of 1 acre-foot returned to Arvin-Edison for every 2 acre-feet of water banked in Rosedale. (03/11/2019)

U.S. Geological Survey

The week of March 18 or later, USGS and NASA will formally announce the names of two awardees for 2018 William T. Pecora Award for achievements in Earth remote sensing. The award has been presented annually since 1974 and honors the memory of William T. Pecora, Ph.D., former director of the USGS and Under Secretary of the Department of the Interior. Dr. Pecora was a motivating force behind Secretary Udall's 1966 announcement for the establishment of civil remote sensing of the Earth from space. The annual awards will be formally presented to both recipients at future venues. (02/19/19)

Sometime during mid to late March, an NPR interview is set to be released with the Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center's (SW CASC) university director, Gregg Garfin, on floods and drought in the southwestern U.S. Dr. Garfin is the lead author on the Southwest chapter of the NCA4, and used this expertise to explain how extreme precipitation and flooding are projected to increase, while droughts are also projected to become more frequent and severe in the southwestern U.S. (03/07/2019)

Gary Rowe will be attending the Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA) meeting in Alexandria VA, March 19-20. (03/05/19).

On March 21, Vivian Hutchison from USGS Core Science Systems' Science Analytics and Synthesis program will be presenting to the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) March 21. The presentation, "USGS review and approval processes, policies, and repositories for data management." will focus on the current practices, lessons learned, infrastructure, and challenges faced by USGS in supporting science data management across the bureau.

8-30 Day Outlook

Bureau of Reclamation

NEW ITEMS

Between March 25 and April 5, Reclamation will announce the winners of the Powering Electronic Instruments on a Rotating Shaft prize competition. Reclamation sought novel methods and technologies to reliably provide direct current power for loads of up to 20 watts to instruments on rotating shafts. Equipment monitoring via electronic instruments on the generator shaft provide a critical advancement toward keeping these units operational and reducing costly outages. A news release or story will be published. (03/11/2019)

On March 27, the Hoover Dam Visitor Center Theater Level reopening/ribbon cutting event will take place. The 4-month remodel project features a completely upgraded experience for visitors. The Theater Level reopened to the public on March 11. No news release will be issued. (03/11/2019)

In March or April, Reclamation will announce the availability of the FY 2019 WaterSMART Water Marketing funding opportunity. Through these grants, Reclamation assists states, tribes, and local governments to conduct planning activities to develop water marketing strategies that establish or expand water markets or water marketing activities between willing participants in compliance with state and federal laws. A news release will be issued. (03/11/2019)

In March or April, Reclamation will announce the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Desalination Construction Projects and WIIN Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse FY 2019 funding opportunity. The Desalination Construction Projects under the WIIN Act funding provides sponsors of ocean and brackish water desalination projects the opportunity to request cost-shared funding for the planning, design and/or construction of those projects. The Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects funding opportunity allows for sponsors of water reclamation and reuse projects that are congressionally authorized or are eligible under section 4009(c) of the WIIN Act to request cost-shared funding for planning, design and/or construction of those projects. A news release will be issued. (03/11/2019)

On April 3, Reclamation is scheduled to host a hard-hat tour of Hoover Dam (Nevada/Arizona) for visiting journalists from Southern California being escorted by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD). As part of a 2-day media inspection trip to the

Colorado River hosted by the MWD, Reclamation will provide the group a tour of the powerplant, tailrace, transformer deck and visitor center overlook. (03/11/2019)

In early April, Sarah Bradley, editor in chief of *Valve World* magazine, is interested in interviewing a maintenance technician from Hoover Dam (Nevada/Arizona) regarding the use and/or procurement of valves, pumps, hoses and other components. Trade magazines feature interviews with end users of valves and related componentry to assess why they were chosen for use and integration at the facility. (03/11/2019)

Around April 1, the San Luis Low Point Improvement Project Draft Feasibility Report (California) will be available for public review and comment through April 30. The draft report includes analysis of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Alternative as the locally preferred plan. Currently, the Santa Clara Valley Water District experiences water quality and reliability problems due to the development of algae blooms when the reservoir level drops below 300,000 acre-feet. A news release and public outreach is planned. (03/11/2019)

In early April, Reclamation will issue a news release announcing that safety-of-dams work at Boca Dam will commence in May. The work is a result of Reclamation's analysis regarding risk from structural failure during an earthquake. The project will extend to October 2020. Boca Dam is located northeast of Truckee, California. (03/11/2019)

On April 11, Reclamation will participate in the Sacramento River Science Workshop in Sacramento, California. The workshop will convene participants to hear about and discuss the state of science on the Upper Sacramento River and how it can inform management decisions. Topics to be discussed include monitoring, habitat restoration, and operations and engineering modeling. (03/11/2019)

On April 11, Reclamation will host a second public meeting on the Draft Final Central Valley Project Cost Allocation Study in Folsom, California. Notification of the meeting will be emailed to interested parties. Meeting details and agenda will be posted to the website. Comments will be accepted. (03/11/2019)

Around April 15, Reclamation will announce availability of the final environmental impact statement for the El Dorado County Water Agency Long-Term Water Service Contract (Fazio) for 30-day public review and announce availability of the draft contract for 60-day public review. Contract negotiation sessions are scheduled for April 3 and April 10. (03/12/2019)

April 16 – April 17, Reclamation will host an interactive stakeholders' workshop at the Denver Federal Center, Building 67, in Lakewood, Colorado. Meeting topics will include updates from Reclamation's leadership with discussions on Improving the Environmental Review Process; WaterSMART Funding Opportunities; Identifying, Designing, and Executing Repairs, Replacements, and Additions at Transferred Works Facilities; Cultural Resources Compliance on Transferred Works; and Economic Benefits and Cost Estimates in Reclamation Planning Studies. (03/11/2019)

On April 18, Reclamation will hold an emergency action planning tabletop exercise in Burley, Idaho, for the American Falls and Minidoka Dams. No media interest is expected. (03/11/19)

UPDATED ITEMS

Around March 26, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing a final finding of no significant impact and environmental assessment on the Aspen Canal Piping Project located in Delta County, Colorado. The project will replace approximately 5.6 miles of open irrigation ditch with buried pipe. The purpose of the project is to prevent seepage and reduce salinity loading in the Colorado River Basin. (01/07/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

In March, the Trinity River Restoration Program, Bureau of Reclamation, and Bureau of Land Management (federal co-lead agencies) plan to announce the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact for the Chapman Ranch Phase A Channel Rehabilitation Project. The purpose of the project is to increase salmon and steelhead habitat downstream of Lewiston Dam on the Trinity River in California. (01/28/2019)

On April 1, Reclamation expects new coordinated biological opinions on the operation of the Klamath Project (California/Oregon) to be released by the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This release will trigger a transition in Klamath Project water operations from the requirements of the 2013 Biological Opinion. The United States has already noticed the court of the forthcoming biological opinions and completion of the Endangered Species Act re-initiation of consultation process, which will lift the injunction and associated flow requirements intended to decrease Ceratonova Shasta disease. The disease affects endangered salmon in the Klamath River. Media interest is expected. (03/04/2019)

Between April 8 and 19, Reclamation may issue a news release following receipt of the Klamath Project coordinated biological opinions. Reclamation plans to complete the National Environmental Policy Act process and will review the information included in the 2019 Biological Opinion to ensure consistency with the environmental assessment and determine if it will release a finding of no significant impact or issue a notice of intent to complete an environmental impact statement. Media interest is expected. (03/04/2019)

U.S. Geological Survey

NEW ITEMS

In March, the USGS responded to a data call from the National Science & Technology Council's interagency Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology (SOST) requesting priority Research and Technology (R&T) needs. Subsequent to review and synthesis by the SOST leadership of these needs, agencies will be expected to develop up to five project proposals by March 25 to achieve identified agency needs over the next 24 to 36 months.

Resulting projects will be presented to the Ocean Policy Committee for review. The USGS response has been developed by the Coastal/Marine Hazards & Resources Program after internal bureau consultation to ensure consistency with USGS priorities. (03/05/19)

On March 25, Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center (CASC) Research Ecologist Dr. Toni Lyn Morelli is planned to present on CASC science and practices to leadership and scientists at the University de la Frontera in central Chile. The trip will involve planning for future fieldwork as well as sharing information about translational ecology and the process of establishing a climate science center. This trip will help spread the word and reputation about USGS and build a relationship with a university in a high biodiversity/ecosystem services country. (03/07/19)

Sometime between March and May, North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center (CASC) ecologist Brian Miller is expected to present his work on scenario planning and simulation modeling as part of a webinar series hosted by the Western Governors' Association Biosecurity and Invasive Species Initiative. Miller was invited to present his work modeling climate, invasive species, and resource management as part of this series. (03/07/19)

On April 2-3, an “Industry Day” event will be held at the USGS National Center in Reston, VA to gather information from industry about existing, planned, and emerging Earth observation and imaging capabilities/systems. NASA released an request for information (RFI) for the "Sustainable Land Imaging (SLI) Beyond Landsat 9 Architecture Study". The RFI was open from October 25 to November 30 and the Architecture Study Team (AST) received industry responses on space instruments, ground systems, products, data services, public-private partnerships, and related topics. The respondents are invited to participate in this by-invitation-only event, the format for which will consist of one-on-one conversations with each RFI respondent, about 45 minutes each. The SLI AST 2019 team has reviewed the RFI responses and compiled questions for the Industry Day. A subset of the SLI AST 2019 core team members will participate in the event. (03/07/2019)

In celebration of *National Library Week,* April 7-13, the USGS Library will host several activities highlighting Library resources and collections serving the science community. Library tours offered in Denver and Reston will provide an opportunity to meet library staff and learn about services, resources, and specialized collections. Online events will include an in-depth look at using Elsevier's SCOPUS search platform for science research as well as tips to efficiently search the new Library Catalog across both physical and digital collections to find relevant materials, including journal articles, books, maps, ebooks, USGS-authored series reports, and open access materials.

On April 19, The North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center (NC CASC) host institution, University of Colorado Boulder, will host a public open house to mark the “grand opening” of the North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center (NC CASC) and to showcase the capabilities of CU’s EarthLab, which hosts the NC CASC. The University of Colorado Boulder was chosen as the new university host for the North Central CASC in 2018. The event will take place at CU Boulder SEEC Building, 4000 Discovery Drive,

Boulder CO and will include research presentations and discussions with senior university leadership. Invitations will be sent by CU Boulder to elected and appointed federal, state, and local officials, including regional leadership of FWS, NPS, etc. (03/07/19)

ONGOING ITEMS

In late March, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) will request clearance of the first biennial Report to Congress on Crowdsourcing and Citizen Science (CCS), as required by the CCS Act of 2016. The report includes appendixes describing bureau-level activities in crowdsourcing and citizen science, as well as challenges and prizes. OSTP's guidance was to submit for inclusion in the appendixes all activities launched under the CCS Act, and a sampling of representative activities launched under different authorities. (DOI Office of Policy Analysis is coordinating the request on challenges and prizes.) (03/05/19)

On March 31, funding from the US Air Force for USGS geomagnetic observatories will end after more than a decade of support. In FY18, this funding represented 18% of the total for the Geologic Hazards Science Center's Geomagnetism Project and 25% of the Project's operations funds. To cope with the loss of support, maintenance will be suspended on three of the 14 magnetic observatories currently operated, on April 15. They are: Shumagin (AK), Fresno (CA) and Bay St. Louis (MS). In mid-March, the USGS will notify partner agencies in the National Space Weather Program. A briefing request has already been received from National Security Council staff. (03/05/19)

On April 2-4, the North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center (CASC) Deputy Director, Aparna Bamzai-Dodson, will participate in the "Bringing Conversations on Diversity and Inclusion in Data Science to the Environmental Sciences" workshop to be held at University Corporation for Atmospheric Research's (UCAR) Center Green facility in Boulder, CO. The workshop will be led by the Environmental Data Science Inclusion Network (EDSIN) and is funded by the National Science Foundation "Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science" program (NSF Includes). Growth in large ecological datasets and large environmental synthesis projects has resulted in the need for a diverse workforce with technical data science skills. The EDSIN is intended to strengthen initiatives across existing alliances and organizations to recruit and retain individuals from underrepresented groups in data science careers. (02/28/19)

In April or May, USGS will announce the kick off of an innovative project to study Harmful Algal Blooms in the State of New York, in Owasco, Seneca and Skaneateles lakes of the Finger Lakes region. In partnership with the state, USGS is installing new, innovative and robust systems to gain insight on HAB development, duration and decline. HABs occur when algae grow out of control and produce toxic or harmful effects. These blooms can be harmful to humans, animals, pets and aquatic ecosystems, and lead to impacts on the economy. A better understanding of HAB growth and severity will allow state officials, water resource managers, drinking water utilities, the public and others make more informed choices on how to deal with blooms and develop mitigation strategies. (03/05/19)

Upcoming USGS Publications

Pub Title	Pub Synopsis	Pub Outlet	Anticipated Pub Date
Sea otter population biology at Big Sur and Monterey, California—Investigating the consequences of resource abundance and anthropogenic stressors for sea otter recovery	Southern sea otters are a Federally threatened species and recognized as depleted under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. USGS will publish a multi-year study concerning sea otter population biology at Big Sur and Monterey, California. The report identifies the factors most important in limiting population growth of southern sea otters in central California and informs conservation research and management actions for this species.	USGS Open File Report	March
Nonlinearities in transmission dynamics and efficient management vector-borne pathogens	This paper explores nonlinearities in transmission dynamics of vector-borne pathogens, develops an improved measure of the effect of management on risk of human exposure to vector-borne pathogens, and examines the implications for efficient integration of control measures to protect public health while minimizing adverse effects on nontarget organisms.	Ecological Applications	May
An integrated framework for ecological drought across riverscapes of North America	Climate change is increasing the severity and extent of extreme droughts events, posing a critical threat to freshwater ecosystems, particularly with increasing human demands for diminishing water supplies. Current understanding of drought consequences for freshwater biodiversity is very limited. This study describes key barriers that hinder integrative drought research and monitoring across riverscapes and describes how this approach can directly inform natural-resource management.	Bioscience	May

Trends and carrying capacity of sea otters in southeast Alaska	The recovery of sea otters to ecosystems from which they had been absent in southeast Alaska has affected coastal food webs, including commercially important fisheries. This study estimates past trend and current abundance of sea otters, providing insights to managers regarding food web implications and informing commercial fishery managers, particularly regarding conflicts between sea otter and shellfish fisheries.	Journal of Wildlife Management	June
Climate-Changed Wetlands Challenge Waterbird Use and Migratory Connectivity in Arid Landscapes	Wetlands in the Great Basin provide vital habitat to waterbirds and conservation depends on a better understanding of climate change as a potential stressor. This study assessed changes in water availability and climate trends over the past 100 years in conjunction with North American Breeding Bird Survey data, with implications on the health of the entire Pacific Flyway. Long-term data on temperature, precipitation, and streamflow were examined for monthly and annual changes.	Scientific Reports	TBD

Change in Carbon Storage for Cold-Desert Ecosystems Controlled by Strong Interactions Between Precipitation Seasonality and Vegetation	Dryland ecosystems are experiencing shifts in plant community composition and rainfall, which are expected to alter cycling and storage of soil carbon at local to global scales. Estimated changes in dryland carbon are poorly constrained and few studies few studies are designed to experimentally examine long-term climate effects on soil carbon. USGS scientists and colleagues measured soil carbon from 0 to 1 m under and between plants following nearly 20 years of experimental manipulations of plant community composition (native sagebrush steppe, or monoculture of exotic crested wheatgrass), as well as the amount and timing of rainfall. Findings from this long-term experimental study indicate sagebrush communities may become a net carbon source with increased dormant season rainfall rather than a carbon sink as previously predicted. This research also provides direct experimental evidence for increased carbon sequestration, influenced by biotic and abiotic factors. Consideration of vegetation type, sub-surface soils, and both organic and inorganic carbon forms are imperative to predicting how carbon sequestration may be altered by changing climate and disturbance.	Ecosphere	March
Science Framework for Conservation and Restoration of the Sagebrush Biome: Linking the Department of the Interior's Integrated Rangeland Fire Management Strategy to Long-Term Strategic Conservation Actions Part 2. Management Applications	A report developed in response to the DOI's Integrated Rangeland Fire Management Strategy intended to provide long-term strategic guidance on conservation actions in the sagebrush biome. The chapter *Adaptive Management and Monitoring* introduces adaptive management and defines terms and important ecosystem attributes to be monitored. The chapter *Integration and Tradeoffs* addresses the complexity of decision making to meet a diversity of management objectives.	U.S. Forest Service General Technical Report	March

Fish Diseases and Medicine	Two book chapters written by USGS will be released as part of the veterinary textbook titled “Fish Diseases and Medicine.” The comprehensive textbook provides an overview of piscine (concerning fish) medicine, including diseases and disorders of fish in the ornamental, food, and bait industries, among others. The text includes two chapters authored by USGS: *Chapter 1 – Anatomy and physiology of fish* and *Chapter 8 – Coelomic Disorder*s.	CRC Press	March
Change in Carbon Storage for Cold-Desert Ecosystems Controlled by Strong Interactions Between Precipitation Seasonality and Vegetation	Dryland ecosystems are experiencing shifts in plant community composition and rainfall, which are expected to alter cycling and storage of soil carbon at local to global scales. Estimated changes in dryland carbon are poorly constrained and few studies few studies are designed to experimentally examine long-term climate effects on soil carbon. USGS scientists and colleagues measured soil carbon from 0 to 1 m under and between plants following nearly 20 years of experimental manipulations of plant community composition (native sagebrush steppe, or monoculture of exotic crested wheatgrass), as well as the amount and timing of rainfall. Findings from this long-term experimental study indicate sagebrush communities may become a net carbon source with increased dormant season rainfall rather than a carbon sink as previously predicted. This research also provides direct experimental evidence for increased carbon sequestration, influenced by biotic and abiotic factors. Consideration of vegetation type, sub-surface soils, and both organic and inorganic carbon forms are imperative to predicting how carbon sequestration may be altered by changing climate and disturbance.		week of March 25

North-facing slopes and elevation shape asymmetric genetic structure in the range-restricted salamander Plethodon shenandoah	The Shenandoah Salamander is Federally endangered and found only in three mountaintops in Virginia. Using genetic techniques, this study reconstructed the evolutionary history and population connectivity of the species for all three populations. Results highlight the importance of landscape features in understanding and predicting movement and fragmentation of salamanders across space.	Ecology and Evolution	March
Changes In Breeding Population Sizes Of Double-Crested Cormorants Phalacrocorax Auritus In The Humboldt Bay Area, California, 1924–2017	The Double-crested cormorant is of management interest to USFWS and to enable better understanding of recent population growth along the Pacific coast of North America, this study assessed long-term breeding population trends in the Humboldt Bay area, California, using aerial photographic survey data collected since 1989 as well as available prior data.	Marine Ornithology	March
Wolf recolonization failure: a Minnesota case study	A case study detailing how a wolf pack attempted for three years to recolonize an area 15 miles from Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota but failed due to depredation of livestock and dogs, which resulted in the lethal removal of the pack by USDA Wildlife Services. This case study serves as an example of why wolves cannot recolonize non-wild lands in Minnesota and elsewhere.	Canadian Field Naturalist	April
Functional variation at an expressed MHC class IIb locus predicts Ranavirus infection intensity in larval anuran populations	Infectious diseases are causing losses to global biodiversity and Ranavirus is among the leading causes of amphibian disease-related mortality, including wood frogs across the northwestern U.S. By surveying larval wood frogs in Maryland, this study identified immunogenetic signatures linked to variation in disease susceptibility to inform mitigation strategies for combating global amphibian declines.	Immunogenetics	April

Yellowstone Science	USGS has authored four articles that discuss science related to proliferative kidney disease in fish in the Yellowstone River and western U.S.; how paleoclimate provides a framework for understanding potential ecological change in the future; an overview of recommendations for Yellowstone National Park's Aquatic Invasive Species program; and the role that birds play in Yellowstone National Park related to ecological vital signs that indicate park health.	Yellowstone Center for Resources, Yellowstone National Park	April
Invasive buffelgrass detection using high-resolution satellite and UAV imagery on Google Earth Engine	Buffelgrass is an invasive grass species that facilitates fires in desert ecosystems while benefiting from the disturbance the fire causes. The USGS developed a buffelgrass detection method using a drone and high-resolution satellite imagery at two sites in Saguaro National Park, Arizona. This method provides an improved detection method for managing buffelgrass and determines what environmental variables is associated with this invasive species.	Remote Sensing in Ecology and Conservation	April
Influence of surrounding land-use on mussel growth and glycogen levels in the St. Croix and Minnesota River basins	Freshwater mussels are facing threats that are altering habitat and health of mussel populations. The state of current and past environmental conditions can be monitored by measuring mussel growth and glycogen levels. This study measured growth and glycogen levels in mussels from the St. Croix and Minnesota River basins to understand how surrounding land-use influences the growth and physiological status of native freshwater mussels.	Hydrobiologia	May
Managing the trifecta of disease, climate, and contaminants: Searching for robust choices under multiple sources of uncertainty	Wood frog populations in the northeastern US are experiencing population declines due to multiple stressors. This study evaluated how potential management actions might mitigate the effects of increasingly frequent and severe droughts, ranavirus disease exposure, and methylmercury on wood frog populations. Results can assist managers in the conservation of wood frogs under changing environmental conditions.	Biological Conservation	May

To forage or flee: lessons from an elk migration near a protected area	The causes and consequences of shifting and variable elk migration patterns are still largely unknown, particularly for autumn migration. This study used five years of data from female elk which utilize a landscape managed by four federal agencies, the State of Wyoming, and private landowners, to identify the driving factors behind the initiation of fall migration in two groups of elk, one of which migrates to a protected area where hunting is prohibited.	Ecosphere	May
Local scale spatial patterns of freshwater mussels in the Upper Mississippi River	Native freshwater mussels, one of the most threatened faunal groups with high extinction risk, serve vital functions in freshwater systems and many species are economically important, making them key targets for conservation, restoration, and management. This study was designed to quantify where high quality mussel assemblages exist in the Upper Mississippi River so that future habitat and restoration projects can be designed to avoid or enhance native mussel assemblages.	Freshwater Science	May
The bee fauna of coastal Napatree Point and two inland sites in southern Rhode Island	Bees are important pollinators and essential to ecosystems, and there is evidence of pollinator declines. The bee faunas of coastal sites are relatively poorly known and the USGS surveys pollinator species so that their trends can be monitored. This study provides baseline survey information on bees at Napatree Point and the Great Swamp and Carter Preserves (all three are conservation areas in Rhode Island), and provides data useful for future monitoring of these bee faunas.	Northeastern Naturalist	April
Louisiana Black Bear Post-delisting Monitoring Report	At the request of the USFWS, USGS will provide an annual post-delisting monitoring report for the Louisiana black bear. The report is intended to indicate whether tipping points have been reached which might trigger the re-listing of the species. The report provides an assessment of data collected at sites in Atchafalaya and Tensas River Basins, Louisiana from roughly 2002/2006 to 2017.	Cooperator publication for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	April

Measuring seedlings of a problem nonnative plant species in two sites at Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona to better understand how invasions start	Prickly Russian thistle (tumbleweed) is a nonnative plant species and being able to predict if and when it will pose a serious problem is valuable for land managers when determining management strategies. This study measured the emergence of prickly Russian thistle seedlings at Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona to better understand the factors that contribute to the success of this problematic nonnative plant species.	Invasive Plant Science and Management	April
Changes in Genetic Diversity and Differentiation in Red-cockaded Woodpeckers (Dryobates borealis) Over the Past Century	The endangered red-cockaded woodpecker has declined in the southeastern US due to loss of habitat and fire suppression. An earlier genetic study conducted during the 1990's found low genetic diversity. USGS and others examined temporal change in genetic diversity and structure using microsatellite and mitochondrial DNA to assess genetic variability before and after the population decline.	Ecology and Evolution	March
Book Chapter: Global status of trout and char: conservation challenges in the 21st century	Freshwater ecosystems are among the most threatened ecosystems in the world, and freshwater fishes may now be the most threatened group of vertebrates. As of 2017 only 54% of the total described species of trout and char have been assessed by the IUCN. Of the 67 species that have been assessed, an estimated 73% are threatened with global extinction. This book chapter is the first global assessment of status and conservation of freshwater trout and char.	American Fisheries Society Book	May
Rare Earth Element Mineral Deposits in the United States	Review of the major types of mineral deposits that are known to contain rare earth element (REE) resources as products and byproducts. Provides a high-level description of the major minerals that contain the REEs and how they occur in nature. The report prioritizes the mineral deposit types most likely to contain sufficient REE content that if developed would significantly impact US domestic supplies. This prioritization will be used to emphasize the REE-bearing mineral deposit types that are the focus of the first phase of the critical minerals mapping initiative.	USGS Circular	3/29/2019

Arizona Hedgehog Cactus (Echinocereus triglochidiatus var arizonicus)—A Systematic Data Assessment in Support of Recovery	The Arizona hedgehog cactus is a federally listed cactus due to loss of habitat attributed to mining, mineral exploration and highway development. At the request of USFWS, USGS estimated survival and population growth rates and provided suggestions on how to improve the collection of Arizona hedgehog cactus monitoring data.	USGS Open-File-Report	March
Viability of razorback-flannelback sucker hybrids	Dams have segmented the Colorado River, altering habitat and isolating native fish populations such as the endangered Razorback Sucker which are uncommon and hybridization could increase due to limited mates. To understand the impacts of hybridization on recovery of Razorback Suckers, USGS and partners compared hatch success and larval survival of artificially spawned Razorback Sucker, Flannelmouth Sucker, and their hybrid to successfully spawn and rear all combinations.	Southwestern Naturalist	March
Rangeland live vegetation monitoring with satellite remote sensing: U.S. Geological Survey Administrative Report	USGS and partners developed a new satellite-based technology for high spatial and high frequency mapping of live vegetation in semi-arid and arid landscapes in Kenya's conservancies comprising the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT). These technologies provide the needed mapping performance for management to protect iconic species such as elephants, rhinos, and cheetahs while supporting a pastoral population dependent on access to grazing areas for livestock.	USGS Open-File-Report	March
Lead in piscivorous raptors during breeding season in the Chesapeake Bay region of Maryland and Virginia, USA	USGS and others examined blood lead concentrations of osprey and bald eagles breeding at the largest estuary in the U.S., the Chesapeake Bay. Both of these species have increased in numbers since the ban on dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT), this study aimed to see if adults or chicks could be negatively affected by another toxicant, lead, and attempts to determine sources of exposure by testing paint, sediment, and forage fish.	Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry	TBD

Wind erosion and dust from US drylands: a review of causes, consequences, and solutions in a changing world	Over 148 million acres in the U.S. (~64% managed by the federal government) have been identified as vulnerable to wind erosion, which removes topsoil, decreases soil fertility, damages crops and property, deposits soil on roadways, generates dust that can affect human health, and can indirectly affect regional water supplies by influencing mountain snowmelt. This study assessed the factors driving wind erosion and dust generation, the consequences, and potential strategies that could mitigate the effects.	Ecosphere	TBD
Early genetic outcomes of American black bear reintroductions in the Central Appalachians, USA	American black bears were extirpated from most of the Central Appalachians in the early 20th century and reintroductions were conducted during the 1990s. An assessment of the early genetic outcomes of bear reintroduction illustrates sustained isolation and small effective population size. Results may warrant continued genetic monitoring to determine if gene flow from neighboring populations is established.	Ursus	TBD
Topographic drivers of flight altitude over large spatial and temporal scales	In order to better understand drivers of golden eagle flight patterns, researchers tracked the birds, listed as a fully protected species in California, within all five bird conservation regions in California. By analyzing nearly 200,000 flight locations and examining topographic features such as roughness and aspect in conjunction with temporal parameters, researchers developed a relatively simple predictive model to assist with conservation and management.	Auk	TBD
Landscape and organismal factors affecting sagebrush-seedling transplant survival after megafire restoration	To provide insight to guide future allocation of resources to maximize probability of post-fire sagebrush restoration success, USGS worked in close partnership with BLM to examine how biotic and abiotic factors contribute to differences in survival of sagebrush planted after the 2015 Soda Wildfire, Idaho. Survival of over 3,000 sagebrush seedlings spanning more than 1,000 acres were evaluated in relation to organismal traits and landscape factors.	Restoration Ecology	TBD

Assessing the Quality of America's Public Aeromagnetic Data	The United States is well covered by first-generation geophysical surveys, which provide a big picture of the distribution of subsurface rock types. However, many of the surveys flown are out of date and used dated technology. The article uses these historical data to prioritize regions for more detailed geophysical surveys to characterize potential critical mineral resources, and publishes those gaps in map form for the larger scientific community.	Eos	TBD
Modelling Riparian Restoration Impacts on the Hydrologic Cycle at the Babacomari Ranch, SE Arizona, USA	This paper describes coupling field experiments with surface and groundwater modelling to investigate the use of erosion control structures to augment shallow and deep aquifer recharge in SE Arizona rangelands. Findings demonstrate how erosion-control structures could impact all components of the annual water budget and provide support for potential watershed-wide gabion installation to increase total aquifer recharge. The Walton Family Foundation contributed to project funding and partners included the Babacomari Ranch, the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch of the National Audubon Society, and the University of Arizona.	Journal of Water, Special Issue: Hydrologic Modelling for Water Resources and Basin Management	
Trends and carrying capacity of sea otters in southeast Alaska	Sea otter populations in southeast Alaska increased from fewer than 500 translocated animals in the late 1960s to an estimated >8,000 animals by 2003. The recovery of sea otters to ecosystems from which they had been absent has affected coastal food webs, including commercially important fisheries, and thus information on expected growth and equilibrium abundances can help guide resource management. The authors compiled available survey and harvest data and utilized a Bayesian state-space model to estimate past trend and current abundance, providing insights to managers regarding food web implications and informing commercial fishery managers, particularly regarding conflicts between sea otter and shellfish fisheries.	Journal of Wildlife Management	TBD, May 2019

Carbon accumulation and vertical accretion in a restored vs. historic salt marsh in southern Puget Sound, Washington, USA	Sediment cores were collected in Animal Slough (Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge), the relatively undisturbed historic marsh, and Six Gill Slough, the restored, largely unvegetated marsh at the Nisqually refuge. Cores were analyzed for bulk density, % loss of ignition, % organic carbon, and 210Pb for sediment dating. Sharp changes in bulk density in surface layers of Six Gill Slough cores were highly reliable markers for the onset of restoration in November 2009. The mean vertical accretion rate at Six Gill Slough was almost twice (0.79 cm/yr) that of the historic marsh since the time of restoration. Carbon accumulation rates at Six Gill Slough were somewhat greater than at AS, but the difference was not significant due to high variability (Six Gill: 81 - 210 g C m-2 yr-1; Animal Slough: 115 - 168 g C m-2 yr-1). The implications of this study are threefold: (1) major changes in land use, including onset of restoration, can be preserved in marsh cores and identified by abrupt changes in bulk density with depth, (2) restored marshes can quickly begin to accumulate carbon, even with sparse vegetation cover; however, carbon stores are vulnerable to loss by erosion, and (3) carbon accumulation rates in restored vs. historic marshes may be similar despite major differences in marsh formation processes.	Restoration Ecology	TBD

Spatio-temporal Population Change of Arctic-breeding Waterbirds	The paper estimated distribution, abundance, and spatially-explicit population trend of 20 breeding waterbird species collected on the Arctic Coastal Plain (ACP), Alaska to increase understanding of avian response to ecological change in the Arctic. The ACP is an extensive wetland complex on Alaska's North Slope that supports millions of breeding waterbirds and includes portions of the National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Rapid physical changes that are occurring in the Arctic are primary drivers of landscape change and thus may drive population dynamics of Arctic-breeding birds. This study used 25 years (1992–2016) of aerial survey data collected on the Arctic Coastal Plain (ACP), Alaska. Important areas for most species included the coastal fringe near Teshekpuk Lake, the Colville River Delta, and Admiralty Bay. The National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska was an important area for all species examined. Our results can be used to better inform land use decisions, improve monitoring of waterbird populations, and increase understanding of avian response to ecological change in the Arctic.	Avian Conservation and Ecology	TBD
Historical background and current developments for mapping burned area from satellite Earth observation.	This paper reviews remote sensing approaches to mapping burned areas with active and passive sensors with an emphasis on global products and their application for estimating fire emissions. This effort also includes a brief review of operational regional products, highlighting Landsat Burned Area products. This was an ad-hoc collaboration organized by Emilio Chuvieco, a recognized leader in remote sensing of fire and fire effects, with contributions by scientists involved in operationally mapping burned areas at global and national scales.	Remote Sensing of the Environment	5/1/2019

From:	Dermody, Matthew
To:	Aaron Thiele; Alan Mikkelsen; Alex Hinson; Alex Sterhan; Amanda Kaster-Averill; Andrea Travnicek; Andrew Patterson; Appel, Elizabeth; Aubrey Bettencourt; Aurelia Skipwith; Benjamin Cassidy; Billy Dove; Brandon Middleton; Brenda Burman; Brian Steed; Cally Younger; Cara Macdonald; Carly Miller; Caroline Boulton; Casey Hammond; Casey Stemler; Catherine Gulac; Chris Prandoni; Cole Rojewski; Dan Smith; Daniel Jorjani; Doug Domenech; Edward Keable; Elinor Werner; Eva Cline; Faith Vander Voort; Gareth Rees; Gary Lawkowski; George Triebsch; Gregg Renkes; Heather Swift; Hubbel Relat; James Reilly; James Schindler; James Voyles; Jason Funes; Jim Cason; Joe Balash; John Bockmier; John Tahsuda; John Tanner; Joshua Campbell; Justin Abernathy; Karen Budd-Falen; Kathleen Benedetto; Katie Mills; Kerry Rae; Kiel Weaver; Kimberly Edwards; Lacey Smethers; Leila Getto; Lisa Pelstring; Lori Mashburn; MacGregor, Katharine; Mariagrazia Caminiti; Mark Cruz; Marshall Critchfield; Matthew Dermody; Maureen Foster; Melissa Beaumont; Michael Argo; Molly Block; Moody, Joan; Nicholas Goodwin; Nikolao Pula; Patnaik, Bivan; Reid Dagul; Richard Cardinale; Richard Myers; Ronald Klawitter; Russell Newell; Ryan Hambleton; Ryan Nichols; Samantha Hebert; Sarah Jorgenson; Sarah Spaulding; Scherer, Kyle; Scott Angelle; Scott Cameron; Shelby Hagenauer; Steve Wackowski; Susan Combs; Tara Sweeney; Taylor Playforth; Thomas Baptiste; Tim Petty; Tim Williams; Todd Willens; Todd Wynn; Wendy Fink; Zack Gambill
Subject:	Weekly Report to the Secretary May 12-18
Date:	Thursday, May 9, 2019 2:21:35 PM
Attachments:	Weekly Report to the Secretary May 12-18.docx

All,

Attached is the Weekly Report to the Secretary.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Matthew Dermody
Advisor to the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-513-7778 (office)
202-570-5029 (cell)

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

WEEKLY REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MAY 12-18, 2019

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Acting Chief of Staff Todd Willens will be in the office.

Director of Scheduling and Advance Samantha Hebert will be in the office.

Senior Advisor Heather Swift will be in the office.

Senior Counselor to the Secretary Gregg Renkes will be in the office

Advisor Mike Argo will be in the office.

Advisor Rick May will be in the office.

Advisor Matthew Dermody will be in the office.

White House Liaison Lori Mashburn will be in the office.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Director Nicholas Goodwin will be in the office.

Deputy Director Russell Newell will be in the office.

Monday, 5/13:

- Secretary Comms:
  - Speaking: 31st Annual Law Enforcement Candlelight Vigil on the National Mall
  - NMMA Video (Pre-Recorded) Kicking off the American Boating Congress
- National Releases/Announcements:
  - DOI will announce Grant Solutions Implementation - the grants management platform that is dedicated to the management of grants and cooperative agreements for the entire lifecycle. Moving to Grant Solutions will allow business process reengineering via policy to standardize procedures and increase efficiencies, as well as promote accountability and oversight.
  - DOI will announce the commitment of more than $106.8 million to support 47 public lands projects throughout Nevada and the California side of the Lake Tahoe Basin. These projects, which encompass a broad range of recreation improvement, wildlife habitat conservation, and hazardous fuels reduction and

wildfire prevention projects, will be funded through the sale of public lands under the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA). [TENTATIVE]

- Noteworthy Bureau Releases:
    - BLM-MT/DK. The Missoula Field Office plans to open a 30-day public comment period for an Environmental Assessment evaluating the impacts of acquiring 13,000 acres of private land owned by the Nature Conservancy. The acquisition would increase the amount of public lands available for recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, mountain biking and snowmobiling. The proposal would also maintain the working lands with active forestry and fire management programs as well as continued grazing.

Tuesday, 5/14:

- Secretary Comms:
    - Speaking: DOI Law Enforcement Memorial ceremony - Yates Auditorium at 11am
- National Releases/Announcements:
    - Izembek National Wildlife Refuge/King Cove Rd Announcement [TENTATIVE]
    - Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) announcement [TENTATIVE]
- Noteworthy Bureau Releases:
    - BLM-CO. The Royal Gorge Field Office plans to announce a 15-day public scoping period for a proposed 19-acre, 115kV transmission line right-of-way in Fremont County. If approved, the transmission line and associated access routes will primarily be located within a Section 368 West-wide Energy corridor adjacent to a 230kV Western Area Power Administration transmission line.
    - BLM-CO. The Royal Gorge Field Office plans to host a volunteer riparian restoration project to remove encroaching pinyon and juniper trees from the riparian corridor at Booger Red Mountain in Fremont County.
    - BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District plans to host the 14th annual Lovelock Cave Days. This 3-day event will bring approximately 350 fourth grade students from Humboldt and Pershing Counties to public lands to learn about natural and cultural resources. The event, which takes place at Lovelock Cave and the Marzen House Museum in Lovelock, Nev., involves local tribes, partner groups, and volunteers.

Wednesday 5/15:

- National Releases/Announcements:
    - Roll out Final Critical Minerals Report. WH, Commerce Coordination. [TENTATIVE]
    - BLM-ID. The Pocatello Field Office plans to issue a decision on the Recreation Development Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will

analyze the environmental and cultural impacts of improving recreation facilities within 14 established recreation sites, providing up to three dispersed sites, and constructing up to five boater put-ins / take-outs along the Blackfoot River in southeast Idaho. All proposed improvements would be within Pocatello Field Office Special Recreation Management Areas. Public scoping ended April 8 with the Field Office receiving two comments.

- Noteworthy Bureau Releases:
    - BLM-OR/WA. The Northwest Oregon District, Cascades Field Office plans to offer a timber sale auction in Salem for the Voodoo Child Timber Sale. The timber sale will offer 5.5 million board feet on BLM-managed land several miles east of Lebanon.

Thursday, 5/16:

- Secretary Comms:
    - Speaking: Remarks at Statue of Liberty for Visitor Center Opening [Molly staffing]
    - Radio: Contingent on POTUS
    - TV: Contingent on POTUS
- National Releases/Announcements:
    - ISRAEL MOU: As previously reported in this report on December 18, 2018, former Secretary Zinke signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen cooperation on biodiversity conservation, protected areas, and cultural and historical heritage with Israel. Israel's Director General of the Israel Parks and Nature Authority will now sign the document on May 16 with an expected signing ceremony. DOI Deputy Press Secretary Alex Hinson has been in communication with U.S. Embassy Israel's Public Diplomacy Counselor to coordinate any media in relation to this.
- Noteworthy Bureau Releases:
    - BLM-NV. The Mount Lewis Field Office plans to issue a Record of Decision for the 3 Bars Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration Project, a programmatic Environmental Impact Statement proposing to treat up to 127,000 acres of sagebrush steppe, riparian habitat, pinyon juniper woodland, and aspen groves within a 749,810-acre area.

Friday 5/17:

- National Releases/Announcements:
    - On May 17, Mount Rainier National Park will host a press briefing for the reopening of the Historic Paradise Inn, a National Historic Landmark. The $23 million rehabilitation of the Paradise Inn Annex is a significant investment to address deferred maintenance while simultaneously completing much needed historic preservation and ensuring high quality visitor experiences for generations to come. NPS representatives, project contractors, and the park concessionaire will lead tours and brief the media. On May 17, the Paradise Inn will open to the public.

- Noteworthy Bureau Releases:
    - BLM-UT. The Moab Field Office plans to seek public comment on an Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzing a proposal to seasonally open a 1.7-mile low-use road near the Colorado River in a remote site south of Cisco. The EA will address visitor safety and bird habitat management including bald eagle nest sites and wild turkeys. This dead-end road is seasonally wet and subject to flooding and rock falls. It is primarily used by dispersed campers and would be open during the most popular fall camping period.
- Notable A/S Speaking Engagement:
    - Western Interstate Region/Naco - Spokane, Washington (Balash)

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

Cole Rojewski, Director, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill

Aaron Thiele, Advisor, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill

Taylor Playforth, Advisor, will be in the office and in meetings on Capitol Hill.

Hubbel Relat, Senior Counselor, will be in the office.

1. **SUSAN COMBS, NOMINEE FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLICY MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET:** On January 16, President Trump re-nominated Susan Combs to be Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and Budget. On April 4th, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a business meeting in which Susan Combs nomination was favorably reported by a voice vote sending the nomination to the floor. Floor vote has not been scheduled.
   Timing: Ongoing until confirmation
   Contact: John Tanner, Senior Advisor to the Secretary

2. **DAN JORJANI, NOMINEE FOR SOLICITOR OF THE INTERIOR:** On April 1, President Trump nominated Daniel Jorjani to serve as Solicitor of the Department of the Interior. Jorjani has been serving at Interior as the Department's Principal Deputy Solicitor since May 2017. On May 2 Senate Energy held a confirmation hearing on Mr. Jorjani's nomination. The nominee received post-hearing written questions on May 5, 2019, and is developing responses to those questions.
   Timing: Ongoing until confirmation
   Contact: John Tanner, Senior Advisor to the Secretary

3. **ROB WALLACE, NOMINEE FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS:** On May 3, 2019, the White House issued its intent to nominate Rob Wallace of Wyoming to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. The Department is assisting Mr. Wallace in preparation of materials related to his nomination.
   Timing: Ongoing until nomination
   Contact: John Tanner, Senior Advisor to the Secretary

4. **UPCOMING SENR HEARINGS:** The Department of the Interior will be participating in the following House Natural Resources oversight hearings:
    - **Full Committee legislative hearing on *"Examine The Importance Of And Path To Achieving Mineral Security And To Receive Testimony On The Following Bills: S. 1052, The Rare Earth Element Advanced Coal Technologies Act; And S. 1317, The American Mineral Security Act..":*** Witness is Joe Balash, Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management.
      Timing: May 14, 2019
      Contact: Taylor Playforth, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

    - **S/C on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining legislative hearing on *"S. 258, Ruby Mountains Protection Act (Cortez-Masto), S. 434, A bill to provide for a report in the maintenance of Federal land holdings under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior (Braun), S. 490, B-47 Ridge Designation Act (Daines), S. 499, Offshore Wind for Territories Act (Cassidy), S. 526, Buffalo Tract Protection Act (Heinrich), S. 883, Flagstaff Federal Reversion Relief Act (McSally), S. 1079, Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act (Udall), S. ___, Oregon wilderness /National Recreation Areas (pieces not included in S. 47 from original OR wildlands bill).":*** Witness is TBD.
      Timing: May 14, 2019
      Contact: Taylor Playforth, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

5. **UPCOMING HNR HEARINGS:** The Department of the Interior will be participating in the following House Natural Resources oversight hearings:
    - **Full committee oversight hearing on *"Priorities and Policies of the Department of the Interior":*** Witness is Secretary David Bernhardt.
      Timing: May 15, 2019
      Contact: Cole Rojewski, Director, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
    - **S/C on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife budget hearing on *"Examining the President's Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Proposal for the Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Geological Survey":*** Witness is Brenda Burman, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation and Dr. Don Cline, Associate Director USGS Water Resources Mission Area.
      Timing: May 16, 2019
      Contact: Aaron Thiele, Advisor, Congressional Affairs
    - **S/C on Indegenous Peoples oversight hearing on *"BIE Off-Reservation Boarding Schools":*** Witness is TBD.
      Timing: May 16, 2019
      Contact: Aaron Thiele, Advisor, Congressional Affairs
    - **S/C on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife budget hearing on *"Examining the President's Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Proposal for the FWS and the***

NOAA": Witness is Margaret Everson, Principal Deputy Director, US Fish & Wildlife Service.
Timing: May 21, 2019
Contact: Aaron Thiele, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

6. **UPCOMING SCIA HEARINGS:** The Department of the Interior will participate in the following Senate Committee on Indian Affairs oversight hearings.
    - **Full Committee legislative hearing on "*FY2020 Budget Request for Indian Programs*"** Witness is Tara Sweeney, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs.
      Timing: May 8, 2019
      Contact: Aaron Thiele, Advisor, Congressional Affairs
    - **Full Committee legislative hearing on "*S. 1211 (AUTOS Act); Bison Bill*"** Witness is TBD.
      Timing: May 15, 2019
      Contact: Aaron Thiele, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

7. **UPCOMING SENATE APPROPRIATIONS HEARINGS:** The Department of the Interior will be participating in the following Senate Appropriations hearings:
    - **S/C on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies hearing to *"Budget Priorities and Policies of the Department of the Interior":*** Witness is Secretary David Bernhardt.
      Timing: May 22, 2019
      Contact: Cole Rojewski, Director, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Todd Wynn, Director, will be in the office all week.
Tim Williams, Principal Deputy Director, will be at NACo on official travel from May 15-18.
Carly Miller, Deputy Director, will be at NACo on official travel from May 15-18.
Jason Funes, Special Assistant, will be in the office all week
Sarah Spaulding, Special Assistant will be in the office all week.
Marshall Critchfield will be in the office all week.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

Continued planning for National Association of Counties Western Interstate Region Conference (May 13-18) and DOI participation
Continued planning for Utah Chamber of Commerce Presidents fly-in on May 14

Working with OCO to finalize remarks and produce video of Secretary's address to the American Boating Congress. The video will air at their breakfast welcome on May 15th.

Working on Club 20, a coalition of individuals, businesses, tribes and local governments in Colorado's 22 western counties, fly-in on May 21-23

Organizing a number of meetings (BOR, ASLM, FWP) for the California Secretary of Natural Resources fly-in on May 13

Projects:
Received an ask from Elko, Nevada County Commissioner to provide relief for Indian rancher

Continued communication with Western Governors Association regarding Secretarial participation in their Annual Meeting on June 10-12 in Vail, Colorado.

Working with bureaus and external partners on plans/ideas for Great Outdoors Month (June) and potential options for events to highlight the 2019-2020 Station-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Deputy Chief of Staff exercising the authority of the Deputy Secretary Katharine MacGregor will be in the office.

Associate Deputy Secretary Jim Cason will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions

The Department will sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Defense expanding the role of the DoD liaison to include all issues between the two departments. The MOA will implement the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2018. The package has cleared DOI surnaming and is awaiting concurrence from DoD.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

No Update Provided.

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR (Indicates Press/Comms Opportunities)

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Principal Deputy Solicitor Dan Jorjani will be in the office all week.

Deputy Solicitor for Parks and Wildlife Karen Budd-Falen will be out of the office speaking to the Legal Information and Networking Committee (LINC) & Environmental Issues Conference (EIC) for the American Farm Bureau Federation in Raleigh, North Carolina on May 20 and 21, 2019.

Litigation:

Endangered Species Act Section 4 Litigation:

- Deadline Lawsuits—We have 14 pending lawsuits regarding 43 species (5 of them are or have been stayed). Of these lawsuits, 0 were filed in the past week. We received 1 new notice of intent to sue during the past week.
- Merits Lawsuits—We have 19 pending lawsuits challenging the merits of petition findings (7 cases), final listing or delisting determinations (6 cases), final critical habitat designations (5 cases), and the species status assessment process (1 case). Of these lawsuits, 0 were filed in the past week. We received 1 new notice of intent to sue during the past week.

***Justice Companies* Affirmative Litigation**

The Knoxville Field Solicitor's Office has received approximately 100 referrals to initiate affirmative litigation against companies owned or controlled by West Virginia Governor Jim Justice and his family members and associates. The companies have failed to appeal or comply with the requirements of at least 15 cessation orders and owe over $3.2 million in civil penalties and Abandoned Mine Land reclamation fees. The Solicitor's Office is reviewing an affirmative litigation referral to the Department of Justice.

***Bohmker v. Oregon* (S. Ct.) - Challenge to Oregon's Suction Dredging Prohibition in Salmon Habitat**

The Supreme Court denied *certiorari* in this case on April 29. Joshua Bohmker and other miners filed a petition for a writ of *certiorari* requesting Supreme Court review of the Ninth Circuit's judgment, issued on September 12, 2018, upholding Oregon's ban on in-stream motorized placer mining in designated salmon habitat areas (S.B. 838). The Ninth Circuit found that the Mining Law of 1872 and other federal laws did not preempt S.B. 838. The United States was not a party to the case, but filed an *amicus* brief in the Ninth Circuit proceedings in favor of Oregon's position that the state law was not preempted.

***Citizens for Clean Energy, et al. v. U.S. Dep't of the Interior, et al. (*D. Mont. Apr. 19, 2019)**

The Bureau of Land Management is preparing an environmental assessment to respond to a court order indicating that DOI's issuance of SO 3348 constituted a major federal action that triggered NEPA compliance. The EA analyzes the environmental impacts of three federal coal leases not exempt from the coal leasing pause issued after SO 3348. As directed by the court, BLM will also explain why the impacts are insignificant and do not require an EIS. BLM circulated a draft EA for SOL review on May 7, 2019. To comply with the court's direction for the parties to consult regarding remedies, DOJ and SOL are conferring with the plaintiffs on May 14, 2019.

Cloud Peak Energy, Inc. - Potential Coal Bankruptcy Filing

Cloud Peak Energy, Inc. (CP) owns and operates 3 coal mines in the Powder River Basin (2 in Wyoming, 1 in Montana). Recently, there have been rumblings that CP is on the verge of filing for bankruptcy, which may occur sooner rather than later. CP's original March 15 deadline to pay its $1.8 million interest payment on debt due in 2024 was extended until

May 7. Additionally, CP has a May 10 deadline to pay taxes owed to Campbell County for the end of the year 2018. Both BLM and SOL will continue to jointly monitor this situation.

Clean Air Council v. U.S. **(E.D. Pa.) - Climate Change**
Plaintiffs in this case sought a declaration that the Administration's deregulatory actions have endangered plaintiffs in violation of their constitutional and international rights, and violate the public trust doctrine. In February, the district court dismissed the complaint, ruling that plaintiffs lack standing and that there is no constitutional right to a stable climate. Plaintiffs failed to appeal within the time allowed. The case is over.

Western Watersheds Project v. Bernhardt **(D. Idaho) - Challenge to 2019 Sage Grouse Plans**
On May 2, the District Court granted plaintiffs' motion to supplement the complaint to add plaintiffs challenges to the 2019 plan amendments to the complaint (which originally only challenged the 2015 plans). We still have until May 31 to respond to plaintiffs' motion for a preliminary injunction.

Non-Litigation Matters:

Leasing Offshore Territories and Possessions
Last week, the House Natural Resources marked up H.R. 1014 to authorize the Secretary to issue mineral leases on the continental shelf adjacent to U.S. territories and possessions. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee is scheduled to mark-up S. 499 on that topic this week.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS (Indicates Press/Comms Opportunities)

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

From May 13-17, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Andrea Travnicek will be in the office; on May 16-18, she may make sites visits to the National Parks of New York Harbor.

From May 13-17, Deputy Assistant Secretary Aurelia Skipwith will be in the office.

From May 13-17, Deputy Assistant Secretary Ryan Hambleton will be in the office.

From May 13-17, NPS Deputy Director Dan Smith will be in the office.

From May 13-17, FWS Principal Deputy Director, Margaret Everson will be in the office

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

By May 10, FWS will post updates to its Delisting/Downlisting Workplan and Domestic Listing Workplan on its Endangered Species websites. The National Listing Workplan has been available online since 2016 and covers planned work until 2023. The Delisting/Downlisting workplan has been available online since 2017 and covers planned work through 2021. These updates are in response to new information on species and priorities since the workplans were originally posted. Formal outreach will not be conducted but if-asked talking points have been developed. (05/08/2019)

By May 10, FWS will send to the Federal Register a notice extending the public comment period for the proposal to remove the gray wolf from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. FWS recently published a proposal to remove the gray wolf from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, and announced the opening of a 60-day public comment period on the proposed action, ending May 14, 2019. FWS will now extend the public comment period by 60 days to allow all interested parties additional time to comment on the proposed rule. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted and will be fully considered in preparation of the final rule. In addition, FWS will provide public-hearing information through the Federal Register in the near future. (05/08/2019)

During the week of May 13, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a final rule amending the depredation and control orders to allow destruction of resident Canada goose nests and eggs at any time of year. In 2006, FWS implemented several actions intended to reduce, manage, and control resident Canada goose populations in the continental United States and to reduce related damages. Those actions included depredation and control orders that allow destruction of their nests and eggs by authorized personnel between March 1 and June 30. However, some resident Canada geese currently initiate nests in February, particularly in the southern United States, and it seems likely that in the future, nest initiation dates will begin earlier and hatching of eggs could end later. This change will give the states more flexibility to address specific, local damage problems caused by resident Canada geese. If-asked talking points will be available. Information will also be posted to the web. (Updated 05/08/2019)

During the week of May 13, FWS will publish in the *Federal Register* a proposed rule to amend the agricultural depredation order to allow take of resident Canada geese at agricultural facilities between April 1 and August 31 in Atlantic Flyway states. In 2006, FWS implemented several actions intended to reduce, manage, and control resident Canada goose populations in the continental United States and to reduce related damages. Those actions included an agricultural depredation order that allows take of resident Canada geese at agricultural facilities by authorized personnel between May 1 and August 31. This time period, however, is too restrictive in portions of the Atlantic Flyway where specific crops are now being planted and depredated prior to May 1. This change only applies to Atlantic Flyway states because the other flyway states opted not to request a similar change. If-asked talking points will be available. Information will also be posted to the web. (Updated 05/08/2019)

During the week of May 13, FWS plans to publish a proposed rule in the *Federal Register* on special seasons for hunting migratory game birds by tribes for the 2019-20 season. This rule

prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands and ceded lands. This rule responds to tribal requests for FWS recognition of their authority to regulate hunting under established guidelines. It allows the establishment of season bag limits and, thus, harvest at levels compatible with populations and habitat conditions. Outreach will include emails and phone calls to tribes, states, congressional offices, and stakeholders and if-asked media talking points. (Updated 05/08/2019)

On May 15, FWS Principal Deputy Director Margaret Everson is scheduled to meet with Representative Sam Graves (R-Mo.) to discuss the name of Loess Bluffs NWR. FWS has begun complying with report language accompanying the FY 19 appropriations bill, which directs FWS "to open the public process within 30 days of enactment of this act, on the question of whether or not to rename the Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge." Date of enactment of the Act was February 15. On January 10, 2017, the name of Squaw Creek NWR was officially changed to Loess Bluffs NWR. There has been interest from Representative Graves to return the refuge to its original name. A letter signed March 7, 2019, requesting this action was delivered to Secretary Bernhardt by Representative Graves. (Updated 04/17/2019)

On or around May 15, FWS plans to approve and adopt the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee NWR's visitor services plan. The refuge will implement new and expanded wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities including opening more than 140,000 acres of the refuge to non-motorized access, opening portions of the refuge to 24-hours/day use, new white-tailed deer and feral hog hunting, expanding migratory bird hunting opportunities, airboating, expanding opportunities for bowfishing, fish gigging, and frog gigging, and camping by permit, as well as other public activities. New infrastructure to be constructed includes two fishing piers, a parking lot, camping platforms, three observation towers, two boardwalks, a photo blind, and an environmental education center as funding becomes available. Outreach will include congressional notifications, notifications of and offers to meet with partners and stakeholders, news release, and web posting. (05/08/2019)

On or around May 15, FWS plans to publish a proposed rule to allow the baiting of brown bears on Kenai NWR, which is permitted under Alaska state hunting regulations. The rule would also allow the discharge of firearms along the Kenai and Russian rivers during certain times of the year; allow the use of snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and utility task vehicles on certain lakes when there is adequate snow and ice cover; and increase access to the refuge by bicycle and game cart. This proposed rule would be available for a 60-day public comment period and is likely to be strongly opposed by those who believe that baiting of wildlife for hunting is unethical and those who oppose hunting generally (particularly of large predatory mammals). FWS plans to notify stakeholders and congressional offices directly by email and issue a news release to Alaska media announcing the proposed rule and public comment period. (Updated 04/17/2019)

By May 15, FWS and NPS plan to publish for public comment and review an environmental assessment (EA) for a proposed biking and hiking Space Coast Trail at Merritt Island NWR and Canaveral National Seashore. The trail is a 30-mile key part of Florida's 250-mile Coast-to-Coast Trail and 266-mile River-to-Sea Loop Trail. It will connect the Atlantic Ocean to

the Gulf of Mexico. It also will connect to the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor and the 3,000-mile East Coast Greenway. It supports FWS and DOI priorities focusing on greater public access to the outdoors and being good neighbors. Partners include NASA and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), who funded the EA. The project is a high priority for FDOT, which is funding the planning, engineering, and construction for the proposal. FWS and NPS will provide funding for the associated maintenance, which will be partially offset with user fees. Local interest is high because of anticipated community and economic benefits. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications. (03/20/2019)

On May 16, FWS will present Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, with the FWS Military Conservation Partnership Award for 2018. Fort McCoy, a U.S. Army installation located in western Wisconsin, was chosen as the recipient because of their aggressive program of habitat restoration and wildlife management activities. They work closely with FWS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and a variety of partners to achieve myriad conservation successes while fully supporting their mission of training soldiers. Fort McCoy recently completed 107 high priority conservation projects, exceeding a 98 percent completion rate and including meeting recovery goals for the Karner blue butterfly. Through partnerships with FWS and DNR their work continues to ensure progress toward the butterfly's delisting. Limited local outreach, including a news release, is planned. (04/24/2019)

By May 17, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a final rule amending the regulations regarding the importation and exportation of green sea urchins. This rule is pursuant to the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, which includes a provision that directs the Director of FWS to revise the regulations pertaining to green sea urchins. This final rule will remove the importation and exportation requirements for U.S. businesses involved in the shipment of green sea urchins taken in waters under the jurisdiction of the United States or imported into the United States for processing and exported for purposes of human or animal consumption. FWS is not planning public outreach but will distribute congressional and stakeholder notifications. (Updated 05/08/2019)

By May 17, FWS plans to have internal/external guidance and a permitting process to allow tribes to retain eligible deceased eagles found within the exterior boundaries of federally recognized tribal reservations. This meets a 2017 request from several federally recognized tribes that FWS allow them to keep eagles found dead on tribal land without first sending them to the National Eagle Repository. This is a change from previous policy. The updated policy was finalized and placed in the Fish and Wildlife Manual on February 19. Tribal notification will occur as soon as the FWS develops guidance and the permitting process. (Updated 05/01/2019)

On or around May 17, the notice of availability for a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) will publish in the *Federal Register* for Hycroft, a large-scale gold mine looking to expand operations in northern Nevada. BLM briefed DOI on May 3. BLM is the lead on the EIS for the mine's expansion. FWS is considering issuance of an eagle take permit for impacts within the currently approved mine site and for additional impacts that would occur

to eagles under the proposed mine expansion. The EIS analyzes both the BLM and FWS respective decisions. Hycroft is requesting authorization for the take of six golden eagle nests and the loss of three eagle territories, in annual loss of productivity at the site. However, Alternative A, the preferred alternative to the proposal, would result in take of three golden eagle nests and one eagle territory. FWS needs to complete the public involvement process (draft and final EIS) before making a permitting decision. The amount of take authorized will depend on the alternative selected at the end of the NEPA process. (Updated 05/08/2019)

National Park Service

On or around May 12, the NPS intends to publish a proposed rule regarding the Pullman Avenue Connector Trail in Arkansas. The draft plan was released to the public in February. The rule, if finalized, would allow bicycle use on a new trail connecting Hot Spring National Park and property owned by the City of Hot Springs, Arkansas. The proposed rule will be open for a 60-day comment period. Both the rule and the plan will be finalized later this year. (05/08/2019)

By May 12, the NPS expects to submit the draft final rule for Alaska Sport Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves to OMB on schedule. (05/08/2019)

On or around May 13, the Director will approve three Battlefield Land Acquisition Grant awards, funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Grants through this program are awarded to Government sponsors, in partnership with non-profits, for battlefield protection through fee simple and easement purchase. The total of the three grants is $499,705.96 and goes toward the protection of 131.49 acres at three Civil War battlefields: Spotsylvania Court House, VA, Champion Hill, MS; and Fort Blakeley, AL. (05/08/2019)

During the week of May 13, Redwood National Park will release an Environmental Assessment for the Lower B500 Road Removal Project for a 30-day public review period. The proposed action seeks to remove 0.8 mile of a failing logging road to prevent chronic sediment input into Larry Damm Creek, which is habitat for threatened salmonid fish species and aquatic species of concern. This road has been closed to the public since 1978 park expansion and has only been used administratively to rehabilitate previously harvested areas. It currently dead ends after 0.8 miles to a rehabilitated timber area. This project continues the park's ongoing efforts to remove failing roads that threaten park aquatic resources but have no administrative or public purpose. (05/01/2019)

On May 13, a contractor will begin a project to stabilize an embankment along the northbound George Washington Memorial Parkway near Spout Run. The long-planned project is being undertaken to prevent future damage to the Parkway from naturally occurring subsidence. Work is scheduled primarily overnight. The project will last into mid-summer and will require US Park Police to close one of the two northbound lanes during periods of work. (04/24/2019)

On May 13, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, in partnership with the Town of Clarksville, Indiana, will hold a press conference announcing the extension of the Lewis and

Clark National Historic Trail. The press conference will be held at Falls of the Ohio State Park in Clarksville, Indiana. Confirmed speakers include Senator Todd Young (IN) and the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Superintendent. (04/17/2019)

On May 14, Shenandoah National Park will open the Loft Mountain Campground. This is a delay from the originally planned opening of May 1, due to unsafe conditions from multiple winter storms. Only 54 of the campground's 205 sites will be open to the public. As other campground sites and loops are cleared of hazard trees and deemed safe, those sites will be made available to the public. The park anticipates that only half the campground will be available on Memorial Day Weekend. A press release will be sent out to alert the public of this temporary closure. (05/08/2019)

On May 14, Mammoth Cave National Park will host a public meeting to solicit informal comments on several concessions facilities improvement projects. The projects include construction of new family cabins, parking lot, and site access improvements; repair of the main lodge roof and façade improvements; and the refinishing and upgrading of over 30 historical cottages. While the park is seeking public input on all of the projects, only the construction of new cabins and parking lot realignment projects will be included in a draft environmental assessment being developed for release this summer. (04/24/2019)

By May 15, the Department of the Interior Solicitor is expected to refer the New River Gorge National River claim for damages for encroachment/trespass to Department of Justice attorneys to provide time to negotiate a possible settlement. In June 2015, park employees discovered that the trees and other vegetation had been cut within the park adjacent to the Wild Rock housing development near Fayetteville, West Virginia. The NPS developed a claim for damages in the amount of $991,946. (05/08/2019)

On May 15, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area will convene a rating panel to select the Energy Saving Performing Contract (ESPC). On April 9–11, the top two proposals (Lockheed-Martin and Siemens Electric) toured the project sites, in preparation for a May 14 meeting to prepare their formal presentations. The park has been pursuing an ESPC for its electrical generation in remote areas of the park to convert diesel power and electrical generation stations into solar micro-grids. The estimated cost savings will pay for the project over its 25-year life. (05/01/2019)

On May 15, Great Basin National Park will begin a 30-day public scoping period to inform preparation of an Environmental Assessment for the Lehman Caves Management Plan and the Wild Caves and Karst Management Plan. The two plans aim to improve infrastructure, resource protection, and interpretive opportunities in Lehman Caves, which has over 30,000 visitors a year, and to protect the 39 other wild caves and karst areas in the park. The plans also include continuing and encouraging biological, geological, paleontological, and climate research; designating no-development and no-fire-retardant areas over caves; and emphasizing safety. (04/24/2019)

On May 15, the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park is scheduled to open for the season. Winter storm conditions caused a rock slide resulting in two breaks on the inner-

canyon pipeline that supplies water to the park's North Rim. The remote inner-canyon location, rugged terrain, and continuing winter weather conditions make repairing the North Rim water pipeline particularly challenging. The NPS expects the North Rim to open as scheduled with repairs taking approximately four to six weeks. Until the breaks are repaired, water will not be pumped to the North Rim, however, water from a storage tank is available in the interim. (03/27/2019)

On May 16, the National Park Foundation (NPF) partnering with Nissan's *Calling All Titan*s campaign will be hosting a media day at Grand Canyon National Park to highlight its support of Grand Canyon Conservancy (GCC). Nissan will be donating a service truck to GCC's Canyon Field School. The NPS is helping to coordinate the event and finalize a filming permit with the Special Park Uses Program. On the same day, NPF and Nissan will meet with Arizona Conservation Corps (AZCC) as Nissan's campaign through the NPF, also provides funding for an AZCC crew in the park. (05/08/2019)

On May 17, Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site and partners will commemorate the 65th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*. Community activities will be held and include a film festival, original performances of dance and theater, art exhibits, symposia or lectures, and tours of civil rights sites and public art work around town. Several of the events will include some of the original plaintiffs and Topeka teachers and administrators. (03/13/2019)

On May 17, Mount Rainier National Park will host a press briefing for the reopening of the Historic Paradise Inn, a National Historic Landmark. The $23 million rehabilitation of the Paradise Inn Annex is a significant investment to address deferred maintenance while simultaneously completing much needed historic preservation and ensuring high quality visitor experiences for generations to come. NPS representatives, project contractors, and the park concessionaire will lead tours and brief the media. On May 17, the Paradise Inn will open to the public. (04/17/2019)

8-30 Day Outlook

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

NEW ITEMS

During the week of May 27, FWS plans to announce the report *Banking on Nature 2018: The Economic Benefits of National Wildlife Refuge Visitation to Local Communities*. The report focuses on the economic impact of consumptive and non-consumptive uses on refuges, and how they affect the economy of local regions. Visitation records of 158 sample refuges around the country were used to estimate the economic role that refuge visitors play in regional economies. Outreach is planned to include a national news release, talking points, and website updates. (05/08/2019)

Through May 31, J.N. "Ding" Darling NWR is seeking public comment on a proposed increase in entrance fees. Once the public comment period ends, the refuge will evaluate its

proposal and make a final determination. If the new fee schedule is adopted, the new fees will be implemented October 1, 2020. (05/08/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

Around May 20, FWS plans to publish a notice of availability of a 30-day public comment period for a draft environmental assessment (EA) as part of the reconsideration of an eagle incidental take permit (EITP) to Garrett Construction Company LLC for their residential housing development project in the City and County of Broomfield, Colorado. FWS issued an EITP to Garrett in 2018 due to possible disturbance take of a pair of bald eagles nesting in proximity to the Garrett project. In 2018, a court complaint was filed in U.S. District Court for Colorado by Front Range Nesting Bald Eagle Studies challenging the FWS action. On December 13, 2018, a ruling was issued by the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado affirming and vacating the FWS action of issuing an EITP to Garret, and the associated EA. Both were remanded to FWS for further consideration. Garrett has amended their EITP application and is seeking an EITP for 2019 for their project. The EA will be posted to the FWS Region 6 website. (05/01/2019)

On or around May 20, FWS plans to announce approximately $17.8 million in federal funding approved for the FY 2019 Clean Vessel Act (CVA) Program. The CVA Program provides matching grants to state boating agencies for the construction and renovation of pumpout and dump facilities for recreational boats as well as education programs to inform boaters and the public about the benefits of keeping public waters clean by properly disposing of boater sewage. Outreach includes a news release, social media, and emails to congressional offices and stakeholders. (05/01/2019)

In May, FWS plans to integrate pay.gov, an electronic payment receivable system, into its existing Service Permits Issuance and Tracking System (SPITS). Permittees will be able to pay for their permits electronically via SPITS rather than sending paper checks. This will reduce the time to process permits and improve efficiencies for FWS by reducing or eliminating paper check handling. The pay.gov integration process is currently in testing phase (Updated 04/03/2019)

By the end of May, FWS plans to deliver the 2017 Water Resources Reform and Development Act Report to Congress. This report, the fourth annual, summarizes activities and expenditures to manage the threat of Asian carp in the Upper Mississippi River and Ohio River basins, including the Illinois River. The report is required by the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014. Date for delivery to Congress is flexible and dependent on the DOI and OMB approval process. Outreach includes a news release, Q&As, talking points, and congressional and partner notifications. (04/10/2019)

By the end of May, FWS will transmit to Congress an analysis of potential options for increasing the capacity of its Wildlife Inspection Program (WIP). Included in the analysis are reports that evaluate the funding structure of the program and provide recommendations to help it better achieve full cost recovery for the program; evaluate the WIP port designation structure and provide recommendations for future wildlife port designation; and evaluate the staffing structure of the WIP and provide a staffing model to help optimize the use of current

and future staff at wildlife ports. The analysis and reports are currently with OMB for final review and clearance. They cannot go to Congress until they have cleared OMB. Outreach will likely include a news release. (Updated 04/03/2019)

On or around May 31, pending final clearance by OMB, FWS and NOAA Fisheries (NMFS) plan to send to the *Federal Register* final revised regulations of the Endangered Species Act. FWS and NMFS sent the draft final revised regulations pertaining to interagency cooperation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA and the procedures for listing of species and designation of critical habitat pursuant to section 4 of the Act to OMB for review on December 21, 2018. FWS previously submitted to OMB on November 26 a draft final withdrawal of the blanket 4(d) rule for newly listed threatened species to recognize the difference between endangered and threatened species and align with NMFS's current practice. The interagency review comments were due on the 4(d) rule in December and on the section 7 and section 4 rules on February 13. FWS and NMFS received interagency review comments from OMB on all three rules, reviewed those comments, and are currently revising the rules to address the comments received during interagency review and direction from DOI policy officials. Internal briefings will be scheduled for May 13 and 14; May 16 is the goal for submitting these revisions to OIRA. (Updated 05/08/2019)

On or before June 3, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a proposed rule, opening a 45-day public comment period for the 2019-2020 Station-specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulation (rule). The rule would open or expand approximately 1.4 million acres to hunting and/or sport fishing at 74 national wildlife refuges. The rule also proposes to formally open 15 national fish hatcheries to hunting and/or sport fishing with a proposed update to regulations in 50 CFR Part 71. In addition, the rule proposes revisions to existing regulations in all 50 states to better align with state hunting and fishing regulations while continuing to ensure safe and compatible opportunities. Planned outreach [MA2] includes a national news release when the *Federal Register* notice publishes and notifications to members of Congress and stakeholders, as well as the potential for an event to announce the proposal. (Updated 05/01/2019)

On or around June 5, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* for public comment an environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes the risk of bald and golden eagle take associated with operation of the Dunlap Wind Energy Project in Carbon County, Wyoming. PacifiCorp is requesting a 30-year Eagle Take Permit (ETP) for take of bald and golden eagles, pursuant to the 2016 Eagle Act regulations. The project became operational in October 2010 and consists of 74 wind turbines with a nameplate capacity of 111 megawatts. PacifiCorp developed an Eagle Conservation Plan, which describes how the project incorporated avoidance and minimization measures for eagles, and includes proposed mitigation measures and an adaptive management process. Preliminary analyses of the post-construction monitoring data predict that up to 3.5 bald eagles and 3.5 golden eagles could be killed annually incidental to the operation of the Project. The EA will be available for a 30-day comment period. A decision record will be issued on the permit application after public comments on the EA are evaluated. (04/17/2019)

FWS has analyzed SAExploration Inc.'s (SAE) 3D seismic survey operations proposed to take place during the winters of 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 and prepared draft incidental take regulations (ITRs) under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. On April 15, SAE requested a delay to any further work on their ITR application for the Coastal Plain, including posting of the application in the *Federal Register* pending additional review and consultation by SAE. Publication date is uncertain at this time, but the proposed rule will likely be controversial when it does publish. The rule will be available for public comment for 30 days. FWS continues to coordinate with BLM to determine when it intends to publish the NEPA document for the seismic work. The rule is currently under review in the FWS Director's office. Outreach includes congressional notification and a news release (possibly joint with BLM) on the ITR and the EA. (05/01/2019)

Endangered Species Act Actions through June 7:

Species	**Action**	**Current Status**	**Target Date to FR (dates in bold are litigation deadline)**	**Outreach**
Southern Selkirk Mountain woodland caribou	Final reclassification as distinct population segment, endangered	Pending Exec-Sec clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Meltwater lednian stonefly, Western glacier stonefly	Final listing determination as threatened	Pending Exec-Sec clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Franklin's bumble bee	Proposal to list as endangered	Pending Exec-Sec clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release

Neuse River waterdog, Carolina madtom	Proposed listing of Neuse River waterdog as threatened and Carolina madtom as endangered, with proposed critical habitat	Pending Exec-Sec clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Running buffalo clover	Proposed delisting	Pending Exec-Sec clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Batch of 29 draft recovery plan revisions for 42 species (APG Batch 2)	Notice of availability of draft recovery plans	Pending FWP clearance	As soon as it clears	National and regional releases
Batch of 29 draft recovery plans for 43 species (APG Batch 2.5)	Notice of availability of draft recovery plans	Pending FWP clearance	As soon as it clears	National and regional releases
Water Howellia	Proposed Delisting	Pending FWP clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Barrens topminnow	Final listing determination as endangered	Pending FWS Director clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release
Texas Hornshell	Proposed Critical Habitat	Pending FWS Director clearance	As soon as it clears	Regional release

2016 Recovery Report to Congress	Transmittal of 2016 Biennial report	Pending FWS Director clearance	As soon as it clears (release to Congress; will not be published in the FR)	National - Congressional notifications and post the report online
Batch of 28 draft recovery plan revisions for 53 species (APG Batch 3)	Notice of availability of draft recovery plans	Pending FWS Director clearance	As soon as it clears	National and regional releases
Foskett speckled dace	Final Delisting	Pending FWS Director clearance	May 13	Regional release
Batch of 21 draft recovery plan revisions for 43 species (APG Batch 4)	Notice of availability of draft recovery plans	Pending FWS Director clearance	May 17	National and regional releases
Batch of 21 draft recovery plan revisions for 25 species (APG Batch 5)	Notice of availability of draft recovery plans	Pending FWS Director clearance	May 17	National and regional releases
Lake sturgeon, Siskiyou mountains salamander, Gila topminnow	90-day findings on ESA petitions	Pending FWS Director clearance	May 23	National release
Spring Pygmy Sunfish	Final Critical Habitat	Pending FWS Director clearance	May 24 (in litigation on deadline)	Regional release

Monito Gecko	Final Delisting	Pending FWS Director clearance	May 28	Regional release
Gray Wolf	Notice of extension of comment period and announcement of a public hearing	FWS	May 8	National release
ESA Revised Regulations	Listing Species and Designating Critical Habitat, Prohibitions, Interagency Cooperation	Addressing OMB interagency comments	May 31	National release

National Park Service

NEW ITEMS

On May 20, Grand Canyon National Park will issue a notification to incumbent concessioners and the public that the park will request approval to extend the 16 existing concession contracts to provide guided Colorado River trips for an additional year to collect another year of data. The goal of collecting additional data is to better understand the expenses the river concessioners have incurred or expect to incur due to changes in local, state, and federal laws that affect labor expenses and associated costs of providing these services. The notification is a courtesy to the existing concessioners to provide additional transparency. Visitor services will not be interrupted. The extensions will authorize operations through 2020. (05/08/2019)

On or about May 24, the Bryce Canyon National Park Environmental Assessment (EA) for State Route 12 Stabilization and Improvements will be released for a 30-day public review. The NPS and the Utah Department of Transportation co-led the EA process with Garfield County as a cooperating agency. (05/08/2019)

By May 30, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History-owned lands that make up the Champion Hill Battlefield are expected to be transferred to Vicksburg National Military Park. This acquisition will add 836 acres to the park, increasing the park size by nearly 50

percent. It is the largest expansion to the park since the park was created in 1899. (05/08/2019)

During the month of May, a small section of an off-road vehicle (ORV) route near Cape Point at Cape Hatteras National Seashore may close to visitor access as shorebird nesting protection areas are implemented. Cape Point, a popular fishing and shelling location also known as "Shelly Island", closes temporarily almost every summer through the end of August to allow for several species of shorebirds to complete nesting. Although Cape Point may close temporarily, the Seashore expects that the majority of ORV routes (about 27 miles, 90-95 percent) will be accessible throughout the summer. (05/08/2019)

In May, the NPS Midwest Regional Office will transmit comments on a review draft of the contractor-prepared Feasibility Study for the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library. The North Dakota state legislature passed a bill in April setting aside $50M for an endowment with the requirement that $100 million is raised for the construction of the library. On May 10, the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation Board met to determine a fundraising strategy and next steps. The Board held Medora community informational meetings three times in March and April. The Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit entrance continues to be the preferred alternative for locating the new facility. (05/08/2019)

By June 3, Cape Lookout National Seashore expects to receive the United States Coast Guard's decision on whether navigational buoys in Barden Inlet will have to be removed or shifted due to loss of the inlet's integrity. Barden Inlet is the main pathway for commercial ferries, tour groups and private boaters to access the park. The NPS is working with the Coast Guard, Corps of Engineers, county, and state officials towards a solution. This issue is of interest to the public, media, and Congress. (05/08/2019)

During the week of June 3, Google will hold a public event at Stonewall National Monument to launch the release of Stonewall Forever. The $1 million project, a collaboration between Google, the LGBT Community Center, and the National Park Service is an on-line repository of stories intended to preserve and share the untold history of the Stonewall Uprising of 1969 and the early years of the LGBTQ rights movement. The project includes an augmented reality component utilizing historic imagery that the public will be able to experience from their smartphones. (05/08/2019)

Between June and August, a report that evaluates the physical and biological factors affecting beach nesting wildlife at Cape Hatteras National Seashore could be released to the public. The report, coordinated by Virginia Tech University, could receive media attention because the topic of protecting beach nesting wildlife at the Seashore has been controversial over the last decade. (05/08/2019)

UPDATED ITEMS

On May 29, Gulf Islands National Seashore and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will hold a *Ground Building* ceremony celebrating the restoration of Ship Island (Mississippi). The NPS Deputy Regional Director will attend. The Assistant Secretary of the

Army for Civil Works is tentatively scheduled to attend. Regional and departmental leadership of the USACE are expected. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Director may attend. (Updated 05/08/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

On or around May 20, the Acting National Capital Regional Director is expected to sign a Finding of No Significant Impact for the Rock Creek Park Nature Center Complex Development Concept Plan/Environmental Assessment (plan/EA). The plan/EA proposes improvements and management changes for the park's nature center, horse center, maintenance yard and associated grounds. This has not been controversial and little media interest is expected. (5/1/2019)

On or around May 20, the NPS expects to submit the Revised Feasibility and Suitability Study for Additional Routes of the Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, California, and Pony Express National Historic Trails to the Department for approval and transmittal to Congress. The study was completed pursuant to Section 5302 of Public Law 111-11, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. The purpose of the study was to evaluate 17,043 miles of trail routes in 13 states for possible addition to the existing four national historic trails. Of 77 total study routes, the NPS determined that 26 routes (7,589 miles) are nationally significant and eligible for designation; furthermore, the addition of these routes is feasible, suitable, and desirable. (04/17/2019)

During the week of May 20, the NPS expects to submit the Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve Wild and Scenic River Study to the Department for approval and transmittal to Congress. The study was completed pursuant to section 3041 of Public Law 113-291. The segments evaluated include: Lake Creek (3.6 miles), Lower Cave Creek (2.6 miles), No Name Creek (0.6 miles), Panther Creek (0.8 miles), and Upper Cave Creek (0.2 miles). The NPS also studied Waterfelt Creek (0.8 miles) through Section 5(d)(1) of the WSR Act. The NPS determined that Lake Creek and Upper Cave Creek (currently managed by NPS) are eligible and suitable for WSR designation; the other segments were found to be ineligible. (04/17/2019)

By May 28, the NPS expects the contractor to begin repairs to the visitor loading ramp at the USS Arizona Memorial. The project is projected to be complete by fall 2019. Since March 28, the NPS has provided monthly updates on the project to the Hawaii congressional delegation. (Updated 05/08/2019)

From May 21–June 4, Saratoga National Historical Park will be conducting a large scale archaeological survey. The park is partnering with the American Battlefield Trust and the American Veterans Archaeology Recovery organization who connect wounded warriors to American battlefields through archaeological training. This is the largest, most complex, archaeological survey at the park to date. (05/01/2019)

On May 23, the NPS will brief the Executive Review Team regarding the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve Ungulate Management Plan and Abbreviated Final

Environmental Impact Statement (AFEIS) for the required 30-day no action period. This briefing is required by Step 5 of the DOI NEPA Document Clearance Process memorandum. Per the memorandum, the administrative drafts of the AFEIS and Record of Decision, and other briefing materials, will be submitted to the Review Team five days before the scheduled briefing. The preferred alternative in the AFEIS continues public elk hunting in the preserve, provides the NPS with lethal and non-lethal tools for elk management in the park, includes opportunities for skilled volunteers and tribal members, and amends the park's general management plan to allow for a bison herd to remain in the park after the NPS acquires the Medano Ranch from The Nature Conservancy. (05/01/2019)

On May 24, Yellowstone National Park will issue a temporary moratorium on watercraft equipped with sealed internal water ballast tanks on all park waters for the 2019 season to minimize the risk of introducing Dreissenid mussels and other aquatic invasive species. Ballast tank boats contain sealed tanks that can be filled with water to produce specific wakes for waterskiing and wakeboarding. The park prohibits waterskiing or wakeboarding, and only about two dozen of these boats enter the park each year. This temporary moratorium will address the high risk Dreissenid mussels pose to waterways. Yellowstone will revisit this moratorium at the end of the 2019 boating season. The states agree with the moratorium. (05/01/2019)

On or around May 24, the Deputy Director is expected to issue a Policy Memorandum that provides guidance on the use of electric bicycles (e-bikes) within the National Park System. Superintendents will be given the authority to allow pedal-assist e-bikes on park roads, paved or hardened trails, and administrative roads where traditional bicycles are allowed. They will be generally prohibited in primitive, undeveloped areas of parks. (04/17/2019)

Beginning May 24, Gateway National Recreation Area will implement a rule change that will restrict the consumption of alcoholic beverages and the possession of open containers of alcoholic beverages on the swimming beaches of the park's Sandy Hook Unit. The primary purpose of the rule change is to address persistent public safety challenges related to excessive alcohol consumption by beach-goers. The sale and consumption of alcohol will still be allowed at certain permitted activities and events. (03/27/2019)

On or after May 27, Haleakalā National Park will release the Kalahaku Overlook Area Management Environmental Assessment (EA) for a 30-day public review and comment period. The overlook is one of four locations in the park where visitors gather to watch the sunrise and sunset and enjoy broad crater vistas. The EA analyzed alternatives that aim to improve visitor enjoyment and safety and reduce adverse impacts to natural and cultural resources. The need for this action is driven by the number of visitors to the overlook, the lack of clearly defined trails and visitor use areas, as well as documented impacts to endangered species and critical endangered species habitat. (Updated 05/01/2019)

Beginning May 27, Yosemite National Park will begin a pilot lottery system for Camp 4 reservations. The popular Yosemite Valley campground is currently operated on a first-come, first-served basis, which has resulted in resource impacts and conflicts among visitors. The park is working with the campground contractor to implement the lottery. The park will issue

a news release in early May announcing the pilot program, which is scheduled to run through Labor Day weekend. (04/10/2019)

On May 31, the prospectuses will close for Guided Day Kayaking and Guided Overnight Kayaking in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve (NPP). These prospectuses were released on March 19. The Region released the prospectus for guided sport hunting in Wrangell-St. Elias NPP on March 21 and it is anticipated to close on July 1. (Updated 03/27/2019)

By the end of May, National Mall and Memorial Parks expects to turn on the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial fountain. A broken waterline under the pavement was discovered on March 28 and necessitated a delay in turning on the fountain. The fountain at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial is off due to water intrusion in the electrical system; the park is actively working on assessing and mitigating this intrusion. (04/03/2019)

In May, the Interagency Visitor Use Management Council will release the Visitor Capacity Guidebook to the general public via the council's website (https://visitorusemanagement.nps.gov/). The NPS and FWS prepared a joint briefing statement for DOI on the upcoming guidebook release. The guidebook, in combination with the council's Visitor Use Management Framework, provides managers with processes and tools to collaboratively develop long-term strategies to manage the amounts and types of visitor use to protect resources, improve access, connect visitors to key experiences, and achieve desired resource conditions and visitor experiences. The guidebook is not agency policy, but represents recommendations developed by the council for consistent best practices based on the current knowledge of visitor use management. (05/01/2019)

On June 4, the comment period will close for the Environmental Assessment for the Northern California Condor Restoration Program to reintroduce condors at Redwood National Park and Yurok Ancestral Territory. The comment period for the related proposed rule by the FWS to designate the condor population in the Pacific Northwest as a nonessential experimental population also closes on June 4. The proposed actions have broad local and regional support and will benefit condors by facilitating their return to northwestern California and the surrounding region. Public meetings are being held in California and Oregon. (05/01/2019)

On June 7, the NPS will brief the Executive Review Team regarding the Gulf Islands National Seashore Personal Watercraft Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). This briefing is required by Step 5 of the DOI NEPA Document Clearance Process memorandum. Per the memorandum, the administrative drafts of the FEIS and Record of Decision, and other briefing materials, will be submitted to the Review Team five days before the scheduled briefing. (04/24/2019)

On June 8, Kenai Fjords National Park will host a Grand Opening event in celebration of the installation of new exhibits and complete rehabilitation of the park's main visitor center, which now features full accessibility including new ramps and an indoor elevator. Elected

officials and local Tribal and community leaders have been invited to participate. (04/10/2019)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS (Indicates Press/Comms Opportunities)

In the Office:

AS-IA Sweeney
PDAS Tahsuda
DAS-PED Cruz
DAS-M Freihage
COS Myers

On May 15 PDAS Tahsuda will Testify before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on the Addressing Underdeveloped and Tribally-Operated Streets (AUTOS) Act the Bison Act.

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week (May 12 - May 18)

Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs

The Office of Indian Gaming has received a submission from Seneca Nation asking for approval of a compact amendment and anticipates responding within the week of May 12.

8-30 Day Outlook (May 19 - June 20)

Bureau of Indian Affairs

NEW ITEMS

On June 10, Office of Trust Services senior management will conduct a Managers Symposium in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Human Resources, Freedom of Information Act compliance and Budget are top priority items to discuss for long term planning. An Open House at the new offices will be held for the local community.

On June 10-13, the Inter-Tribal Timber Council (ITC) and the Seminole Tribe will host the Annual National Timber Symposium in Holywood, Florida. Topics will center around forest management planning, the next fire season, and development of new tribal forest managers.

Two Oregon Tribes have been approved to participate in the Demonstration Project authorized under Title II of the Indian Trust Asset Reform Act (ITARA), and have requested technical assistance relevant to the development of their Indian Trust Asset Management Plans (ITAMPs) and Tribal Forestry Regulations. BIA Central Office and Northwest Regional Office staff will provide the technical assistance.

June 11-13, the Office of Trust Services, Branch of Fisheries, Wildlife & Recreation, will host a meeting of regional staff with a goal of improving the tribal management and reporting of program funding for fish and wildlife projects. This effort will improve the ability of tribes to compete for funding for fish and wildlife management projects..

ONGOING ITEMS

On May 13-16, the Office of Trust Resources, Division of Natural Resources, is hosting a Fish, Wildlife and Parks Conservation Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO) Team Meeting. The Team will review and rank proposals to support tribal natural resource enforcement programs.

On May 14, the 12th Annual Department of Interior Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial Ceremony will be held at the Sidney R. Yates Auditorium at 11am. The Department will recognize three Indian Country fallen law enforcement officers.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY INSULAR AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel for the upcoming week, May 12 - May 18

TRAVEL

AS-IIA Domenech will be in the office.

OIA Director Pula will be in the office.

Sarah Jorgenson, Senior Advisor, will be in the office.

INT Director Senhadji will be in the office.

Oceans Program Coordinator Liza Johnson will be in the office.

Press/Communications Outlook (30 DAY OUTLOOK)

Week of May 12 - OIA Press Release on Technical Assistance Grant Program Funding: Funding for (1) the Republic of the Marshall Islands Marshallese Educational Initiative for the Marsallese Resource and Educational Center in Arkansas, and (2) a Reimbursable Support Agreement with the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the continuation of the Freely Associated States Water Quality Laboratory Certification Program.

Week of May 12 - OIA Press Release on Northern Marianas Capital Improvement Grant Program Funding: Funding for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island (CNMI) to support the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and CNMI CIP Program Office and Infrastructure Maintenance, as well as serve as cost share for FEMA projects in relation

to Super Typhoon Yutu. $1 million was previously awarded to the CNMI for the Public School System in the aftermath of Yutu.

May 16 - Signature of MOU between DOI and Israel's Nature and Parks Authority (INPA): The INPA Director General will sign the MOU previously signed by the former DOI Secretary at a ceremony on May 16 at Castel Park near Jerusalem. The MOU creates a framework for cooperation on biodiversity conservation, protected areas, and cultural and historical heritage. The U.S. Ambassador to Israel is expected to attend the event. The DOI Press Secretary is coordinating with the Public Diplomacy officer at U.S. Embassy Israel on press and communications.

May 21 - DOI/WH Press Coordination - POTUS meeting at WH with Presidents of the Freely Associated States (Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia). Secretary Bernhardt to attend. Historic first meeting between FAS leaders and POTUS.

Late May - OIA Press Release - Energizing Insular Communities: Announcing open season for the Energizing Insular Communities (EIC) grant program applications for energy strategy proposals that reduce the cost of electricity while supporting the territories' strategic energy plans and/or energy action plans.

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week (May 12 - May 18)

OIA Technical Assistance Grants Approved: AS-IIA Domenech approved the following in Technical Assistance grants, which will be awarded in May:

- $217,594.50 to the Marshallese Educational Initiative, Inc. for the Marshallese Resource and Educational Center (MREC) in Arkansas. MREC will provide full-time, bilingual office staff to assist with translation, notary services, youth mentorship program and workshops about financial planning, resume-building, educational opportunities, public services, raising awareness on prevention of domestic violence. Staff also assists local agencies with interpreter services and cultural training.
- $199,250 Reimbursable Support Agreement with the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the continuation of the Freely Associated States Water Quality Laboratory Certification Program. This agreement ensures that the Freely Associated States laboratories continue to produce scientifically valid and legally defensible water quality data for drinking water and marine waters.

Northern Marianas Capital Improvement Funding: AS-IIA Domenech approved $8,665,000 in Capital Improvement Project (CIP) grants for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island (CNMI). This funding will support the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and CNMI CIP Program Office and Infrastructure Maintenance, as well as serve as cost share for FEMA projects in relation to Super Typhoon Yutu. $1 million was previously awarded to the CNMI for the Public School System in the aftermath of Yutu.

U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) Steering Committee Meeting: On May 16, the DOI Ocean, Great Lakes, and Coastal Program Coordinator will co-chair the USCRTF

Steering Committee Meeting along with her counterpart at NOAA. The meeting will include participation from federal, state, and territorial members. The focus of the meeting will be planning for the next meeting in Palau in September, updating the work plan, and process to include FEMA as a member of the USCRTF.

902 Consultation Report: OIA is working with Governor Torres in response to his questions on the draft report. Expectation is that the report will be finalized the week of May 12. Recall, on April 30, AS-IIA Domenech sent the draft to Governor Torres after intergovernmental review and an approved extension from the White House. Once the Governor concurs with the report, it will be sent to the President as is, or with slight modifications. If he disagrees, separate recommendations will be laid out within the report, and then it will be sent to the President.

8-30 Day Outlook (May 19 - June 20)

NEW ITEMS

Island Government Finance Officers' Association Summer Meeting. The 2019 Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) meeting will take place in Los Angeles, California, from May 19-22, 2019. Insular government participants will join regular GFOA sessions, but will also meet for a day in advance of the GFOA, and following the GFOA, to discuss targeted issues of relevance to the insular areas. Although 50 participants are expected to represent the insular governments overall, OIA funds 17 participants (one from each of the FSM governments (5), and two from each of the other governments (12).

Offshore Environmental Regulation and Oil Spill Response Workshop: DOI-ITAP is coordinating a three-day workshop in New Orleans May 21-24 for a group of government officials from Argentina. This workshop will focus on U.S. best practices for responding to offshore spills and drafting environmental regulations for offshore oil and gas development. NOAA, the Coast Guard, and the Department of Commerce will participate in addition to specialists from DOI bureaus. This activity is funded by the State Department.

USVI and Puerto Rico Meetings: AS-IIA Domenech will travel to the United States Virgin Islands June 2-6 to deliver grants in person, meet with USVI officials, and visit OIA-funded projects along with NPS Acting Director Smith. From there, AS-IIA Domenech will travel to Puerto Rico from June 6-8 for Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico meetings.

COFA Funding Extension Discussion: OIA continues to work with the NSC and other agencies on how to fund the financial extension of the Compacts of Free Association.

UPDATED ITEMS

UPDATE. Freely Associated States Presidents Meeting with POTUS: White House invitations have been accepted for a meeting on May 21 between the President and the Presidents of the Freely Associated States (Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia). This would be the first-ever joint meeting with these

three Pacific countries key to the Administration's Indo-Pacific Strategy. DOI continues to work with the NSC and State in preparation for this meeting, including putting together background materials. In addition, DOI is looking into hosting the FAS Presidents for breakfast while they are in town, if time and scheduling allows. The Secretary is scheduled to attend.

UPDATE. Guam War Claims: On May 8, OIA staff participated on a conference call led by the WH Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, along with Treasury, Justice, and representatives from the Guam Government on the possible legislative or administrative solutions to commence authorized compensation payments to victims of Guam's occupation during World War II. DOI SOL staff drafted a possible legislative fix that is under review by OIA and Budget. The goal is to develop and socialize the solution with Treasury, the White House, and Rep. San Nicolas as soon as possible. The 75th anniversary of the Liberation of Guam takes place in July 2019.

Interagency Agreements: The Office of Insular Affairs will enter into an Interagency Agreement with the United States Postal Service (USPS) for services provided to the Freely Associated States (FAS). $2,288,938 will be provided in support of transportation and administrative costs for fiscal year 2018.

OCS and U.S. Territories: On May 14, the Senate Energy and Natural and Resources Committee will conduct a legislative hearing that will include, among eight bills, S. 499 (Cassidy-LA), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to apply to the territories of the United States, to establish offshore wind lease sale requirements, to provide dedicated funding for coral reef conservation. Recall, on May 1, the House Natural Resources reported H.R. 1014 (Gonzalez-Colon-PR), the companion bill to S. 499. H.R. 1014 awaits House consideration.

ONGOING ITEMS

NO CHANGE. Lowy Institute Meeting: On May 16, the Director of the Pacific Islands Program from the Australia-based Lowy Institute will meet with AS-IIA Domenech, OIA Director Pula, and additional members of the OIA team to learn about the Lowy Institute's Pacific Aid Map and to discuss current geopolitical dynamics in the Pacific.

UPDATE. Disaster Recovery Legislation: During the week of May 6, both the House and Senate may consider competing versions of revised disaster assistance legislation. In the House it will consider a bill that providing $17.2 billion in aid to areas affected by recent natural disasters. The House passed the measure on January 16. For the territories, the House-passed bill includes: 1) $2 million for Technical Assistance for financial management expenses related to the consequences of Typhoon Yutu; 2) increased funding for the Northern Marianas Medicaid program to help the islands in recovery from Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu; 3) increased funding for the Marianas food stamps block grant to cover the cost of households, not previously eligible for aid, who remain in need of assistance because of continuing income loss after Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu; and 4) increased nutritional assistance for American Samoa.

UPDATE. American Samoa Hospital Assessment: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed its on-the-ground assessment of the hospital and drafted its report. OIA has provided comments to the draft. OIA expects to meet the May 16 deadline to provide the Report to the Committee on Appropriations.

NO CHANGE. Fiscal Year 2020 Compact Sector Grant Budget Consultations (Federated States of Micronesia): From May 20-28, OIA Honolulu Field Office grant managers will be meeting in each of the four FSM states governments (Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk, and Yap) with national and state government officials to review FY20 Compact Sector Budget Proposals. Final budget submittals to the U.S. Government are due on July 1.

NO CHANGE. Dam Impact Assessment, Colombia. From May 19-June 1 DOI-ITAP will send a team of two experts, one fisheries biologist and one hydrologist, to Colombia to work on assessing the impact of the Hidroituango Dam on downstream fisheries. This will be followed by a review of a recent assessment drafted by the dam operator after a floodgate failure in February of this year. This activity is funded by the Department of State.

NO CHANGE. Groundwater Management Policy Reform, Armenia. From May 28-June 6 DOI-ITAP will send a retired groundwater expert from the USGS to assist with the Ararat Valley's groundwater restoration, which will serve as a basis for implementation of future measures to balance drinking, irrigation and industrial use of water and promote the self-restoration of groundwater in the Valley. This activity is funded by the Department of State.

NO CHANGE: Paris Auction of Native American Objects. The Eve auction house has postponed to June 6 its next auction of pre-Columbian and American Indian Art. Over the past 5 years, this auction house has sold numerous objects considered sacred by Indian Tribes. If Tribes identify problematic items once the catalogue is released for this auction, and request federal government intervention, INT will coordinate with experts across DOI and the State Department to assist.

AWARENESS

NSC PIF Meeting: The Secretary will serve as head of delegation. Planning for the trip has begun, including identifying potential deliverables to be announced at the forum.

American Samoa Economic Report: A new report from American Samoa's government says the territory must diversify its economy or face a potential economic disaster. American Samoa's Commerce Department believes that if the last tuna cannery (StarKist) closes, it will trigger a catastrophic economic disaster. Objectives for diversifying the economy include reviewing the negative impacts of minimum wage increases and creating new industries. American Samoa would like to allow the territory to have more control over any increases in minimum wage to use local input and local data for any adjustments.

Resolution for RMI Veterans: The Nitijela of the Republic of the Marshall Islands sent to the U.S. Embassy in RMI a Certified Resolution that was adopted requesting the United

States Department of Veterans Affairs and appropriate agencies of the U.S. Federal Government to provide the benefits and services of which Marshallese citizens who have served in the United States Armed Forces are entitled to and as is currently being provided to all the U.S. veterans residing in the United States and its territories.

Big Island of Hawaii Land Purchase: The Marshall Islands' Kili/Bikini/Ejit (KBE) Local Government purchased 283 acres of land on Hawaii for future development reportedly using $4.8 million of trust fund monies. The trust fund for these nuclear testing affected atolls were capitalized by the U.S. but are now wholly controlled by the local government.

Medicaid Oversight Hearing: The House Natural Resources Committee is expected to conduct an oversight hearing on May 23 on the impending *Medicaid Cliff* -- September 30, 2019, when supplemental funding from the Affordable Care Act expires, jeopardizing health care delivery for Medicaid recipients and the population at large in the U.S. territories. Invited witnesses will be from HHS and the Medicaid directors from each of the territories, including Puerto Rico.

Raising the Minimum Wage: During the week of May 6, the House of Representatives may consider H.R. 582, Raise the Wage Act, which would incrementally increase the Federal minimum hourly wage to $15 over five years. Historically, legislation raising the minimum wage has had a negative impact on the economies of the Pacific territories. OIA understands that this legislation will not affect the existing wage schedule in American Samoa.

Education Assistance: On May 1, Congressman Sablan (CNMI) introduced the Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa College Access Act, legislation to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a program that enables college-bound residents of the Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa to have greater choices among institutions of higher education. Specifically, the bill authorizes special federal tuition assistance for graduates of Northern Marianas College and American Samoa Community College who want to pursue a four-year degree at any public university in the United States. The grant covers the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition. The Marianas and American Samoa are the only insular areas without four-year colleges. Mr. Sablan plans on attaching this bill to larger legislation reauthorizing a variety of college programs later this year.

CNMI Selected by NGA for Health Preparedness Workshop: The National Governors Association recently announced that the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is among five states and territories selected to participate in the NGA Center for Best Practices' Public Preparedness and Response Workshop for State and Territorial Gubernatorial and Legislative Leadership. The CNMI is the only territory to be selected, while Minnesota, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, and Washington have been selected as well for participation in a workshop that will develop strategic action plans to implement during public health emergencies. The workshop will take place June 25-26.

U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Meeting in Palau: The next USCRTF meeting will be held in Palau the week of September 8. This will be the first USCRTF meeting in Palau since 2005.

President Remengesau will host, and DOI and DOC/NOAA will co-chair. AS-IIA Domenech will co-chair along with RDML Tim Gallaudet of NOAA. USGS Director Reilly may attend.

Upcoming International Travel:

Additional known international travel departing May 12-18:

05/12/19	Italy	Landsat Cooperation	Christopher Crawford	USGS
05/12/19	UAE	Afghan Lithium Project	John Lane	USGS
05/12/19	UAE	Afghan Lithium Project	Eric White	USGS
05/12/19	Switzerland	Disaster Reduction Exchange	Aleeza Wilkins	USGS
05/13/19	China	Mercury Joint Research	Paul Schuster	USGS
05/13/19	China	Uranium Joint Research	David Naftz	USGS
05/13/19	China	Space Geology Research	Lauren Edgar	USGS
05/13/19	Hungary	Magnesium Field Work	Lee Bray	USGS
05/14/19	Germany	Africom Coordination	Vic Labson	USGS
05/14/19	China	Pesticides and Wildlife Exchange	Barnett Rattner	USGS
05/14/19	Switzerland	Disaster Reduction Coordination	David Applegate	USGS
05/14/19	Spain	Ecosystem Modeling Exchange	Kenneth Bagstad	USGS
05/16/19	Belize	Manatee Field Work	Margaret Hunter	USGS
05/16/19	Uganda	Africom Remote Sensing Workshop	Carmen Diaz-Pensler	USGS
05/16/19	Uganda	Africom Remote Sensing Workshop	Saud Amer	USGS
05/17/19	Ecuador	Wildlife Corridor Mapping	Angela Fuller	USGS
05/17/19	Spain	Fisheries Cooperative Research	Robert Al-Chokhatchy	USGS
05/17/19	Spain	Groundwater Resource Mapping	Daniel Goode	USGS
05/17/19	Kenya	Groundwater Resource Mapping	Kara Watson	USGS
05/17/19	Japan	Migratory Bird Cooperation	John French	USGS
05/18/19	Dominican	Rep.Seafloor Elevation Mapping	David Zawada	USGS
05/18/19	Austria	Isotopic Hydrologic Modeling	Bryant Jurgens	USGS
05/18/19	Bolivia	Groundwater Modeling Field Work	Paul Kinzel	USGS
05/18/19	Bolivia	Groundwater Modeling Field Work	Jonathan Nelson	USGS
05/18/19	Spain	Fisheries Population Ecology	Benjamin Letcher	USGS
05/18/19	Austria	Geospatial Semantics Research	Lynn Usery	USGS
05/18/19	UK	Lundar Volcanic Research	Lisa Gaddis	USGS
05/18/19	Spain	Groundwater Resource Mapping	Gabriel Senay	USGS
05/18/19	Spain	Fisheries Ecology Research	Clint Muhlfield	USGS
05/18/19	Spain	Fisheries Population Ecology	Pahedra Budy	USGS
05/18/19	Belgium	Pesticides Modeling Research	Michelle Hladik	USGS
05/18/19	France	Storm and Algal Bloom Research	Vijay Patil	USGS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
(Indicates Press/Comms Opportunities)

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management Joe Balash will be in the office.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Casey Hammond will be on annual leave Friday, May 17th.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Gary Lawkowski will be in the office.

Director Scott Angelle will be in the office.

Exempt Federal Register Notices (First Week Notice)

Information Collection Renewal Notices:
Agency Information Collection Activities: Free Use Application and Permit for Vegetative or Mineral Materials (1004-0001).

Immediate Announcements and Actions for the Next Week

Bureau of Land Management

Ongoing through May 22. BLM-CO. The Tres Rios Field Office is seeking public scoping input for travel management on 100,000 acres of public lands in Montezuma, La Plata, and Archuleta counties. BLM will consider various route designations and parking areas for public lands access in the southern portion of the Field Office. (4/5/19)

Ongoing through May. BLM-UT is publishing a Notice of Exchange Proposal for the Utah Test and Training Range Land Exchange in local newspapers over four weeks. The FY17 National Defense Authorization Act directed a land exchange between the BLM and the State of Utah's School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration. The Federal lands (95,675.54 acres) and State lands (83,609.38 acres) are located throughout western Utah. (2/19/19) DTS L183

By May 10. The BLM plans to publish two petitions for reinstatement of competitive oil and gas leases in the Federal Register (pending DOI approval): one from Southland Royalty Company LLC for 1,936.65 acres in Sweetwater County, Wyo., and one from Tripower Resources LLC for 79.63 acres in Converse County, Wyo. BLM completed Determination of NEPA Adequacy reviews on these leases in June 2018 and Dec. 2017, respectively. (4/9/19)

May 10. BLM-CA plans to sign a decision letter concurring with the Ridgecrest Field Office's decision to approve the Environmental Assessment and Mine Plan of Operation for the Perdito exploratory drilling project in Inyo County. The project was approved May 2018. Then in June, Advocates for the West requested a State Director Review to reverse and remand the field office decision. The mine site was originally permitted and drilled in the late 1980s. The Plan of Operations has been updated several times to accommodate expanded exploration and development. This decision will be controversial. (5/7/19)

May 13. The BLM is required by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 to adjust its civil monetary penalties annually for inflation. These

adjustments aim to further the policy goals of the underlying statutes. The BLM is publishing a final rule in accordance with the Act and subsequent guidance from the OMB. (5/7/19)

May 13. The BLM anticipates submitting the royalty rate reduction rule for non-energy minerals to OMB. The rulemaking package is currently with DOI for review, and BLM will address any comments before sending to OMB. (3/5/19)

May 13. BLM-CO plans to publish (pending BLM and DOI approval) a Notice of Proposed Reinstatement for Williams Fork Land Co.'s terminated oil and gas lease (COC76814 – approximately 480.55 acres) in the Federal Register. This lease is in Moffat County and was terminated on April 1, 2016 because the lessee failed to pay rental fees on time. If approved, the lease would be reinstated with an increased royalty rate and rental fee. (5/7/19) DTS 2617

May 12-16. The BLM-AK State Director and Deputy State Director for Resources plan to hold site tours and briefings for an OMB/DOI/BLM executive budget group to learn about current BLM-AK programs and energy work. Briefings will include the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A) Integrated Activity Plan (IAP); Coastal Plain EIS; AFS; Legacy Wells; Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans Land Allotment (PL 116-9, Sec. 1119); Willow MDP; Ambler Road EIS; Central Yukon RMP; and Bering Sea-Western Interior RMP/EIS. (5/7/19)

May 13. Last year, the BLM and BOEM issued a joint contract to study / assess the Federal Oil and Gas Fiscal System. The contractor, IHS Markit, is expected to deliver the draft report for a 3-week agency review beginning on May 13. The final reports are expected to be delivered on May 17 and the contractor has committed to provide a presentation in DC for senior leaders on May 17. (4/30/19)

May 13. BLM-ES plans to distribute a news release announcing the availability of the notice for the June 27 oil and gas online lease sale. The sale notice protest period would end May 20. (4/30/19)

May 13. BLM-MT/DK. The Missoula Field Office plans to open a 30-day public comment period for an Environmental Assessment evaluating the impacts of acquiring 13,000 acres of private land owned by the Nature Conservancy. The lands are adjacent to BLM-managed lands within the Lower Blackfoot River-Belmont Creek area 25 miles northeast of Missoula. The lands would be acquired in phases using Sportsman's Access funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This year's allocation of $3 million will allow the BLM to acquire approximately 4,800 of the 13,000 acres by late fall 2019. The acquisition would increase the amount of public lands available for recreational activities, and would also maintain the working lands with active forestry and fire management programs as well as continued grazing. The acquisition is not controversial and has strong local support. (4/30/19)

May 13. BLM-OR/WA. The Lakeview District plans to sign the decision regarding a draft Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact analyzing the potential effects of a wild horse gather and fertility control plan for the Beatys Butte Herd Management Area. A gather is expected to be scheduled in fall 2019. (12/7/18)

By May 14. BLM-OR/WA. The Prineville District, in cooperation with the Malheur National Forest, plans to begin an Environmental Assessment (EA) to consider options for management of wild horses in the Murderers Creek Wild Horse Joint Management Area. The project's overall purpose is to develop a joint Herd Management Area Plan. The EA will also establish an appropriate management level for the Joint Management Area. The public scoping period is expected to run from May 15 to June 15, 2019. (5/7/19)

May 14. BLM-CO. The Royal Gorge Field Office plans to announce a 15-day public scoping period for a proposed 19-acre, 115kV transmission line right-of-way in Fremont County. If approved, the transmission line and associated access routes will primarily be located within a Section 368 West-wide Energy corridor adjacent to a 230kV Western Area Power Administration transmission line. (4/30/19)

By May 15. The BLM National Wild Horse and Burro Program plans to announce a solicitation for additional contracted Off-Range Corral (ORC) space in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming. The Program is seeking space for 500 - 3,500 animals in close proximity to Herd Management Areas. The corrals will serve as initial preparation facilities for excess animals removed from the range. The Program currently has contracts for 26 ORCs with a combined capacity of 18,970 head. (5/7/19)

May 15. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office plans to announce a 30-day scoping period for a proposed Travel Management Plan on BLM-administered lands near Silverton. The proposal will align with the Silverton Trails Master Plan, developed by the Town of Silverton and San Juan County. The BLM will consider proposals to construct new roads and trails and increase authorized uses on existing trails. (2/19/19)

May 15. BLM-CO. The Tres Rios Field Office plans to publish in the Federal Register (pending WO and DOI approval) the Notice of Availability of its Preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA) for GCC Energy LLC's proposed King II Coal Mine Lease-by-Application (LBA). This includes a Notice of Public Hearing for public comment on the Preliminary EA, as well as to discuss fair market value and maximum economic recovery. GCC proposes expanding its King II mine near Durango by 2,462 acres. The LBA would extend mine life for 22 years and use existing surface facilities and transportation routes. The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe holds the majority of the surface estate. GCC estimates it could recover 9.5 million tons of coal from this lease. Half of the royalties generated from this lease would go to the State of Colorado. GCC's current employment of 83 mine workers would remain the same. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement is the joint lead on the EA. (10/26/18)

May 15. BLM-ID. The Pocatello Field Office plans to issue a decision on the Recreation Development Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze the environmental and cultural impacts of improving recreation facilities within 14 established recreation sites, providing up to three dispersed sites, and constructing up to five boater put-ins / take-outs along the Blackfoot River in southeast Idaho. All proposed improvements would be within

Pocatello Field Office Special Recreation Management Areas. Public scoping ended April 8 with the Field Office receiving two comments. (3/19/19)

May 15. BLM-ID. The Shoshone Field Office plans to issue two proposed grazing decisions to renew grazing permits, restore riparian areas, and make needed range improvements across 6,938 acres of BLM-administered land in the Muldoon Canyon Allotment. Affected lands lie mostly within a Greater Sage-Grouse General Habitat Management Area and a small portion lies within a Priority Habitat Management Area. There are no anticipated reductions in Animal Unit Months as a result of the forthcoming decisions. One environmental group (WildLands Defense) is expected to protest and appeal the decisions, we do not anticipate media interest. (3/28/19)

May 15. BLM-OR/WA. The Northwest Oregon District, Cascades Field Office plans to offer a timber sale auction in Salem for the Voodoo Child Timber Sale. The timber sale will offer 5.5 million board feet on BLM-managed land several miles east of Lebanon. (4/23/19)

By May 17. BLM-NV. The Mount Lewis Field Office plans to issue a Record of Decision for the 3 Bars Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration Project, a programmatic Environmental Impact Statement proposing to treat up to 127,000 acres of sagebrush steppe, riparian habitat, pinyon juniper woodland, and aspen groves within a 749,810-acre area. (4/9/19)

May 17. BLM-AK. The Anchorage Field Office tentatively plans to release a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Squirrel River Special Recreation Area Management Plan for a 60-day public comment period. This implementation-level EA has four alternatives intended to address issues between commercial and subsistence uses. Public meetings will be held during the public comment period. (3/12/19)

May 17. BLM-ID anticipates publishing the Notice of Availability for the Caldwell Canyon Mine Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in the Federal Register. The EIS is being prepared in response to the proposed Phosphate Mine and Reclamation Plan (M&RP) submitted by Bayer. The proposed mine is along Schmidt Ridge, about 13 miles northeast of Soda Springs. The M&RP for Caldwell Canyon includes development of two open mine pits. Mining operations would be conducted over an estimated 40-year period. Proposed total disturbance is 1,599 acres: 75% private (split estate), 15% State of Idaho, 10% BLM, and less than 1% U.S. Forest Service. BLM-ID briefed the DOI Review Team on May 3 and received approval to publish the Final EIS. (8/10/18)

May 17. BLM-ID plans to publish a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register for an Environmental Impact Statement to analyze the Blackrock Land Exchange proposal from the J.R. Simplot Company. Simplot proposes to convey 667 acres of non-federal land in the Idaho Falls District to the BLM in exchange for 719 acres (of which 140 is contaminated) near Simplot's existing phosphate processing plant. Through this proposed exchange, the BLM would gain land highly suitable for recreation and containing wildlife habitat, and dispose of Federal land adjacent to Simplot's Don Plant that may be needed for future plant operations. BLM-ID submitted a Stage 2 briefing package with the Deputy Secretary's Office for approval on April 15. (12/7/18) DTS 2561

May 17. BLM-ID. The Upper Snake Field Office anticipates signing a Decision Record for an Environmental Assessment that analyzes the impacts of creating fuel breaks in the Sand Creek Desert area in eastern Idaho. The proposal would mechanically and chemically treat 1,595 acres of BLM-managed shrubland within the area to establish and maintain a system of multi-jurisdictional fuel breaks. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game and several private landowners are also engaging on this project. (4/9/19)

May 17. BLM-MT/DK and BLM-WY. The Buffalo and Miles City field offices anticipate publishing a Notice of Availability for the court-ordered Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements and potential Resource Management Plan amendments (Western Organization of Resource Councils v BLM, Montana District Court). The DOI Review Team approved the scoping report and proposed alternatives on May 3. (4/16/19) DTS 2602

May 17. BLM-MT/DK. The Missoula and Lewistown field offices anticipate publishing Notices of Availability for their Draft Resource Management Plans / Environmental Impact Statements in the Federal Register. (6/15/18) DTS 2230 and 2231 / FRNs at DTS 2232 and 2233

May 17. BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District plans to publish a Notice of Availability for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Marigold Mine Mackay Optimization Project. The proposed project would extend the life of the gold mine by 10 years. (11/2/18) DTS 2284

May 17. BLM-NV. The Winnemucca District plans to publish a Notice of Availability for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Hycroft Phase 2 Mine Expansion Project. The proposed project would extend the life of the gold mine by 15 years out to 2039. (12/7/18) DTS 2300

May 17. BLM-OR/WA. The Coos Bay District plans to offer the Sister Sweeden, Glide Path, Slater 21, and Kenyon Mountain timber sales at an oral auction. Sister Sweeden includes 196 acres of commercial thinning in the late successional reserve land use allocation, and is expected to yield 4.9 million board feet. Glide Path is a regeneration harvest on 141 acres in the harvest land base land use allocation, and is expected to yield 4.9 million board feet. Slater 21 includes a combination of thinning and regeneration harvest on 61 acres in the harvest land base, and is expected to yield 1.1 million board feet. These three sales were originally scheduled for auction in April 2019, but a late-winter snowstorm made it impossible for staff and prospective purchasers to reach the timber sale units in enough time to prepare final sale details and develop competitive bids. Kenyon Mountain is a 68-acre regeneration harvest in the harvest land base, and is expected to yield 1.9 million board feet. (2/26/19)

May 17. BLM-UT. The Moab Field Office plans to issue a Decision of Record on sustainable camping opportunities for the Klondike Bluffs area, approximately 17 miles north of Moab near a popular mountain biking area. This decision will improve visitor experience,

provide for better sanitation, human health and safety, and protect sensitive cultural and paleontological resources by designating campsites. (5/7/19)

May 18. BLM-CO. The Tres Rios Field Office will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Montezuma County Commissioners to celebrate the completion of the parking lot at Phil's World, a popular mountain biking destination near Cortez. The parking lot construction has been a joint venture between the BLM and Montezuma County. (4/16/19)

May 18. BLM-CO. The Uncompahgre Field Office plans to host two public lands clean-up events in celebration of Colorado Public Lands Day. Colorado was the first state in the nation to establish a state holiday for our public lands. The BLM, Delta County, Thunder Mountain Wheelers, WESTCORE, Double J Disposal, and community volunteers will join together to clean up illegal dump sites in the North Delta OHV Recreation Area. The recreation area provides outstanding OHV riding opportunities for visitors and residents and has been plagued with illegal dumping by a few bad actors. In addition, the Backcountry Hunters and Anglers will clean up a shooting area near Placerville in San Miguel County. (5/7/19)

May 18-19. BLM-CO. The Royal Gorge Field Office will celebrate Colorado Public Lands Day at the Guffey Gorge Day-Use Area through a volunteer event with 15 volunteers from the Rocky Mountain Field Institute. BLM staff and volunteers will conduct maintenance on a trail to the popular Paradise Cove swimming area, which has experienced increased visitor use. This effort will improve public access to the site. (4/30/19)

May 18-19. BLM-CO. The third annual Temple Canyon Hill Climb, a competitive off-road event, will take place on Fremont County and BLM-managed lands near Canon City. The event is permitted through a Special Recreation Permit issued by the Royal Gorge Field Office. The race course is on county roads. Vehicle staging, pits, and spectator areas are on BLM lands. (4/30/19)

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

On May 1, HR 1014, the Offshore Wind for Territories Act, passed out of the House Natural Resources Committee by unanimous consent. S.499, the companion bill in the Senate, is scheduled to be part of a legislative hearing before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources (SENR) Committee on May 14. This bill would amend OCSLA to allow offshore wind development in US overseas territories and possessions. (5/3/19)

On May 13, BOEM has been invited to speak at the International Energy Agency (IEA) World Energy Outlook Workshop in Paris, France. The BOEM speaker will provide an outlook for the U.S. offshore wind market, including challenges, plans, activities, market enablers, and BOEM's longer-term leasing strategy. If BOEM is unable to participate in person due to travel clearance issues, we have been invited to brief IEA staff separate from the event via phone. IEA is expected to include a chapter in this year's World Energy Outlook specific to offshore wind. (5/3/19)

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Scoping for Caballo Mine West Lease Tract EA (WY): OSMRE is preparing an EA for the Caballo Mine West Lease Tract federal mining plan. OSMRE initiated a 30-day public scoping period on December 19, 2018 with the scoping period expected to close on January 18, 2019. Due to the government shutdown, OSMRE noticed a 15-day extension of the scoping period on February 7, 2019. The comment period closed on February 22, 2019. OSMRE is currently working with the consultant to review and consider all substantive comments during the drafting of the EA. OSMRE expected to publish the draft EA and unsigned FONSI for a 30-day comment period on or around May 7, 2019. Due to additional required EA revisions, however, the schedule projects approximately a week's delay. OSMRE thus tentatively expects to publish the draft EA and unsigned FONSI for a 30-day comment period on or around May 14, 2019.

Revision to OSMRE Directives, INE-35 and REG-8 – OSMRE's system of directives provides guidance and clarification to OSMRE staff on implementation of their responsibilities under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA). OSMRE has engaged since late 2017 with the state regulatory authorities (RAs) that have primary responsibility to administer surface mining regulatory programs pursuant to OSMRE's approval, in looking at potential revisions to two of its directives, INE-35 and REG-8. INE-35 provides operational guidance to staff on implementation of their responsibilities related to the issuance of ten-day notices (TDNs) to the RAs, when OSMRE receives information of potential violations of a state's surface mining program requirements. REG-8 establishes guidance on OSMRE's oversight of the RAs' implementation of their state regulatory programs. OSMRE and the RAs have coordinated extensively on revisions to INE-35 and REG-8 to ensure they recognize and reflect the states' primary jurisdiction with limited exceptions, to exercise exclusive jurisdiction over the regulation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations within their borders, except as provided in provisions of SMCRA, such as section 521, regarding enforcement, where warranted. OSMRE expects to finalize revisions to these directives by May 10, 2019.

OSMRE is also initiating rulemaking to address issues associated with the issuance of ten-day notices identified under the current regulations.

8-30 Day Outlook

Bureau of Land Management

NEW ITEMS

By May 20. BLM-AZ's Colorado River District plans to initiate the appraisal process for two legislative land conveyances in La Paz County and Bullhead City. A cadastral survey request for the La Paz County conveyance is planned as well. Both La Paz County and Bullhead City land conveyances support Secretarial Order 3374 implementing the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act. (5/7/19)

May 20. BLM-MT/DK. The Billings Field Office plans to release a draft Environmental Assessment in support of a land donation that is being proposed in partnership with the Montana Department of Justice Natural Resource Damage Program. The subject property is just outside of Billings and will add acreage to the Sundance Lodge Special Recreation Management Area, which is immediately adjacent to the property. The 25-acre parcel would provide public access to approximately 0.5 mile of the Yellowstone and Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone River. No controversy is expected. (5/7/19)

May 20. BLM-UT. The St. George Field Office plans to begin a 30-day public scoping period on a proposal to sell two parcels of land in Washington County. The parcel near the town of Virgin is 70 acres and the parcel near St. George totals 10 acres. The two parcels being analyzed for sale are identified as potentially available for disposal in the St. George Resource Management Plan as amended, and would be offered under the competitive sale process. The purpose of the proposed sale is to dispose of lands that are difficult and uneconomical to manage and to purchase private inholdings from willing sellers within National Conservation Areas and Wilderness Areas in Washington County. (5/7/19)

May 21. BLM-UT. The Price Field Office plans to finalize a process with EnerVest to receive two small easements in Nine Mile Canyon. These easements, less than five acres total, will allow public access to two rock art sites in Nine Mile Canyon. The easements are part of the West Tavaputs Programmatic Agreement that was developed in 2010. (5/7/19)

May 21-24. BLM-WY. The Rock Springs Field Office plans to assist the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) with the launch of the Powell Sesquicentennial Colorado River Exploring Expedition (SCREE). During the May 21 - July 31 SCREE event, USGS staff and volunteers in period clothing will float the Colorado River along the same route of the original 1869 John Wesley Powell expedition, from modern-day Green River, Wyo. to the upper end of Lake Mead, Utah. Rock Springs staff is helping USGS develop education materials focusing on the nexus between the historic Powell expedition and resources managed by the BLM, and will assist with the education and launch events on May 21-24 in Green River. (5/7/19)

May 22. BLM-UT. The Price Field Office plans to release for public comment an environmental assessment analyzing a potential wild horse gather in the Range Creek Herd Management Area (HMA). The Appropriate Management Level (AML) for this HMA is 75-125 animals with a current estimated population of 282. The field office proposes to remove approximately 207 horses to reach low AML. The comment period will run for 15 days. (5/7/19)

May 24. BLM-WY plans to release the draft supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and potential Resource Management Plan (RMP) amendment for the Buffalo Field Office for a 90-day public review period. The supplemental analysis addresses a court ruling that identified NEPA deficiencies in the existing EIS/RMP and ordered the BLM to conduct remedial analysis regarding the cumulative and downstream impacts of coal development in the field office. The DOI Review Team approved of the draft on May 3. (5/7/19)

By May 31. The BLM plans to issue an Instruction Memorandum to implement Secretarial Order 3373, *Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposals and Exchanges*, and ensure that when identifying public lands available for disposal or exchange, public access for outdoor recreation will be one of the factors considered in determining the appropriateness of the disposal or exchange. (5/7/19) DTS 17913

By June 1. BLM-ID. The Upper Snake Field Office is developing an environmental assessment (EA) for the City of Iona to construct a water tower on BLM-managed land. The local government has already completed an extensive environmental review, which the BLM feels confident will be useful in streamlining the EA process. A decision record is anticipated by June 1. (5/7/19)

June 1. BLM-WY. The Cody Field Office, in partnership with FishingCommunity.org and the local community, plans to host the inaugural Hogan/Luce Veterans Family Fishing Classic. This free event is for veterans, their families, and members of the public and will feature shore fishing, fishing instruction, and kids' activities. Participants will also have the chance to see recent improvements at Hogan/Luce to make the site more accessible for people with disabilities including accessible picnic tables, fire rings, bear boxes, and the newly-installed canoe/kayak dock. This is a *Fisheries for Veterans Project* event, a partnership between FishingCommunity.org and the BLM that uses public lands to provide recreational, educational, and job training opportunities and provides rehabilitation and healing capacities for veterans and their families. (5/7/19)

June 1. BLM-WY. The High Plains District expects to release the environmental assessment (EA) for the Wright Area coal leases in response to a court order. On Sep. 15, 2017, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the BLM was arbitrary and capricious because the administrative record did not support the EA's assumptions involving supply and demand in the coal market, which determined that coal resources would be used from elsewhere if the Wright Area leases were not issued. The Tenth Circuit did not vacate any of the leases which the BLM has already leased and permitted for coal mining, but remanded the decision back to the U.S. District Court. (5/7/19)

June 1-5. National Conservation Lands and BLM's Travel and Tourism Team plan to participate in the inter-agency America's Great Outdoors Booth at U.S. Travel Association's IPW 2019, the travel industry's premier international marketplace and largest generator of travel to the U.S. (5/7/19)

June 3. BLM-MT/DK. The Butte Field Office plans to release for public review and comment a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA) done as a result of a recent court ruling regarding vegetation treatments and grazing infrastructure at Iron Mask. The court upheld the BLM on most points in the complaint but found that the EA did not adequately address certain cumulative impacts and remanded the case to BLM for preparation of a Supplemental EA. In addition, plaintiffs have filed a claim for attorney's fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act in the amount of $128,506. The BLM has been working through the

Solicitor's Office and the Department of Justice in an attempt to negotiate a settlement on the fee amount. The BLM has until May 13 to reach a settlement of the fee. (5/7/19)

June 5-6. BLM-UT. The Canyon Country District and Manti-La Sal National Forest plan to host a Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) Advisory Committee meeting in Monticello, Utah. The focus of this first meeting is to gather input related to the Draft BENM Monument Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. A press release announcing the meeting was issued on May 2. (5/7/19)

UPDATED ITEMS

May 20. BLM-AZ. The Phoenix District plans to announce a 30-day public scoping period and associated public meetings for the Recreational Shooting Sports Microsites Pilot. This pilot will focus on a strategy to identify, plan, develop, and manage sites appropriate for recreational shooting sports on public land. It will involve six microsites around the greater Phoenix area in Maricopa County. BLM-AZ will evaluate different approaches for actively managing recreational shooting sports microsites - from more passive / undeveloped to more intensively managed / developed ones - while preserving widespread dispersed recreational shooting sports opportunities. BLM has been working on the pilot strategy with the Arizona Game and Fish Department and other partners, and will also meet with stakeholders. The strategy is not intended to limit recreational shooting access; rather, it focuses on shooting sports in those areas best suited for ensuring public safety and minimizing impacts to natural resources and infrastructure. BLM-AZ is developing a communication plan to support the pilot project and anticipates media and congressional interest. (4/23/19)

Late May. BLM-MT/DK. The Notice of Availability for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Keystone XL pipeline is expected to be released for public comment. The BLM and other federal agencies provided comments to the State Department on the internal Draft SEIS. The Draft SEIS considers impacts related to changes in the project since 2014 and incorporates updated information and new studies in response to a court ruling citing the 2014 analysis was deemed insufficient. The SEIS will also address the route alignment shift in Nebraska. (2/5/19)

By May 24. BLM-CO. The Royal Gorge Field Office plans to publish a Notice of Availability (pending DOI approval) for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan (RMP). BLM-CO briefed the DOI Review Team on the Draft EIS on March 1. The Draft RMP includes decisions on approximately 658,200 acres of BLM-administered lands and 3.3 million acres of subsurface mineral estate across 37 counties. The Eastern Colorado RMP will replace the 1996 Royal Gorge RMP and 1986 Northeast RMP. (4/24/18) DTS 2484

May 24. BLM-ID. The Four Rivers Field Office plans to sign a decision to acquire 560 acres in the Boise Foothills. The property is a critical piece that will provide recreation and hunter access to currently inaccessible public lands. The BLM has been working with the Land Trust of Treasure Valley who purchased the property in Feb. 2018, and will transfer the parcel to BLM through a bargain sale agreement upon completion of the appraisal which is

expected in fall 2019. This property was identified in the Ridge to Rivers 10-Year Management Plan (BLM is a managing partner) as a high-priority objective for obtaining public access for hunters and recreationists. The property is also important winter range for big game, especially elk, and is within the most popular big game hunting unit in Idaho. A BLM press release is planned prior to purchase in fall 2019 and could include statements from the Secretary, the BLM, the City of Boise, and/or the development of Avimor. (4/4/18)

May 24. BLM-OR/WA plans to publish a Notice of Availability and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) if the DOI Review Team approves the Draft Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA) and EIS at the brief planned for May 10. This planning effort is in response to a 2010 Settlement Agreement requiring inventory and analysis of wilderness characteristics, off-highway vehicle use, and grazing management. BLM-OR/WA briefed the BLM Washington Office and DOI in Nov. 2018; responses to comments from the DOI have been incorporated into this revised Draft RMPA/EIS. Publication will initiate a 90-day comment period and BLM-WA/OR intends to hold three public meetings in local communities in June. (2/12/19)

May 25. BLM-ID. The Great Basin Regional Sage Grouse Support Team plans to publish a Notice of Availability in the Federal Register about the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for 11,000 miles of fuel breaks in the Great Basin. BLM-ID briefed the DOI Review Team on May 3 and is awaiting further direction pending discussions with the Secretary's Office. (2/12/19)

By May 27. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office plans to publish a Notice of Availability (pending DOI approval) for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess domestic sheep permit renewals on nine livestock grazing allotments in Gunnison, Hinsdale, and Ouray counties totaling approximately 65,000 acres. BLM-CO briefed the DOI Review Team on the Draft EIS on March 8. The Draft EIS evaluates reducing contact between domestic and wild sheep on BLM lands to minimize disease transmission. (4/10/18) DTS 2507

May 27. BLM-CO. The Kremmling Field Office plans to release the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the North Sand Hills Resource Protection Plan for public comment. The plan is needed to address the Colorado Water Quality Board's listing of North Sand Creek as impaired under the Clean Water Act. The State cites erosion from off-highway vehicle (OHV) use in and around the creek as the primary cause. The North Sand Hills Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) is popular for OHV use on open sand dunes, and this plan will help the BLM maintain this unique recreational opportunity by protecting North Sand Creek, a small area within the SRMA. (4/2/19)

May 30. BLM-NM. The Oklahoma Field Office plans to host a public hearing for the Draft Environmental Assessment for a Lease by Application (LBA) in Haskell County, Okla. The public hearing is planned to be announced in the Federal Register on May 10 and will be held in McCurtain, Okla. The LBA was delayed due to the partial government shutdown. Evans Coal Company submitted an LBA for federal coal reserves underlying 1,270.85 acres of privately owned surface lands. Evans estimates that the proposed lease area contains nearly

3.28 million tons of recoverable coal. This may be controversial because it is coal-related and the tract lies beneath a lake used for recreation by a private club. (8/17/18) DTS 2501

June 6. BLM-MT/DK. The Butte Field Office plans to issue a Record of Decision for fuels treatment on 1,000 acres of BLM land within the Tenmile study area. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has concurred with the field office's effects determination on the Tenmile–South Helena Project, which is a cooperative project between the Helena National Forest and the Butte Field Office. The project area includes all ownerships in 61,395 acres, of which 1,043 acres are administered by the BLM. The project is intended to maintain consistent quantity and quality of water within the Helena municipal watershed and improve conditions for public and firefighter safety across the landscape. (12/18/18)

By June 12. The BLM plans to issue an Instruction Memorandum (IM) for use in land use planning and in decisions on designating Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs). The IM will provide more certainty on the ACEC nomination process and appropriate size of such areas. The IM is currently under review with the BLM Director's Office. (4/9/19)

ONGOING ITEMS

By May 20. The BLM's first group of new proposed administrative NEPA categorical exclusions (CXs), and revisions to existing CXs, is with the Secretary's Office for review. These include proposals for five new CXs (pinyon pine and juniper tree management, aquatic and riparian habitat restoration, timber salvage, wild horse and burro population control, and wild horse and burro gathers) and two revisions to existing CXs (for range infrastructure improvements and special recreation permits). Following approval, the BLM will send these proposed CXs for review and approval by the Council on Environmental Quality. The BLM will then publish the proposed CXs in the Federal Register for public review and comment. (3/26/19)

By May 20. BLM plans to issue an Instruction Memorandum (IM) titled *National Policy for Powerline Rights-of-Way and Fire Risk, including Vegetation Management*. The policy meets the goals of Executive Order 13855 and Secretarial Order 3372 for reducing wildfire risk, and implements agency requirements under the 2018 amendment to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), enacted for the same purpose. The IM addresses vegetation management in and adjacent to rights-of-way in both emergency and non-emergency conditions, and outlines FLPMA Section 512 agency requirements in approving maintenance plans and agreements submitted by powerline operators. A press release is being developed to announce the updated policy. (2/12/19) DTS 17100

By May 20. The BLM is preparing an Instruction Memorandum (IM) that clarifies and modifies national-level policy in two BLM manuals: Manual 6310, which provides guidance for conducting inventories of wilderness characteristics on BLM lands; and Manual 6320, which outlines general procedures for considering such areas in the BLM's land use planning process. The IM may generate moderate controversy, as a variety of stakeholders — namely industry, ranchers, state and local government, and the environmental community — continue to focus on BLM's handling of the wilderness characteristics issue. (4/9/19)

By May 20. BLM-AK will publish a Public Land Order (PLO) to revoke seven PLOs issued in 1972. A signing ceremony was previously discussed and may be rescheduled. This order will affect 1,153,609 acres of BLM-managed land withdrawn near the Fortymile area of Alaska. The action will open those acres to surface entry, mining and mineral leasing, subject to valid existing rights. The PLOs were issued pursuant to Sec. 17(d)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The Eastern Interior Fortymile Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision, finalized in 2016, recommended partial revocation of these withdrawals. (1/30/19)

By May 20. BLM-AK plans to publish constructive notice of a decision approving 704.6 acres for conveyance to Emmonak Corporation for the Native village of Emmonak under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). The surface lands will be conveyed to Emmonak Corporation and the subsurface estate will be conveyed to Calista Corporation, the regional corporation. Conveyance of the lands will fulfill Emmonak's entitlements under Secs. 12(a) and 12(b) of ANCSA. The Federal Register package is currently under review in the Washington Office. (3/12/19) DTS 2548

By May 20. BLM-AK will prepare a Federal Register notice to revoke Public Land Orders (PLO) 5179 and 5186 to submit to the Washington Office for review. This order will affect 217,486 acres of BLM-managed land withdrawn near the Bering Glacier area of Alaska. The action will open those acres to surface entry, mining and mineral leasing, subject to valid existing rights. The PLO was issued pursuant to Sec. 17(d)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The East Alaska Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision, finalized in 2007, recommended partial revocation of these withdrawals. (1/30/19) DTS Lands 186

By May 20. BLM-CO anticipates receiving DOI approval to provide the U.S. Army National Guard access to BLM-managed lands for remediation activities. The National Guard completed two Records of Decision for the Craig National Guard Training Site Munitions Response Area and the Delta National Guard Complex to remediate munition sites on BLM-managed land in the Northwest and Southwest districts. Per DOI policy, review from BLM management and signature from the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget are required to provide the National Guard access to BLM lands for remediation activities. (2/12/19)

May 20. BLM-ID. The Owyhee Field Office plans to initiate a 30-day scoping period for the Silver City Grazing Allotment after finalizing the assessment and evaluation of Idaho's Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management. It should be available to the public May 20 - June 20. A public meeting will be held during this period. The Silver City Allotment is part of the Battle Creek litigation in U.S. District Court of Idaho and BLM expects additional litigation. (4/16/19)

May 20. BLM-UT. The Richfield Field Office will reopen the Factory Butte Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Area, which was closed under an emergency order to assess potential damage to threatened and endangered cacti species. Findings from extensive studies over the

last 10 years have determined that OHV use in the area has not contributed to declines in species. The field office is working with the Solicitor Office to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration and seek concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. (3/19/19)

Week of May 20. BLM-NV. The Elko District plans to complete briefings for the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Rossi Mine Expansion Project in Elko County. The barite mine is currently 896 acres; the proposed expansion would create approximately 1,167 acres of new disturbance and extend the mine life by 8 years. The Record of Decision is expected to be signed in June. (3/5/19)

By Late May. BLM-AK submitted on April 30 the "Call for Nomination and Comments for the 2019 National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska Oil and Gas Lease Sale" Federal Register package to the Washington Office for review. The Federal Register notice needs to publish before May 30 to accomplish a 2019 lease sale. (4/2/19)

May 21. The U.S. Postal Service will hold the Wild and Scenic Rivers Stamp First Day of Issue ceremony in Bend, Ore. The sheet of 12 "Forever" stamps depict wild and scenic rivers around the nation including four BLM-managed or co-managed segments. "Save the date" commemorative invites are being sent to key BLM and DOI managers but the event is open to the public and organizers plan to livestream online. Acting BLM-OR/WA State Director Theresa Hanley will deliver remarks along with leaders from other river management agencies. This is a USPS managed event with the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, and Oregon State Parks providing local support. (4/16/19)

May 21-23. BLM-CA will host three public meetings in Bakersfield, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara during the 45-day comment period for the Bakersfield Field Office hydraulic fracturing Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. This planning effort is in response to a 2017 U.S. District Court Order and is controversial. (12/10/18)

Late May. The BLM Wild Horse and Burro Program plans to circulate for review and approval a draft report to Congress providing analysis related to proposed actions that can address wild horse and burro overpopulation and lower program costs. The analysis was required by Congress in its 2019 Appropriations Act and follows a similar report to Congress submitted in 2018. The report is due Aug. 18, 2019. (4/2/19)

Late May. BLM-AZ plans to publish a notice of withdrawal application in the Federal Register on behalf of the Bureau of Reclamation to extend the Roosevelt Lake withdrawal. Under an extension, the land would remain withdrawn from settlement, sale, or entry under federal general mining laws. The Federal Register notice initiates a 90-day public comment period. The proposal seeks to extend the Dec. 1999 withdrawal for an additional 20 years, allowing for the continuation of recreational opportunities, and is needed to reserve those lands within the normal operating levels of the modified Theodore Roosevelt Dam. Roosevelt Lake is a popular recreation area for anglers, campers, swimmers, and boaters; it also contains a wildlife area and is open to permit hunting during certain parts of the year. (4/15/19)

Late May. BLM-CO. The Colowyo Mine is a surface coal mine in Northwest Colorado operated by Colowyo Coal Company L.P. Colowyo submitted an application to renew its Royalty Rate Reduction (RRR) from 12.5% to 8% for coal leases COC-29225 and COC-29226. The BLM proposes to grant the RRR because adverse geologic conditions make the coal reserves economically unrecoverable at the current lease royalty rate using standard industry operating practices. Upon receipt of a favorable lease account status determination requested from the Office of Natural Resources Revenue, the State Director could sign a decision granting the RRR. A concurrence letter was sent to the governor, who did not respond within the requested 30-day period. Environmental groups have tried to make an issue with RRRs recently, which could generate some controversy. (4/23/19)

Late May - Early June. BLM-MT/DK. The U.S. District Court for the District of Montana, Great Falls Division, issued a decision on April 19, 2019, in the case of Citizens for Clean Energy and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe v. the U.S. Department of the Interior. The plaintiffs challenged the Secretary's decision to cease work on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for the federal coal program as well as ending the moratorium on leasing of federal coal. Judge Morris's decision states that DOI's decision to end the moratorium constitutes a major federal action triggering a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Review. The court stopped short of compelling the Department to prepare a PEIS or re-institute the moratorium, concluding that the method of compliance with NEPA was within the agency's discretion as an initial matter. The court ordered the parties to meet and confer on remedies and to submit a report within 30 days. The BLM has begun working to develop the appropriate NEPA analysis and expects to have a document completed in late May or early June. (4/30/19)

May 22. The BLM Annual Making a Difference National Volunteer Awards ceremony is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. EDT in Room 5071 at the Main Interior Building and will be live streamed via video teleconference to all state offices hosting winners. States were notified on April 11 of winner selections. Deputy Director Brian Steed, the Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals Management, and Secretary of the Interior have been invited to speak. All Assistant Directors are invited to attend in person. (4/16/19)

May 23. BLM-ID. The Boise District Office will conduct a field tour for partners in the Bruneau-Owyhee Sage-Grouse Habitat (BOSH) Project to discuss 2019 implementation plans. DOI issued a Record of Decision in February 2019 for the BOSH Project to remove encroaching western juniper on 617,000 acres of public land in Owyhee County. Representatives of the Owyhee County Commissioners, Idaho Department of Lands, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Idaho Governor’s Office of Species Conservation are expected to participate in the tour. (4/30/19)

May 24. BLM-UT. The Canyon Country Fire Zone and Moab Field Office plan to announce a 30-day comment period for an Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzing a wildfire mitigation project near Castle Valley. Based on input from the community, the proposal is primarily for hand treatments (such as chainsaw cutting, lop and scatter, and pile burning) to create fuel breaks within a 7,551-acre area. The community supports the project and is

concerned about wildfire near the community and surrounding watershed. However, many citizens are adamantly opposed to the use of herbicides or heavy machinery in carrying out the treatments. These alternatives will be outlined in the EA as alternatives considered but not analyzed in detail, as they are not supported by the community and do not fully meet the purpose and need. (4/9/19)

May 27. BLM-ID. The Four Rivers Field Office plans to release an Environmental Assessment and Decision Record regarding several range improvement projects, including fence and water developments in the Hixon Columbian Sharp-Tailed Grouse habitat management area in Washington County. (4/30/19)

May 30. BLM-OR/WA. Coos Bay District plans to issue decision records and sale notices for three upcoming timber sales that total 13.2 million board feet: Early Fork, Ebeneezer, and Lookout. Coos Bay District plans to offer the three sales at an oral auction on June 28, 2019. Early Fork includes 250 acres of thinning in the late successional reserve and riparian reserve land use allocation, and is expected to yield 4.8 million board feet. Ebeneezer includes 269 acres of thinning in the riparian reserve and late successional reserve land use allocations and is expected to yield 5.5 million board feet. Lookout includes 39 acres of regeneration harvest in the harvest land base land use allocation and is expected to yield 1.95 million board feet. (4/30/19)

By May 31. BLM-CA. The Central Coast Field Office plans to publish a Notice of Intent for an amendment to the Resource Management Plan for the Cotoni-Coast Dairies Unit of the California Coastal National Monument. This amendment and associated Environmental Assessment will focus on improving and expanding public access and recreational opportunities to the Cotoni-Coast Dairies unit. BLM-CA plans to host two public meetings during the scoping period. Two public workshops held in Dec. 2018 explored opportunities for additional public access. A Federal Register Notice is working through the State Office and was submitted to the Washington Office by May 3. (4/2/19)

By May 31. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office plans to publish in the Federal Register (pending BLM approval) a Notice of Realty Action to convey 43.09 acres of public land to the Town of Lake City under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. The land is about one mile south of Lake City. The Lake City Ski Hill community ski area would continue to operate under the conveyance. (4/24/18) DTS 2329

By May 31. BLM-ID plans to issue 22 Curlew Grazing Permit Renewal decisions after completion of the Environmental Assessment, Determination, and Finding of No Significant Impact. The Curlew Allotment encompasses about 139,999 acres and is divided into 39 pastures. The most current grazing decisions date to 2000 and issued permits to 22 permittees divided into 5 groups with assigned pastures. A Land Heath Evaluation in 2015 determined that certain pastures are not meeting standards due to current grazing management, and found that the current authorized stocking level for several spring/fall pastures is too high for some groups. Consultation and coordination with the 22 permittees has occurred over the past several years to develop various grazing alternatives. The BLM preferred alternative would

reduce seven permittees' AUMs by 4-5 percent for a total of approximately 500 AUMs. Currently, the Curlew Allotment includes 24,928 authorized AUMs. (7/27/18)

By May 31. BLM-NM plans to publish the Record of Decision for the proposed Copper Flat Mine Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The New Mexico Copper Corporation submitted a proposed mining plan of operations that would re-establish the Copper Flat Copper Mine, a poly-metallic mine and processing facility near Hillsboro, that would produce copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum. If approved, the project is expected to provide 170-270 jobs over the mine's 12-to-16-year life. (4/15/19)

May 31. BLM-ID plans to issue a NEPA decision on the Horse Gather Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Challis Herd Management Area (HMA). If approved, the EA would result in a comprehensive multi-year plan to include darting and/or bait gathering, helicopter gathers, and PZP treatment to manage the horses on the HMA. A helicopter gather may occur in 2019, which may generate controversy. The 168,720-acre Challis HMA is in Custer County, Idaho. The appropriate management level is 185-235 horses, and the last helicopter gather occurred in 2012. BLM-ID estimates 428 wild horses are on the HMA following the 2019 foaling season. The Challis Field Office is requesting to gather 365 horses, remove 244, and treat 40 to 50 mares with fertility control. (2/5/19)

May 31 - June 2. BLM-CO. The Gunnison Field Office will host the 2019 Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Great Trails Workshop with the Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition, the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and the U.S. Forest Service. The workshop will focus on OHV trail maintenance, rehabilitation, improvement and relocation. Hands-on field training will take place at Hartman Rocks Recreation Area. (4/30/19)

Early June. BLM-NV. The Bristlecone Field Office plans to issue final decisions for the Wilson Creek Allotment Grazing Term Permit Renewals. These include various range improvements and additional flexibility for grazing operations. The 1.1-million-acre common allotment has nine grazing permittees. There are conflicts between the permittees and controversy due to the various resources impacted including wild horses and sage grouse. (3/12/19)

Early June. BLM-NV. The Department of Energy, Office of Legacy Management, has applied to the BLM for withdrawal of approximately 361 acres of public land surrounding part of its Central Nevada Test Area. The Battle Mountain District is working on a Public Land Order to be published in the Federal Register for public review and comment. This includes an Environmental Assessment that has been prepared to analyze the potential impacts of withdrawing this acreage. (3/5/19) DTS 2474

June 3. BLM-ID. The Jarbidge Field Office plans to issue 27 proposed grazing decisions to renew grazing permits on 29 allotments, restore riparian areas, and construct range infrastructure across 357,816 acres of BLM-managed land in the Devil Creek sub-region of Owyhee and Twin Falls Counties. About 18% of the sub-region lies within Greater Sage-Grouse Priority Habitat; 50% is included in Important Habitat. The Field Office anticipates

no reduction in Animal Unit Months as a result of the decisions. Two environmental groups (Western Watersheds Project and WildLands Defense) are expected to protest and appeal the decisions. (4/30/19)

June 4-6. BLM-AZ. The Arizona Strip Field Office plans to hold public meetings regarding a proposed change in the management of Paria Canyon–Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness and other related actions. The proposed change would increase recreational opportunities and visitor access, as outlined in Secretarial Orders 3347 and 3366, while preserving wilderness values. BLM-AZ is considering increasing daily visitor limits from 20 people to 96 people per day in Coyote Buttes North, where the geologic feature known as the Wave is located. The meetings will take place on June 4 in Page, Ariz.; June 5 in Kanab, Utah; and June 6 in St. George, Utah. On May 1, BLM-AZ plans to announce the public scoping period and three meetings seeking public input regarding resource concerns, access, recreation opportunities, etc. that would be relevant to the analysis. The comment period should end June 21. (4/30/19)

By June 10. BLM-AK plans to publish supplementary rules in the Federal Register to address public safety concerns on the 11.41 acres of public land at the Fairbanks District Office location. Lack of consistent rules and expectations regarding appropriate public conduct at the site has hampered the BLM's ability to provide a safe visitor experience and to minimize user conflicts. Ongoing issues addressed by the new rules include open fires in proximity to office buildings, overnight use, long-term occupancy, unattended vehicles, and use of aerial drones. Once the rules publish, BLM-AK plans to issue a news release. No controversy is anticipated. (4/16/19)

Oil and Gas Lease Sale Updates

Sale Date	State	# of Parcels	# of Acres	Date EA Released	Date of Sale Notice Posted	End of Protest Period
6/11/19	BLM-UT	8	11,557.73	2/15/19	4/25/19	5/6/19
6/17/19	BLM-WY	160	205,885	2/26/19	4/25/19	5/25/19
6/27/19	BLM-ES	17	1,360	12/11/18	NLT 5/13	10 days after sale notice
6/20/19	BLM-NM	51	39,624	3/11/19	4/22/19	5/01/19

6/27/19	BLM-CO	18 *1 parcel USFS	8,226 *8,630.62 with USFS parcel	3/12/19	5/14/19	5/23/19
7/30/19	BLM-MT/DK	35	10,076	3/13/19	6/12/19	7/12/19
7/30/19	BLM-NV	200	389,344	4/5/19	5/31/19	7/1/19
9/05/19	BLM-NM	17	4,415	5/13/19	7/8/19	7/17/19
9/16/19	BLM-WY	212	322,074	5/14/19	7/18/19	8/17/19
9/24/19	BLM-MT/DK	12	7,496	5/15/19	7/31/19	8/30/19

LBA and LMA 6 Months Ahead Project Sales or Offers (Sales)

Sales Date	State	Ser. No. (LBA or LMA)	Tonnage	Acres	Decision Date (DR or ROD)	Date Published FR Sale Notice
NA	CO	COC71978 (LBA)	8,000,000	1,279.63	NA (DR)	NA
NA	CO	COC78825 (LBA)	7,600,000	2,462.07	NA (DR)	NA
NA	OH	OHES 057390 (LBA)	1,4000,000	432.44	4-3-19 (DR)	Target May 6, 2019
NA	ND	NDM 110277 (LBA)	5,230,000	320	NA (DR)	Target April 29, 2019

NA	ND	NDM 105513 (LBA)	11,210,000	630	NA (DR)	NA
NA	MT	MTM 80697 (LMA)	6,750,000	160	NA (DR)	NA
NA	UT	UTU 0126947 (LMA)	6,600,000	954.80	NA (DR)	NA
NA	UT	UTU 014218 (LMA)	2,300,000	637.84	NA (DR)	NA

Note: NA-Not Available or Not Applicable.

OHES-057390 lease Sale FRN in DTS surnaming (BLMR002554).
MTM 80697 (LMA) is associated with the Westmoreland Chapter 11 / transfer of leases.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

BOEM has prepared multiple Calls for Information and Nominations (Calls) for lease sales proposed for 2019 and 2020 in the 2019-2024 Draft Proposed Program. The Mid-Atlantic Call (DTS #2257), the South Atlantic Call (DTS #2258), the Southern California Call (DTS #2388), and the Chukchi Sea Call (DTS #2385) are being held by BOEM. (9/21/18) After the Proposed Program is published, BOEM expects to publish the Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Area Identification covering the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) oil and gas lease sales in the 2020-2025 National Program (excluding the area currently under the GOMESA moratorium). The NOA is currently in surnaming with ASLM. (2/22/19, DTS#2631) (3/8/19)

On March 1, 2019, BOEM finalized the Environmental Assessments (EAs) on the four pending Atlantic G&G 2-D seismic permit applications with both Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) concurrence and Incidental Harassment Authorizations (IHA) approval. On March 7, 2019, Solicitor gave final approval to the additional documentation requested that explains for the record the differences in impacts from the four permits. The ION permit vessel and crew has been approved by the Department of Defense (DOD). The Acting Director is engaged in discussions with DOD regarding the proposed vessel and crew for the Spectrum, TGS and PGS permit applications. (11/30/18)

Based on a change in policy direction, BOEM has revised the proposed rule on financial assurance and the associated Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA). The package is now with the Department for surname. Upon approval by the Department, the rule will be forwarded to OMB. (8/27/18, DTS #2343)

In May, BOEM expects to submit the Final Rule updating its air quality regulations related to oil, gas, and sulfur operations on the OCS to OMB for interagency review. At the request of the Department, an alternative version of the rule has been prepared, with conforming revisions to the economic analysis and the environmental analysis. The documents are currently in surnaming with the Department. Upon approval by the Department, the rule will be forwarded to OMB. (3/18/19, New DTS#2697)

In early May, BOEM expects to publish the Spring 2019 List of Restricted Joint Bidders. The document is currently with the ASLM. (4/5/19, DTS#2687)

In May, BOEM expects to publish a Notice of Availability (NOA) for Lighting and Marking Guidelines. These guidelines provide best practices and recommendations for lighting and marking design for offshore wind energy facilities and outline the types of information needed from lessees as part of their project plans (Site Assessment Plans, Construction and Operations Plans, or General Activities Plans). The package is currently with the BOEM Directorate for surname. (11/30/18, DTS#1772)

BOEM is finalizing its review of the proposed revisions to the previously approved Research Activities Plan (RAP) for Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) (formerly VOWTAP). The project includes the construction, operation, and eventual decommissioning of two 6 MW turbines approximately 24 miles offshore Virginia Beach, VA and associated cabling to shore. The primary revisions to the RAP involve design changes to the turbine and its foundation. A final BOEM decision on the RAP is anticipated in May. (5/3/19)

The Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority has combined a portion of the East Timbalier Barrier Island Restoration Project with the Terrebonne Basin Barrier Island and Beach Nourishment Project into a single engineering, contracting, and construction project utilizing up to 10 million cubic yards of OCS material from the South Pelto area of Ship Shoal in the Gulf of Mexico. To align with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' issued permit for these projects, the Negotiated Noncompetitive Agreements and associated Findings of No Significant Impacts were drafted separately for each project and are expected to be issued by BOEM by May 31, 2019. (5/3/19)

BOEM's consultation response for NOAA's Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary Expansion Consultation, pursuant to Executive Order 13795, was provided to NOAA in a February 25, 2019, letter. BOEM's analysis shows some oil and gas resource potential in the proposed expansion areas. Renewable energy, marine mineral, and methane hydrate potential in the proposed expansion areas appears low. On April 23, 2019, NOAA provided BOEM an update on the FGBNMS expansion proposed rule: 1) NOAA determined the new expansion boundaries fall within the range of alternatives analyzed in their DEIS, so they will not supplement the DEIS; 2) A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the expansion will be published in July 2019; 3) There will be a 60 day public comment period on the proposed rule, followed by a Final EIS and Final Rule; 4) the existing FGBNMS regulations will be applied within the expanded sanctuary (except for a few changes to fishing rules); and 5) NOAA has determined BOEM's impact analysis of sanctuary expansion on offshore energy development, provided under EO 13795, to be less than significant. BOEM is

working on responses to NOAA's March 12, 2019, questions regarding BOEM's analysis; NOAA will schedule a meeting with BOEM to discuss the questions and responses. (5/3/19)

BP has begun the process of dismantling and removing the Liberty drilling rig located on Endicott Satellite Drilling Island in Alaska. BP estimates that it will completely remove the rig by the end of 2019. (5/3/19)

On April 10, the State Department sent the latest version of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) Draft Regulations on Deep Seabed Mining to BOEM for review. Internal BOEM edits are due by May 24. Edits are due to the State Department by June 14. Additionally, BOEM has been invited to a workshop in May 2019, in South Africa, on the development of standards, guidelines and other key terms under the regulations. (4/12/19)

On April 16, BOEM's Pacific Office received the official proposal via email to switch $90.2M in bonds for the remaining money market funds in the trust account. The proposal is being analyzed, and SOL is providing feedback on the legal ramifications. The predecessor has appealed the District Court and Bankruptcy Court decisions regarding a previous, similar switch to the Fifth Circuit, which will look at the facts and language of the Trust document independent of the conclusions of the lower courts. Initial plaintiff briefs were filed on March 21 with the court. (4/12/19)

As soon as possible, BOEM plans to submit comments to NOAA on its advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR). In the ANPR, NOAA is seeking public comment on the changes that should be made to NOAA's Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) federal consistency regulations to make the federal consistency process more efficient across all stages of OCS leasing and development for oil and gas and renewable energy projects. NOAA is also seeking comments on ways to increase the timeliness and predictability of its appeals process, as well as comments on any potential cost savings to small entities associated with increased efficiency in the appeals process. The document is currently with ASLM for review. (4/19/19)

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

Arctic Rule (AA01) –This is a joint BSEE BOEM rule and BSEE has been tasked as the lead agency by the ASLM for revisions to this rule. Although the scheduled tribal consultations were impacted by the drowning of a Native whaling captain and crewmember as well as the Alaskan earthquake, all have taken place. A meeting with the BSEE/ BOEM regulatory team took place on February 13 to discuss comments and path forward. A joint BSEE BOEM memo on the path forward has been drafted and was subject to ASLM/BSEE discussion on February 25. Additions were requested and a revised memo was delivered by the BSEE Director to the ASLM in a meeting on February 28. A revised, signed Arctic Rule memo complete with milestone timeline and team membership was delivered to the ASLM on March 11. The memo was executed by the ASLM on March 11. On March 13, BSEE, BOEM, and staff SOLs met to discuss coordination efforts to prepare a proposed rule package. Topics discussed include the roles and responsibilities of individuals within each bureau, and expectations under the rulemaking schedule. On March 18, the draft reg text was

shared with the rulemaking team that are preparing the environmental assessment, regulatory impact analysis, and information collection burden. The rulemaking team and subject matter experts preparing these documents have been in discussions all week to establish the parameters for how the changes in the regulations will be analyzed in the supporting documents. These discussions continued through the week of March 25. Reg text revision language is currently under review.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Reorganization: OSMRE met with the ADEQ Mining Program on April 17, 2019, to discuss current operations, proposed program changes, and recent management changes. The Director of ADEQ indicated significant interest in maintaining primacy and doing what is necessary regarding its organizational structure and management in order to satisfy OSMRE concerns. ADEQ named an interim Mining Program manager, following the loss of the previous manager.

OSMRE NEPA Handbook and Roll-out Plan: OSMRE, in accordance with the April 27, 2018 Deputy Secretary Memo on Additional Direction for Implementing Secretary's Order 3355, has revised the OSMRE NEPA Handbook. The Handbook was last published in 1989 and incorporates the latest direction and policy on NEPA Compliance to include Executive Order 13807 and Secretarial Order 3355. The NEPA Handbook was revised by a team of OSMRE HQ, Regional and Field Office NEPA professionals beginning in July 2018. OSMRE anticipates releasing the NEPA Handbook the week of May 6, 2019. Following the release, OSMRE HQ and Regional staff will conduct a series of Regional training sessions for OSMRE Regional and Field Office staff to support awareness and effective implementation. Additionally, OSMRE and Regional staff will host Webinars for State partners to ensure awareness of the revised Handbook. The Regional and State training sessions are being scheduled for June 2019. Implementation of the NEPA Handbook will begin after a 60-day grace period following the release date and completion of the Regional and State training sessions.

State Program Amendment (SPA) Processing: Consistent with the Secretarial priorities as enumerated in the October 24, 2017, *Final Report: Review of the Department of the Interior Actions that Potentially Burden Domestic Energy*, *Revise Processing of State Program Amendments*, OSMRE is developing a modernized tracking system to ensure timely processing of SPAs. Roll out of this product is expected to occur by the end of the fiscal year. OSMRE also revised Directive STP-1, that governs the processing of SPAs and released Standard Operating Procedures related to processing. Training of OSMRE staff on processing procedures will occur no later than July 2019. In fiscal year 2019, OSMRE has published five proposed rule notices. There are currently seven proposed rules and two final rules pending clearance for publication in the *Federal Register*.

Notice for San Juan Mine Deep Lease Extension Final EIS ROD (NM): OSMRE published its Record of Decision (ROD) on May 1, 2019, following publication of the Final EIS notice in the *Federal Register* on March 15, 2019. . The Final EIS and ROD will inform

OSMRE's recommendation to the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management on whether to approve the federal mining plan.

Rosebud Mine (MT): The OSMRE Western Region jointly prepared an EIS with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. The EIS will support a recommendation on the mining plan for Area F of the Rosebud Mine. OSMRE obtained Departmental Clearance to publish the Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Final EIS in the *Federal Register*. The NOA was published in the *Federal Register* on Friday, November 30, 2018. OSMRE was awaiting written permit findings from the State of Montana, prior to finalizing the Record of Decision (ROD). On April 18, OSMRE received Montana's written permit findings. OSMRE is currently finalizing its ROD and completing a time waiver for submission to OEPC and the Deputy Secretary's office. OSMRE expects to notice the ROD in the *Federal Register* on or around June 21, 2019. The Final EIS and ROD will inform OSMRE's recommendation to the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management on whether to approve the federal mining plan.

Narley No. 3 (AL): OSMRE's Regional Office began scoping for an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Best Coal Narley No. 3 Mine in February 2019. OSMRE posted the NOI on the OSMRE Regional website on February 22, 2019. The public comment period closed on March 25, 2019. The Region's Federal Lands team conducted a site visit on March 26, 2019. Congressman Gary Palmer sent a letter dated March 25, 2019, to OSMRE requesting expedited completion of the required NEPA EA due to a potential exhaustion of available reserves. OSMRE sent a response letter on April 23, 2019. During the review, staff noted that the site's Nationwide Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has expired. OSMRE has been in contact with the USACE District personnel, who visited the site on April 19, 2019, and confirmed that a new permit would be necessary. Regional staff is currently working with HQ and USACE to determine a path forward. The Regional Office is drafting the EA, and sent the first two chapters to Headquarters for review on April 26, 2019..

Coyote Creek Mining EA (ND): BLM and OSMRE continue their efforts on the "pilot" project for the leasing and permitting actions reflected in the mine plan decision document. The contractor has revised the EA based on agency comments. The SOL review was conducted April 3 through April 19, 2019. The project schedule, anticipated publishing the draft EA on April 26, with a 30-day comment period. Due to additional work required to resolve SOL comments, the draft EA publication date was delayed. The agencies anticipate having the EA released for a 30-day public comment period in May 2019. They expect to complete the EA in August 2019.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLICY, MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Indicates Press/Comms Opportunities)

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel for the Upcoming Week

Susan Combs, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the authority of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, will be in the office.

Scott Cameron, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, will be in the office.

Immediate Actions and Announcements for the Next Week

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

The Office of Budget (POB) received questions for the record from the House Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittee from the March and April Departmental and bureau budget hearings. POB is coordinating responses, and Departmental and OMB reviews, prior to submitting to the Hill. (05/07/2019)

The week of May 13, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) staff are planning official travel to Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. OMB will focus on energy related topics in Alaska and on National Parks, Wildlife Refuges and Indian Affairs in the Pacific Northwest. The Office of Budget is developing itineraries and will accompany them. PMB is coordinating with Steve Wackowski, Senior Advisor for Alaskan Affairs, on the Alaska portion of the itinerary. (05/03/2019)

The Financial Assistance Improvement Project (FAIP) is scheduling planning meetings with GrantSolutions to discuss the project schedule and implementation approach. The transition Interagency Agreement (IAA) has been signed by PMB, and the transition plan has been approved. (05/07/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services (DAS PRE)

From May 13 – 17, Office of Aviation Services (OAS) Director, Mark Bathrick will be in Washington, DC, to attend the quarterly meeting of the Federal UAS Executive Committee (ExCom). Director Bathrick will participate in meetings with bureau and other interagency and industry partners. (05/07/2019)

From May 13 – 17, Program Manager - Inter-agency Borderland Coordinator and Field Communications (IBC), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), will attend several interagency border wall project site visits in CA and AZ. (05/07/2019)

From May 17 – 18, Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) Director Jeff Rupert will travel to Dallas, TX, for the American Thoracic Society International Conference where he will participate in a panel discussion on the health impacts of wildland fire smoke. (04/16/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary – Policy and Environmental Management (PEM)

On May 13, Stas Burgiel with the NISC Secretariat will participate in a round table on invasive species sponsored by Virginia Tech. He will discuss a whole-of-government perspective on invasive species management, complemented by presentations from DOI, USDA, and DOC/NOAA. (05/07/2019)

By May 15 the manual process between the Financial and Business Management System (FBMS) Business Integration Office and the USGS to allow for Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) data to be provided from FBMS will be in place. By the end of July, an automated process will have been tested and implemented linking FBMS data with NRDAR data housed in the Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment's (ORDA) Information Management System (DARTS). This connection will allow users the ability to view information on NRDAR cases and their associated financial data in one location. (05/07/2019)

Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)

The Departmental Records Officer submitted the Department's response to the National Archives and Records Administration's (NARA) congressional inquiry concerning how the Department maintains the Secretary's calendar records. (05/07/2019)

8-30 Day Outlook

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services (DAS PRE)

NEW ITEMS

From May 20 – 22, Program Manager - Inter-agency Borderland Coordinator and Field Communications (IBC), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), is planning to attend a FWS Regional Law Enforcement meeting at Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge near McAllen, TX. The topic of discussion will be Enterprise Dispatch solutions. (05/07/2019)

From May 28 – 31, Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) Director Jeff Rupert will travel to Winthrop, WA, to attend the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) Wildland Fire Committee Meeting. Topics for discussion include cooperative wildfire agreements, federal updates, wildland fire sciences, shared stewardship, and information technology. (05/07/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition (DAS BFGA)

NEW ITEMS

As of May 1, the Department closed 25 percent of open audit recommendations scheduled for closure in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 versus the immediate goal of 48 percent by the end of March. The Department has an annual goal of closing 85 percent of recommendations scheduled for completion in the current FY to address issues raised in Office of Inspector General (OIG) and U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) audits. The Office of Financial Management is actively working with the Bureaus and Offices to reach the annual 85 percent goal by August 1. (05/07/2019)

UPDATED ITEMS

The House Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittee is expected to start to mark-up a FY 2020 bill in mid-May. No dates have been scheduled. (04/26/2019)

The following FY 2020 budget hearings are scheduled for May.

- May 15, Secretary Bernhardt is scheduled before the House Natural Resources Committee.
- May 22, Secretary Bernhardt is scheduled to testify before the Senate Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittee. (05/07/2019)

The Office of Management and Budget staff are planning official travel in May, June, and August. The Office of Budget is working to develop itineraries and will accompany OMB staff on travel. (05/07/2019)

The Notice of Proposed Rule to establish the DOI Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR) was published in the Federal Register on March 21, 2019. The 30-day public comment period ended on April 22, 2019. DOI received 56 public comments. The Office of Grants Management is reviewing the comments. The draft final rule is expected to enter PMB surnaming by May 24, 2019. (05/07/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary – Policy and Environmental Management (PEM)

NEW ITEMS

There are currently fourteen (14) Environmental Impact Statement Environmental Reviews scheduled from May 6 – June 4. (05/07/2019)

On June 4-5, Stas Burgiel with the NISC Secretariat will participate in a meeting of the 100th Meridian Initiative Columbia River Basin Team, where he will focus on opportunities to enhance the application of an Incident Command System in response to invasive mussels. (Spokane, WA; open to press; added 05/07/2019)

The Mississippi Trustee Implementation Group is developing a Draft Supplemental Restoration Plan (SRP) and Environmental Assessment for their Grand Bay Land Acquisition and Habitat Management Project. DOI is the lead Federal Trustee on the plan will publish the Notice of Availability (NOA) for public comment on behalf of the Deepwater Horizon Trustees in the Mississippi Trustee Implementation Group. The NOA will open the public comment period on the draft SRP that proposes $10,000,000 in funding for additional habitat acquisition and management for the Grand Bay Land Acquisition and Habitat Management Project located in the Mississippi Restoration Area. The State of Mississippi will use the $10 million to acquire land from willing sellers. The plan is expected to be released in late May. (05/07/2019)

Deputy Assistant Secretary - Human Capital and Diversity (DAS/HC&D)

ONGOING ITEMS

The 2019 Honor Award Convocation is scheduled for September 12, 2019 in the Yates Auditorium. The Office of Human Capital will issue a formal call for award nominations to Assistant Secretaries and Bureau leadership the week of May 6th. Deadline for Bureaus/Offices to submit nomination packages will be June 7th. (05/07/2019)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR WATER AND SCIENCE (Indicates Press/Comms Opportunities)

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

Assistant Secretary Tim Petty will be in Washington, D.C. on May 13. May 14-17, ASWS Petty will attend the Nutrient Roundtable (a Water Subcabinet activity) and Hypoxia Task Force meeting in Baton Rouge, LA, and briefings at the USACE Engineer Research and Development Center in Vicksburg, MS. On May 18, Tim will travel to Boulder City, NV in prep for the DCP signing event on May 20.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Kiel Weaver will be in Washington, D.C. May 12-18.

Commissioner Brenda Burman is scheduled to be in Washington, D.C. May 12 – 18. On May 16, Commissioner Burman is scheduled to testify before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife on Reclamation's FY 2020 budget request.

From May 14-16, USGS Director Jim Reilly will attend the Hypoxia Task Force meeting in Baton Rouge, LA. On May 13 and 17, Jim will be in Reston, Va./Washington, D.C.

From May 13-16, Acting USGS Deputy Director Cindy Lodge will lead the USGS Spring Science planning meeting at NCTC in Shepherdstown, WV. On May 17, Cindy will be in Reston, Va./Washington, D.C.

Immediate Announcements and Actions For the Next Week

Bureau of Reclamation

Between May 12 and 25, Reclamation plans to announce the availability of the final environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact documents for proposed efficiency enhancements to existing water distribution equipment on approximately 71 miles of the Casa Blanca Canal on the Gila River Indian Reservation, Pinal County, Arizona. No significant press coverage is anticipated. (05/06/2019)

On May 13, Reclamation proposes to approve the transfer of up to 2,000 acre-feet per year of Central Valley Project (California) water from the Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District to the City of Shasta Lake, California. The transfer period is five years, beginning with water year 2019. A 30-day public comment period for the draft environmental assessment is anticipated to begin on May 13. Stakeholders will be notified of the public comment period. No news release will be issued. Possible light media interest. (04/29/2019)

On or around May 13, Reclamation plans to issue a news release announcing the availability of a final environmental impact statement for the El Dorado County Water Agency (California) Long-Term Water Service Contract. The purpose of the proposed action is to enter into a new Central Valley Project water service contract to meet the water demands of planned and approved future growth in El Dorado County. Light media interest is expected. (05/06/2019)

On or about May 13, Reclamation plans to release a draft environmental assessment that analyzes the proposed issuance of a $193,000 WaterSMART grant to McMullin Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (California) for their proposed development of a water marketing strategy to address declining groundwater levels, declining water quality, lack of a permanent surface water supply, and land subsidence. No news release will be issued. Media interest is not anticipated. (05/06/2019)

On or about May 13, Reclamation plans to release a draft environmental assessment that analyzes the proposed issuance of a $75,000 WaterSMART grant to Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (California) for their proposed real-time water use data acquisition for the Coastal Distribution System Project. No news release will be issued. Media interest is not anticipated. (03/25/2019)

On or about May 13, Reclamation plans to release a draft environmental assessment that analyzes the proposed banking program between Arvin-Edison Water Storage District and Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, both located in California. No news release will be issued. Media interest is not anticipated. (03/25/2019)

On or about May 13, Reclamation plans to release a draft environmental assessment that analyzes the proposed amendment of a previously approved nine-year transfer program for Poso Creek Water Company, LLC (California). No news release will be issued. Media interest is not anticipated. (03/25/2019)

On or about May 13, Reclamation plans to release a draft environmental assessment that analyzes the proposed issuance of a WaterSMART grant to the Tranquillity Irrigation District (California) for their proposed Southeast Service Area Water Conservation and Conveyance Improvement Project. No news release will be issued. Media interest is not anticipated. (03/25/2019)

On or about May 13, Reclamation plans to release a draft environmental assessment that analyzes proposed Central Valley Project (California) annual transfers over a five-year period (calendar year 2019 through 2023) of up to 25,500 acre-feet per year. No news release will be issued. Light media interest possible. (04/01/2019)

On or about May 13, Reclamation plans to release a draft environmental assessment analyzing the proposed issuance of five-year Warren Act agreements to five Friant Division (California) long-term contractors for the introduction of up to 7,450 acre-feet of Kaweah River water for use on existing agricultural lands. No news release will be issued. Light media interest possible. (04/01/2019)

Around May 13, Reclamation plans to distribute a news release announcing the use of Russian knapweed gall wasps in some wetland areas in southwest Colorado to help control Russian knapweed, a noxious weed harmful to native plants and wildlife. Reclamation is collaborating with the Palisade Insectary and Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Medium media interest is anticipated. (05/06/2019)

On May 14, Reclamation plans to host a tour of Hoover Dam near Las Vegas, Nevada for approximately 80 officers from the U.S. Naval War College. No media coverage is anticipated. (04/15/2019)

U.S. Geological Survey

Christina Neal, Scientist-in-charge, Tom Murray, Volcano Science Center Director, and the USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory Team are finalists for the Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal (SAMMIE) for Science and Environment. The nomination is recognition for careful monitoring of the large and sustained eruption of Kīlauea Volcano in Hawaii and providing vital updates to protect residents, tourists and property from ash, lava and toxic fumes. The award nomination includes the work of many across the USGS and we congratulate and celebrate everyone involved in the Kilauea response. (5/6/2019)

During the week of May 13, USGS scientist Sky Bristol with the Science Analytics and Synthesis program will serve on a panel to develop science questions for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). This effort will help set a research agenda for The Decade, helping to make sure that US research agency priorities are represented. (04/05/2019)

On May 13-14, the Joint Fire Science Program Governing Board meeting will be held in Boise, ID. Chaired by USGS Fire Science Coordinator Paul Steblein, the governing board is continuing strategic planning to identify ways to increase collaboration between fire science programs at the USGS and USFS. With funding restored in the 2019 appropriations, the current call for proposals is open until May 16, 2019. (4/24/2019)

On May 13-16, the 3rd Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Federal Workshop, co-sponsored by the USGS and NASA-Ames, will be held at Moffett Field, California. The goals of the workshop are to provide scientists across the federal government with new opportunities to use UAS, develop new sensors to fill observational gaps, and help shape the next generation of UAS with science and operational requirements. Speakers from many federal agencies across the nation, and selected industry leaders who are applying artificial intelligence to UAS data, and developing high altitude, long endurance UAS have also been invited for the 3-day event. (4/12/2019)

On May 15-17, USGS Associate Director for Natural Hazards Dave Applegate will serve as the Alternate US Representative on the US Delegation to the 2019 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, hosted by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) in Geneva, Switzerland. The Global Platform is a biennial global multi-stakeholder forum to review the progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Dr. Applegate is attending on behalf of USGS and as co-chair of the National Science and Technology Council's Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction, which coordinates US interactions with the UNDRR and is responsible for US reporting on Sendai Framework progress indicators. (5/3/2019)

On May 15, the USGS will announce the latest edition of the National Land Cover Database, NLCD 2016. This is the most comprehensive land cover database that the USGS has ever produced. NLCD 2016 contains 27 different land cover products characterizing land cover change, urban imperviousness change, tree canopy change and shrub and grassland areas in the Western U.S. NLCD 2016 was developed to meet the rapidly growing demand for comprehensive land cover change data within a variety of user communities. A USGS news release is planned. (4/29/2019)

On May 16, USGS Associate Director for Water Resources, Don Cline, will serve as the USGS witness before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife at an oversight hearing entitled, "Examining the President's Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Proposal for the Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Geological Survey." Commissioner Brenda Burman will also participate in the hearing to represent the Bureau of Reclamation. (4/19/2019).

On April 25 – May 12 and May 17 – 26, the USGS will participate in a research cruise examining coral reef habitats inside and near the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary in the Gulf of Mexico. The expedition, part of NOAA's Regional Ecosystem Prediction Program, will examine the population connectivity of coral within a marine sanctuary, as well as the surrounding areas. Data collected will improve management strategies to protect these habitats and support decisions regarding current and future marine protected areas. This cruise will be conducted in two legs: The first leg will be aboard the *R/V Pelican* and utilize Oceaneering's remotely operated vehicle *ROV Global Explorer* to collect various corals and sponges for genetic and isotope studies; to collect water and sediments; and to deploy autonomous reef monitoring systems which will remain in place for approximately two years. The second leg will be aboard the *R/V Southern Journey* and utilize fish traps and other fishing gear to examine fish species present at these same sites and collect isotope, stomachs, and otoliths (ear bones) from multiple species. (04/26/19)

On May 13, the USGS will issue a feature story about two different USGS research projects, both taking place in Alaska, and both using drone technology to detect methane. One project is a demonstration of low-cost technology to detect erosion hotspots on the North Slope, the other study is about understanding the carbon cycle from soil to atmosphere, by examining forested land that has changed to bogland, because of permafrost thawing. (5/3/2019)

On May 14, the USGS will announce a new paper that describes key barriers hindering integrative drought research and monitoring across riverscapes. The primary constraint limiting understanding of ecological drought is the existing monitoring framework focused on human water consumption and flood risk in mainstem rivers. This approach is misaligned with escalating needs for research and data collection that illuminate exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity (i.e., vulnerability) of biota to drought across entire riverscapes. This new coordinated and integrated drought research and monitoring approach is being used to implement the USGS Ecological Drought Strategy across the United States. A USGS news release is planned. (4/15/2019)

During the week of May 13, USGS plans to announce the kick off of an innovative project to study Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) in the Finger Lakes region of New York. In partnership with the state, USGS is installing new, innovative and robust monitoring systems to gain insight on HAB development, duration and decline. HABs occur when algae grow out of control and produce toxic effects which can be harmful to humans, animals, pets and aquatic ecosystems, and lead to impacts on the economy. A better understanding of the growth and severity of HABs will allow state officials, water resource managers, drinking water utilities, the public and others make more informed choices to address HABs and develop HAB mitigation strategies. A media advisory will be issued for the installation event and a news release will follow the installation. (03/05/19)

8-30 Day Outlook

Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA) Office

ONGOING ITEMS

The Department of the Interior's CUPCA Office, Central Utah Water Conservancy District, and Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, as Joint Lead Agencies (JLAs), are evaluating alignment alternatives for the South Fields Reach 2 segment of the Spanish Fork Santaquin Pipeline (SFSP). The SFSP is part of the Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System of the Central Utah Project. The JLAs have initiated the National Environmental Policy Act process and are preparing an Environmental Assessment. The JLAs previously conducted a scoping process for the South Fields Reach segment of the SFSP. As part of this previous scoping process, Brigham Young University (BYU) recommended an alignment alternative through BYU owned property. The new scoping materials describe the updated and proposed realignment alternatives. A public information meeting will be held May 16, 2019, and comments must be submitted by June 7. (05/06/2019)

Bureau of Reclamation

NEW ITEMS

On or about May 28, Reclamation plans to release the final environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact for the Cayuse Cove Slope Stabilization Project (Washington). No media attention is expected. (05/06/2019)

On June 4-5, Reclamation plans to hold public meetings in Albuquerque and Los Ojos, New Mexico, to discuss repairs to El Vado Dam and Spillway near Chama. The storage of water during construction has generated interest as El Vado Reservoir stores water for the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District and the Six Middle Rio Grande Pueblos. Media advisory will be issued; local media interest is anticipated. (05/06/2019)

In early June, Reclamation plans to begin negotiations in Sacramento, California, with the Orland Unit Water Users Association for the Safety of Dams Repayment Contract for the

Stony Gorge Dam Modification Project completed in 2009. Stony Gorge Dam, which forms Stony Gorge Reservoir, is part of the Orland Project located in Glenn County near Willows, California. No news release will be issued. Light media interest is expected. (05/06/2019)

In June, Reclamation plans to announce the winners of the Sediment Removal Techniques for Reservoir Sustainability Prize Competition, Stage 1. This prize competition sought new or improved techniques for reservoir sediment removal and transport of the removed sediment in a cost-effective manner that preserves and sustains the operational objectives of the reservoir. Media interest is anticipated to be light. (05/06/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

On May 20, Reclamation plans to host a Colorado River Drought Contingency Plans signing ceremony at Hoover Dam, near Las Vegas, Nevada. Media will be invited to a media availability prior to the event. National press is expected. (04/29/2019)

On or about May 20, Reclamation plans to release the final environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact for the maintenance and rehabilitation of the American Falls Dam spillway in south-central Idaho. Anticipate light media interest. (04/22/2019)

On May 22, the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group will host a webinar/conference call. A *Federal Register* notice will be published prior to the meeting. The webinar is open to the media and public. (04/15/2019)

On May 23, Reclamation plans to host the Jackson Lake Dam operations information meeting in Jackson, Wyoming. A news release was issued on May 7. (04/08/2019)

In May, Reclamation plans to announce the winners of the Powering Electronic Instruments on a Rotating Shaft Prize Competition. Reclamation sought novel methods and technologies to reliably provide direct current power for loads of up to 20 watts to instruments on rotating shafts. A news release or web story will be published; expect medium media interest. (03/11/2019)

In May, Reclamation plans to announce the implementation of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act authority at Lake Berryessa, California. This is the final step to bring recreation use fees to the Lake Berryessa area to help fund recreation enhancements and meet the demands of the visitor recreation experience. A news release will be issued; expect moderate media interest. (04/22/2019)

In mid-May, Reclamation plans to announce in the *Federal Register* the establishment of a new categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act for certain facility transfers of title from Reclamation to qualifying non-federal entities. A news release will be issued; expect medium media interest. (04/15/2019)

At the end of May or beginning of June, Reclamation plans to offer a media opportunity to discuss the Boca Dam Safety of Dams improvement project and area impacts. Reclamation

plans to modify Boca Dam to better resist the impacts of earthquakes. The project is scheduled for completion in October 2020. Boca Dam is located six miles northeast of Truckee, California. A media advisory will be issued. (04/29/2019)

By June 7, Reclamation anticipates issuing a new 40-year Green Mountain Reservoir (Colorado) contract that renews an expiring contract. The proposed contract is with Roundup River Ranch: 125 acre-feet of water for municipal use. Do not anticipate media coverage. (04/29/2019)

Around June 7, Reclamation and the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) plan to announce the availability of a joint draft environmental impact report/environmental impact statement for the Auburn State Recreation Area General Plan/Auburn Project Lands Resource Management Plan. There will be a public open house in Cool, California, on June 20. CDPR plans to release a joint news release; possible light media coverage. (04/22/2019)

U.S. Geological Survey

NEW ITEMS

From May 2019-May 2021, the Alaska Climate Adaptation Science Center will be co-leading a new project, "The Indigenous Observation Network 2.0: Climate Change Impacts to the Yukon River Basin". The project will collect water data and pair snow, permafrost and active layer dynamics from watersheds from the headwaters to the mouth of the Yukon River through a partnership with Alaska Native Tribes and First Nations to better understand how snow distribution and permafrost degradation may be impacting the Yukon River Basin. Social science methods will also be employed to better understand Arctic and sub-Arctic Indigenous communities' knowledge and relationship to permafrost thaw. Partners and stakeholders include the National Science Foundation (Funder), Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council, University of Alaska Fairbanks, US Forest Service, and the USGS Water Mission Area. (5/2/2019)

From May 23-31, USGS biologists with the Alaska Science Center and Western Ecological Research Center will conduct collaborative field work with biologists from the USFWS, the Alaska Sea Life Center, and the veterinarian from the Monterey Bay Aquarium, in Kachemak Bay, Alaska. The field work involves capturing sea otters, collecting samples, and implanting VHF radios and life history tags. The research is seeking to determine the efficacy of the newly developed life history tags to the study of sea otter reproduction, movement, and survival over their lifetimes. Northern sea otters have been listed as threatened in the Southwest Alaska population stock. Because much of this stock is in remote, hard to study areas, such as the Aleutian Islands, gathering critical information is expensive and logistically difficult. Life history tags collect information that managers can use to address questions relevant to the listed stock about reproduction, survival, and movements. The information from this study may improve the ability to deploy the technology in more remote areas. (06/03/19)

In May or June, the White House plans to announce the release of a whole-of-government critical minerals strategy. This strategy is built off a list of 35 minerals deemed critical to the economy and security of the United States, which was created based upon a USGS methodology released in 2018. DOI will issue a news release summarizing the USGS, BLM, and BOEM roles in producing the strategy. Each bureau will also amplify the DOI release with social media and associated products. (5/1/2019)

UPDATED ITEMS

In late June, the USGS will announce a new Asian carp deterrent developed by the USGS and FWS that involves adding carbon dioxide to waterways and forcing invasive fish to retreat from the application site. Preliminary trials have proved promising, and EPA registration of the deterrent will allow scientists to test this method on a larger scale in Great Lakes waterways. The goal is to prevent/control the spread of invasive fish in the Great Lakes. The USGS will initially reach out to partners via a Partner Guidance Website and through partner organizations and communication channels. The information will be shared with the public at a later date. (4/23/2019)

ONGOING ITEMS

On May 21-23, the USGS-led Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics (MRLC) Consortium, the interagency partnership formed in the mid-1990s to produce the Nation's first Landsat-based map of land cover in the United States will convene in Reston VA for an annual meeting that coincides with the release of the most robust product suite in its history, the National Land Cover Database (NLCD) 2016. MRLC Consortium's representatives will discuss NLCD 2016, its land change and land cover findings for the conterminous U.S., as well as plans for product rollout. The group will also discuss progress in other partner products, including USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service crop type, NOAA coastal maps, and LANDFIRE's ongoing remap efforts. (5/2/2019)

In May, the USGS will release information and sample date about the Landsat Collection 2. In 2016, the USGS reorganized the Landsat archive into a tiered Collection 1. Collection 2 is the next iteration and will be generated using improved ground control points for the geometric processing, so the absolute geodetic accuracy will be much better. The Landsat Science Team plans to share a high-level summary of Landsat Collection 2 and also share sample metadata with the Landsat science and user community. (5/2/2019)

On May 21, Mindi Dalton (Water Resources Mission Area Water Availability and Use Science Program Coordinator) will brief the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association (UMRBA) on Integrated Water Availability Assessments (IWAAs). The UMRBA is currently exploring water availability and use issues in the basin and would like to learn more about IWAAs generally and the pilot in the Cambrian-Ordovician aquifer specifically. (5/4/2019)

On May 21-23, the Sustainable Land Imaging (SLI) Architecture Study Team (AST) will hold its 5th face-to-face working session at the USGS campus in Flagstaff, AZ to continue

working on Design Cycle 2. In April, the AST met at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center for its 4th face-to-face working session to address action items from Checkpoint 1, including higher resolution applications, disaggregated systems, an updated cost assessment, commercial framework and assumptions, and ground system architecture pipelines. (4/12/2019)

In early May, the USGS will announce the selection of 11 studies focused on Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs). The USGS National Water Quality Program and USGS Water Science Centers worked together to address various technical aspects of HABs work. The goals were to foster innovation in monitoring the occurrence of HABs and algal toxins, research factors that result in algal toxin production, and improve near-real time modeling and forecasting of toxin-producing blooms. The studies partner with state, city, and other federal entities who are critically engaged with HAB research and monitoring. The HAB studies feature new approaches and techniques, including genetics, sensor technology, and remote sensing that will also support the new WMA priorities of Next Generation Water Observation Systems, the Water Prediction Work Program and Integrated Water Availability Assessments (IWAAs). (4/9/2019)

In mid to late May, the USGS will issue a technical announcement regarding the results of an analysis of the quality and extent of aeromagnetic surveys throughout the United States conducted to support Executive Order 13817 (December 2017) on critical minerals. (4/23/2019)

In May, North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center (CASC) ecologist Brian Miller is expected to present his work on scenario planning and simulation modeling as part of a webinar series hosted by the Western Governors' Association Biosecurity and Invasive Species Initiative. Miller was invited to present his work modeling climate, invasive species, and resource management as part of this series. (03/07/19)

Implementation and planning for FY2020 of the USGS Earth Mapping Resources Initiative (Earth MRI) is underway. The USGS, in cooperation with the Association of American State Geologists (AASG), has identified areas to concentrate new data collection efforts for geophysical surveys, framework geologic mapping, and lidar topographic data. The USGS Mineral Resources Program plans to conduct four major geophysical surveys (one in Alaska and three in parts of South Carolina, Illinois/Kentucky, and California/Nevada) that focus on high-priority areas known or suspected of containing rare earth element mineral resources. Areas for 14 new geologic mapping efforts have been identified and discussions with the candidate States are underway. USGS anticipates that the State Geological Surveys' mapping efforts will be funded through cooperative agreements with the USGS National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program. These agreements will be submitted for processing by June 13. Partnerships to help fund the collection of new lidar data are being sought through the USGS National Geospatial Program. Additionally, the National Geologic and Geophysical Data Preservation Program has selected proposals to fund over 33 State Geological Surveys for preserving and making available to the public archival information on critical mineral deposits, drill core information, and geologic records. (4/11/2019)

By approximately June 1, the USGS will develop a phased plan for implementing the recommendations resulting from the peer-review audit of the TRIGA reactor and a timeline for resuming safe operation of the reactor. (4/29/2019)

Upcoming USGS Publications

Title	Summary	Publication Outlet	Anticipated Publication Date
NEW *Effects of 21st century climate, land use, and disturbances on ecosystem carbon balance in California*	This publication presents new projections of changes in ecosystem carbon balance for the period 2001-2100 for 32 future scenarios which explore differences in the rates of land use change, ecosystem disturbances, radiative forcing and greenhouse-gas emissions, and projections of climate variability and change. Between 2001-2015 carbon storage in CA's terrestrial ecosystems declined, and carbon storage in terrestrial ecosystems was projected to decline by 2100 from current stocks.	Global Change Biology	5/10/2019
NEW *Long term trajectories of fractional component change in the Northern Great Basin, U.S.*	A paper, authored by EROS scientists, shares an automated method of mapping rangeland fractional component cover over a large portion of the northern Great Basin from 1986 to 2016 using a Landsat imagery time-series. The authors tested removing years for the time-series to evaluate the sensitivity of component cover temporal trends to sample size, finding little influence until less than 6 years were included in the time-series.	Ecosphere	5/10/2019
NEW *Mining Review*	Synopsis of nonfuel mineral production and processing in the United States as presented in the USGS Mineral Commodities Summaries for 2018.	Mining Engineering	6/1/2019
NEW *Spatial conservation planning under uncertainty: adapting to climate change risks using modern portfolio theory*	Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center (CASC) researcher Mitchell Eaton is the lead author to this publication which details a scientific approach to address climate change and urban growth impacts on habitats, species and ecosystem services by considering the tradeoff between expected benefits and risks when designing conservation reserves for the future. The proposed approach can inform strategies for managing climate risks in the	Ecological Applications	7/1/2019

	South Carolina Lowcountry.		
NEW ***Contemporary human impacts on alpine ecosystems: the direct and indirect effects of human-induced climate change and land use***	Alpine ecosystems around the globe are experiencing some of the highest levels of warming-induced changes, as well as the effects of human activities like grazing and recreation. This book chapter covers a literature review of the effects of climate change and land use on alpine ecosystems worldwide. Understanding alpine ecosystems in the context of climate change and human land use can provide land managers valuable information about these fragile and globally important ecosystems.	Encyclopedia of World's Biomes	6/1/2019
NEW ***Soil characteristics are associated with the development of big sagebrush canopy structure after disturbance***	Restoration of wildlife habitat in sagebrush ecosystems is dependent on reestablishing shrub canopy cover after disturbances, such as wildfire. This study evaluated how sagebrush recovery related to soil and other site properties where sagebrush successfully re established after fire and subsequent seeding treatment across the Great Basin, USA. The results of this study may improve planning of restorative land treatments for sagebrush-steppe ecosystems.	Ecosphere	6/1/2019
NEW ***Freezing-resistance, safety margins, and survival vary among big sagebrush populations across the western US***	Physiological responses to temperature extremes are considered strong drivers of plant resilience to climate variability. Researchers measured winter and spring freezing responses for big sagebrush populations throughout its range. The relationships of the freezing responses to survival were evaluated in a warm common garden experiment, and in two colder gardens. Results may assist future sagebrush restoration efforts and provide insight on population responses to climate change.	Rangeland Ecology and Management	6/15/2019
NEW ***It is Raining Plastic.***	Atmospheric wet deposition samples were collected at eight sites in the Colorado Front Range. Plastics were identified in more than 90% of the samples. Plastic materials were mostly fibers and visible only with magnification. More plastic fibers were observed in samples from urban sites than from remote sites. However, frequent observation of plastic fibers in washout samples from the remote sites suggests that wet deposition of plastic is ubiquitous and not	USGS Open-File Report	5/7/2019

	just an urban condition.		
Airborne radiometric maps of Mountain Pass, California	Radiometric investigations of Mountain Pass and vicinity were conducted as part of an effort to study regional crustal structures as an aid to understanding the geologic framework and mineral resources of the eastern Mojave Desert. Mountain Pass is host to one of the world's largest rare earth element carbonatite deposits.	USGS Scientific Investigations Map	5/12/2019
Tectonic Map of the Arctic	The Tectonic Map of the Arctic (TeMAr) has been compiled under the International project "Atlas of Geological Maps of the Circumpolar Arctic in scale 1:5M." The project, initiated in 2003 by the Geological Surveys of the Arctic countries, was compiled by an international working group coordinated by the VSEGEI in Russia beginning in 2009. Major features depicted include orogenic belts, sedimentary basins, faults and areas of rifting, accretion, and magmatism.	Commission for the Geologic Map of the World	5/15/2019
Bunchgrass root abundances and their relationship to resistance and resilience of a burned shrub-steppe landscape	Using standard USDA protocols for root measurement, USGS scientists made 445 excavations across a region of sagebrush steppe burned in 2015 Soda megafire. The goal was to find how bunchgrass root abundances relate to annual grass invasion and to more-readily measured, aboveground indicators of bunchgrass vigor. The results of this study provide some support for the importance of basal gaps and bunchgrass diameters as indicators and the need for more detailed methods for root measurement.	Rangeland Ecology and Management	5/30/2019
Hydraulic, Geochemical, Thermal Monitoring of an Aquifer System in the Vicinity of Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, California, 2015 - 2017	USGS has played a long-term role addressing Mammoth area geothermal development. Beginning in 2015, new USGS monitoring was initiated to collect baseline data related to the proposed Casa Diablo IV Geothermal Power Project (Ormat). In response to focused attention on USGS monitoring by stakeholders in the community, the USGS has prepared a report summarizing and interpreting the recently collected data.	USGS Open-File Report	6/15/2019
Population estimates of Antillean manatees in Puerto Rico: An analytical	The Antillean manatee was down-listed as threatened in the U.S. as part of the reclassification of the West Indian manatee	Journal of Mammalogy	5/30/2019

framework for synoptic surveys	(the species the Antillean subspecies belongs to). In this study researchers estimate the population size of manatees in coastal Puerto Rico. The purpose of the research is to provide federal and territorial agencies with a sampling design for surveys to reliably estimate population size as stipulated in the species recovery plan.		
Experimentally derived nitrogen critical loads for northern Great Plains vegetation	Anthropogenic atmospheric nitrogen (N) deposition adversely affects a variety of ecosystems, but the information used to derive critical loads for North American ecosystems is sparse. This study, based on a four-year field experiment in the northern Great Plains, estimates the critical load of N for sensitive infertile, badlands vegetation and more widespread northern mixed-grass prairie.	Ecological Applications.	5/30/2019
Lag effects of hydrologic transitions between wet and dry conditions on wetland greenhouse gas fluxes	This study examines how greenhouse gas (GHG) fluxes in wetlands of the Prairie Pothole Region of North America change in response to seasonal flooding and drying, with a focus on hydrologic lag effects. Results of this study highlight how seasonal drying and re-wetting impact GHGs and demonstrate the importance of hydrologic transitions on total wetland GHG balance.	Atmosphere	5/30/2019
Negative impacts of summer heat on Sierra Nevada tree seedlings	Tree seedlings are often vulnerable to climatic variation and it is unclear how changes in precipitation and climatic shifts will impact seedlings. Scientists analyzed a decade of seedling growth and survival data collected in Sequoia and Yosemite National Parks to examine the influence of species, tree size, fire, and climate on seedling survival. Results can help forest managers protect tree seedlings from climatic extremes and plan for the long-term future on forest land.	Ecosphere	5/30/2019
Connectivity of mule deer (Odocoileus hemionus) populations in a highly fragmented urban landscape	Knowing the effects of urban areas, landscape factors, and roads on ungulates such as mule deer is important to understanding migration barriers, can allow for the appropriate planning of mitigation strategies during infrastructure expansion projects, and could be important in the management of these animals. This study investigated the effects of	Landscape Ecology	5/30/2019

	vegetation types, topographical characteristics, and roads on mule deer occurrence and gene flow in five counties in southern California.		
Improving Population Estimates of Threatened Spectacled Eiders: Correcting Aerial Counts for Visibility Bias	Spectacled Eider occurs in western Alaska and are listed as threatened. The population has rebounded, prompting an assessment of their suitability for delisting. Researchers developed a density-adjusted visibility correction factor (VCF) to account for density and visibility of birds when estimating population size, and evaluated the influence of several ecological factors on VCFs to estimate eider population size that was lower, on average, than those produced with current methods.	Endangered Species Research	6/1/2019
Overlap of Pink-footed Shearwaters and central Chilean purse-seine fisheries: implications for bycatch risk.	Pink-footed Shearwaters are vulnerable seabirds and recently high rates of bycatch were documented in central Chilean net fisheries. Researchers analyzed the overlap between shearwater habitat usage and central Chilean fishing fleet activity during the 2015-2017 breeding season and compared their movements with fishing locations provided by the Chilean observer program. The results will be used to inform Pink-footed shearwater conservation and monitoring as well as fisheries management.	The Condor	6/15/2019
Barred Owls reduce occupancy and breeding propensity of Northern Spotted Owl in a Washington old-growth forest	The Northern Spotted Owl, a species designated as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, occurs on public lands throughout the western United States including Mount Rainier National Park (MRNP), Washington, USA. Researchers use a multi-state, multi-season occupancy model to investigate how Northern Spotted Owl occupancy dynamics and breeding propensity respond to the presence of Barred Owls, local and regional weather, and other habitat characteristics at MRNP from 1997-2016.	The Condor	6/15/2019
Operationalizing Resilience and Resistance Concepts to Address Invasive Grass- Fire Cycles	This review discusses factors that influence fire regimes, resilience to fire, resistance to invasive annual grasses, and invasive grass-fire cycles in arid and semi-arid shrublands and woodlands. The researchers illustrate an approach and decision tools for prioritizing areas on the landscape for management	Frontier in Ecology and Evolution	6/15/2019

	actions to prevent development of invasive grass-fire cycles and protect high value resources and habitats and for determining effective management strategies.		
The Aleutian Low – Beaufort Sea Anticyclone: A climate index for predicting the timing of springtime melt in the Pacific Arctic cryosphere" received bureau approval on April 8 and will be published by the journal Geophysic	Early and late extremes in the timing of snowmelt have recently been observed in northern Alaska. Forecasts of this timing with lead times of weeks to months are important for area stakeholders including industry, environmental managers and Arctic communities. This study presents a new climate index with sensitivity to the timing of spring melt in the high-latitude Pacific Arctic.	Geophysical Research Letters	7/1/2019
Influences of potential oil and gas development and future climate on sage-grouse declines and redistribution.	Greater sage-grouse populations are impacted by multiple stressors across the western U.S. and managers need more information about their cumulative influence on future populations. In this study, landscape simulation models were used to evaluate changes in sage-grouse populations under different intensities of projected oil and gas development and future climate-induced vegetation change. Study findings provide knowledge regarding the ability of sage-grouse to withstand changing conditions.	Ecological Applications	5/15/2019
A comparison of riparian vegetation sampling methods along a large, regulated river	Rivers are natural conduits for dispersing nonnative plant species and it is important to have reliable methods to measure ecologically important riparian plant communities to be able to detect newly established nonnative plant species. This study tested two commonly used field approaches of measuring vegetation at four sites along the Colorado River and was initiated to verify the methods used were appropriate for the riparian ecosystem of the Colorado River downstream of Glen Canyon Dam.	River Research and Applications	5/30/2019
Integrative taxonomy reveals a new species of freshwater mussel, Potamilus streckersoni sp. nov. (Bivalvia: Unionidae): Implications for conservation and management	Freshwater mussels are one of the most imperiled groups of animals in the U.S. This study examined phylogenetic relationships for freshwater mussels within the genus Potamilus, including four species currently listed or under consideration for listing under the ESA. The findings indicate that species diversity is underestimated and formally describe a new species endemic to the Brazos	Systematics and Biodiversity	5/30/2019

	River Basin in Texas. The taxonomic findings may affect listing decisions by resource management agencies.		
Do Indigenous American peoples' stories inform the study of dog domestication?	This article responds to previous publications which proposed that stories about the interactions between Indigenous Americans and wolves provide insight into the interactions between early humans and wolves. It examines contradictions between Indigenous Americans' stories and information about wolf biology, behavior, and known interactions with humans, as well as important information not considered about wolf attacks on humans and the importance of rabies in wolf-human relationships.	Ethnobiology Letters	5/30/2019
Critical Minerals Review	An overview of the USGS Mineral Resources Program's work on critical minerals through efforts on mineral information, mineral resource assessments, geologic mapping and geophysical surveys, and mineral research.	Mining Engineering	5/15/2019
China's domestic and foreign influence in the global cobalt market	The USGS National Minerals Information Center analyzed China's ownership-share of foreign production for cobalt mines and intermediate materials (in the year 2016), as well as the net import reliance of China's cobalt refinery industry. China's foreign cobalt ownership is predominantly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the largest source of cobalt mine and intermediate imports for China's growing cobalt refinery industry.	Resources Policy	5/15/2019
Incorporating social-ecological considerations into basin-wide responses to climate change in the Colorado River Basin	The tributaries of the Colorado River Basin flow into the Colorado River, which is one of the most regulated rivers in North America. This paper proposes a holistic strategy to manage the Colorado River Basin that incorporates regional and finer-scale approaches and suggests planning for the ecological and societal consequences of climate change when developing management strategies.	Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability	5/30/2019
Resurgence of cisco (Coregonus artedi) population levels in Lake Michigan	Great Lakes cisco are native bait fish and an important part of the food web, and once supported a large commercial fishery in lakes Erie and Huron.They remain a lucrative fish	Journal of Great Lakes Research	5/30/2019

	bait in Lake Superior. Their numbers have declined to a fraction of their former abundance. This study reveals evidence of a sustained recovery of cisco in Lake Michigan beginning in the mid-2000s. Restoration of cisco is a priority for state, tribal, and provincial fishery managers throughout the Great Lakes.		
The evolving threat of Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD) to Hawai'i's native ecosystems and rare plant species	Hawai'i's most widespread native tree, 'ōhi'a, has been dying across large areas of Hawai'i Island. Mainly caused by fungal pathogens and known as Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD), the 'ōhi' deaths threaten extensive areas of native forest. This study examines positive detections of ROD and compares the environmental range of the pathogens and distribution of 'ōhi'a, and modeled the potential distribution of the pathogens across the Hawaiian Archipelago to estimate the risk of ROD to other islands.	Forest Ecology and Management	6/15/2019
Large-scale tree mortality from Rapid Ohia Death negatively influences avifauna in lower Puna, Hawai'i Island, USA	The newly identified rapid 'ōhi'a death (ROD) has spread across Hawai'i Island affecting the island's keystone tree species. As ROD expands it is expected that the loss of the dominant tree species will adversely affect bird populations. This study is a first attempt to describe the relationship between the impacts of ROD on the Hawaiian birds, especially the native Hawai'i 'amakihi, an omnivore found in a wide range of native and nonnative habitat types.	Condor	6/15/2019
Shorebird subsistence harvest and indigenous knowledge in Alaska: informing harvest assessment and management, and engaging users in shorebird conservation	Limited data on harvest and population parameters of shorebirds are major impediments to assess shorebird harvest sustainability. This study combined harvest assessment and ethnographic research to better understand shorebird subsistence harvest in Alaska and to support culturally sensible conservation actions. Results can inform improvements to harvest assessment and management, as well as outreach and communication efforts to engage subsistence users in shorebird conservation.	The Condor: Ornithological Applications	5/30/2019
An integrated framework for ecological drought across riverscapes of North America	Climate change is increasing the severity and extent of extreme drought events, posing a critical threat to freshwater ecosystems, particularly with increasing human demands	Bioscience	5/8/2019

	for diminishing water supplies. Current understanding of drought consequences for freshwater biodiversity is very limited. This study describes key barriers that hinder integrative drought research and monitoring across riverscapes and describes how this approach can directly inform natural-resource management.		
Spatio-temporal Population Change of Arctic-breeding Waterbirds	Estimated distribution, abundance, and spatially-explicit population trend of 20 breeding waterbird species collected on the Arctic Coastal Plain (ACP), Alaska to increase understanding of avian response to ecological change in the Arctic. The ACP is an extensive wetland complex on the North Slope supporting millions of breeding waterbirds. Rapid physical changes occurring in the Arctic are primary drivers of landscape change and may drive population dynamics of Arctic-breeding birds.	Avian Conservation and Ecology	8/1/2019
Trends and carrying capacity of sea otters in southeast Alaska	The recovery of sea otters to ecosystems from which they had been absent in southeast Alaska has affected coastal food webs, including commercially important fisheries. This study estimates past trends and current abundance of sea otters, providing insights to managers regarding food web implications and informing commercial fishery managers, particularly regarding conflicts between sea otter and shellfish fisheries.	Journal of Wildlife Management	6/1/2019
The bee fauna of coastal Napatree Point and two inland sites in southern Rhode Island	Bees are important pollinators and essential to ecosystems, and there is evidence of pollinator declines. The bee faunas of coastal sites are relatively poorly known and the USGS surveys pollinator species so that their trends can be monitored. This study provides baseline survey information on bees at Napatree Point and the Great Swamp and Carter Preserves (all three are conservation areas in Rhode Island), and provides data useful for future monitoring of these bee faunas.	Northeastern Naturalist	5/15/2019
Local scale spatial patterns of freshwater mussels in the Upper Mississippi River	Native freshwater mussels, one of the most threatened faunal groups with high extinction risk, serve vital functions in freshwater systems and many species are economically important, making them key targets for	Freshwater Science	5/15/2019

	conservation, restoration, and management. This study was designed to quantify where high quality mussel assemblages exist in the Upper Mississippi River so that future habitat and restoration projects can be designed to avoid or enhance native mussel assemblages.		
Measuring seedlings of a problem nonnative plant species in two sites at Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona to better understand how invasions start	Prickly Russian thistle (tumbleweed) is a nonnative plant species and being able to predict if and when it will pose a serious problem is valuable for land managers when determining management strategies. This study measured the emergence of prickly Russian thistle seedlings at Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona to better understand the factors that contribute to the success of this problematic nonnative plant species.	Invasive Plant Science and Management	5/15/2019
Louisiana Black Bear Post-delisting Monitoring Report	At the request of the USFWS, USGS will provide an annual post-delisting monitoring report for the Louisiana black bear. The report is intended to indicate whether tipping points have been reached which might trigger the re-listing of the species. The report provides an assessment of data collected at sites in Atchafalaya and Tensas River Basins, Louisiana from roughly 2002/2006 to 2017.	Cooperator publication for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	5/30/2019
Book Chapter: Global status of trout and char: conservation challenges in the 21st century	Freshwater ecosystems are among the most threatened ecosystems in the world, and freshwater fishes may now be the most threatened group of vertebrates. As of 2017 only 54% of the total described species of trout and char have been assessed by the IUCN. Of the 67 species that have been assessed, an estimated 73% are threatened with global extinction. This book chapter is the first global assessment of the status and conservation of freshwater trout and char.	American Fisheries Society Book	9/1/2019
Rangeland live vegetation monitoring with satellite remote sensing: U.S. Geological Survey Administrative Report	USGS and partners developed a new satellite-based technology for high spatial and high frequency mapping of live vegetation in semi-arid and arid landscapes in Kenya's conservancies comprising the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT). These technologies provide the needed mapping performance for management to protect iconic species such as elephants, rhinos, and cheetahs while supporting a pastoral population dependent on access to grazing areas for livestock.	USGS Open-File-Report	5/15/2019

Early genetic outcomes of American black bear reintroductions in the Central Appalachians, USA	American black bears were extirpated from most of the Central Appalachians in the early 20th century and reintroductions were conducted during the 1990s. An assessment of the early genetic outcomes of bear reintroduction illustrates sustained isolation and small effective population size. Results may warrant continued genetic monitoring to determine if gene flow from neighboring populations is established.	Ursus	5/15/2019

From: Jess, Robert
To: Greg Sheehan
Subject: Fellow Utah State Aggie!
Date: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:59:25 AM

Mr. Sheehan,

I just wanted to take a moment to say hello and welcome to the Service! And that it's about time we got a fellow Aggie into the upper levels of the Interior!

I understand you had to cancel your recent trip to deep south Texas. We hope that on the next go-around that you might have time to visit us at the South Texas Refuge Complex, where we're addressing the next installation of border fence at the Santa Ana Refuge and the Cattle Fever Tick outbreak at both the Laguna Atascosa and Lower Rio Grande Refuges.

[redacted]

Best wishes to you and your family in D.C. and thank you for all you do.
Rob

(BTW- There are a few members in the Service-I'm Bishop Jess on the weekends...)

--
robert jess
project leader
south texas refuge complex
alamo, texas

From: gregory_sheehan@fws.gov on behalf of Sheehan, Greg
To: Jess, Robert
Subject: Re: Fellow Utah State Aggie!
Date: Sunday, October 29, 2017 1:39:01 PM

Hi Rob

Thank you for reaching out and introducing yourself. It is good to meet an Aggie and a gentlemen with an unpaid extracurricular calling. Both good things. I graduated in 1986 so a bit more decrepit that you. You have some tough issues with the areas that you oversee. Fever tick and walls, both tricky. I would like to discuss those more with you. I will be down in Texas on Nov 8-10. Not sure of where I will be traveling then but primarily to visit the hurricane refuges. If you can make it up briefly that would be great. Maybe we could talk one evening later this week after 7 pm EST. I suspect you are busy on Tuesday and Wednesday eves.

My cell is (b) (6)(b) (6). Let me know what works.

Thanks again,
Greg

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 10:59 AM, Jess, Robert <robert_jess@fws.gov> wrote:

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>
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>
> --
> robert jess
> project leader
> south texas refuge complex
> alamo, texas

--
Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
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1849 C Street NW, Room 3358
Washington, DC 20240
Office 202-208-4545
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United States Department of the Interior

Fish and Wildlife Service

Arizona Ecological Services Office
9828 North 31st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85051
Telephone: (602) 242-0210 Fax: (602) 242-2513

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02EAAZ00-2018-I-0091

October 31, 2017

(b) (6)(b) (6)
Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of Acquisition
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6):

Thank you for your correspondence dated October 24, 2017, received in our office on October 24, 2017. This letter documents our review of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Acquisition's proposed Block 1 Tower Replacement Project in the Tucson Border Patrol Station Area of Operation. This project involves the construction of nine IFT sensor towers to replace existing SBInet towers in the general area of the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge (BANWR) and east of the BANWR in Pima County, Arizona. In addition, the BANWR refuge manager and the Coronado National Forest Supervisor have both determined that new special use permits will be issued to authorize this action to construct replacement towers on lands they administer. The special use permit has been issued for the BANWR, but this consultation includes the issuance of the permit by the Coronado National Forest as an element of the proposed action for which CBP is acting as the lead agency for this consultation.

You are requesting informal consultation on the potential effects of this proposed action pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544) (ESA), as amended. You have requested our concurrence with your determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the endangered Pima pineapple cactus (*Coryphanta scheeri* var. *robustispina*), the threatened Chiricahua leopard frog (*Rana chiricahuaensis*) and designated critical habitat, the threatened northern Mexican gartersnake (*Thamnophis eques megalops*), the threatened yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), and the endangered jaguar (*Panthera onca*) and designated critical habitat. We concur with your determinations and provide our rationale below. Critical habitat has been proposed for the northern Mexican gartersnake and the yellow-billed cuckoo and proposed critical habitat for both

species occurs in the area of the proposed action. You have determined that the proposed action will not adversely modify proposed critical habitat for either species and we will not address proposed critical habitat in this consultation.

You also determined the propose action would have no effect on the Kearney's Blue-Star (*Amsonia kearneyana*), the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii eximus*), the masked bobwhite quail (*Colinus virginianus ssp. ridgwayi*), the lesser long-nosed bat (*Leptoncyteris curasoae yerbabuenae*), and the ocelot (*Leopardus pardalis*). The ESA does not require the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to concur with "no effect" determinations. These species will not be addressed in this consultation. However, we strongly recommend that CBP include their justification for these "no effect" determinations in their administrative record.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

The nine Block 1 sensor towers proposed for replacement in this project are identified as:

1) TCA-TUS-032 M4 occurring on lands owned by Pima County;
2) TCA-TUS-035 Guijas occurring on lands managed by BANWR;
3) TCA-TUS-036 Black Mesa occurring on lands managed by the Coronado NF;
4) TCA-TUS-041 County Line occurring on lands managed by the State of AZ;
5) TCA-TUS-085 Rose occurring on lands managed by BANWR;
6) TCA-TUS-287 De La Osa occurring on lands managed by BANWR;
7) TCA-TUS-290 Spears Property occurring on lands managed by CBP;
8) TCA-TUS-298 Blackberry Hill occurring on lands managed by the Coronado NF; and
9) TCA-TUS-299 Garcia Ranch occurring on lands managed by BANWR (see Figure 1 of the Biological Assessment).

At each of these towers, the entire tower structure and supporting equipment will be replaced. A lattice replacement tower, of similar height and design to the existing tower, with a poured concrete foundation will be constructed within the existing, permanently disturbed tower footprint (typically 50 feet by 50 feet). After construction is completed on the new tower, the above-ground portion of the existing towers will be removed. In order to enable construction of the new tower, the current fence and all support facilities (generator, propane tank, building, and solar panels) will be relocated within the original temporary disturbance footprint. The original 100 foot by 100-foot temporary disturbance footprint will be flagged and no disturbance outside of this area will be allowed. After the existing tower is removed, the grounding system will be rebuilt if and as required. At each of these towers, the existing communication equipment and power generation equipment (solar panels and propane generator) will be replaced. The solar panels will provide the primary power source for operation of the tower. When the IFT system becomes operational, the generator is only anticipated to run for a period of 20 minutes once every seven days, or during infrequent weather events when there is no sunshine for several days. The sound level as measured from the generator is anticipated to be approximately 68 dBA at 28 feet. During construction, the operating time of the generator will increase when the solar panels are removed at the five towers which are not connected to grid power (TCA-35, TCA-36, TCA-41, TCA-85, and TCA-298).

The actual construction activities at each sensor tower are expected last 40 to 60 days, not all consecutively, over the 12- to 18-month duration of the project. During these construction activities, up to an estimated 12 trips by cement trucks for foundation installation, 12 trips by flatbed trucks for delivery of materials, 3 trips for the crane truck and several hundred pick-up truck trips for workers will be required to construct each tower. Construction at towers in the Tucson Border Patrol Station AOR is planned to begin in fall 2017.

The temporary disturbance area will be restored after construction is completed as directed by the land manager. The construction schedule for work at each specific tower has not yet been developed. There will be no night time construction during the period from April 1 to October 1, and nighttime construction during the balance of the construction period is unlikely. There will be no night time operational lighting at the towers.

The Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge Manager and the Coronado National Forest Supervisor have both determined that new special use permits will be issued to authorize this action to construct replacement towers on lands they administer. The special use permit for this project has been issued by the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge Manager. This consultation includes issuance of the permit by the Coronado National Forest Supervisor as an element of the proposed action.

CBP has included a number of conservation measures in their proposed action to avoid and minimize adverse effects to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service trust resources. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

General

1. The government environmental Subject Matter Expert and environmental contract monitor will determine which threatened and endangered species could occur in the vicinity of project activities.

2. To protect individuals of listed species within the project area, suspend work in the immediate vicinity of the individual until it moves out of harm's way on its own, or enlist a qualified specialist (individuals or agency personnel with a permit to handle the species) to relocate the animal to a nearby safe location in accordance with accepted species-handling protocols.

3. CBP will develop (in conjunction with land managers) and implement a training program focusing on Trust Resources for contractor personnel. Training will be provided to all personnel associated with the project before the project begins and before any new personnel begin work on the project. Information presented in the training program will include occurrence of sensitive species in the project area, their general ecology, and sensitivity to human activities; legal protection afforded the species and the penalties for violation of state or Federal laws; implementation of included conservation actions/best management practices; and reporting requirements. Also included in this training program will be color photos of the listed species and maps of federally listed species' habitats. Following the training program, the photos and maps will be posted in the contractor and resident engineer's office, where they will remain through the duration of the project.

4. Check visible space underneath all vehicles and heavy equipment for listed species and other wildlife prior to moving vehicles and equipment at the beginning of each workday and after vehicles have idled for more than 15 minutes.

5. Groundwater or surface water from a treated municipal source will be used when within one-mile habitat for aquatic species.

6. No use of herbicides will be permitted.

7. Contractor shall not drive roads which have become impassable by heavy rains until such roads are repaired.

Migratory Bird BMPs

1. A survey for migratory birds will also be conducted prior to all activities to be implemented during the nesting period in areas where migratory birds might be nesting (February 1 through September 1). If construction is proposed in areas identified by USFWS as suitable breeding habitat for yellow-billed cuckoo, surveys will be conducted using the Halterman et al. (2016) protocol. If an active nest of any migratory bird is found in the Action Area, a buffer zone of 300 feet will be established around the nest and no activities will occur within that zone until nestlings have fledged and abandoned the nest. Confirmation that all young have fledged should be made by qualified personnel.

2. If project activity is scheduled during the migratory bird-nesting season, take steps to prevent migratory birds from establishing nests in the action area. These steps could include covering equipment and structures. Birds can be flushed to prevent them from nesting on the site.

3. If project activities could result in the take (e.g. removal of nest, eggs, and/or fledglings) of a migratory bird; then coordination with the USFWS and/ or the Arizona Game and Fish Department will be required and applicable permits would be obtained prior to project activities.

Species Specific BMPs

<u>Pima Pineapple Cactus</u>

1. No ground disturbance will occur outside the previously disturbed footprint in suitable habitat without further consultation with the USFWS.

2. Within or adjacent to Pima pineapple cactus suitable habitat, to minimize fugitive dust generation, monitor dust during construction, and conduct abatement of fugitive dust when there is a visible plume of dust extending more than 30 feet from the dust source. Abatement would include reducing travel speeds and/or applying dust suppressants, such as water.

<u>Chiricahua Leopard Frog</u>

1. To avoid running over Chiricahua leopard frogs on Highway 286 and Highway 289, construction vehicles will not cross washes when water is flowing along the following portions of these roads: (1) Highway 286 from its junction with Highway 289(Arivaca-Sasabe Road) south for 8.5 miles and (2) Highway 289 from its junction with Highway 286 continuing east for 2.4 miles to the far side of Puertocito Wash.

2. To avoid running over Chiricahua leopard frogs on Tres Boleros and Tres Bellotas Roads, construction vehicles will not travel along designated portions of these roads between July 1st and October 1st, or during rainfall events that occur outside of this time period: Tres Boleros Road within one mile overland distance of Garcia Tank, and Tres Bellotas Road beginning north of TCA-TUS-036 and continuing in a northeast direction to its intersection with Arivaca-Sasabe Road.

3. During the monsoon season, a qualified biologist will monitor the frog-proof fence at tower TCA-TUS-032 and relocate any frogs along this fence to avoid impacts to the species.

4. A site-specific storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) and a spill protection plan will be prepared and regulatory approval sought, as required by regulations. This plan will include, but is not limited to, placing straw bale type sediment traps at the inlet of ponds or stock tanks and upstream of drainages known to be occupied by the species or within critical habitat of the species.

5. To prevent the spread of amphibian diseases among drainages via water or mud on vehicles and equipment, all work within Chiricahua leopard frog Action Area shall conform to amphibian disease prevention protocols as described in the Recovery Plan for the Chiricahua leopard frog (USFWS 2007). Equipment would either be disinfected on-site between uses at different sites or rinsed to remove all dirt and mud and then completely airdried before moving to another site. This measure will not be required for travel along paved routes or portions of Ruby Road that are in the action area, as these routes are heavily traveled by the public and cleaning/sterilization of project vehicles will do little to prevent movement of disease via vehicular travel.

6. Any use or storage of chemicals or fuels will be kept 0.3 miles away from the Chiricahua leopard frog Action Area.

7. Individual animals found in the project area in danger of being harmed will be relocated by a CBP biologist to a nearby safe location in accordance with accepted species handling protocols in Federal and state permits. No animals will be moved to aquatic habitat without prior coordination with the USFWS species lead.

Northern Mexican Gartersnake

1. Within proposed critical habitat for this species, an environmental monitor will be on site during all project activities.

2. Individual animals found in the project area in danger of being harmed will be relocated by a CBP biologist to a nearby safe location in accordance with accepted species handling protocols in Federal and state permits.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

CBP will avoid all construction traffic and activity at the tower sites and access roads which USFWS has identified as the most likely locations for occupancy by yellow-billed cuckoo.

1. CBP will avoid all construction activity at the following towers and associated access roads from June 1 to September 30: TCA-TUS-35, TCA-TUS-290, and TCA-TUS-287.

2. CBP will avoid all construction activity at TCA-TUS-299 from July 1 to September 30.

3. CBP will conduct cuckoo protocol surveys (Halterman et al. 2016) in drainages bordered by trees within 0.25 miles of tower TCA-TUS-299 from June 1 to June 30. If any cuckoos are located within 0.25 miles of this tower, CBP will engage the USFWS in development of measures necessary to minimize and avoid impacts to the species in these locations.

4. CBP will avoid using Tres Bellotas Road along Fresnal Wash between TCA-TUS-298 and TCA-TUS-036 from June 1 to September 30 to avoid disturbance to cuckoos in suitable habitat.

As part of the proposed action for this project, CBP is working in coordination with the USFWS to develop an interagency agreement with USFWS to provide funding to support high priority activities for conservation and recovery of the Chiricahua leopard frog, yellow-billed cuckoo and northern Mexican gartersnake which may be found in the vicinity of the Action Area of this project.

CONCLUSION

Pima Pineapple Cactus

Environmental Baseline

The Pima pineapple cactus is a low-growing hemispherical cactus that may be found as single or multi-stemmed plants. Adults measure 4-18 inches tall and 3-7 inches in diameter. The spines are stout and arranged in clusters with one central hooked spine and 6-15 radial straight spines. Spines are originally straw colored, but become black with age. Flowers are yellow and the fruit is a green ellipsoid (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2017). The Pima pineapple cactus was listed as endangered without critical habitat throughout the species range on September 23, 1993 (58 FR 49875). This cactus species grows in the transition zone between the semi-desert grasslands and Sonora desert scrub on alluvial bajadas (lower slopes of mountains characterized by loose alluvial sediments and poor soil development) and slopes of less than 10 percent grade at elevations between 2,300 and 4,200 feet above sea level. The U.S. range of the Pima pineapple cactus is bordered by the Baboquivari Mountains to the west, and the Santa Rita Mountains to the east, and extends from the U.S./Mexico border north to the vicinity of Tucson. Individual plants are often widely scattered in low density across the suitable habitat (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2016c). The proposed action includes some areas of occupied Pima pineapple cactus habitat.

Effects of the Proposed Action

Because the proposed action is to replace existing SBInet towers, CBP conducted a previous consultation with the USFWS covering the original construction of the SBInet towers. This consultation was completed in 2008. Known occurrences of Pima pineapple cacti are based on results from the 2008 preconstruction surveys, disturbance at tower sites and temporary impact areas during initial tower construction in 2008 and 2009, and additional surveys in 2017. There are six towers in this project located in suitable Pima pineapple cactus habitat (TUS-035, TUS-041, TUS- 085, TUS-290, TUS-298 and TUS-299). There are no cacti at these tower sites within the fenced enclosure. Pima pineapple cactus located outside of the fenced enclosure, and within the 100 foot by 100-foot temporary impact area could be damaged or destroyed by construction activities during the project. However, during preconstruction surveys for the Tucson West project in 2008, a protocol survey for Pima pineapple cactus only identified the species within the potential construction disturbance footprint at the TUS-290 tower site. Informal surveys for Pima pineapple cactus performed at these six tower sites on May 25, 2017 located no Pima pineapple cactus.

Because the construction of the replacement towers will occur within the existing footprint of the original towers, no Pima pineapple cacti or habitat is expected to result from the proposed action. In addition, CBP has determined that the occurrence of Pima pineapple cacti within the temporary disturbance areas of the original construction that have germinated subsequent to the original construction is extremely unlikely. Impacts to individual plants outside of the temporary impact zone could result from fugitive dust. Because construction and travel will be within existing footprints of the original construction and because of the proposed conservation measures included in the proposed action, it is expected that dust effects will be minimal.

Conclusion

The Service concurs with your determination that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Pima pineapple cactus, based upon the following:

- Because the proposed action will occur within areas disturbed by the original tower construction in 2008 and which continue to be disturbed, there is a very low likelihood that Pima pineapple cacti will be affected by the proposed action. Therefore, effects due to trampling or crushing are discountable.
- Effects on Pima pineapple cacti from fugitive dust would be minimized through the use of BMPs. The numbers of individuals that could be impacted is very small. Therefore, such effects will be insignificant.
- During Section 7 consultation on the Tucson West tower project (Consultation #22410-2008-F-0373), CBP agreed to mitigate for all Pima pineapple cactus habitat loss at towers within suitable habitat through purchase of conservation credits at a USFWS-approved conservation bank. In April 2017, CBP delivered a report to USFWS quantifying the impacts to Pima pineapple cactus during tower construction; and in May 2017, USFWS concurred with the analysis of impacts to Pima pineapple cactus as presented in that report. The construction footprint for the Block 1 Replacement Project at towers within the Pima pineapple cactus range is identical to the construction footprint for the initial tower construction. Therefore, any potential impacts to this species arising from this project have

already been fully mitigated.

Chiricahua Leopard Frog and Critical Habitat

Environmental Baseline

The Chiricahua leopard frog is a leopard frog with a distinctive color pattern of small, raised, cream-colored spots on the thigh against a dark background with relatively rough skin on the back and sides, dorsolateral folds that are interrupted and deflected medially, and often green on the head and back. A distinctive call (a snore of 1 to 2 seconds duration) also separates this species from other leopard frogs (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2017).

The Chiricahua leopard frog was listed as threatened on June 13, 2002 (67 FR 40790). The listing was revised and critical habitat was designated for the species in Arizona and New Mexico on March 20, 2012 (77 FR 16324). The 2012 listing re-states the threats to the Chiricahua leopard frog and its habitat throughout its range that were outlined in the 2007 recovery plan for the species: mining, including mining-related contaminants; other contaminants; dams; diversions; stream channelization; groundwater pumping; woodcutting; urban and agricultural development; road construction; grazing by livestock and elk; climate change; and altered fire regimes (USFWS 2007, 2012). Although these threats are widespread and varied, a threats assessment that was accomplished as part of the recovery plan showed chytridiomycosis and predation by nonnative species as consistently more important threats than these habitat-based factors (USFWS 2007, 2012). The Recovery Plan for the species identifies 8 recovery units in Arizona, New Mexico, and Mexico. Each recovery unit has one or more management areas (MAs) within it where the USFWS believes the potential for successful recovery actions is greatest (USFWS 2007).

The range of the Chiricahua leopard frog includes central and southeastern Arizona; west-central and southwestern New Mexico; and in Mexico, northeastern Sonora, the Sierra Madre Occidental of northwestern and west-central Chihuahua, and possibly as far south as northern Durango (USFWS 2007, 2012).Within its geographical range, the Chiricahua leopard frog historically inhabited a variety of aquatic habitats including montane and river valley cienegas, springs, pools, tanks, lakes, reservoirs, streams, and rivers. It is a habitat generalist that historically, but is now limited to the comparatively few aquatic systems that support few or no non-native predators (e.g. American bullfrogs, fishes, and crayfishes) including livestock tanks and some streams. The species also requires permanent or semi-permanent pools for breeding, water characterized by low levels of contaminants and moderate pH, and may be excluded or exhibit periodic die-offs where a pathogenic chytridiomycete fungus is present.

The project area falls within Recovery Unit 1 for the Chiricahua leopard frog, and includes portions of two of the three MAs identified in the recovery plan for this recovery unit: the Buenos Aires Central Tanks MA and Pajarito Wilderness MA. There are also other occupied sites within project area that fall within Recovery Unit 1 but are east of the Buenos Aires Central Tanks MA and north of the Pajarito Wilderness MA.

The Buenos Aires Central Tanks MA continues to support one of the strongest metapopulations known within the range of the species due to the removal of bullfrogs from Buenos Aires National Wildlife

Refuge (BANWR) (USFWS 2011, C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017). The number of breeding sites in this metapopulation has ranged from 4 to 8 annually since 2011, although the number of breeding sites on BANWR itself has decreased during this time period (C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017). Chango Tank is one of the seven sites in the MA where breeding was detected in 2016. Garcia Tank at the southern U.S. end of the MA is considered an isolated population and not part of a metapopulation (USFWS 2012). Breeding has not been verified at Garcia Tank since the mid-2000s but frogs were last seen at this site in 2015 (C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017). There are also 17 lentic sites on BANWR that do not hold water year round but have had records of Chiricahua leopard frogs during the monsoon season when they hold water (C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017).

The Pajarito Wilderness MA includes two metapopulations of Chiricahua leopard frogs, one of which is in the project vicinity. Bullfrog eradication efforts have occurred and continue to be monitored throughout this MA. The number of breeding sites in the Bonita, Upper Turner, and Mojonera metapopulation in the MA has ranged from 2 to 3 annually since 2011 (C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017). In 2016 and 2017, Chiricahua leopard frogs were discovered in 4 lentic sites at the northern end of the MA and an additional 3 lentic sites to the north of the MA that likely dispersed from known breeding sites of this metapopulation or from the Buenos Aires Central Tanks metapopulation described in the previous paragraph (C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017).

Chiricahua leopard frogs routinely disperse during the monsoon season, and are known to move up to one mile overland, 3 miles along intermittent stream channels, and 5 miles along perennial streams from breeding sites they occupy (USFWS 2012). Recent studies of Chiricahua leopard frogs revealed that these frogs will move further than previously thought based on the 1-3-5 rule described above. For instance, Hinderer et al. (2017) found that radio-telemetered adult frogs moved an average of 97 m a day and up to 1,658 m in a day with a maximum total movement of a frog measured at 9,888 m over 36 days. Such movements are likely aided by permanent or ephemeral waters that serve as stepping stones within the landscape.

The primary constituent elements of the physical or biological features essential to the conservation of the Chiricahua leopard frog included in designated critical habitat for the species (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2012) are:

(i) Aquatic breeding habitat and immediately adjacent uplands exhibiting the following characteristics:

(A) Standing bodies of fresh water (with salinities less than 5 parts per thousand, pH greater than or equal to 5.6, and pollutants absent or minimally present), including natural and manmade (e.g., stock) ponds, slow-moving streams or pools within streams, off-channel pools, and other ephemeral or permanent water bodies that typically hold water or rarely dry for more than a month. During periods of drought, or less than average rainfall, these breeding sites may not hold water long enough for individuals to complete metamorphosis, but they would still be considered essential breeding habitat in non-drought years.

(B) Emergent and or submerged vegetation, root masses, undercut banks, fractured rock substrates, or some combination thereof, but emergent vegetation does not completely cover the surface of water bodies.

(C) Nonnative predators (e.g., crayfish (Orconectes virilis), bullfrogs (Lithobates catesbeianus), nonnative predatory fish) absent or occurring at levels that do not preclude presence of the Chiricahua leopard frog.

(D) Absence of chytridiomycosis, or if present, then environmental, physiological, and genetic conditions are such that allow persistence of Chiricahua leopard frogs.

(E) Upland habitats that provide opportunities for foraging and basking that are immediately adjacent to or surrounding breeding aquatic and riparian habitat.

(ii) Dispersal and nonbreeding habitat, consisting of areas with ephemeral (present for only a short time), intermittent, or perennial water that are generally not suitable for breeding, and associated upland or riparian habitat that provides corridors (overland movement or along wetted drainages) for frogs among breeding sites in a metapopulation with the following characteristics:

(A) Are not more than 1.0 mile (1.6 kilometers) overland, 3.0 miles (4.8 kilometers) along ephemeral or intermittent drainages, 5.0 miles (8.0 kilometers) along perennial drainages, or some combination thereof not to exceed 5.0 miles (8.0 kilometers).

(B) In overland and non-wetted corridors, provide some vegetation cover or structural features (e.g., boulders, rocks, organic debris such as downed trees or logs, small mammal burrows, or leaf litter) for shelter, forage, and protection from predators; in wetted corridors, provide some ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial aquatic habitat.

(C) Are free of barriers that block movement by Chiricahua leopard frogs, including, but not limited to: urban, industrial, or agricultural development; reservoirs that are 50 acres (20 hectares) or more in size and contain predatory nonnative fish, bullfrogs, or crayfish; highways that do not include frog fencing and culverts; and walls, major dams, or other structures that physically block movement.

Two critical habitat units within Recovery Unit 1 are located in the project vicinity (see Figure 3). These critical habitat units are: Garcia Tank and Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge Central Tanks. Together, these two units comprise 1,721 acres or 16 percent of the designated critical habitat. The Garcia Tank critical habitat unit is within the action area. The portions the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge Central Tanks critical habitat unit within the action area include Chango Tank (PCE1) and Las Moras Wash (PCE2).

Chiricahua leopard frogs are found in other sites within the project area outside of critical habitat. CBP has included a number of conservation measures and BMPs to address potential effects to Chiricahua leopard frogs and designated critical habitat in all areas of the proposed action.

Effects of the Proposed Action

The most likely direct impact to Chiricahua leopard frog would be injury or death from construction vehicle traffic along access roads and at tower sites during the monsoon season (July 1 to October 1) when juvenile and adult Chiricahua leopard frogs move out of perennial lentic sites to adjacent terrestrial habitat or disperse to other perennial or intermittent sites. Two of the nine tower sites and four roads

which will be used for access to tower sites during tower construction activities are located within one mile overland from known occupied sites or they cross intermittent drainages within three miles of occupied sites that are likely used for dispersal by Chiricahua leopard frogs (Cat Crawford, USFWS, personal communication, September 25, 2017). The two tower sites are Tower TCA-TUS-032 and TCA-TUS-299 and the four roads are: (1) Highway 286 from the intersection with Highway 289(Arivaca-Sasabe Road) and south for a distance of 8.5 miles, (2) Highway 289 from the junction with Highway 286 and east for a distance of 2.4 miles to the far side of Puertocito Wash, (3)Tres Boleros Road within one mile overland distance of Garcia Tank, and (4) Tres Bellotas Road beginning north of TCA-TUS-036 and continuing in a northeast direction to its intersection with Arivaca Road. CBP will implement conservation measures or BMPS as outlined in the proposed action above, that will effectively address the potential effect of injury or death from construction vehicle traffic.

Transmission of disease vectors and invasive non-native aquatic species can occur if vehicles cross infected or infested streams or other waters and water or mud remains on the vehicle. If these vehicles subsequently cross or enter uninfected or non-infested waters, the disease or invasive species may be introduced to the new area. Because chytridomycosis is known to occur in Chiricahua leopard frog populations in Recovery Unit 1, necessary precautions will be taken to minimize the likelihood of spreading the disease such as avoiding contact with wetted areas. However, if vehicles or other equipment use will occur in wetted areas (including ponds, impoundments, or ephemeral or permanent streams) that equipment will be a) cleaned of mud and debris and then sprayed with a 10% bleach, 70% ethanol, or 1% quaternary ammonium solution, or b) allowed to dry completely, before moving to another wetted area (see Appendix G of the Chiricahua Leopard Frog Recovery Plan for protocols) (USFWS 2007). Treatments as just described, will not be required for travel along paved routes or portions of Ruby Road that are in the action area, as these routes are heavily traveled by the public and cleaning/sterilization of project vehicles will do little to prevent movement of disease via vehicular travel.

There are two Chiricahua leopard frog critical habitat units within the action area. Chango Tank, Garcia Tank are designated critical habitat for the species and contain PCE1. Las Moras Wash downstream of Chango Tank is also included in critical habitat and contains PCE2. Las Moras Wash is a paved low water crossing on Highway 286. Chango Tank is less than 400 feet overland from Highway 286 and Garcia Tank is less than 1,600 feet from Tres Boleros Road.

Conclusion

We concur with your determination that the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect the Chiricahua leopard frog, nor designated critical habitat for the following reasons:

- CBP will implement conservation measures and BMPs as described above. These measures will reduce potential effects to the Chiricahua leopard frog to insignificant or discountable levels.
- Both Garcia Tank and Chango Tank are located upstream and uphill from project activities. For this reason, there is no pathway by which Block 1 Replacement Project construction activities could directly impact these tanks, and the project would not result in effects that would diminish the value of primary constituent elements within either of the critical habitat units. There are also

no potential effects from the proposed action to PCE 2 in Las Moras Wash where it crosses Highway 286.

Jaguar and Critical Habitat

Environmental Baseline

The jaguar is a large, heavy-bodied, big-headed cat. Yellowish to tawny, spotted with black rosettes or rings in horizontal rows along the back and sides; most rings are tan inside, with 1 or 2 black spots. Legs, head, and tail have smaller, solid spots, usually giving way to incomplete bands near the end of the tail (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2017).

The jaguar was listed as endangered throughout the species range in March 28, 1972 as a foreign species (37 CFR 6476). On July 27, 1997, the jaguar was listed as an endangered species in the United States (62 FR 39147). On March 5, 2014, the USFWS published a final rule to designate critical habitat for the jaguar in southeast Arizona and southwest New Mexico (79 FR 12571). The critical habitat totals approximately 764,207 acres in six units in Pima, Santa Cruz, and Cochise Counties, Arizona, and Hidalgo County, New Mexico.

Jaguars are known from a variety of vegetation communities in North and South America. Range-wide, jaguars are mostly found in tropical and subtropical zones. In the southwestern United States, the more open, dry habitat has been suggested as being marginal in terms of water, cover, and prey densities, although historically there was a presumably larger and naturally breeding population. Jaguar populations in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States occur in arid areas, especially thornscrub, mesquite grassland, Madrean oak woodland, and pineoak woodland communities. Based on 25 historical (from 1902 to 2001) reliable and spatially accurate jaguar sighting records in Arizona, the majority of jaguars were observed in scrub grasslands (56%) and
Madrean evergreen forests (20%), all were within 6.2 miles of a water source, and most occurred in moderately rugged to extremely rugged terrain. Additionally, river valleys and other drainage features likely “provide travel corridors for jaguars, along with higher prey densities, cooler air, and denser vegetation than surrounding habitats”. In the United States–Mexico borderlands, peccaries (javelina [*Tayassu tajacu*]) and deer (white-tailed [*Odocoileus virginianus*] and mule [*O. hemionus*]) are presumably dietary mainstays; range-wide, the list of prey taken by jaguars includes more than 85 species, including numerous species of turtles, birds, fish, and livestock. Other potential prey species in the southwestern United States include white nosed coatis (*Nasua nasua*), skunk (*Mephitis* spp., *Spilogale gracilis*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), and jackrabbit (*Lepus* spp.) (USGS 2016).

The southwestern United States lies at the extreme northern limit of the jaguar’s range. An estimated that 21% to 30% of Arizona (23,940–34,200 square miles) is potentially suitable jaguar habitat; however, the species currently occurs on an occasional basis in only a small portion of this area (USGS 2016).

The primary constituent elements of jaguar critical habitat are expansive open spaces in the southwestern United States of at least 38.6 square miles in size that:

1. Provide connectivity to Mexico;
2. Contain adequate levels of native prey species;
3. Include surface water sources available within 12.4 miles of each other;
4. Contain 1% to 50% canopy cover within Madrean evergreen woodland or semidesert grassland vegetation communities;
5. Are characterized by rugged terrain;
6. Are characterized by minimal to no human population density, no major roads, or no stable night time lighting over any 0.4-square-mile area; and
7. Are below 6,562 feet amsl in elevation.

With regard to jaguar critical habitat in the project area, the project is bounded on the west by the Baboquivari Critical Habitat Unit, and on the east by the Atascosa Critical Habitat Unit. There are two towers, TUS-085 and TUS-287, located within approximately 0.5 miles of the Baboquivari Critical Habitat Unit. There are also two towers, TUS-036 and TUS-041, located within approximately 0.5 miles of the Atascosa Critical Habitat Unit. In addition, approximately 4.4 miles of Tres Bellotas Road, which will be used by construction traffic, is located within the Atascosa Critical Habitat Unit. CBP is not constructing any additional roads with the Block 1 Replacement Project.

On December 20, 2016, USFWS released a draft recovery plan for the species. This $605 million recovery plan characterizes jaguar habitat within the US as secondary habitat which is not anticipated to support breeding jaguars. The recovery plan contains a discussion of the value of secondary habitat, in terms of species conservation.

Effects of the Proposed Action

Potential direct impacts on jaguar include the risk of direct injury and mortality from construction vehicles accessing towers, and changes in behavior resulting from noise and other disturbances associated with human presence during tower construction activities. Occurrences of jaguar in the project vicinity are extremely rare. Jaguars have not been located in the project vicinity in a number of years, but a male jaguar recently occupied the Santa Rita Mountains (approximately 25 miles to the northeast of the project area) for an extended period of time. In addition, new jaguars, both males, have been documented within the last year in the Huachuca and Chiricahua mountains. While these new detections are many miles east of the project area, they do provide evidence that habitat connectivity for movement of jaguars into the United States still occurs and that jaguars can occur in any areas of suitable habitat in Arizona, even if they have not been documented there previously. However, due to the rarity of jaguar in the project vicinity, the risk of injury or mortality arising from construction vehicles is unlikely.

Project activities would occur in previously disturbed areas, and would result in no degradation, modification, or habitat fragmentation of undisturbed areas where jaguars potentially occur. The presence of construction crews and equipment, and their associated noise, could cause jaguars to move away from an area or otherwise modify their behavior. Because construction activities would be short term in nature, any displacement or other associated adverse effects would be temporary and minor. As described above, jaguars currently occur at such low densities that the potential for individual jaguars to encounter project activities is extremely unlikely to occur.

There are no Block 1 project towers located within jaguar critical habitat. Construction traffic will use approximately 4.4 miles of existing Tres Bellotas Road to access tower sites. However, because Tres Bellotas and other roads proposed for use during this project are all existing roadways, there is a reduced likelihood that the proposed action will adversely affect the PCEs of jaguar critical habitat.

Conclusion

We have analyzed the effects of the proposed action and concur with the determination that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect jaguars or jaguar critical habitat for the following reasons:

- While jaguars are known to currently occupy areas of southern Arizona, there are no recent records of jaguars in the project vicinity. It is very unlikely that jaguars will be killed or injured by construction traffic associated with the proposed action. Therefore, these effects are discountable.
- All project activities will use existing roadways and stay within the previously disturbed footprint of the tower sites. Therefore, effects to jaguar habitat, including jaguar critical habitat will be insignificant.

Northern Mexican Gartersnake

Environmental Baseline

The northern Mexican gartersnake may occur with other native gartersnake species and can be difficult for people without herpetological expertise to identify. With a maximum known length of 44 inches, it ranges in background color from olive to olive-brown to olive-gray with three stripes that run the length of the body. The middle dorsal stripe is yellow and darkens toward the tail. The pale yellow to light-tan lateral stripes distinguish the Mexican gartersnake from other sympatric (co-occurring) gartersnake species because a portion of the lateral stripe is found on the fourth scale row, while it is confined to lower scale rows for other species. Throughout its range wide distribution, the northern Mexican gartersnake occurs at elevations from 130 to 8,497 feet (Rossman et al.1996, p. 172). The northern Mexican gartersnake is considered a riparian obligate (restricted to riparian areas when not engaged in dispersal behavior) (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2017).

On July 8, 2014, the USFWS issued a final rule listing the northern Mexican gartersnake as threatened throughout the species range (79 FR 38677). On July 10, 2013, critical habitat was proposed for 421,423 acres in Arizona and New Mexico (78 FR 41549).

The northern Mexican gartersnake generally occurs at elevations ranging from 3,000 to 5,000 feet within Arizona and New Mexico. Important components of northern Mexican gartersnake habitat include a stable supply of native prey, and dense vegetation when co-occurring with harmful non-native species. The northern Mexican gartersnake occurs chiefly in the following general habitat types: 1) source-area wetlands (e.g., cienegas), or stock tanks (small earthen impoundment); 2) large river riparian woodlands and forests; and 3) streamside gallery forests (as defined by well-developed broadleaf deciduous riparian

forests with limited, if any, herbaceous ground cover or dense grass) (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2017).

This species occurs in central, western, and southeastern Arizona and extreme southwestern New Mexico. Within Arizona, the most-viable populations occur in the middle and upper Verde River drainage (including Bubbling Ponds State Fish Hatchery along Oak Creek), lower Tonto Creek, the Bill Williams watershed, and within the San Rafael Valley.
Since 1970, there have only been two records of the species in the Action Area vicinity, the most recent being in 2001. However, surveys for northern Mexican gartersnakes have not occurred in this area since approximately the year 2000. The status of the population within the Action Area vicinity remains largely undetermined at this time (Jeff Servoss, USFWS, personal communication, September 29, 2017). If the species persists in the Action Area, it most likely occurs at a very low density and is most-closely associated with the Arivaca Cienega, in the location of a 2001 record.

The primary constituent elements of critical habitat for this species (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2013b) consist of the following:

1. Aquatic or riparian habitat that includes:

   a. Perennial or spatially intermittent streams of low to moderate gradient that possess appropriate amounts of in- channel pools, off-channel pools, or backwater habitat, and that possess a natural, unregulated flow regime that allows for periodic flooding or, if flows are modified or regulated, a flow regime that allows for adequate river functions, such as flows capable of processing sediment loads; or

   b. Lentic wetlands such as livestock tanks, springs, and cienegas; and

   c. Shoreline habitat with adequate organic and inorganic structural complexity to allow for thermoregulation, gestation, shelter, protection from predators, and foraging opportunities (e.g., boulders, rocks, organic debris such as downed trees or logs, debris jams, small mammal burrows, or leaf litter); and

   d. Aquatic habitat with characteristics that support a native amphibian prey base, such as salinities less than 5 parts per thousand, pH greater than or equal to 5.6, and pollutants absent or minimally present at levels that do not affect survival of any age class of the northern Mexican gartersnake or the maintenance of prey populations.

2. Adequate terrestrial space (600 feet [183 meters] lateral extent to either side of bankfull stage) adjacent to designated stream systems with sufficient structural characteristics to support life history functions such as gestation, immigration, emigration, and brumation (extended inactivity).

3. A prey base consisting of viable populations of native amphibian and native fish species.

4. An absence of nonnative fish species of the families Centrarchidae and Ictaluridae, bullfrogs, and/or

crayfish, or occurrence of these nonnative species at low enough levels such that recruitment of northern Mexican gartersnakes and maintenance of viable native fish or soft-rayed, nonnative fish populations (prey) is still occurring.

The only proposed critical habitat unit in the Action Area vicinity is Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge (see Figure 4). The entire 117,335-acre refuge has been proposed as critical habitat for the species (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2013b). There are 5 towers located within this critical habitat unit.

Effects of the Proposed Action

Northern Mexican gartersnakes are generally active from March through October in southern Arizona, although they may be active any day of the year when the daily low temperature is above freezing. The species may be active in upland areas (typically within about 600 feet of ephemeral or perennial water sources), but up to one mile or more from a given water body or in and along drainages and depressions during the monsoon season (Jeff Servoss, US Fish and Wildlife Service, personal communication, September 29, 2017). The Block 1 Replacement Project does not involve any actions within 600 feet of perennial water sources. Therefore, any potential direct effects to the species are likely confined to dispersal periods. The most likely direct effect to the species during dispersal periods would be injury or death from construction vehicle traffic along access roads and at tower sites.

The primary constituent elements for northern Mexican gartersnake critical habitat include: aquatic habitat, adequate terrestrial space adjacent to the aquatic habitat to support critical life history functions, an adequate prey base and an absence of invasive species. The Block 1 Replacement Project construction activities are located at least 0.25 miles from any of these primary constituent elements. The construction activities are confined to existing roads and previously disturbed sites. For these reasons, the Block 1 project is unlikely to have any significant effects on primary constituent elements for northern Mexican gartersnake proposed critical habitat.

Conclusion

We have analyzed the effects of the proposed action and concur with your determination that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the threatened northern Mexican gartersnake for the following reasons:

- The northern Mexican gartersnake occurs in the action area in very low densities. Potential effects to the gartersnake from road fatalities are discountable.
- CBP will implement conservation measures and BMPs as outlined above. This will reduce other potential effects to an insignificant level.

Yellow-Billed Cuckoo

Environmental Baseline

Yellow-billed cuckoos (or cuckoos) are fairly large, long, and slim birds. The mostly yellow bill is almost

as long as the head, thick and slightly down-curved. Wings appear pointed and swept back in flight. Yellow-billed cuckoos are warm brown above and clean whitish below. Their blackish face mask is accompanied by a yellow eye ring. In flight, the outer part of the wings flash rufous. From below, the tail has wide white bands and narrower black ones.

A western Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of the yellow-billed cuckoo was designated as threatened on October 3, 2014 (USFWS 2013c, 2014c; 78 FR 61622, 79 FR 59992). On August 15, 2014 (79 FR 48547) USFWS proposed 546,335 acres of critical habitat in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, Texas, Utah and Wyoming (USFWS 2014b; 79 FR 48548). Following publication of the draft proposed critical habitat rule, cuckoos have been found in previously unknown locations and habitats in Arizona. The largest remaining breeding areas are in southern and central California, Arizona, along the Rio Grande in New Mexico, and in northwestern Mexico (USFWS 2014c; 79 FR 59992).
In Arizona, the species was a common resident in the (chiefly lower) Sonoran zones of southern, central, and western Arizona (Phillips et al. 1964). The yellow-billed cuckoo now nests primarily in the central and southern parts of the state, as well as at revegetation sites along the lower Colorado River (Corman and Magill 2000, McFarland and Horst 2015, 2017; USFWS 2013c, 2014b, 2014c, McNeil et al. 2013).

The western yellow-billed cuckoo breeds in riparian (hydro- and xero- riparian) woodlands, and in Madrean evergreen woodland drainages and mesquite woodlands of arid areas. Habitat conditions are typically cooler and more humid than in the surrounding environment (USFWS 2014b,c). The vegetation making up the breeding habitat of the western yellow-billed cuckoo varies across the species' range and includes native and nonnative -riparian and upland nonriparian species including cottonwood (*Populus* spp.), willow (*Salix* spp.), mesquite (*Prosopis* spp.), box elder (*Acer negundo*), sycamore (*Platanus* spp.), ash (*Fraxinus* ssp.), walnut (*Juglans* spp.), alder (*Alnus* spp.), hackberry (*Celtis spp.*), soapberry (*Sapindus saponaria*), oak (*Quercus* spp.), acacia (*Acacia* spp.), desert willow (*Chilopsis linearis*), elderberry (*Sambuccus mexicanus*), juniper (*Juniperus* spp.), pine (*Pinus* spp.), Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*), and tamarisk (*Tamarix* spp.) (Gaines 1974, pp. 7–9; Gaines and Laymon 1984, pp. 59–66; Laymon and Halterman 1989, pp. 274–275; Laymon 1980; Corman and Magill 2000; Dettling and Howell 2011, p. 28; MacFarland and Horst 2015).

In most of the DPS, the western yellow-billed cuckoo primarily breeds in large riparian woodlands dominated by willow and cottonwood along low-gradient rivers and streams, and in open riverine valleys that provide wide floodplain conditions (USFWS 2014a,b). In the Southwest, however, cuckoos can also breed in higher gradient drainages, and narrower and drier reaches of riparian habitat (Corman and Magill 2000;WestLand Resources; Inc. 2013a, 2013b, 2013c, 2015a, 2015b, 2015c; Arizona Game and Fish Department 2016; MacFarland and Horst 2015, 2017; Tucson Audubon 2015; Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Large expanses of gallery riparian woodland habitat supports greater densities of cuckoos than less dense reaches of scattered riparian trees or more xero-riparian woodlands. However, these less dense reaches of scattered riparian trees and more xero-riparian woodlands are also important to yellow-billed cuckoos as nesting substrate, foraging habitat, and as a buffer between more hydric sites and the adjacent, xeric uplands (USFWS 2014b, 2014c; Griffin 2015; Groschupf 2015; McFarland and Horst 2015, 2017).
To distinguish between the western yellow-billed cuckoo breeding habitat in riparian areas throughout the range and breeding habitat found in more arid areas of the Southwest, we use the terms "Rangewide" and "Southwestern" breeding habitat, respectively. We describe both the Rangewide and Southwestern breeding habitat below:

Southwestern breeding habitat

Southwestern breeding habitat is located in the Southwestern United States (particularly in Arizona) and is comprised of riparian woodlands, mesquite woodlands, or Madrean evergreen woodlands with a variable overstory canopy and understory component within drainages at least 200 ac (81 ha) in size. In addition to cottonwood, willow, and mesquite, occupied riparian habitat in Arizona may also contain a greater proportion of xero-riparian species than in the rest of the DPS. Oak, hackberry, sycamore, walnut, ash, acacia, tamarisk, and juniper are among the most common xero-riparian species in Southwestern breeding habitat (Corman and Magill 2000, Corman and Wise-Gervais 2005, USFWS unpubl. data). Tamarisk may be a component of breeding habitat, but there is usually a native riparian tree component within the occupied habitat (Gaines and Laymon 1984, Johnson et al. 2008, McNeil et al. 2013, Sechrist et al. 2013, Carstensen et al. 2015). Habitat patches in the arid Southwest contain a greater proportion of xero-riparian and nonriparian tree species than elsewhere in the DPS. Habitat patches are often interspersed with large openings and include narrow stands of trees, small groves of trees, or sparsely scattered trees. As such, the canopy closure is variable, and where trees are sparsely scattered, canopy closure may be dense only at the nest tree. Southwestern breeding habitat types are as follows:

- Riparian woodland is more water-limited, contains a greater proportion of xero-riparian species, and is often narrower, patchier, and sparser than where water is more abundant. This more arid riparian woodland occurs in perennial and intermittent drainages and floodplains throughout the Southwest.
- Mesquite-dominated woodland habitat occurs in floodplains, adjacent terraces, and adjacent uplands in perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral drainages throughout the Southwest.

- Madrean evergreen woodland (usually oak-dominated) habitat occurs in intermittent and ephemeral drainages and adjacent hillsides in the foothills and mountains of southeastern Arizona, up to 7000 ft in elevation. The amount of oak varies and may be interspersed with mesquite and other species in Madrean evergreen woodland.

In addition to the dense nesting grove or tree, often referred to as the core area, western yellow-billed cuckoos need adequate foraging areas near the nest. Foraging areas can be less dense or patchy with lower levels of canopy cover and may be a mix of shrubs, ground cover, and scattered trees (Sechrist et al. 2009, 2013; Carstensen et al. 2015; Griffin 2015; USFWS, unpubl. data). Cuckoos often forage in open areas, woodlands, orchards, and adjacent streams (Hughes 1999), which include stands of smaller mesquite trees and even tamarisk (Rosenberg et al. 1991). In Arizona, adjacent habitat is usually more arid than occupied nesting habitat. This adjacent habitat can be used for foraging where large insects are produced.

Proposed Critical Habitat. There is one unit of proposed yellow-billed cuckoo critical habitat within the Action Area. This critical habitat unit is AZ-23, the Arivaca Wash/San Luis Wash Unit. This 5,765-acre

proposed critical habitat unit is made up of two washes that join to form a 17-mi long continuous segment that is comprised of 9 mi of Arivaca Wash and 8 mi of San Luis Wash. Approximately 1,014 ac, or 18 percent, of proposed unit AZ–23 are privately owned; 89 ac, or 2 percent, are in State ownership and managed by the Arizona State Lands Department; and 4,662 ac, or 81 percent, are in Federal ownership located on the Buenos Aires NWR managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This unit represents about one percent of the 546,335 acres of critical habitat which has been proposed for this species (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2014c).

Towers TCA-TUS-035 and TCA-TUS-290. Within the Arivaca Wash/San Luis Wash proposed critical habitat unit, numerous western yellow-billed cuckoo detections, including pairs, from previous years have been documented by Corman and Magill (2000, pp. 42, 43, 47), Griffin (2015, p. 22), and Cornell Lab of Ornithology (2017, eBird data).
Towers TCA-TUS-035 and TCA-TUS-290 are near occupied cuckoo habitat. Towers TCA-TUS-035 and TCA-TUS-290 are within approximately 0.75 miles from the eastern border of the proposed Arivaca Wash/San Luis Wash Critical Habitat Unit. Tower TCA-TUS-035 is also immediately adjacent to an unnamed drainage bordered by large dense mesquite. This ephemeral drainage flows into Arivaca Wash and may be suitable cuckoo breeding habitat. Habitat surrounding TCA-TUS-290 consists of short stature mesquite and ocotillo. Cuckoos may be foraging in the habitat adjacent to these towers. Within the proposed Arivaca Wash/San Luis Wash Critical Habitat Unit, nine western yellow-billed cuckoo use areas at three sites were identified in the 4.1 km (2.5 mi) surveyed in 2015, including eight pairs (Griffin 2015, p. 22). Breeding was confirmed at all three sites in 2015; Arivaca Cienega, Arivaca Creek–Honnas Pond, and Arivaca Creek (Griffin 2015, p. 19, 22).

Griffin (2015, p. 19) detected most western yellow-billed cuckoos in cottonwood and willow riparian forest and woodland vegetation, but sometimes with ash, hackberry, mesquite and a dense shrub understory. Despite the fact that the riparian vegetation changes from more mesic communities upstream to more xeric communities downstream, western yellow-billed cuckoos likely breed along the entire length of Arivaca Creek. Use areas seemed to include more upland woodland of mesquite than riparian forest vegetation. The three western yellow- billed cuckoo use areas within the Arivaca Cienega site differed in vegetative composition and structure (Griffin 2015, p. 23) and included: (1) a large, low-statured mesquite woodland or “bosque” that included open areas of native grassland and cienega marsh, and a patch of mature cottonwood-willow forest; (2) patches of mature Goodding’s willow, velvet ash, and hackberry-mesquite; and (3) a large patch of cottonwood-willow riparian forest with minor upland woodland components of mesquite, hackberry, and open areas. Other sites within the unit (Arivaca Creek–Honnas Pond, Arivaca Creek) had similar habitat and western yellow-billed cuckoo use.

Tower TCA-TUS-41. Cuckoos have been found during the breeding season along Arivaca Lake and tributaries, with suitable breeding habitat within 0.5 miles of TCA-TUS-41. Sparsely scattered mesquite surround this tower on an elevated site next to a paved and well-used road. The nearest cuckoo detections reported were approximately 0.7, 0.9, and 1.3 miles respectively from TCA-TUS-41 (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Tucson Audubon detected seven occupied territories with repeated detections, including three pairs, where they surveyed the tributaries and lake in 2015 (MacFarland and Horst 2015, pp. 17–18). The seven territories documented is an underestimate, as only a small portion of suitable habitat was surveyed. Western yellow-billed cuckoos were detected at the lake on every visit during 2015 and habitat surrounding the lake and side canyons is considered highly suitable 2015. Additional records

exist from previous years (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Habitat is composed of riparian and Madrean evergreen woodland. The overstory vegetation is composed of primarily mesquite, with willow, cottonwood, ash, hackberry, and oak (MacFarland and Horst 2015, p.121).

Cuckoo Detections along Tres Boleros Road and Tres Bellotas Road. Cuckoos have been detected from tower TCA-TUS-287 to TCA-TUS-299 and from TCA-TUS 298 on Tres Boleros Road and on Tres Bellotas Road to TCA-TUS-036 during the breeding season (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Four detections records exist along Fresnal Wash along the Tres Boleros Road (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Although the drainages that cross the Tres Boleros and Tres Bellotas Road have not been surveyed, they contain suitable cuckoo habitat.

Tower TCA-TUS-287. Foraging habitat consisting primarily of mesquite appears to be suitable surrounding tower TCA-TUS-287, only 0.2 mile from La Osa Wash. La Osa Wash contains large riparian trees, but no surveys have been conducted.

Tower TCA-TUS-299. This tower is near suitable breeding and foraging habitat. Washes with large riparian trees are within 0.25 miles of this tower. Large mesquite, wolfberry, and hackberry trees occupy these washes.

Towers TCA-TUS-298 and TCA-TUS-036. Tres Bellotas Road meanders within and adjacent to Fresnal Wash, with suitable cuckoo habitat and flowing water inthe drainage. Large ash, willow, mesquite, hackberry, wolfberry, acacia, and walnut trees border the drainage between towers TCA-TUS-0298 and TCA-TUS-036. On October 23, 2017 water was flowing in the wash in reaches where the wash becomes the road and where the wash crosses the road. A manmade pond surrounded by riparian trees within 0.25 miles of tower TCA-TUS-036 may also support breeding cuckoos. Towers TCA-TUS-298 and TCA-TUS-036 are far enough away from suitable breeding habitat in Fresnal Wash that construction is not likely to adversely affect cuckoos at these tower sites, as long as construction traffic avoids the Tres Bellotas Road between these towers from June 1 to September 30. Both of these towers are on elevated sites surrounded by sparse mesquite and oak trees; this habitat may be used as foraging habitat but construction activities are not likely to adversely affect cuckoos. Fresnal Wash has not been surveyed between these two towers and is not visited very often by birders due to its remote location and proximity to the border. However, some cuckoo information does exist for this area. Cuckoo were detected on August 26, 2000 and July 8, 2001 during the breeding season (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Based on past detections, presence of water, and suitable riparian habitat, Fresnal Wash is considered to be occupied cuckoo breeding habitat.

Western yellow-billed cuckoos have been detected incidentally by birders and refuge staff in suitable breeding habitat in mesquite woodland and Madrean evergreen woodland, sometimes far from mesic drainages, in other parts of the refuge (Griffin 2015, pp. 25, 28; Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017 (eBird data)).

Effects of the Proposed Action

Yellow-billed cuckoo are reported within Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge and the adjacent Coronado National Forest, with recent breeding behavior and nests confirmed (Corman and Magill 2000;

Griffin 2015; MacFarland and Horst 2015, 2017; Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). In recent years, cuckoos have been located near the following towers or associated roads: TCA-TUS-035, TCA-TUS-036, TCA-TUS-041, TCA-TUS 290, TCA-TUS 298, and TCA-TUS 299 during the breeding season from June 1 to September 30. In addition, suitable habitat exists near tower TCA-TUS 287.

It is possible that cuckoos could be exposed to noise from Block 1 Replacement Project construction activities. Noise will be generated by both vehicles accessing tower sites and by construction activities at tower sites. Available research indicates that medium and heavy trucks, such as cranes and cement trucks, will generate noise levels in the range of 80 to 85 dBA at speeds less than 35 miles per hour on tower access routes (Minister of Public Works and Government Services, Canada 2001).

As stated in the Section 2.0 of the biological assessment, an estimated 25 to 30 trips by medium to heavy trucks will be required to each tower site. Trips by these medium to heavy trucks will be scattered over the 40 to 60-day construction window at each tower site. The balance of trips along the access roads will be via pick-up truck, which has a noise footprint similar to a majority of the vehicles currently operating in the project vicinity. Cuckoos along these access routes could be exposed to elevated noise levels associated with these medium to heavy trucks for a duration of 30 seconds to 1 minute during each trip to a tower. Therefore, the total exposure of any cuckoos to elevated noise levels along access roads during construction at a tower is estimated to be 30 to 60 minutes. At the tower sites, the medium to heavy vehicles would be in operation for durations ranging from an hour, in the case of delivery of a load of concrete, to several days in the case of tower foundation excavation. Noise levels from operation of these medium to heavy vehicles would be similar to noise levels along access routes. Federal Highway Administration (2006) estimates noise generated by cement trucks at 79 dBA at a distance of 50 feet, and 81 dBA for cranes and excavators at a distance of 50 feet. Operation of these vehicles at tower sites would be scattered over the construction duration. Any cuckoos in the immediate vicinity of towers could be subject to up to several days of elevated noise levels during tower construction. Industrial Noise Control (2017) indicates that 70 decibels is used as a general base of comparison. This level is considered the baseline of normal, everyday activity such as a passenger car driving by or TV/radio music or a vacuum cleaner. Eighty decibels is two times as loud as 70 decibels and 90 decibels is four times as loud as 70 decibels.

The noise generated during the life of the project could result in short term noise exposure to cuckoos along the access roads or in the immediate vicinity of towers. The most commonly recorded response of birds to noise or other human disturbance is flushing. However, researchers have also reported no flushing response from Mexican spotted owls and bald eagles exposed to noise levels twice as loud (92 dBA) as noise levels predicted from the proposed action (Delaney et al. 1999 and Brown et al.1999). Significantly, even when flushing has occurred, researchers have reported no change in either reproductive success or number of young fledged in birds exposed to short term noise events (Delaney et al. 1999 and Delaney et al. 2002). Other authors have reported that exposure to short term noise events does not lead to chronic physiological stress in birds (Bisson et al. 2009 and Tempel 2003). In another study, researchers reported that infrequent and unpredictable vehicle operations in the immediate vicinity of nests was not correlated with the number of young fledged (Hayden et al. 2002).

Towers TCA-TUS-035 and TCA-TUS-290. These two towers are located near proposed yellow-billed cuckoo critical habitat and approximately 2 miles of roads partially located within the proposed yellow-

billed cuckoo critical habitat unit AZ31. Both towers are on elevated locations outside the riparian corridor. Tower TCA-TUS-035 is immediately adjacent to a drainage bordered by large dense mesquite and breeding cuckoos may be affected by construction activity during the breeding season. Construction activity during the breeding season (June 1 through September 30) will be avoided at tower TCA-TUS-035. Tower TCA-TUS-290 is on a hill on the opposite side of a well-used paved road from Aravaipa Creek. This tower is elevated and far enough away from breeding habitat so that construction activity at the tower will likely not adversely affect breeding and foraging cuckoos. However, the access road starts near occupied habitat along Aravaipa Creek and the hundreds of vehicle trips may cause disturbance to breeding and foraging cuckoos.

Tower TCA-TUS-41. Although the nearest cuckoo detections reported were approximately 0.7, 0.9, and 1.3 miles respectively from TCA-TUS-41 (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017), this tower is on an elevated site along a paved road that already receives some traffic and construction is not likely to adversely affect cuckoos.

Tower TCA-TUS-287. This tower is only 0.2 mile from La Osa Wash, which contains large riparian trees that may be breeding habitat. Construction activity may adversely affect breeding and foraging cuckoos. Construction activity during the breeding season (June 1 through September 30) will be avoided at this tower.

Tower TCA-TUS-299. This tower is near suitable breeding and foraging habitat and construction activities may advserely affect breeding cuckoos. Construction activities will be avoided during part of the breeding season (July 1 through September 30) and protocol surveys will be conducted from June 1 through June 30 at this tower.

Towers TCA-TUS-298 and TCA-TUS-036. These towers are far enough away from suitable breeding habitat in Fresnal Wash that construction is not likely to affect cuckoos at these tower sites, but the Tres Bellotas Road between these towers is in and adjacent to suitable cuckoo habitat. The hundreds of additional vehicles traveling between these two towers during the breeding season would create additional noise and visual disturbance that would likely adversely affect cuckoos using habitat along the Tres Bellotas Road and in Fresnal Wash. CBP will avoid using Tres Bellotas Road along Fresnal Wash between TCA-TUS-298 and TCA-TUS-036 from June 1 to September 30 to avoid disturbance to cuckoos in suitable habitat.

Conclusion

We have analyzed the effects of the proposed action and concur with your determination that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the western yellow-billed cuckoo for the following reasons:

- The tower sites where construction of replacement towers will generally occur are in areas of raised topography and not within drainages where western yellow-billed cuckoos typically breed. In addition, although cuckoo upland foraging habitat is adjacent to some tower sites, the tower site footprints do not contain upland foraging habitat. In addition, as discussed above, CBP has proposed conservation measures and best management practices to avoid or reduce disturbance

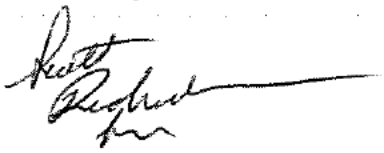
effects to cuckoos in suitable breeding habitat and adjacent foraging habitat within 0.25 miles of the tower sites. Therefore, effects to yellow billed cuckoos from disturbance associated with tower construction will be insignificant.

- A number of roadways proposed for use during this project do occur along drainages or in other areas that support suitable western yellow-billed cuckoo habitat. CBP has proposed conservation measures and BMPs to avoid and minimize disturbance of cuckoos in these areas. Therefore, these effects will be insignificant.

Thank you for your continued coordination related to this consultation. No further section 7 consultation is required for this project at this time. Should project plans change, or if additional information on the distribution or abundance of listed species or critical habitat becomes available, this determination may need to be reconsidered. Additionally, we encourage you to coordinate the review of this project with the Arizona Fish and Game Department and the appropriate land management agencies and private landowners.

For further information please contact Scott Richardson (520) 670-6150(x242). Please refer to the consultation number, 02EAAZ00-2018-I-0091 in future correspondence concerning this project.

Sincerely,



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From: Andrew, Jonathan
Subject: Southwest Border PA for Section 106 of the NHPA
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 2:33:02 PM
Attachments: SB PA Annual Report FINAL_2016 (1).pdf

CBP has provided their Annual Report (attached).

They will schedule a time to conference and go over the report and answer any questions you might have. I will get back in touch when the conf call is being scheduled.

--
Jon Andrew
Interagency Borderlands Coordinator
Office of the Secretary
Department of the Interior

202-208-7431
202-320-0718 (cell)

2016
Annual Report
Regarding Compliance with the Programmatic Agreement Regarding CBP Undertakings in States Located Along the Southwest Border of the United States

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

February 2017

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Cover Image: Border fence from above, near San Diego, California. Photographer: Josh Denmark, CBP

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Cover Image: Border fence from above, near San Diego, California. Photographer: Josh Denmark, CBP

Chapter 1. Introduction

This report has been prepared in accordance with Stipulation XII of the *Programmatic Agreement Among U. S. Customs And Border Protection, the Historic Preservation Officers of the States of Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas, General Services Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of The Interior, United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, New Mexico State Land Office, California Valley Miwok Tribe, Cocopah Indian Tribe, Delaware Nation, Fort Yuma-Quechan Tribe, Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, Rincon Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, Tohono O'odham Nation, Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma, Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe, and The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding CBP Undertakings in States Located Along the Southwest Border Of The United States* (Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement). In accordance with Stipulation XII.A, a copy of this report is being provided to all parties except the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation who has requested not to receive the annual report.

A teleconference with all parties to the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement will be held on a to be determined date and time in April or May to summarize and discuss the work carried out pursuant to the terms of the agreement.

2016 is the second year that the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement has been in place.

CBP Organizational Changes

In 2016, CBP underwent an agency-wide reorganization. As a result, many CBP offices were renamed and some duties were realigned to improve the agency's operations.

The Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement references the Environmental and Energy Division (EED). This department is now known as the Energy and Environmental Management Division (EEMD). Its historic preservation duties have not changed nor has its oversight role within the agency. CBP does not believe that this change is significant enough to require revisions to the document.

CBP has also named a new Federal Preservation Officer, Mr. Francis Dutch, Director of the Facilities Management and Engineering Division.

Barry M. Goldwater Range (BMGR) Damage to Archeological Sites

Though the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement does not apply at BMGR, CBP wishes to report on the current status of this situation as we are aware that the New Mexico SHPO is aware of the damage and other federal agencies in the region may be aware of it as well.

On January 3, 2017, CBP was notified by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) that they were in receipt of a letter from BMGR stating that two eligible archeological

sites had been disturbed by CBP operations. Multiple CBP offices including both Yuma Sector and Tucson Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol worked together to research the issue and determine what had occurred. It was determined that agents in the Wellton Station Area of Responsibility were moving trucks containing mobile technology and disturbed the sites. Yuma Sector has taken the lead on working with BMGR and as of January 18th the following actions have occurred: a meeting between the Yuma Sector Chief and BMGR leadership about the issue and improving communications between CBP and BMGR; a field visit with BMGR Range staff, the Wellton Station Chief, the Yuma Station Public Lands Liaison Agent (PLLA) to the sites to inspect the damage; drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding between BMGR and both sectors regarding information sharing and road designations to prevent such an occurrence from happening again; a meeting led by Yuma Sector's Public Lands Liaison Agent (PLLA) with tribes that have ties to the impacted sites to apologize for the damage caused by CBP; and discussions are occurring about how best to reeducate agents on Environmental issues, including archeological issues, in Wellton Station and both Sectors. CBP has spoken with the ACHP about the actions taken to date and will be sending them a formal letter regarding the situation and our response.

CBP takes this situation seriously and is committed to preventing a reoccurrence in the future.

1.1. 2017 Legislative Changes

CBP has one legislative item to report on this year.

Executive Order 13767: Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements

On January 25, 2017 President Trump signed Executive Order 13767 (EO 13767) focused on border security along the Southern Border. EO 13767 directs CBP to immediately plan, design, and construct a physical wall using the most appropriate materials and technology to effectively achieve complete operational control of the southern border. CBP is currently working on its comprehensive study which must be briefed to the President within 180 days of the order's signing. The comprehensive study is required to address the current state of southern border security; the geophysical and topographical conditions; the availability of both federal and state resource; and provide a strategy to obtain and maintain complete operational control.

EO 13767 also requires that the Department of Homeland Security uses all legally available resources to immediately construct, operate, control, or establish contracts to construct, operate, or control facilities to detain cross border violators at or near the land border with Mexico. The extent of CBP involvement is undetermined at this time, but programs developed in the past several months may be used or expanded. At the end of 2016, CBP developed a temporary housing model that is similar to the base camps used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Soft sided housing units and portable sanitation facilities can be installed on paved

areas at existing CBP facilities to provide safe and secure temporary housing until individuals are transferred to another agency.

EO 13767 also directs CBP to hire an additional 5,000 Border Patrol agents. CBP has been updating its Border Patrol facilities across southwest in the last decade and the newer facilities may be able to accommodate the hiring surge. Older facilities may require modifications, additions, or replacement. The nature and extent of this need is undetermined at this time and will likely evolve over time.

Chapter 2. 2016 Implementation of the PA

In 2016, CBP conducted 21,827 Undertakings in the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement area of potential effects. Fifty-three (53) Undertakings met Stipulation VI of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. 21,734 Undertakings met Stipulation VII of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. One (1) Undertakings resulted in an Adverse Effect determination.

The information is broken down by state below.

2.1. Arizona

In 2016, CBP conducted 10,697 Undertakings in the State of Arizona. Undertakings have consisted primarily of operations activities, facility and Tactical Infrastructure maintenance, technology programs, and lease renewals. A summary of Arizona Undertakings is provided in Appendix A (page 13), including a table with narrative description for non-operations Undertakings.

2.1.1. Use of Stipulation VI

Ten (10) Undertakings met Stipulation VI of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. These Undertakings used a total of 19 different stipulations: VI-A (2); VI.B (9); VI.C (1); VI.D (1); VI.E (1); VI.F (5). A breakdown of each stipulation used by CBP, followed by the number of times is was used, is provided below:

- VI.A
  - VI.A.1- 1
  - VI.A.5- 1
- VI.B
  - VI.B.1- 1
  - VI.B.1(c)- 2
  - VI.B.1(d)- 2
  - VI.B.2- 1
  - VI.B.3- 1
  - VI.B.3(d)- 1
  - VI.B.4- 1
  - VI.B.7- 1
  - VI.B.8- 1
- VI.C
  - VI.C.8- 2
- VI.D
  - VI.D.1- 1

- VI.E
  - VI.E.3- 1
- VI.F
  - VI.F.1- 1
  - VI.F.2- 1
  - VI.F.3- 1
  - VI.F.6- 1
  - VI.F.7- 1

2.1.2. Use of Stipulation VII

CBP had 10,677 Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement and no Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.B.

10,672 Undertakings involved Law Enforcement Activities and Operational Readiness, including the pursuit of cross-border violators and response to credible threats. These pursuits were reported to DOI and USDA. There were no inadvertent discoveries during pursuits.

CBP developed new technologies to locate potential cross-border tunnels in 2016 resulting in five (5) Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A.2. The technology was designed to be non-invasive and minimize ground disturbance. These investigations were focused on high probability areas in the various areas of interest for each Border Patrol Sector in Arizona. Not all investigations resulted in CBP tunnel remediation projects. In some cases, the technology did not locate tunnels, while in other cases CBP was part of an inter-agency team and other agencies handled the remediation activities.

No activities involved the closure of cross-border tunnels.

2.1.3. Adverse Effects

CBP had no Adverse Effect determinations in the State of Arizona.

2.1.4. Emergency Reviews

CBP had no emergency reviews in the State of Arizona.

2.1.5. Post-Review Discoveries

CBP had no post review discoveries in the State of Arizona.

2.2. California

In 2016, CBP conducted 5,210 Undertakings in the State of California. Undertakings have consisted of operations activities, facility maintenance, technology programs, and lease renewals.

A summary of California Undertakings is provided in Appendix B (page 18), including a table with narrative description for non-operations Undertakings.

2.2.1. Use of Stipulation VI

Eleven (11) Undertakings met Stipulation VI of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. These Undertakings used a total of seven (7) different stipulations: VI.A (1); VI.B (4); VI.C (1); and VI.F (1). A breakdown of each stipulation used by CBP, followed by the number of times is was used, is provided below:

- VI.A
  - VI.A.1- 4
- VI.B
  - VI.B.1(c)- 1
  - VI.B.1(d)- 3
  - VI.B.2- 2
  - VI.B.8- 1
- VI.C
  - VI.C.8- 5
- VI.F
  - VI.F.6- 1

2.2.2. Use of Stipulation VII

CBP had 5,191 Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement and two (2) Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.B.

5,183 Undertakings involved Law Enforcement Activities and Operational Readiness, including the pursuit of cross-border violators and response to credible threats. These pursuits were reported to DOI and USDA. There were no inadvertent discoveries during pursuits.

CBP developed new technologies to locate potential cross-border tunnels in 2016 resulting in eight (8) Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A.2. The technology was designed to be non-invasive and minimize ground disturbance. These investigations were focused on high probability areas in the various areas of interest for each Border Patrol Sector in California. Not all investigations resulted in CBP tunnel remediation projects. In some cases, the technology did not locate tunnels, while in other cases CBP was part of an inter-agency team and other agencies handled the remediation activities.

Two (2) Undertakings involved the closure of cross-border tunnels under Stipulation VII.B. These tunnels occurred in the vicinity of Calexico and Otay Mesa. Both tunnels were located within areas that had been previously disturbed by construction and were reported to the appropriate consulting parties in accordance with the terms of the Programmatic Agreement.

Monitoring reports were prepared for neither of these closures as CBP was able to establish that previous ground disturbance, other than the creation of the tunnel, had occurred within the APE. There were no inadvertent discoveries or impacts to historic properties from the closure of these tunnels.

2.2.3. Adverse Effects

CBP had no Adverse Effect determinations in the State of California.

2.2.4. Emergency Reviews

CBP had no emergency reviews in the State of California.

2.2.5. Post-Review Discoveries

CBP had no post review discoveries in the State of California.

2.3. New Mexico

In 2016, CBP conducted 2,101 Undertakings in the State of New Mexico. Undertakings have consisted of operations activities, facility and Tactical Infrastructure maintenance, and technology programs. A summary of New Mexico Undertakings is provided in Appendix C (page 23), including a table with narrative description for non-operations Undertakings.

2.3.1. Use of Stipulation VI

Seven (7) Undertakings met Stipulation VI of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. These Undertakings used a total of nine (9) different stipulations: VI.A (1); VI.B (6); VI.C (1); and VI.F (1). A breakdown of each stipulation used by CBP, followed by the number of times is was used, is provided below:

- VI.A
  - VI.A.1- 1
- VI.B
  - VI.B.1- 1
  - VI.B.1(c)- 1
  - VI.B.1(d)- 1
  - VI.B.2- 1
  - VI.B.3- 2
  - VI.B.3(d)- 1
- VI.C
  - VI.C.8- 1
- VI.F
  - VI.F.4- 1

2.3.2. Use of Stipulation VII

CBP had 2,091 Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement and no Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.B.

2,087 Undertakings involved Law Enforcement Activities and Operational Readiness, including the pursuit of cross-border violators and response to credible threats. These pursuits were reported to DOI and USDA. There were no inadvertent discoveries during pursuits.

CBP developed new technologies to locate potential cross-border tunnels in 2016 resulting in four (4) Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A.2. The technology was designed to be non-invasive and minimize ground disturbance. These investigations were focused on high probability areas in the various areas of interest for each Border Patrol Sector in New Mexico. Not all investigations resulted in CBP tunnel remediation projects. In some cases, the technology did not locate tunnels, while in other cases CBP was part of an inter-agency team and other agencies handled the remediation activities.

No activities involved the closure of cross-border tunnels.

2.3.3. Adverse Effects

CBP had one (1) Adverse Effect determinations in the State of New Mexico. Summary information on each Undertaking is provided below.

- Tactical Infrastructure Maintenance and Repair (TIMR) Project; Hidalgo and Luna Counties; New Mexico SHPO, New Mexico Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and New Mexico State Land Office (NMSLO)- Potential CBP maintenance activities along 51 miles of existing roads located on land managed by the BLM and 27.38 miles of existing roads located on land managed by the NMSLO. While CBP is consulting on the maintenance on approximately 88 miles of existing roads on BLM and NMSLO lands, it is not anticipated that work would occur on all roads, or even the entire length of a given road, in any one year. There are a number of factors that will determine if and when CBP will fund maintenance activities over time, including operational needs and funding availability. CBP expects maintenance to occur on an as needed basis in discrete areas within this road network subject to the availability of funding. Three surveys have identified 55 archeological sites within the Area of Potential Effect (APE), of which 20 are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), 23 are of undetermined eligibility, and 12 are not eligible for the NRHP. CBP has determined that the Undertaking does not meet Stipulation VI.C of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement due to the presence of undetermined and National Register eligible historic properties within the APE. The activities have the potential to affect historic properties, and in some cases those affects could be adverse due to their locations. However, the degree of potential effects to these sites varies greatly and cannot be fully determined

until final design decisions are made. In most cases sites will not be impacted or the impacts can be minimized or avoided through modification to project designs and managing project activities to avoid sites. A project-specific programmatic agreement has been proposed and is under development between the parties. It will include standard treatment measures that are appropriate to the potential level of impact and which would be implemented prior to conducting work within 1,000 feet of an eligible site. Consultation began October 2015.

2.3.4. Emergency Reviews

CBP had no emergency reviews in the State of New Mexico.

2.3.5. Post-Review Discoveries

CBP had no post review discoveries in the State of New Mexico.

2.4. Texas

In 2016, CBP conducted 3,821 Undertakings in the State of Texas. Undertakings have consisted of operations activities, facility and Tactical Infrastructure maintenance, technology programs, and lease renewals. A summary of Texas Undertakings is provided in Appendix D (page 26), including a table with narrative description for non-operations Undertakings.

2.4.1. Use of Stipulation VI

Twenty five (25) Undertakings met Stipulation VI of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. These undertakings used a total of 16 different stipulations: VI.A (2); VI.B (8); VI.C (3); VI.D (1); VI.E (1); and VI.F (1). A breakdown of each stipulation used by CBP, followed by the number of times is was used, is provided below:

- VI.A
  - VI.A.1- 7
  - VI.A.4- 5
- VI.B
  - VI.B.1- 2
  - VI.B.1(c)- 1
  - VI.B.1(d)- 3
  - VI.B.2- 3
  - VI.B.3- 3
  - VI.B.3(d)- 2
  - VI.B.4- 1
  - VI.B.7- 3
- VI.C

    - VI.C.1- 5
    - VI.C.2- 5
    - VI.C.8- 10
- VI.D
    - VI.D.1- 3
- VI.E
    - VI.E.3- 1
- VI.F
    - VI.F.4- 2

2.4.2. Use of Stipulation VII

CBP had 3,773 Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement and no Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.B.

3,759 Undertakings involved Law Enforcement Activities and Operational Readiness, including the pursuit of cross-border violators and response to credible threats. These pursuits were reported to DOI and USDA. There were no inadvertent discoveries during pursuits.

CBP developed new technologies to locate potential cross-border tunnels in 2016 resulting in 14 Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A.2. The technology was designed to be non-invasive and minimize ground disturbance. These investigations were focused on high probability e areas in the various areas of interest for each Border Patrol Sector in Texas. Not all investigations resulted in CBP tunnel remediation projects. In some cases, the technology did not locate tunnels, while in other cases CBP was part of an inter-agency team and other agencies handled the remediation activities.

No activities involved the closure of cross-border tunnels.

2.4.3. Adverse Effects

CBP had no Adverse Effect determinations in the State of Texas.

2.4.4. Emergency Reviews

CBP had no emergency reviews in the State of Texas.

2.4.5. Post-Review Discoveries

CBP had no post review discoveries in the State of Texas.

Chapter 3. Disputes and Objections

There have been no disputes between the consulting parties regarding the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement.

There have been no objections received by CBP regarding the execution of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement.

Chapter 4. Recommendations

There are no proposed amendments or revisions to the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement.

Appendix A: Arizona Undertaking Details

10,697 Total Undertakings

- 10- PA Used- Stipulation VI
- 10,672- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.1 (operations not included in summary table below)
- 5- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.2
- 0- PA Used- Stipulation VII.B
- 8- Consultation Done
- 2- No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
AVDL Childs Mountain **Consultation Done** Install, operate, and maintain an aircraft video downlink (AVDL) system on an existing U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) tower at Childs Mountain in Pima County, Arizona, which includes obtaining a special use permit from Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge. The Proposed Action will occur at an existing communication tower facility on Childs Mountain in the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, Pima County, Arizona at the following coordinates: 12N 316313.788, 3591507.128 (decimal degrees: 32.445577, -112.954036).
AZ0006 Naco LPOE VACIS Concrete Slab **PA Used- VI.D.1** Removing approx. 2300 sq ft of existing A/C pavement and replacing it with 9" thick 4000 psi concrete over 6" thick ABC over 8" thick compacted subgrade. Also, installing two 4" PVC conduits 24" below grade for future use.
AZ0017 Rio Rico Rail Inspection Facility Lease **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Lease of free space from Union Pacific for rail inspectors at 863 E. Frontage Rd. (UPRR Milepost 56.8) in Rio Rico, AZ. The 1250 square-foot facility in the Union Pacific Railyard was completed in 2016.
AZ0045/AZ14916 - Tucson Vault Maintenance Contract **PA Used- VI.B.1(c), VI.B.1(d), VI.B.2, VI.B.3(a), VI.B.3(d), VI.B.4, VI.B.7, and VI.B.8** Maintenance and repair of the 2012 facility, building, and mechanical systems.
AZ999AZ2027 TUS-036 LSTAR Deployment **PA Used- VI.C.8** Placement and operation of LSTAR equipment at the existing USBP facility located at TB/Fresnel Integrated Fixed Tower (IFT) (Latitude 31.48465, Longitude -111.37735) located in Pima County, Arizona within Coronado National Forest within the USBP Nogales Station, Tucson Sector Area of Responsibility (AOR). The new platform will not exceed 12' by 12' (length x width), the temporary platform will be a level surface elevated above the existing chain link fencing (approximately 8 ft.). Platforms will leave access to the earth's surface. No vegetation clearing or modification of ground resources is necessary for installation of the LSTAR equipment within the existing USBP complex. The Proposed Action does not include the installation, modification, or construction of any new or existing approach or access road.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
AZ999AZ2028 TUS-041 LSTAR Deployment **PA Used- VI.C.8** Placement and operation of LSTAR equipment at the existing USBP facility located at Arivaca Lake Integrated Fixed Tower (IFT) (Latitude 31.525325, Longitude -111.289237) located in Pima County, Arizona on Arizona state lands within the USBP Nogales Station, Tucson Sector Area of Responsibility (AOR). The new platform will not exceed 12' by 12' (length x width), the temporary platform will be a level surface elevated above the existing chain link fencing (approximately 8 ft.). Platforms will leave access to the earth's surface. No vegetation clearing or modification of ground resources is necessary for installation of the LSTAR equipment within the existing USBP complex. The Proposed Action does not include the installation, modification, or construction of any new or existing approach or access road.
CA TEX TCA Tucson Air Branch [AZ0045] Ramp Apron Expansion **Consultation Done** Expand the existing concrete aircraft ramp apron by 13,650.94 square feet (0.31 acre) in a previously disturbed area immediately adjacent to the existing apron located south of hangar 1144.
CATEX BBT DRT EPT LRT TCA BPFTI Firing Range Maintenance and Lead Reclamation **Consultation Done** Perform maintenance and lead reclamation on active outdoor firing ranges. Work will including excavating the soil from the existing berms, sifting out the lead bullets and drum for recycling, then returning the soil to the berms. Erosion control measures will be added as necessary to minimize surface water flow off and erosion. The range included in this project is: • Ajo White Hills Range, Ajo, AZ
CATEX TCA AJO CAG Maintenance and Repair of Tohono O'odham Nation Roads **Consultation Done** The proposed action is to maintain and repair approximately 220 miles of existing dirt and crushed rock roads located on the Tohono O'odham Nation (TON). The road segments are in the Baboquivari, Hickiwan, Gu Vo, Pisinimo, Sells, and Chukut Kuk Districts. CBP will receive permission from the TON to conduct the maintenance and repair in the form of a written instrument or Tribal Resolution. Maintenance and repair of the existing roads would consist of filling in potholes, regrading road surfaces, implementing water drainage measures (e.g., ensuring road crowns shed water and establishing drainage ditches, culverts, or other water-control features, as needed to control runoff and prevent deterioration to existing infrastructure or surrounding land), applying soil stabilization agents, controlling vegetation and debris, and adding lost road surface material to reestablish intended surface elevation needed for adequate drainage.
CATEX TCA Christmas Pass AZ TACCOM LMR Temporary Repeater Installation **Consultation Done** Install and operate the temporary and semi-portable TACCOM Land Mobile Radio (LMR) site at Christmas Pass and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment and structures. The proposed Christmas Pass LMR site is located 60 miles west of Yuma in the Cabeza Prieta Mountains within the Cabeza Prieta Wilderness and Sonoran Desert in Yuma County, AZ. The site is situated near Christmas Pass and the Drift Hills approximately 7 miles north of the U.S./Mexico border and is currently undeveloped.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX YUM Camp Grip AZ Tower Relocation TACCOM **PA Used- VI.F.6 and VI.F.7** Camp Grip is a remote U.S Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) site in Yuma County, Arizona, located 37 miles southwest of the Ajo Border Patrol Station (BPS) and within the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (CPNWR). CBP proposes to remove the existing cellular-on-wheels (COW) 106-foot tall guyed tower and equipment located northeast of the facility and install a self-support lattice tower/equipment on a modular foundation adjacent to the existing camp. The total height of the new tower, including lightning protection and other additions, will not exceed 199 feet. The proposed new tower and equipment will be installed within a 20 ft. by 20 ft. disturbed area with little to no existing vegetation. The foundation will consist of modular cell blocks (on top of the ground). A fiberglass shelter, generator, and 100 ft. tall self-support lattice tower equipped with several antennas and microwave dishes will be installed. The site will be contained within an area located east of the main modular building access road and just north of the existing El Camino del Diablo Trail. Equipment will be brought in by trailer and the adjacent existing right-of-way (road area) will be used for staging. A minimum number of vehicle trips to the site are planned.
CATEX YUM Camp Grip Well Installation **Consultation Done** The proposed action at forward operating base Camp Grip is to permit, drill, and install a domestic water supply well; design and install a water treatment system; and plumb the new well and system to the existing water holding tanks. The Camp Grip well design depth would be 400 feet below ground surface with drilling continuing depending on when groundwater is encountered up to 1400 feet below ground surface. The proposed location of the well is near the northeast corner of the helipad at Camp Grip in a previously disturbed area. Plumbing from the well would run underground along the south side of the east-west trending runway matting east of the helipad. The well plumbing would connect to a connex on the northeast corner of Camp Grip that currently houses the water storage tanks. A water treatment system would be installed inside the connex. Effluent would discharge to a dry well at least three feet deep. The dry well would be gravel filled with perforated pipe in a gravel lined trench plumbed from the water treatment system discharge component. Power would be brought to the well pump from an existing generator located west of the parking area via underground electrical conduit.
CATEX YUM WEL Temporary Deployment of Mobile Observation Platform **PA Used- VI.A.5** The proposed action involves the temporary deployment of a mobile observation platform on the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (CPNWR). The mobile observation platform does not require ground disturbance and will be deployed in a previously disturbed location adjacent to existing roads. The observation platform consists of a ladder and basic scaffolding— there are no lights, generators, or other mechanical or electrical components associated with the platform. No new roads will be required to deploy the platform, and operations will not change as a result of the temporary deployment. The platform is trailer mounted and will be driven to the sites utilizing existing roadways. The platform can be set-up and torn down in approximately one hour. The mobile observation platform will be temporarily deployed at the intersection of Eagle Tank Road and Old Papago Road—there is currently a rescue beacon at this location.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX YUM Yuma Border Lighting Retrofit and Utility Trenching **Consultation Done** CBP is proposing to retrofit the existing metal halide lamps utilized for border lighting located near the San Luis POE in the Border Patrol Yuma Sector with energy efficient LED lights. The existing lights along approximately 7.2 miles of border would be replaced. The light poles would be reduced in height from 60 to 40 feet, the fixtures would be replaced to accommodate the LED bulbs, and the fixtures would be oriented downward to eliminate light pollution. Existing access roads to and along the border would be used for the transport of personnel, vehicles, material, and equipment. An existing staging area would be used for the storage of material and equipment. The proposed action also includes extending electrical service across the Sanchez Canal along the border by trenching approximately 75 feet from the current terminus of electrical service to the corridor of the lighting project and installing electrical conduit. The trenching would begin approximately 75 feet northwest of the Sanchez Canal and proceed southwest until reaching the canal, at which point the electrical conduit would be bracket mounted to the bridge to cross the canal. The pre-manufactured bridge was installed by CBP in 2007. A new junction box would also be installed on the south side of the bridge within the corridor of the lighting project at the end of the trench route. The trench would be approximately three feet wide by two feet deep, and would be backfilled around the electrical conduit with native material.
Douglas Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Douglas Station.
Lukeville Single Family Housing Interior Repairs **PA Used- VI.B.1; VI.B.1(d)** Interior repair of three CBP-owned housing units in Lukeville, AZ. Proposed action work will include: • Repairs to the base concrete floor in order to allow for the installation of new laminate flooring throughout all areas of the house except the kitchen, bathroom, and laundry/furnace room flooring which will remain untouched. • Installing new residential master key lock system
Naco Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Naco Station.
REC LEXRIS Lukeville **PA Used- VI.A.1** Field and operate two LEXRIS portals at the Lukeville Port of Entry (POE) in Pima County, Arizona for the purpose of conducting non-intrusive inspections of vehicles for the presence of contraband, including weapons of mass destruction, explosives, and illicit drugs. The systems will be portal (stationary) configurations that will be installed along existing traffic lanes. Vehicles will be scanned as they are driven through the portal. The portal LEXRIS will be installed on previously disturbed, developed surfaces (pavement and asphalt) at the Lukeville Facility. Minor excavations and trenching will be required to install the systems which will affect approximately 280 square feet to a maximum depth of 4 feet. Soils at the POE have been subject to grading and possibly filling to establish traffic lanes and other surfaces, such as inspection areas. Excavated soil will be used to backfill the project site.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
San Luis POE Tunnels Team Deployment **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Study to characterize the geophysical properties of the U.S./Mexico international border region in Yuma County to determine the potential locations of illegal tunnels.
San Luis Region of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the San Luis Station.
Sasabe Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within Sasabe Station.
TCA-SON-0115 and TCA-SON-0117 Proposed Maintenance, Upgrade, and Repair **PA Used- VI.E.3, VI.F.1, VI.F.2, VI.F.3** Maintenance and repair of existing communications towers at Sonoita Station [TCA-SON-0117] and Red Mountain [TCA-SON-0115] to include structural reinforcement and addition of grounding and lightning protection for both towers.
Tucson OCC Break Room Renovation **PA Used- VI.B.1(c)** Interior office space renovation. Proposed action work will include: • Adding a new counter and sink.
UAC and FAMU Temporary Housing (Tent City) **PA Used- VII.A.2** Construct soft-sided housing units at existing CBP facilities to provide safe and secure temporary housing for UACs and FAMUs. The facility will be located at: • San Luis II, Arizona
Yuma Polygraph Room Interior Renovation **Consultation Done** Interior office space renovations to new CBP polygraph room standards. Proposed action work will include: • Renovating two existing polygraph rooms by increasing the Sound Transmission Class (STC) and adding electronic security measures. • Dividing one office into two polygraph rooms and add insulation and electronic security measures. • Convert an existing office into a Dedicated Observation Room with A/V feed from the four polygraph rooms.

Appendix B: California Undertaking Details

5,210 Total Undertakings

- 11- PA Used- Stipulation VI
- 5,183- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.1 (operations not included in summary table below)
- 8- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.2
- 2- PA Used- Stipulation VII.B
- 1- Consultation Done
- 5- No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Algodones Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
CA El Centro Superstition Mtn LSTAR **PA Used- VI.C.8** Placement and operation of LSTAR equipment at the existing USBP facility located at Superstition Mountain located in Imperial County, California. The new platform will not exceed 12' by 12' (length x width), the temporary platform will be a level surface elevated above the existing chain link fencing (approximately 8 ft.). Platforms will leave access to the earth's surface. No vegetation clearing or modification of ground resources is necessary for installation of the LSTAR equipment within the existing USBP complex. The Proposed Action does not include the installation, modification, or construction of any new or existing approach or access road.
CA0004 CATEX Calexico West Rail Inspection Facility Lease **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Lease of free space from Union Pacific for rail inspectors. The facility in the Union Pacific Railyard was completed in 2014.
CA0025 Oakland Seaport Lease Renewal **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Renewal of free space lease from Port of Oakland. The facility is located on the Port and was completed in the 1990s.
CA0144 - Service Processing Center (SPC) Re-Activation, Haitian Surge **PA Used- VI.B.1(c) and VI.B.1(d)** Re-activation of the Service Processing Center (SPC) in El Centro, California as a processing facility for inadmissible Haitian nationals. The facility has been in off-line for approximately 2 years; with minimal systems (HVAC, electric, water) being maintained during this period. It is anticipated not all systems may function when brought back to full operation. CBP will be responsible for the startup of essential systems to include: HVAC, electric, water, fire, and other building services required for public use. No changes to the existing facilities will be required. An additional 30 computer workstations will be installed into the existing space.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CA0175 Checkpoint 86 LSTAR Deployment **PA Used- VI.C.8** Placement and operation of LSTAR equipment at the existing USBP facility located at the Highway 86 Checkpoint located in Imperial County, California. The new platform will not exceed 12' by 12' (length x width), the temporary platform will be a level surface elevated above the existing chain link fencing (approximately 8 ft.). Platforms will leave access to the earth's surface. No vegetation clearing or modification of ground resources is necessary for installation of the LSTAR equipment within the existing USBP complex. The Proposed Action does not include the installation, modification, or construction of any new or existing approach or access road.
Calexico Region Of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Calexico Station.
Calexico West LPOE Rail Inspection Facility UP **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Lease of free space from Union Pacific for rail inspectors. The facility in the Union Pacific Railyard was completed in 2015.
CATEX Riverside Air Unit Security Access Points Repairs **PA Used- VI.B.1(d) and VI.B.2** Interior office space renovation at Riverside Air Unit building at 1355 Customs Way in Riverside. Proposed action work will include: • Replace existing locks with new PIV card readers on six (6) doors. • Install computer system in existing server room.
CATEX SDC Brown Field BPS Property Acquisition **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** The proposed action consists of acquiring two adjacent properties at the intersection of Highway 94 and Campbell Ranch Road in Dulzura, California. The larger of the two properties is 118 acres and is situated north of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) Dulzura Station. The smaller of the two properties is one acre and is situated east of the Cal Fire Dulzura Station. A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) as well as biological and cultural resource surveys are underway at the site. Elevation at the site ranges from 1,125 feet to 1,350 ft. Surrounding properties include cultivated fields of crops, grazing areas for livestock, private properties and homes. The portion of the property that is most suitable for potential construction consists of approximately 22 acres of relatively flat, previously cultivated fields and 96 acres of rolling hills, drainages and slopes. An intermittent stream is located at the extreme northwestern corner of the larger property. The primary rationale for the proposed acquisition is that the property is suitable for potential development and construction of a new US Border Patrol (USBP) Brown Field Border Patrol Station (BPS). However, if CBP is unable to eventually move forward with the BPS, CBP believes there are other potential uses for the property. CBP does not yet have sufficient funding to construct a new BPS. Thus, any actual development and construction of the site for a new BPS is contingent upon CBP obtaining sufficient funding.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX SDC IMB NOLF Tower and Surveillance Camera Installation **PA Used- VI.F.6** Installation of a surveillance tower at a maximum of 60' above ground level and mount a camera to provide visibility to the coast line. The proposed action consists of reinstalling a structure at this location adjacent to existing CBP equipment. The tower would be installed within a maximum 20'x20' area enclosed with a new 10' high chain link fence at the southwest corner of the existing repel tower area.
CATEX SDC Replacement of Highway Sign Systems at I-5 Checkpoint **PA Used- VI.B.8** The San Clemente Border Patrol Station and Checkpoint (BPS) is located on Interstate 5 (I-5) approximately five miles south of San Clemente, California. The proposed action includes the replacement of six existing solid state highway signs along I-5 at the San Clemente BPS with six LED dynamic message signs. The sizes of the new signs would match the existing. No alterations would be made to the supporting metal structures on which the signs are posted. The metal structures are owned by Caltrans. In addition, the power systems would be replaced to provide sufficient power to run the new signs. Future maintenance, as well as potential repairs of a minor nature, of the new sign systems would be expected. All work would be conducted within the footprint of the existing sign systems.

CATEX SDC UESC ECMs for San Diego, El Cajon, San Ysidro, and Otay Sites
Consultation Done
 	
The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has awarded the Utility Energy Savings Contract (UESC) to the San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) for implementation of energy conservation measures (ECMs) at several San Diego County, CA sites.
• San Diego (SD) Firing Range (BE CA0250) is located at 2301 McCain Road, San Diego, CA 92101. The facility was built in the 1980s. Lat/Long 32.7298 -117.2089.
• El Cajon BPS (BE CA0172) is located at 225 Kenney Street, El Cajon, CA 92020. The oldest building was built in 1983. Lat/Long 32.8297 -116.9645.
• The Chula Vista BPS and Beyer Complex are located on one contiguous property but have different building designations. The oldest building was constructed in the 1950s and renovations have occurred over the years. Lat/Long 32.5608 -117.0529.
  o Chula Vista BPS also known as "San Ysidro" (BE CA0122) is located at 311 Athey Avenue, San Ysidro, CA 92173.
  o Beyer Complex also known as the Beyer Campus (BE CA0141) is located 3752 Beyer Boulevard, San Ysidro, CA 92173.
• Pogo Row Sector Support Facility also known as "Pogo Row Complex" or Border Patrol Sector Headquarters (BPSHQ) Support Facility (BE CA0186) is located at 7682 Pogo Road, San Diego/Otay, CA 92154. This facility was built in the 2000s and was previously used as the Brown Field Air Unit. Lat/Long 32.5777 -116.9797.
 	
Construction activities will include installation of digital direct controls (DDCs), heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) retrofits, HVAC controls, interior lighting, exterior lighting, vending misers (vending machine device/sensor), photovoltaics (solar electric), roofing, and other energy savings implementations. Post construction activities (performance testing, training, and final documentation) occurs April 2016 through June 2017.

El Centinela Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
El Centro IA Temp Relocation **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Temporary relocation of 20 staff members to the existing CBP building at 1111 North Imperial Avenue, El Centro, CA. No renovations to the space are necessary.
FY 16 MEMXRIS Calexico **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Calexico Port of Entry, Calexico, Imperial County, California for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
FY 16 MEMXRIS Carson **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Container Examination Station (CES), Carson, Los Angeles County, California for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
FY 16 MEMXRIS Oakland **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Container Examination Station (CES), Oakland, Oakland County, California for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
Near Rancho Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
REC ELC Queen II Tunnel Remediation **PA Used- VII.B.1** Closure of the Queen II tunnel located on the eastside of Calexico, California along the U.S.-Mexico international border in Imperial County, California.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
REC LEXRIS CalexicoW **PA Used- VI.A.1** Field and operate LEXRIS portal at the Calexico West Port of Entry (POE) for the purpose of conducting non-intrusive inspections of vehicles for the presence of contraband, including weapons of mass destruction, explosives, and illicit drugs. The system will be portal (stationary) configurations that will be installed along existing traffic lanes. Vehicles will be scanned as they are driven through the portal. The portal LEXRIS will be installed on previously disturbed, developed surfaces (pavement and asphalt) at the facility. Minor excavations and trenching will be required to install the systems which will affect approximately 280 square feet to a maximum depth of 4 feet. Soils at the POE have been subject to grading and possibly filling to establish traffic lanes and other surfaces, such as inspection areas. Excavated soil will be used to backfill the project site.
REC SDC Customhouse Tunnel Remediation **PA Used- VII.B.1** Closure of the Customhouse tunnel located approximately 0.5 miles west of the Otay Mesa Port of Entry (POE) along the U.S.-Mexico international border in San Diego County, California.
Replacement of Door Locks with PIV Card Readers **PA Used- VI.B.1(d) and VI.B.2** Interior office space renovation at World Trade Center, Long Beach. Proposed action work will include: • Replace existing locks with new PIV card readers on six (6) doors. • Install computer system in existing server room.
San Diego and Tijuana Region of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the San Diego and Tijuana Stations.
Tecate Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Tecate Station.
Tierra Del Sol Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
UAC and FAMU Temporary Housing (Tent City) **PA Used- VII.A.2** Construct soft-sided housing units at existing CBP facilities to provide safe and secure temporary housing for UACs and FAMUs. The facility will be located at: • Otay Mesa, California

Appendix C: New Mexico Undertaking Details

2,101 Total Undertakings

- 7- PA Used- Stipulation VI
- 2,087- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.1 (operations not included in summary table below)
- 4- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.2
- 0- PA Used- Stipulation VII.B
- 1- Consultation Done
- 2- No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Antelope Wells AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Antelope Wells Station.
CATEX EPT Deming [BE: NM0150] Horse Stable Floor Repair **PA Used- VI.B.1** The proposed action is to resurface the floor of the existing horse stables at the Deming (DNM) Border Patrol Station (BPS). This involves the repair of the existing concrete floor by filing in chips and cracks and adding a new seal coat to the floor. The concrete slab will also be scarified to reduce the potential for animal slips when the concrete is wet.
CATEX EPT Lease Termination and Equipment Removal for Multiple TACCOM Sites in NM and TX **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Termination of leases for decommissioned legacy sites where equipment has already been removed at the following locations: • San Antone Mtn (remote location on USDA lands near Vallecitos, NM) • Taos (space on USFS Carson National Forest tower and in existing shelter near Taos, NM) • Turkey Mountain (space on NM IT tower and in existing shelter near Watrous, NM) • Wheatland (space on NM IT tower and in existing shelter near Tucumcari, NM) • Mount Taylor (space on NM IT tower and in existing shelter near Cubero, NM) • La Mosca (space on NM IT tower and in existing shelter near Cubero, NM) • Elida Kenna (space on NM IT tower and in existing shelter near Santa Fe, NM) • Cornudas TX Land Only (remote location on private lands near Sonora, NM)
CATEX EPT Roof Replacement at Four Existing Checkpoints **PA Used- VI.B.3** Replace in-kind the roofs at four existing checkpoints located in the El Paso Sector. The project may also include the in-kind replacement of the associated rain gutter system to ensure the new roofs function properly. The old roofing material will be hauled away by the contractor and disposed of at an approved landfill or recycling facility. The checkpoints that will receive roof replacements are located in Texas and New Mexico and listed below: • I-10 Checkpoint [NM11387] – 1941 Square Feet • I-25 Checkpoint [NM0039] – 1956 Square Feet • HWY 62/180 Checkpoint [TX0471] – 2191 Square Feet • HWY 185 Checkpoint [NM11388] – 751 Square Feet

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX EPT STN BPS [NM0023] Repair Firing Range Floor **Consultation Done** The current firing range floor layout consists of concrete walkways that run parallel to the firing lines. In between the concrete walkways are large areas of compacted earth that have a thin layer of crushed gravel acting as a surface cap. The health hazards with having a soil base walking surface is that over time it will collect and trap lead dust and other byproducts of gunfire. This potential hazard has recently increased as a result of partially enclosing the outdoor firing range by installing walls along the exterior of the range which has decreased natural ventilation. In order to address this potential occupational health problem the portion of the range floor that is currently compacted earth will be excavated and replaced with concrete. The undertaking includes excavation and disposal of five inches of soil from the range complex walking surface and the placement of concrete slabs in the areas of soil removal. The concrete will be a 4 inch thick slab. The STN BPS is a modern facility constructed in the mid-1990s that is located at 1005 HWY 9 in Santa Teresa, New Mexico.
CATEX EPT STN BPS [NM0023] Replace Lighting System at the Small Arms Firing Range **PA Used- VI.B.3(d)** The proposed action includes the replacement and maintenance of the existing lighting system located at the existing Santa Teresa (STN) Border Patrol Station (BPS) Small Arms Firing Range. The range is located under a canopy within the fenced in STN BPS compound. The Santa Teresa (STN) Border Patrol Station (BPS) is a modern facility constructed in the mid-1990s that is located at 1005 HWY 9 in Santa Teresa, New Mexico.
CATEX EPT Water Treatment Installation at Six Existing Facilities **PA Used- VI.B.1(c)** Design, labor, equipment, and materials to install water filtration and treatment systems that consist of a particulate filtration system, UV treatment, disinfection system, and appropriately sized storage tank (as necessary) to maintain capacity. Work will include evaluation of the existing water supply infrastructure system at each location, development of a recommended filtration system, treatment system, and water storage system suitable for each location that is reliable and requires minimal maintenance and is easy to maintain. All work will occur on the interior of the facilities. The facilities currently have water storage tanks, if new water storage tanks are required they will be in-kind replacements. Water treatment systems will be installed at the following facilities: • FOB Bounds (Antelope Valley, NM) – NM0005 • FOB Garza (Animas Valley, NM) – NM5397 • FOB Ramsey (20 miles east of Columbus, NM) – NM0152 • HWY I-10 Checkpoint – NM11387 • HWY I-25 Checkpoint – NM0039 • HWY 185 Checkpoint – NM11388
CATEX Lease Termination and Equipment Removal for the Mount Kenna NM TACCOM Site **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Termination of lease for decommissioned legacy site leased from the Transwestern Pipeline Company located near Kenna, Chaves County, NM where equipment has already been removed. CBP had space on an existing tower and shelter.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX NASOC-Albuquerque Security Systems and Measures Repairs **PA Used- VI.B.1(d), VI.B.2, VI.B.3, and VI.F.4** Replace or install surveillance and security equipment on an existing building at the NASOC-Albuquerque compound at 2701 Kirtland Drive SE, Albuquerque, NM. The proposed project consists of the following actions: • Remove and replace the facility access control and intrusion detection system; • Remove and replace the building's perimeter windows; • Replace four sets of aluminum framed doors; and • Add 5 additional security cameras. No trenching or ground disturbance is anticipated.
Columbus AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Columbus Station.
NM Playas Block 1 Transition to IFT Demonstration **PA Used- VI.C.8** Test project for up to two (2) months for a new surveillance technology program. Equipment will be mounted on an existing CBP tower. Support equipment consisting of 2 Conex boxes and a trailer, measuring 8'x 20' will be located at the base of the tower.
REC LEXRIS Santa Teresa **PA Used- VI.A.1** Field and operate LEXRIS portal at the Santa Teresa Port of Entry (POE) for the purpose of conducting non-intrusive inspections of vehicles for the presence of contraband, including weapons of mass destruction, explosives, and illicit drugs. The system will be portal (stationary) configurations that will be installed along existing traffic lanes. Vehicles will be scanned as they are driven through the portal. The portal LEXRIS will be installed on previously disturbed, developed surfaces (pavement and asphalt) at the facility. Minor excavations and trenching will be required to install the systems which will affect approximately 280 square feet to a maximum depth of 4 feet. Soils at the POE have been subject to grading and possibly filling to establish traffic lanes and other surfaces, such as inspection areas. Excavated soil will be used to backfill the project site.
Santa Teresa AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Santa Teresa Station.
Sunland Park AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Sunland Park Station.

Appendix D: Texas Undertaking Details

3,819 Total Undertakings

- 25- PA Used- Stipulation VI
- 3,759- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.1 (operations not included in summary table below)
- 14- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.2
- 0- PA Used- Stipulation VII.B
- 17- Consultation Done
- 4- No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Boldts Ranch Surveillance System, Webb County, Laredo West AoR, Laredo Sector, Texas **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property in Webb County. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Brownsville AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
CATEX BBT DRT EPT LRT TCA BPFTI Firing Range Maintenance and Lead Reclamation **Consultation Done** Perform maintenance and lead reclamation on active outdoor firing ranges. Work will including excavating the soil from the existing berms, sifting out the lead bullets and drum for recycling, then returning the soil to the berms. Erosion control measures will be added as necessary to minimize surface water flow off and erosion. The ranges included in this project are: • Fabens Range, Fabens, TX • Marfa Range, Marfa, TX • Amistad Range, Del Rio, TX • Carrizo Springs Range, Carrizo Springs, TX • Freer Range, Freer, TX

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX BBT SBT [TX11607] Disposal of Former Sierra Blanca BPS **Consultation Done** Excessing real property formally utilized as Former Sierra Blanca Border Patrol Station (BPS near Sierra Blanca, Texas. CBP will be working with the General Services Administration (GSA) under the standard process to excess real Federal property. GSA will evaluate the buildings and facilitate the process for arranging for new Federal, state, or local government use of the facilities.
CATEX DRT Abilene TX New Lease and MR TACCOM **Consultation Done** New antenna lease at 2720 Industrial Boulevard, Abilene, Taylor County, TX 79605. The site includes space for an antenna at 200 to 270 ft. on a 279 ft. tall tower owned by Texas Department of Public Safety [TXDPS], built in 2012 (FCC # 1282187), space in the shelter, and associated equipment. . The Proposed Action includes obtaining a new lease and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment at the site. M&R will take place within the existing site footprint and where disturbances have already occurred. M&R activities associated with the Proposed Action may include: • Repair, maintenance, installation and/or replacement of telecommunications equipment and cable systems. • Minor repairs to structures, buildings, security fences, and portable shelters. • M&R of ancillary equipment such as heating, air conditioning, power systems and associated equipment, backup power generators, fuel storage, solar power panels, security monitoring systems, and facility grounding and lightning protection systems, and other equipment as needed. • Repairs to interior and exterior electrical systems. The Proposed Action would not increase or change the footprint of the existing site and there would be no new ground disturbance. The activities would not significantly increase the height or width of the structure(s). All equipment required for the Proposed Action can be accommodated using the existing road and parking area. No new construction or major site improvements are associated with the Proposed Action. Any replaced or retired equipment or material would be recycled or otherwise properly disposed.
CATEX DRT COM Disposal of Former COM BPS [TX0157] and Associated Facilities **Consultation Done** Excessing real property formally utilized as the old Comstock (COM) Border Patrol Station (BPS), old Comstock Checkpoint, and old Comstock Lake Task Force near Comstock, Texas. For owned assets, CBP will be working with the General Services Administration (GSA) under the standard process to excess real Federal property. GSA will evaluate the buildings and facilitate the process for arranging for new Federal, state, or local government use of the facilities. CBP will be returning leased assets to the original lessors. The old Comstock BPS consists of four parcels of land located along the southern side of U.S. 90 within the Comstock city limits. The old Border Patrol Checkpoint is located approximately four miles east of Comstock, Texas on the northern side of U.S. 90. The old Comstock Lake Task Force consists of a modern modular trailer located adjacent to Lake Amistad on a parcel of land owned by the National Park Service.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX DRT/LRT Briscoe Ranch TX MOU, Antennas, and M&R TACCOM **Consultation Done** The Proposed Action includes adding an antenna similar to the existing antennas and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment. M&R will take place within the existing site footprint and where disturbances have already occurred. M&R activities associated with the Proposed Action may include: • Repair, maintenance, installation and/or replacement of telecommunications equipment and cable systems. • M&R of ancillary equipment such as heating, air conditioning, power systems and associated equipment, backup power generators, fuel storage, solar power panels, security monitoring systems, and facility grounding and lightning protection systems, and other equipment as needed. • Repairs to interior and exterior electrical systems.
CATEX EPT El Paso Air Branch Security System Repairs **PA Used- VI.B.1(d) and VI.B.2** Make repairs to the existing security systems at the El Paso Air Branch facilities, located at 1740 American Way, El Paso, TX 79925; 7301 Boeing Drive, El Paso, TX 79925; and 6812 Northrop Drive, El Paso, TX 79925. In order to meet security standards, CBP proposes to replace or install surveillance and security equipment at three existing facilities. The proposed project consists of the following actions: • Repair or replace the access control system, the video surveillance system, and the intrusion detection system at these three facilities; and • Replace the glazing in the windows of the Northrop facility. No trenching or ground disturbance is anticipated.
CATEX EPT EPS [BE: TX0241] Parking Lot Resurfacing **PA Used- VI.D.1** Resurface and restripe the 372,230 square foot parking lot for the El Paso Border Patrol Station. Included in the proposed action is an inspection of the existing parking lot condition, removal of surface debris (i.e. rocks, dirt, and trash) on the existing parking surface, repairing cracks, resurfacing the parking lot with a sealcoating, and restriping the parking lot.
CATEX EPT EPS Riverside Air Unit HVAC and Ceiling Upgrades **PA Used- VI.B.1, VI.B.1(c), VI.B.3, and VI.B.4** Replace an aging and ineffective heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system at the El Paso Air Unit Riverside facility at 6812 Northrop Drive, El Paso, TX.. The proposed project consists of the following actions: • Installation of a new split (indoor/outdoor) HVAC system with associated electrical interconnections, condensate pump and piping, and ceiling/roof repairs around replacement vents.
CATEX EPT Lease Termination and Equipment Removal for Multiple TACCOM Sites in NM and TX **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Termination of leases for decommissioned legacy sites where equipment has already been removed at the following locations: • FAA Mount Franklin (space on FAA tower and in existing shelter near El Paso, TX) • Ranger Peak II (space on Crown Castle tower and in existing shelter near El Paso, TX) • Comanche Peak I (space on Sinclair Broadcast tower and in existing shelter near El Paso, TX) • Comanche Peak II (space on rooftop near El Paso, TX)

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX EPT Sector HQ [BE: TX0180] Building A Parking Lot Resurfacing **PA Used- VI.D.1** Resurface and restripe the 21,318 square foot parking lot for Building A at the El Paso Sector (EPT) Headquarters Facility. Included in the proposed action is an inspection of the existing parking lot condition, removal of surface debris (i.e. rocks, dirt, and trash) on the existing parking surface, repairing cracks, resurfacing the parking lot with a sealcoating, and restriping the parking lot.
CATEX EPT Sector HQ [BE: TX0180] Upgrade Internal Duress Alarm **PA Used- VI.B.1(d)** Repair/upgrade the existing internal duress alarm located in the El Paso Sector (EPT) Headquarters facility. Upgrades will occur in the lobby and other key friction points within the HQ complex. The upgrades will bring the facility into compliance with current Internal Affairs standards.
CATEX EPT SOG HQ [BE: TX11610] Exterior Painting **PA Used- VI.B.3** Repair and repaint the exterior facades of two modern modular structures located at the El Paso Sector (EPT) Special Operations Group (SOG) Headquarters (HQ) on Fort Bliss. The SOG HQ is located at the corner of SSG Sims and Duncan Street on Biggs Army Airfield, Ft. Bliss, TX 79916. The modular facilities were installed in 2003. Proposed work includes preparing and painting the exterior of the existing facilities (i.e. Buildings 11163 and P1163).
CATEX EPT YST [BE: TX0183] Force Protection Upgrade **PA Used- VI.B.1(d), VI.B.2, and VI.B.3(d)** Upgrade the existing force protection in the lobby of the existing Ysleta (YST) Border Patrol Station (BPS). The proposed action includes the following; • Replacing current interior walls of the lobby with Class Level III ballistic resistant fiber glass paneling • The glass pane doors with ballistic rate teller window with two way audio and a drawer for hand to hand transaction • Installing a CCTV with view of the parking area & reception area • Adding under the counter duress for the receptionist to signal the station personnel of incoming threats • Install a level III ballistic rated door with the proper electronic control access entrance technology The building was constructed in 1993 and is located at 12245 Pine Springs Drive, El Paso, TX 79936.
CATEX EPT YST HWY 62-180 Checkpoint [TX0471] Install Water Well **Consultation Done** Provide a new water well and appropriately-sized pump with necessary filtering equipment to feed an existing 2600 gallon storage tank on site at the HWY 62-180 Checkpoint.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX LRT Fairfield SW150 TX Lease Renewal and MR TACCOM **Consultation Done** Fairfield SW150 is located at 127 State Highway 75 South, Fairfield, Freestone County, TX 75830. The site includes rented space for an antenna on a 500 ft. tall guyed commercial tower (Huffman Communications, FCC # 1053780, built in 1981), space in shelter for equipment, and associated equipment. The Proposed Action includes renewing the site lease and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment at the site. M&R will take place within the existing site footprint and where disturbances have already occurred. Road access and parking area is available and not maintained by CBP. M&R activities associated with the Proposed Action may include: • Repair, maintenance, installation and/or replacement of telecommunications equipment and cable systems. • Minor repairs to structures and/or buildings where equipment is located. • M&R of ancillary equipment such as heating, air conditioning, power systems and associated equipment, backup power generators, fuel storage, solar power panels, security monitoring systems, and facility grounding and lightning protection systems, and other equipment as needed. • Repairs to interior and exterior electrical systems. The Proposed Action would not increase or change the footprint of the existing site and there would be no new ground disturbance. The activities would not significantly increase the height or width of the structure. All equipment required for the Proposed Action can be accommodated using existing roads and parking area.
CATEX RGV RGC BPS TX TACCOM Tower Antenna Space Outlease **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Outleasing antenna space at the Rio Grande City (RGC) Border Patrol Station (BPS) at 730 Border Patrol Lane, Rio Grande City, Starr County, TX. The site consists of a CBP-owned 250 ft. tall self-support lattice tower, shelters, and associated equipment. CBP intends to grant an outlease to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Tick Riders for antenna space at 147 ft. height on the tower and equipment space within the existing shelter. A structural analysis has been performed for the tower and proposed additions. The USDA will install equipment on the tower and will place batteries, electrical wiring, and other equipment as needed within the existing shelter.
CATEX RGV TACCOM – Riviera #2 TX Site Lease and M&R **Consultation Done** Renew site leases and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment and structures at the Riviera #2 site, located at E. County Road (CR) 2335 (northeast of the intersection of E. CR 2335 and South CR 1070), Riviera, Kleberg County, TX
CATEX RGV TACCOM – Roma Repeater TX Site Lease and M&R **Consultation Done** Renew site leases and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment and structures at the Roma Repeater site located off N. Estrella Street, (approximately 200 feet northwest of the intersection of Woodland Circle and N. Estrella Street), Roma, Starr County, TX.
Cienegas Creek AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Ciudad Juarez Region of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
Cowboy Ranch Surveillance System, Zapata Station, Laredo Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property in Zapata County. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Del Rio Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
Eagle Pass AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
El Paso MEMXRIS **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the El Paso Port of Entry, El Paso, El Paso County, Texas for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Encinitos Aerostat to Valley View, USBP Weslaco AoR, RGV Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems from the existing Encinitos site to the existing Valley View site in Hidalgo County. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Ft. Brown Surveillance System Sites, Ft. Brown AoR, USBP RGV Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems at nine locations on private property in the Laredo West and Zapata Station areas of responsibility. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 7' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • three concrete barriers to be used as anchors; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; and • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius.
FY 16 MEMXRIS Eagle Pass **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Eagle Pass Port of Entry, Eagle Pass, Maverick County, Texas for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
FY 16 MEMXRIS El Paso **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the El Paso Port of Entry, El Paso, El Paso County, Texas for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
Hidalgo AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Houston Airport MEMXRIS **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Houston Airport, Houston, Harris County, Texas for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
La Casita Surveillance System, Rio Grande City Station, RGV Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property in Starr County. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Laredo AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
Laredo MEMXRIS **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Laredo Port of Entry, Laredo, Webb County, Texas for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
LEXRIS Portals for Hidalgo and Pharr **PA Used- VI.A.1** Field and operate two LEXRIS portals at the Hidalgo and Pharr Ports of Entry (POE) in Texas for the purpose of conducting non-intrusive inspections of vehicles for the presence of contraband, including weapons of mass destruction, explosives, and illicit drugs. The systems will be portal (stationary) configurations that will be installed along existing traffic lanes. Vehicles will be scanned as they are driven through the portal. The portal LEXRIS will be installed on previously disturbed, developed surfaces (pavement and asphalt) at the Hidalgo and Pharr Facilities. Minor excavations and trenching will be required to install the systems which will affect approximately 280 square feet to a maximum depth of 4 feet. Soils at the POE have been subject to grading and possibly filling to establish traffic lanes and other surfaces, such as inspection areas. Excavated soil will be used to backfill the project site.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Nine Surveillance Systems, Laredo West and Zapata Stations Area of Responsibility **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems at nine locations on private property in the Laredo West and Zapata Station areas of responsibility. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Pharr AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
Presidio AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
Presidio Housing Maintenance, Repair, and Site Improvement **PA Used- VI.B.1, VI.B.2, VI.B.3, VI.B.3(d), and VI.D.1** Maintenance, repair, and site improvement activities at the Presidio, Texas Housing Complex. Work will include: • Provide new exterior paint on mobile homes. Paint siding, soffits, trim window sills and doors. • Remove shutters from existing windows and replace with matching wood trim around all four sides of each window. This effort will extended life of the exterior siding • Install new exterior motion detector security lighting on mobile homes for security purposes. • Repair existing horizontal slide vehicle security gate located at entrance to the 700/800 housing for security purposes. • Install landscape island features throughout the front and back yard areas of housing. This effort will improve tenant security and promote a sense of family community. The work shall be performed at the CBP housing units located on Bunton Street. • Replace the existing deteriorating carpet with new vinyl flooring at the mobile housing units in the McKeel housing area. • Installation of new barrier fencing and landscaping to limited areas in the CBP 700/800 housing area to improve security and enhance the appearance of the area. • Repair and restore walk paths. Under this task, the Contractor shall replace any missing aggregate to establish a uniform depth of aggregate throughout entire walk path. Install new concrete sidewalks and steps where deteriorated beyond repair. • Install exterior window screens on 700/800 series homes to replace ones with holes and are falling apart. • Replace existing lighting fixtures past their useful life span with new ones in housing units. • Install new appliances.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
REC LEXRIS Del Rio **PA Used- VI.A.1** Field and operate two LEXRIS portals at the Del Rio Port of Entry (POE) in Val Verde County, Texas for the purpose of conducting non-intrusive inspections of vehicles for the presence of contraband, including weapons of mass destruction, explosives, and illicit drugs. The systems will be portal (stationary) configurations that will be installed along existing traffic lanes. Vehicles will be scanned as they are driven through the portal. The portal LEXRIS will be installed on previously disturbed, developed surfaces (pavement and asphalt) at the Del Rio Facility. Minor excavations and trenching will be required to install the systems which will affect approximately 280 square feet to a maximum depth of 4 feet. Soils at the POE have been subject to grading and possibly filling to establish traffic lanes and other surfaces, such as inspection areas. Excavated soil will be used to backfill the project site.
Relampago Surveillance System, Weslaco Station, Rio Grande Valley Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property near Mercedes, Texas. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Relocatable Surveillance System Alternate Sites USBP Laredo West Station Laredo Sector **PA Used- VI.A.4, VI.C.1, VI.C.2, VI.C.8** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair; dismantlement, removal, and relocation of supporting infrastructure for Surveillance System deployment (RAID towers) to four previously established sites located in Webb County. • Boldt RAID Tower Site (28.050363 -99.560192) • Trevino RAID Tower Site (27.86115 -99.89055) • LRW Station (27.7068 -99.7283) • TXDOT Site (27.7084 -99.7283)
Relocation and Redeployment of RAID Aerostat from Valley View to Refugio, USBP, Rio Grande City Station, Rio Grande Valley Sector **PA Used- VI.A.4, VI.C.1, VI.C.2, VI.C.8** Dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property in Valley View Texas to and relocation to an existing site in the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge managed by USFWS. Maintenance of existing access road to Refugio site on USFWS lands. Work includes grading the existing road, reestablishing the road crown for proper drainage where required, and the addition and compaction of caliche or other flexible road base as needed. Areas adjacent to the road may also have vegetation control to establish a 3' buffer and 15' canopy height clearance to ensure visibility and maintain safe conditions.
Rio Grande City AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Roma AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
San Isidro AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
San Pedro Surveillance System, USBP Weslaco Station, Rio Grande Valley Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property in Hidalgo County. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Santa Cruz Surveillance System RAID Tower, Rio Grande City Station, Rio Grande Valley Sector **PA Used- VI.A.4, VI.C.1, VI.C.2, VI.C.8** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on an existing site in the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge managed by USFWS. Maintenance of existing access road to Santa Cruz site on USFWS lands. Work includes grading the existing road, reestablishing the road crown for proper drainage where required, and the addition and compaction of caliche or other flexible road base as needed. Areas adjacent to the road may also have vegetation control to establish a 3' buffer and 15' canopy height clearance to ensure visibility and maintain safe conditions.
Sauzal AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
TX RVSS Relocatable Towers McAllen Sector **PA Used- VI.A.4, VI.C.1, VI.C.2, VI.C.8** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of mobile RVSS towers on 6 sites, 5 alternate sites, and 3 relay sites in McAllen vSector. Equipment is rotated between sites based on operational needs. Each system is comprised of the following: • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
TX RVSS Relocatable Towers, Laredo Sector **PA Used- VI.A.4, VI.C.1, VI.C.2, VI.C.8** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of mobile RVSS towers on 6 sites, 5 alternate sites, and 3 relay sites in Laredo Sector. Equipment is rotated between sites based on operational needs. Each system is comprised of the following: • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
TX0029 Paso Del Norte Ready Lanes **PA Used- VI.B.7** Installation of vehicle pipe gates, lane delineators, flexible bollards, and directional signage to segregate Ready Lanes from regular travel lanes.
TX0030 Bridge of the Americas El Paso Ready Lanes **PA Used- VI.B.7** Installation of vehicle pipe gates, lane delineators, flexible bollards, and directional signage to segregate Ready Lanes from regular travel lanes.
TX0031 Ysleta Ready Lanes **PA Used- VI.B.7** Installation of vehicle pipe gates, lane delineators, flexible bollards, and directional signage to segregate Ready Lanes from regular travel lanes.
TX0040 Freeport Port Lease Renewal **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Renewal of free space lease from Port of Freeport. The facility is located on the Port and was completed in the 2013.
TX0087TX15339 LPOE Ft Hancock Canopy LSTAR Deployment **PA Used- VI.F.4** Test project for a new surveillance program. Equipment will be mounted on an existing CBP building at the Ft. Hancock LPOE.
TX0401 CatEx El Paso Rail Inspection Facility Lease **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Free space lease of a 1,664 sq ft building located within the Union Pacific railyard. No renovations to the space are necessary.
TX0457 CatEx Brownsville Seaport Office Lease **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Renewal of a free space lease of 681 sq ft of office space located within the Harbor Master's Building. The building was constructed in 1996. No renovations to the space are necessary.
TX0531TX0729 LPOE Tornillo K-9 LSTAR Deployment **PA Used- VI.F.4** Test project for a new surveillance program. Equipment will be mounted on an existing CBP building at the Tornillo LPOE.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
UAC and FAMU Temporary Housing (Tent City) **PA Used- VII.A.2** Construct soft-sided housing units at existing CBP facilities to provide safe and secure temporary housing for UACs and FAMUs. The facilities will be located at: • Tornillo, Texas; and • Donna, Texas

From:	Cynthia Martinez
To:	Jim Kurth
Subject:	Fwd: Official CBP communication- Border Fence
Date:	Thursday, September 7, 2017 5:24:38 AM
Attachments:	mime-attachment.html ATT00001.htm attachment 1.pdf ATT00002.htm

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Hi Jim

Wanted to talk with you about this incoming letter and our response. As we understand it now, the Department (Brent?? vice Jon Andrews) also received it. So likely a Departmental response.

Let me know when we can discuss.

Thanks

Cynthia

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Keenan Adams <keenan_adams@fws.gov>
> **Date:** August 31, 2017 at 9:14:48 PM EDT
> **To:** Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Cynthia Martinez <Cynthia_Martinez@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Official CBP communication- Border Fence**

Attachment this time

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Monica Kimbrough <monica_kimbrough@fws.gov>
Date: August 31, 2017 at 4:26:53 PM MDT
To: "Jess, Robert" <robert_jess@fws.gov>
Cc: "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas_harvey@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell <kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan_adams@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris_tincher@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny_perez@fws.gov>, justin.tade@sol.doi.gov
Subject: Re: Official CBP communication- Border Fence

Thanks, Rob. Hold off for now. Getting forwarded up to HQ and will work with solicitor on response. We will get a discussion/call set up.

Monica

Monica Kimbrough
Assistant Refuge Supervisor
USFWS, National Wildlife Refuge System
Southwest Region
office: 505-248-7419
cell: 505-366-4628

Please excuse errors, sent from my iPhone

On Aug 30, 2017, at 11:17 AM, Jess, Robert <robert_jess@fws.gov> wrote:

> Just received the following from CBP which requires a response within 60 days from August 25, 2017. I will draft a response based on our suggestions and guidance, as mentioned to BP and CBP and run up for review.
> Please see attached...
>
> --
> robert jess
> project leader
> south texas refuge complex
> alamo, texas
>
> <CBP planning request.pdf>

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(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

AUG 25 2017

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Mr. Robert Jess
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3325 Green Jay Road
Alamo, TX 78516

Dear Mr. Jess:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is in the initial stages of planning for proposed levee wall along 28 miles of existing levee located in Hidalgo County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's McAllen and Weslaco stations area of responsibility (AOR) and 32 miles of bollard wall in Starr County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande City station AOR. In addition, CBP is in the planning stages of its second phase of gate installation to close 35 gaps in existing border fence in Hidalgo and Cameron counties. The 35 gates were funded in CBP's fiscal year (FY) 2017 appropriation, while the proposed 28 miles of levee wall and 32 miles of bollard wall are included in the President's FY18 budget request to Congress.

In Hidalgo County, CBP is proposing 28 miles of levee wall. The proposed levee wall alignment will be on the south face of the northern U.S. International Boundary Water Commission (IBWC) levee. The proposed design includes construction of a reinforced concrete levee wall to the height of the existing levee with 18-foot tall steel bollards installed on the top of the levee wall, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the levee wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, automated vehicle gates, pedestrian gates, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the levee wall. In addition, CBP will install gates within 20 gaps in existing border levee wall within Hidalgo County and in 15 existing gaps within Cameron County.

In Starr County, CBP is proposing 32 miles of bollard wall. The proposed design includes construction of 20 to 30-foot tall steel bollards, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the bollard wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the bollard wall.

Additional details of the possible components of the proposed action are as follows:

- **Levee Wall** -The levee wall will be a concrete wall to the height of the levee crest with 18 foot tall bollards installed in the top of the levee wall.
- **Bollard Wall** – The bollard wall will be 20 to 30 feet high utilizing 8-inch diameter, concrete filled steel bollards.
- **150 Foot Enforcement Zone** – The enforcement zone will be an area extending from the south/river side of the levee wall or bollard wall approximately 150 feet. All vegetation within the 150-foot enforcement zone will be cleared.
- **Gates** - Automated vehicle gates will be installed with a minimum height of 18 feet and minimum width of 20 feet. In addition, gates designed to allow for farming equipment will be installed where appropriate and range in width from 40 to 50 feet. All gates will be motorized overhead sliding gates with an enclosed drive and operator system.

- **Lighting** - LED lighting will be installed as part of this project. CBP will work with the appropriate stakeholders to develop solutions to avoid excess lighting beyond the enforcement zone.
- **All Weather Road** - An all-weather aggregate patrol road (type FC-2) will be constructed on the south side and parallel to the levee or bollard wall and within the 150-foot enforcement zone. The specific location of the road within the enforcement zone will be determined during the design phase of the project.
- **Cameras** - A camera surveillance system will be installed to ensure visibility of the enforcement zone and southern approach.

The purpose of the proposed action is to increase CBP's ability to impede or deny illegal border crossings, and to provide improved surveillance and detection capabilities to the areas of greatest risk of illegal cross-border activity located within the US. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will be similar to other levee and border wall systems located within the Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will also support CBPs action under Executive Order (EO) 13767, where CBP is directed to "...secure the southern border of the United States through the immediate construction of a physical wall on the southern border, monitored and supported by adequate personnel so as to prevent illegal immigration, drug and human trafficking, and acts of terrorism."

CBP will evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. CBP is gathering data and input from state and local government agencies, federal agencies, and Native American Tribes that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in the proposed actions. Since your agency or organization may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding the potential environmental impacts from CBP's proposed action, your input is sought regarding the likely or anticipated effects to biological, cultural, and natural resources from the implementation of the proposed actions. Your response should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which CBP should consider during project siting, construction, and operation.

This letter is intended to provide initial information for CBP's proposed projects in the Rio Grande Valley and seek comments and concerns from potentially affected parties and interested groups. CBP intends similar outreach in other border regions as projects are identified and defined. Your prompt attention to this request is appreciated. Comments and information will be accepted up to 30 days following the date of this letter. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include "RGV Wall and Gates Construction" in the title of your email. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Border Patrol & Air and Marine
Program Management Office

From: Matthew Huggler
To: Greg Sheehan
Cc: Fleming, Jeffrey; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ; Barbara Wainman; Charisa Morris; Jim Kurth
Subject: Re: OP-ED REQUEST: Talking points on the border
Date: Monday, May 7, 2018 9:06:32 AM

I will take care of it.

Jeff - If there is anything additional I need to know about this assignment give me a call.

Thanks,

- Matt

On May 7, 2018, at 12:01 PM, Greg Sheehan <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov> wrote:

> Please quickly perform whatever reviews are necessary and get to Eli. I didn't think that ASFWP reviewed speaking points for talks/articles that we send up to Eli.
>
> Thanks
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
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> > I was told to get it over to Maureen and I now see what happened. There is a Mauren Foster in DoI and I didn't catch that it wasn't the correct Maureen. Here is the email message pasted below:
> >
> > ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> > From: **Fleming, Jeffrey** <jeffrey_m_fleming@fws.gov>
> > Date: Fri, May 4, 2018 at 12:28 PM
> > Subject: FWS - Border message and policy points...
> > To: mauren_foster@ios.doi.gov
> > Cc: Barbara Wainman <Barbara_Wainman@fws.gov>, Linda Walker <linda_d_walker@fws.gov>
> >
> > Maureen,
> >
> > The quote in bold was shared with us by Russell Newell in OCO after we talked earlier this week about communications and our interests in

being prepared to talk about this effort. I am copying Barbara here as well as my colleague Linda Walker, who is acting Chief of the National Wildlife Refuge System for Cynthia today.

Here is some material from FWS that I think will be helpful to the effort:

- There are 164 miles of U.S Fish & Wildlife Service lands and 10 National Wildlife Refuges directly on the Southwest border.
- Currently 19 Federal Wildlife Officers (FWOs) patrol over 1.9 million acres of National Wildlife Refuges on the Southwest border.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, for example, operates a sub-station at Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona, and the Service's law enforcement officers have a seamless relationship built over several decades of partnership and working together.

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From: "(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Date: May 2, 2018 at 5:05:02 PM EDT
To: "Range, Brent" <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>, "Bosak, Dennis" <dennis_bosak@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "(b) (6)(b) (6) " <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >, "(b) (6)(b) (6) " <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Facing Statement - DOI support of Border Security Efforts

Good afternoon Brent and Dennis-

This is the public statement that was approved by USBP. We can still work on it if DOI public affairs feels edits are necessary.

Thank you,

(b) (6)
(b) (6)
USBP HQ
LEOD/Ops Central
(b) (6) Desk
(b) (6) Cell

"As the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Border Patrol, and the Department of Interior's Office of Law Enforcement and Security, continue to foster an already strong relationship, both agencies have initiated an effort to coordinate field deployment operations, which will increase situational awareness in a shared capacity within Department of Interior public lands that abut the

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Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks much.
jeff

Jeff Fleming
Acting Assistant Director - External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

for Barbara Wainman

404-274-6693 m

Jeff Fleming
Office of External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southeast Region, Atlanta, Georgia

404-679-7287 d
404-274-6693 m

On Mon, May 7, 2018 at 10:45 AM, Greg Sheehan <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov> wrote:

> Eli indicated that he never received this information. Jeff did you send that over to him?
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
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Just spoke with Jeff and we are sending him the material he needs.

Rich.

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>
> Sent from my iPhone
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> > All
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> > Due later today thanks.
> >
> > Greg Sheehan
> > Principal Deputy Director
> > US Fish and Wildlife Service
> > 202-208-4545 office
> > 202-676-7675 cell
> >
> > Begin forwarded message:
> >
> > **From:** "Nachmany, Eli" <eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov>
> > **Date:** May 3, 2018 at 4:26:01 PM PDT
> > **To:** Downey Magallanes <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>, Todd Willens <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Cameron <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>, Michael Argo <michael_argo@ios.doi.gov>, Harry Humbert <harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C),
Susan Combs
<susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>,
"Paul (Dan) Smith"
<paul_smith@nps.gov>,
Greg Sheehan
<greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
Subject: OP-ED REQUEST: Talking points on the border

Hi all,

I am writing an op-ed from the Secretary on the deployment of DOI law enforcement to the border. Please send me any policy talking points or messaging about this by **COB tomorrow, Friday, May 4**, so that I may draft.

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Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285

--

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Chief of Law Enforcement
National Wildlife Refuge System
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Protecting America's Wildlife and Those Who Enjoy It Since 1903

From: Wainman, Barbara
To: Greg Sheehan
Cc: Fleming, Jeffrey; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ; Charisa Morris; Matthew Huggler; Jim Kurth
Subject: Re: OP-ED REQUEST: Talking points on the border
Date: Monday, May 7, 2018 9:40:21 AM

This one originally came to us through Maureen and she asked us to get it back to her which is why Jeff sent it through her. Very sorry for the mix up Greg we will get it cleared up asap

Barbara W. Wainman
Assistant Director, External Affairs
US Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-5256 (office)
(571) 471-4159 (cell)

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USBP HQ
LEOD/Ops Central
(b) (6) Desk
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for Barbara Wainman

404-274-6693 m

Jeff Fleming
Office of External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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404-679-7287 d
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<paul_smith@nps.gov>, Greg Sheehan <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
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U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285

--

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Chief of Law Enforcement
National Wildlife Refuge System
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Protecting America's Wildlife and Those Who Enjoy It Since 1903

Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 5: CBP MOUCBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:46 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Date: Fri, Jun 8, 2018 at 3:00 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: CBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation
To: Brown, Michael <michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov>, Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>, Doster, Rob <rob_doster@fws.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>

As a follow-up to (b) (6) email last week that contained the documentation for review/approval, please find attached the signed permit application form. Please let us know if you have any additional questions or additional information.

V/r,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

Energy and Environmental Management Division

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)(b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 2:40 PM
To: 'Brown, Michael' <michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov>; Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>; Doster, Rob <rob_doster@fws.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; 'Kordella, Lesley' <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Subject: CBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation

All,

I have attached the documentation and appendices for CBP's Programmatic Permit request.

We are currently working on getting the first page of the Special Purpose – Miscellaneous Permit Application Form signed and should have it to you next week.

Please let me know if there is any additional information or documentation that you require.

Thank you very much for the coordination throughout this effort.

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

LMI Government Consulting

Energy and Environment Managment Division

US Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)(b) (6)

--

****

Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

****

MBTA Special Use Permit App_CBP_060818.pdf
1748K

Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

OMB Control No. 1018 - 0022
Expires 5/31/2017

Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Application Form

Click here for addresses.

Return to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Type of Activity: | **Special Purpose – Miscellaneous**

☑ **New Application**
☐ **Requesting Renewal or Amendment of Permit #** _____

Complete Sections A or B, and C, D, and E of this application. U.S. address may be required in Section C, see instructions for details.
See attached instruction pages for information on how to make your application complete and help avoid unnecessary delays.

A. Complete if applying as an individual			
1.a. Last name	1.b. First name	1.c. Middle name or initial	1.d. Suffix
2. Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	3. Social Security No.	4. Occupation	5. Affiliation/ Doing business as (see instructions)
6.a. Telephone number	6.b. Alternate telephone number	6.c. Fax number	6.d. E-mail address

B. Complete if applying on behalf of a business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution			
1.a. Name of business, agency, Tribe, or institution		1.b. Doing business as (dba)	
Customs and Border Protection		N/A	
2. Tax identification no.	3. Description of business, agency, or institution		
N/A	Border security law enforcement agency		
4.a. Principal officer Last name	4.b. Principal officer First name	4.c. Principal officer Middle name/ initial	4.d. Suffix
(b) (6)	(b) (6)	(b) (6) (b) (6)	
5. Principal officer title		6. Primary contact name	
Director, Facilities Management and Engineering		(b) (6)(b) (6)	
7.a. Business telephone number	7.b. Alternate telephone number	7.c. Business fax number	7.d. Business e-mail address
(b) (6)	(b) (6)	(b) (6)(b) (6)	(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

C. All applicants complete address information				
1.a. Physical address (Street address; Apartment #, Suite #, or Room #; no P.O. Boxes)				
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)				
1.b. City	1.c. State	1.d. Zip code/Postal code:	1.e. County/Province	1.f. Country
Washington	DC	20004	NA	USA
2.a. Mailing Address (include if different than physical address; include name of contact person if applicable)				
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)				
2.b. City	2.c. State	2.d. Zip code/Postal code:	2.e. County/Province	2.f. Country
Washington	DC	(b) (6)	NA	USA

D. All applicants MUST complete

1. Attach check or money order payable to the U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE **in the amount** | **$100.00** |. Federal, Tribal, State, and local government agencies, and those acting on behalf of such agencies, are exempt from the processing fee – ***attach documentation of fee exempt status as outlined in instructions.*** (50 CFR 13.11(d))

2. Do you currently have or have you ever had any Federal Fish and Wildlife permits?
Yes ☑ If "yes," list the number of the most current permit you have held or that you are applying to renew/re-issue: MB37271C-0 No ☐

3. Certification: I hereby certify that I have read and am familiar with the regulations contained in ***Title 50, Part 13 of the Code of Federal Regulations*** and the other ***applicable parts in subchapter B of Chapter I of Title 50***, and I certify that the information submitted in this application for a permit is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement herein may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Signature (**in blue ink**) of applicant/person responsible for permit (No photocopied or stamped signatures) — Date of signature (mm/dd/yyyy): 6/8/18

Please continue to next page

SECTION E. SPECIAL PURPOSE - MISCELLANEOUS
(Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 50 CFR 21.27)

Note: A Federal Special Purpose - Miscellaneous permit is required to address migratory bird activities that are not covered by other existing permit types. Activities must benefit the migratory bird resource, address important research, address human concerns for individual birds, or show other compelling justification. You must be at least 18 years of age to apply for a permit. Special Purpose Permits may be valid up to 3 years.

Please provide the following information. You may use the space provided as well as a separate sheet of paper with your responses numbered according to the application questions below. You should be as thorough and specific as possible in your responses. Incomplete applications will be returned, delayed or abandoned.

1. The species (scientific and common name) and quantity of migratory birds, parts, nests, and eggs to be covered by the permit.

2. A detailed description of the project or activity, including the purpose. Include copies of supporting documentation, research proposals, and any other information that may be useful for evaluating your request.

3. The exact location (physical – address and/or GPS coordinates in decimal degree; or geographic, as appropriate) where the activity would be conducted.

4. A full description of your background and expertise in conducting the proposed activities.

5. If live birds will be maintained in captivity, describe the facilities. Attach photographs and diagrams of your enclosures. Diagrams must include dimensions (length, width, and height) and a description of interior and exterior construction materials, such as flooring and netting materials.

6. Indicate the intended disposition of the specimens, including, if applicable, the name and address of the public, scientific, or educational institution to which all specimens ultimately will be donated upon completion of activity.

7. Anyone who will be assisting you with the permitted activities or acting as your agent must either have their own Federal migratory bird permit for the activity or be identified by you, in writing, as a subpermittee under your permit. They may also require a State permit. Subpermittees must be at least 18 years old. As the primary permittee, you will be responsible for ensuring that your subpermittees are properly trained and adhere to the terms of your permit. Provide the name of anyone besides yourself who will be conducting activities under your permit. For anyone handling or caring for live birds, briefly describe what they will be doing and their qualifications.

8. You must retain records relating to the activities conducted under your permit for at least 5 years from the date of expiration of your permit. Is the physical address you provided in Section C on page 1 of this application the address where your records will be kept? Indicate "yes" or "no." If "no," provide the physical address.

9. **Any permit issued as a result of this application is not valid unless you also have any required State or tribal permits or approvals associated with the activity.** Have you obtained all required State or tribal permits or approvals to conduct this activity? **If "yes," attach a copy of the approval(s).** If "no," indicate whether your "have applied" or whether "none is required." **If you "have applied," send a copy when it is issued.**

10. **Disqualification factor.** A conviction, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, for a felony violation of the Lacey Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act disqualifies any such person from receiving or exercising the privileges of a permit, unless such disqualification has been expressly waived by the Service Director in response to a written petition. (50 CFR 13.21(c))

    Have you or any of the owners of the business, if applying as a business, been convicted, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, forfeited collateral, or are currently under charges for any violations of the laws mentioned above? If not, indicate "no." If you have, indicate "yes," and provide the following: a) the individual's name, b) date of charge, c) charge(s), d) location of incident, e) court, and f) action taken for each violation.

PERMIT APPLICATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

The following instructions pertain to an application for a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or CITES permit. The General Permit Procedures in 50 CFR 13 address the permitting process. For simplicity, all licenses, permits, registrations, and certificates are referred to as a permit.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- Complete all blocks/lines/questions in Sections A or B, and in C, D, and E.
- **An incomplete application may cause delays in processing or may be returned to the applicant. Be sure you are filling in the appropriate application form for the proposed activity.**
- Print clearly or type in the information. Illegible applications may cause delays.
- Sign the application in blue ink. Faxes or copies of the original signature will not be accepted.
- Mail the original application to the address at the top of page one of the application or if applicable on the attached address list.
- **Keep a copy of your completed application.**
- **Please plan ahead. Allow at least 60 days for your application to be processed. Some applications may take longer than 90 days to process. (50 CFR 13.11)**
- Applications are processed in the order they are received.
- Additional forms and instructions are available from http://permits.fws.gov.

COMPLETE EITHER SECTION A OR SECTION B:

Section A. **Complete if applying as an individual:**

- Enter the complete name of the responsible individual who will be the permittee if a permit is issued. Enter personal information that identifies the applicant. ***Fax and e-mail are not required if not available.***
- If you are applying on behalf of a client, the personal information must pertain to the client, and a document evidencing power of attorney must be included with the application.
- **Affiliation/ Doing business as (dba)**: business, agency, organizational, or institutional affiliation *directly* related to the activity requested in the application (e.g., a taxidermist is an individual whose business can *directly* relate to the requested activity). The Division of Management Authority (DMA) will **not** accept *doing business as* affiliations for individuals.

Section B. **Complete if applying as a business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution:**

- Enter the complete name of the business, agency, Tribe, or institution that will be the permittee if a permit is issued. Give a brief description of the type of business the applicant is engaged in. Provide contact phone number(s) of the business.
- **Principal Officer** is the person in charge of the listed business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution. The principal officer is the person responsible for the application and any permitted activities. Often the principal officer is a Director or President. **Primary Contact** is the person at the business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution who will be available to answer questions about the application or permitted activities. Often this is the preparer of the application.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION C:

- For all applications submitted to the Division of Management Authority (DMA) a physical U.S. address is **required**. Province and Country blocks are provided for those USFWS programs which use foreign addresses and are not required by DMA.
- **Mailing address** is address where communications from USFWS should be mailed if different than applicant's physical address.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION D:

Section D.1 **Application processing fee:**

- An application processing fee is required at the time of application; unless exempted under 50 CFR13.11(d)(3). The application processing fee is assessed to partially cover the cost of processing a request. **The fee does not guarantee the issuance of a permit. Fees will not be refunded for applications that are approved, abandoned, or denied.** We may return fees for withdrawn applications prior to any significant processing occurring.
- **Documentation of fee exempt status is not required for Federal, Tribal, State, or local government agencies; but must be supplied by those applicants acting on behalf of such agencies**. Those applicants acting on behalf of such agencies must submit a letter on agency letterhead and signed by the head of the unit of government for which the applicant is acting on behalf, confirming that the applicant will be carrying out the permitted activity for the agency.

Section D.2 **Federal Fish and Wildlife permits:**

- List the number(s) of your most current FWS or CITES permit or the number of the most recent permit if none are currently valid. If applying for re-issuance of a CITES permit, the original permit must be returned with this application.

Section D.3 **CERTIFICATION:**

- **The individual identified in Section A, the principal officer named in Section B, or person with a valid power of attorney (documentation must be included in the application) must sign and date the application in blue ink.** This signature binds the applicant to the statement of certification. This means that you certify that you have read and understand the regulations that apply to the permit. You also certify that everything included in the application is true to the best of your knowledge. Be sure to read the statement and re-read the application and your answers before signing.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION E.

Please continue to next page

APPLICATION FOR A FEDERAL FISH AND WILDLIFE PERMIT
Paperwork Reduction Act, Privacy Act, and Freedom of Information Act – Notices

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) and the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), please be advised:

1. The gathering of information on fish and wildlife is authorized by:
(Authorizing statutes can be found at: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html and http://www.fws.gov/permits/ltr/ltr.html.)

   a. Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668), 50 CFR 22;
   b. Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544), 50CFR 17;
   c. Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712), 50 CFR 21;
   d. Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361, *et. seq.*), 50 CFR 18;
   e. Wild Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4901-4916), 50 CFR 15;
   f. Lacey Act: Injurious Wildlife (18 U.S.C. 42), 50 CFR 16;
   g. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (TIAS 8249), http://www.cites.org , 50 CFR 23;
   h. General Provisions, 50 CFR 10;
   i. General Permit Procedures, 50 CFR 13; and
   j. Wildlife Provisions (Import/export/transport), 50 CFR 14.

2. Information requested in this form is purely voluntary. However, submission of requested information is required in order to process applications for permits authorized under the above laws. Failure to provide all requested information may be sufficient cause for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deny the request. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

3. Certain applications for permits authorized under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1539) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1374) will be published in the **Federal Register** as required by the two laws.

4. Disclosures outside the Department of the Interior may be made without the consent of an individual under the routine uses listed below, if the disclosure is compatible with the purposes for which the record was collected. (Ref. 68 FR 52611, September 4, 2003)

   a. Routine disclosure to subject matter experts, and Federal, Tribal, State, local, and foreign agencies, for the purpose of obtaining advice relevant to making a decision on an application for a permit or when necessary to accomplish an FWS function related to this system of records.
   b. Routine disclosure to the public as a result of publishing **Federal Register** notices announcing the receipt of permit applications for public comment or notice of the decision on a permit application.
   c. Routine disclosure to Federal, Tribal, State, local, or foreign wildlife and plant agencies for the exchange of information on permits granted or denied to assure compliance with all applicable permitting requirements.
   d. Routine disclosure to Captive-bred Wildlife registrants under the Endangered Species Act for the exchange of authorized species, and to share information on the captive breeding of these species.
   e. Routine disclosure to Federal, Tribal, State, and local authorities who need to know who is permitted to receive and rehabilitate sick, orphaned, and injured birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act; federally permitted rehabilitators; individuals seeking a permitted rehabilitator with whom to place a bird in need of care; and licensed veterinarians who receive, treat, or diagnose sick, orphaned, and injured birds.
   f. Routine disclosure to the Department of Justice, or a court, adjudicative, or other administrative body or to a party in litigation before a court or adjudicative or administrative body, under certain circumstances.
   g. Routine disclosure to the appropriate Federal, Tribal, State, local, or foreign governmental agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or implementing statutes, rules, or licenses, when we become aware of a violation or potential violation of such statutes, rules, or licenses, or when we need to monitor activities associated with a permit or regulated use.
   h. Routine disclosure to a congressional office in response to an inquiry to the office by the individual to whom the record pertains.
   i. Routine disclosure to the Government Accountability Office or Congress when the information is required for the evaluation of the permit programs.
   j. Routine disclosure to provide addresses obtained from the Internal Revenue Service to debt collection agencies for purposes of locating a debtor to collect or compromise a Federal claim against the debtor or to consumer reporting agencies to prepare a commercial credit report for use by the FWS.

5. For individuals, personal information such as home address and telephone number, financial data, and personal identifiers (social security number, birth date, etc.) will be removed prior to any release of the application.

6. The public reporting burden on the applicant for information collection varies depending on the activity for which a permit is requested. The relevant burden for a Special Purpose – Miscellaneous permit application is 2 hours and 30 minutes for recordkeeping. This burden estimate includes time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data and completing and reviewing the form. You may direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the form to the Service Information Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mail Stop 222, Arlington Square, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington D.C. 20240.

Freedom of Information Act – Notice

For organizations, businesses, or individuals operating as a business (i.e., permittees not covered by the Privacy Act), we request that you identify any information that should be considered privileged and confidential business information to allow the Service to meet its responsibilities under FOIA. Confidential business information must be clearly marked "Business Confidential" at the top of the letter or page and each succeeding page and must be accompanied by a non-confidential summary of the confidential information. The non-confidential summary and remaining documents may be made available to the public under FOIA [43 CFR 2.26 – 2.33].

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Migratory Bird Regional Permit Offices

FWS REGION	AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY	MAILING ADDRESS	CONTACT INFORMATION
Region 1	**Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Washington**	911 N.E. 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232-4181	Tel. (503) 872-2715 Fax (503) 231-2019 Email *permitsR1MB@fws.gov*
Region 2	**Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas**	P.O. Box 709 Albuquerque, NM 87103	Tel. (505) 248-7882 Fax (505) 248-7885 Email *permitsR2MB@fws.gov*
Region 3	**Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin**	5600 American Blvd. West Suite 990 Bloomington, MN 55437-1458 (Effective 5/31/2011)	Tel. (612) 713-5436 Fax (612) 713-5393 Email *permitsR3MB@fws.gov*
Region 4	**Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico**	P.O. Box 49208 Atlanta, GA 30359	Tel. (404) 679-7070 Fax (404) 679-4180 Email *permitsR4MB@fws.gov*
Region 5	**Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, West Virginia**	P.O. Box 779 Hadley, MA 01035-0779	Tel. (413) 253-8643 Fax (413) 253-8424 Email *permitsR5MB@fws.gov*
Region 6	**Colorado, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming**	P.O. Box 25486 DFC(60154) Denver, CO 80225-0486	Tel. (303) 236-8171 Fax (303) 236-8017 Email *permitsR6MB@fws.gov*
Region 7	**Alaska**	1011 E. Tudor Road (MS-201) Anchorage, AK 99503	Tel. (907) 786-3693 Fax (907) 786-3641 Email *permitsR7MB@fws.gov*
Region 8	**California, Nevada**	2800 Cottage Way Room W-2606 Sacramento, CA 95825	Tel. (916) 978-6183 Fax (916) 414-6486 Email*permitsR8MB@fws.gov*

Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 4: CBP MOUCBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation Part 3 of 5 emails

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:45 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Date: Mon, Jun 11, 2018 at 3:02 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation Part 3 of 5 emails
To: Brown, Michael <michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov>, (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Cc: Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>, Doster, Rob <rob_doster@fws.gov>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >, Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>

This email includes the third part of CBP's MBTA Handbook and PowerPoints for CBP trainings describing MBTA Laws and Regulations.

Email 1: Part 1 of 5; CBP Permit application package and Appendix 1to Appendix 2A

Email 2: Part 2 of 5; Appendix 2B

Email 3: Part 3 of 5; Appendix 2C to Appendix 3 (This email)

Email 4: Part 4 of 5; Appendix 4 (Law Enforcement Sensitive)

Email 5: Part 5 of 5; Appendix 5 to 9

(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)

LMI Government Consulting contract support to

Energy and Environmental Management Division

US Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)

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(o)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This information is the property of the Department of Homeland Security and may contain sensitive data that is confidential or proprietary. If you have received his email in error, please notify the originator immediately. Your assistance is appreciated.

From: Brown, Michael [mailto:michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 11, 2018 9:37 AM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>; Doster, Rob <rob_doster@fws.gov>; (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; (b) (6) (b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: CBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation

(b) (6),

I did not receive documentation referenced in email from (b) (6). Could you please send again.

Eldon

On Fri, Jun 8, 2018 at 12:58 PM, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)> wrote:

> As a follow-up to (b) (6) email last week that contained the documentation for review/approval, please find attached the signed permit application form. Please let us know if you have any additional questions or additional information.
>
> V/r,
>
> (b) (6)
>
> (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
>
> Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
>
> Energy and Environmental Management Division
>
> U.S. Customs and Border Protection
>
> (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

From (b) (6)(b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 2:40 PM
To: 'Brown, Michael' <michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov>; Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>; Doster, Rob <rob_doster@fws.gov>
Cc (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) ;(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) ; (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >; 'Kordella, Lesley' <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Subject: CBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation

All,

I have attached the documentation and appendices for CBP's Programmatic Permit request.

We are currently working on getting the first page of the Special Purpose – Miscellaneous Permit Application Form signed and should have it to you next week.

Please let me know if there is any additional information or documentation that you require.

Thank you very much for the coordination throughout this effort.

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

LMI Government Consulting

Energy and Environment Managment Division

US Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)(b) (6)

Eldon Brown

Permit Chief

Migratory Birds Office-Permits

Southwest Region 2

USFWS-Migratory Birds Permits Office

(505) 248-6406

michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov

--

****
Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

****

CBP Migratory Bird Permit Appendix 2Cto3.pdf
7534K

Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FYSA

Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws gov>
To: fwhq_cnwr_division_chiefs_and_deputies@fws.gov, noah_matson@fws gov

Thought you all would get a kick out of this.

Shaun

> Shaun M. Sanchez
> Deputy Chief
> National Wildlife Refuge System
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> Office Phone: 703-358-2304
> Cell: 702-533-9629
> E-Mail: shaun_sanchez@fws.gov

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws gov>
> **Date:** June 26, 2018 at 3:14:18 PM CDT
> **To:** shaun_sanchez@fws.gov, Cynthia Martinez <Cynthia_Martinez@fws gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FYSA**

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Fernandez, Juliette" <juliette_fernandez@fws.gov>
> **Date:** June 26, 2018 at 1:17:11 PM MDT
> **To:** Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell <kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Thomas Harvey <thomas_harvey@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FYSA**
>
> **Juliette Fernandez**
> Refuge Supervisor AZ/NM
>
> 505-248-6650 Office
> 505-933-3501 Cell
> 505-248-6460 Fax
>
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> P.O. Box 1306, Room 4112
> Albuquerque, NM 87103-1306
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
> Date: Tue, Jun 26, 2018 at 12:21 PM
> Subject: [EXTERNAL] FYSA
> To: "/o=DHS/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=SAMUEL.P.LUCIO" < MCEAEX-_O=DHS_OU=EXCHANGE+20ADMINISTRATIVE+2
> 2ELUCIO@dsa.dhs>, [redacted] <[redacted]>, Alesia Ash <alesia.ash@mail.house gov>, "Alford, James - FS" <jalford@fs.ed.us
> westernregionalpartnership.org>, areyes@pascuayaqui-nsn gov <areyes@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov>, [redacted], "Bill Radke (bill_
> <Brad_Traver@nps.gov>, "[redacted]" "Bumpus, Deb -FS" <dbumpus@f
> <[redacted]>, Celeste \ Daisy\ Kinsey <ckinsey@fs.fed.us>, Chas Buchanan <chas.buchanan@luke.af.mil>, Cheri Bowen <cbowen@fs.fed.us>, C
> <Coral_Conway@nps.gov>, Darla Sidles <Darla_Sidles@nps.gov>, Del Maslen <del.maslen@usmc.mil>, [redacted] <[redacted]>, D
> <ekender@blm.gov>, "[redacted]" <[redacted]>, Edna Mendoza <mendoza.edna@azdeq.gov>, English CIV Randy J <randy.en
> Fernandez <erin_fernandez@fws.gov>, "Etheridge, Allen" <allen_s_etheridge@nps gov>, Gary Cantley <Garry.Cantley@bia gov>, Gary Olson <Gary.Olson@tonation-nsn gov>
> [redacted], Glenn Miller <glenn.miller@mail house.gov>, Grady Cook <Grady_Cook@blm gov>, "Harden, Tasha" <tasha_harden@fws.g
> [redacted], ira blitzblau <ira_blitzblau@nps gov>, James Callegary <jcallega@usgs.gov>, James Mayer <james.a.mayer@u
> <jef rey.palmer@sheriff.pima gov>, Jennifer Cox <jennifer.cox@mail.house.gov>, Jennifer Lynch <jennifer lynch@pima.gov>, Jennifer Ruyle <jruyle@fs.fed.us>, "'Jim Copeland
> <jlatimer@land az.gov>, Joe Winfield <josephwinfield@fs.fed.us>, John Hoffmann <jphoffma@usgs.gov>, John Light <john light@ibwc.gov>, John MacDonald <jmacdona@bln
> <[redacted]>, Julie Katsel <julie_katsel@flake senate.gov>, Juliette Gu ierrez <juliette_gutierrez@fws.gov>, June Lowery <jlowery@blm.gov>, "jvalen ine@blm.g
> <karl_pierce@nps gov>, Kenneth Mahoney <kmahoney@blm.gov>, "Kyle Todd (Kyle_Todd@FWS gov)" <Kyle_Todd@fws.gov>, Larry Ramirez <lramirez@blm.gov>, "Leenhou
> <L70Thomas@blm.gov>, Lesilie Uhr <luhr@blm.gov>, Lorinda Sam <lorinda.sam@tonation-nsn.gov>, Maggie Hartney <mhartney@blm gov>, [redacted] <JC
> Margie Guzman <mguzman@blm.gov>, "mark hart (mhart@azgfd.gov)" <mhart@azgfd.gov>, Markian Rekshynskyj <mrekshyn@blm.gov>, Mary D'Aversa <mdaversa@blm go
> "Matthew G Walton (mwalton@azgfd.gov)" <mwalton@azgfd.gov>, Melissa Hayes <hayes.melissa@azdeq.gov>, Melissa Matty <mmatty@blm gov>, "Mike Sumner (msumner(
> "miranda_cook@nps.gov" <miranda_cook@nps.gov>, "Molina, Sayanna" <Sayanna.Molina@mail.house.gov>, "Monger, Wayne" <dmonger@blm.gov>, Nick Matiella <nick_ma
> M CIV USAF AETC 56 RMO/BEC (kevin.oberry@us.af mil)" <kevin.oberry@us af.mil>, "O'Neil, Ray" <ray_o'neil@nps.gov>, Pamela Ma his <pmathis@blm.gov>, Patrick Putna
> <ralph.ware@az.usda gov>, Randy Parker <randall.parker@oig.usda.gov>, Ray Suazo <rmsuazo@blm gov>, "[redacted]" <[redacted]>, Ron Pierce <ror
> <scooke@blm.gov>, Scott Feldhausen <afeldhausen@blm.gov>, Scott Porter <scott.porter@deq.pima.gov>, Scott Richardson <scott_richardson@fws.gov>, Shanna Tautolo <
> Slone (Sid_Slone@fws gov)" <Sid_Slone@fws.gov>, "slyman@fs.fed.us" <slyman@fs.fed.us>, "sommer@uapd arizona edu" <sommer@uapd.arizona.edu>, "Soto, Celena R -
> [redacted], "Susan Sferra (susan_sferra@fws.gov)" <susan_sferra@fws.gov>, Suzanne Hernandez <suzanne_hernandez@mccain senate.gov>, "Tho
> "tjregennitter@oig.usda.gov" <tjregennitter@oig.usda.gov>, "[redacted]" <[redacted]>, Warren Templeton <wtemplet@blm.gov>, Wesley J
> <[redacted]>
>
> Good Day All,

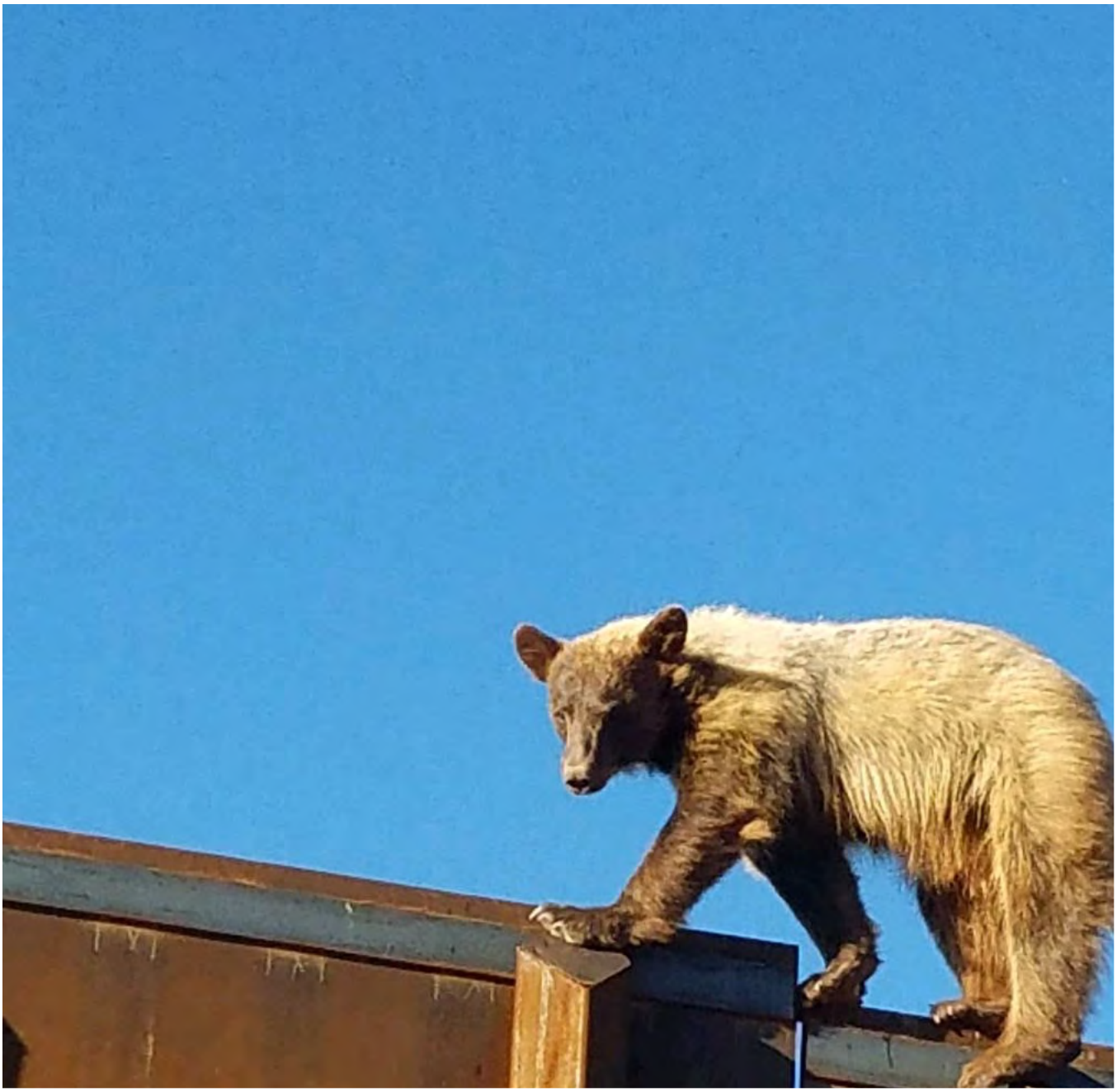
As you may have heard, I have been on vacation for the past week and am just getting back to he office. I will be responding to emails over the next few days. I just came acrc down in Naco, AZ last week A yearling bear was seen climbing the fence and walking along the top for a few minutes It then climbed down and walked away

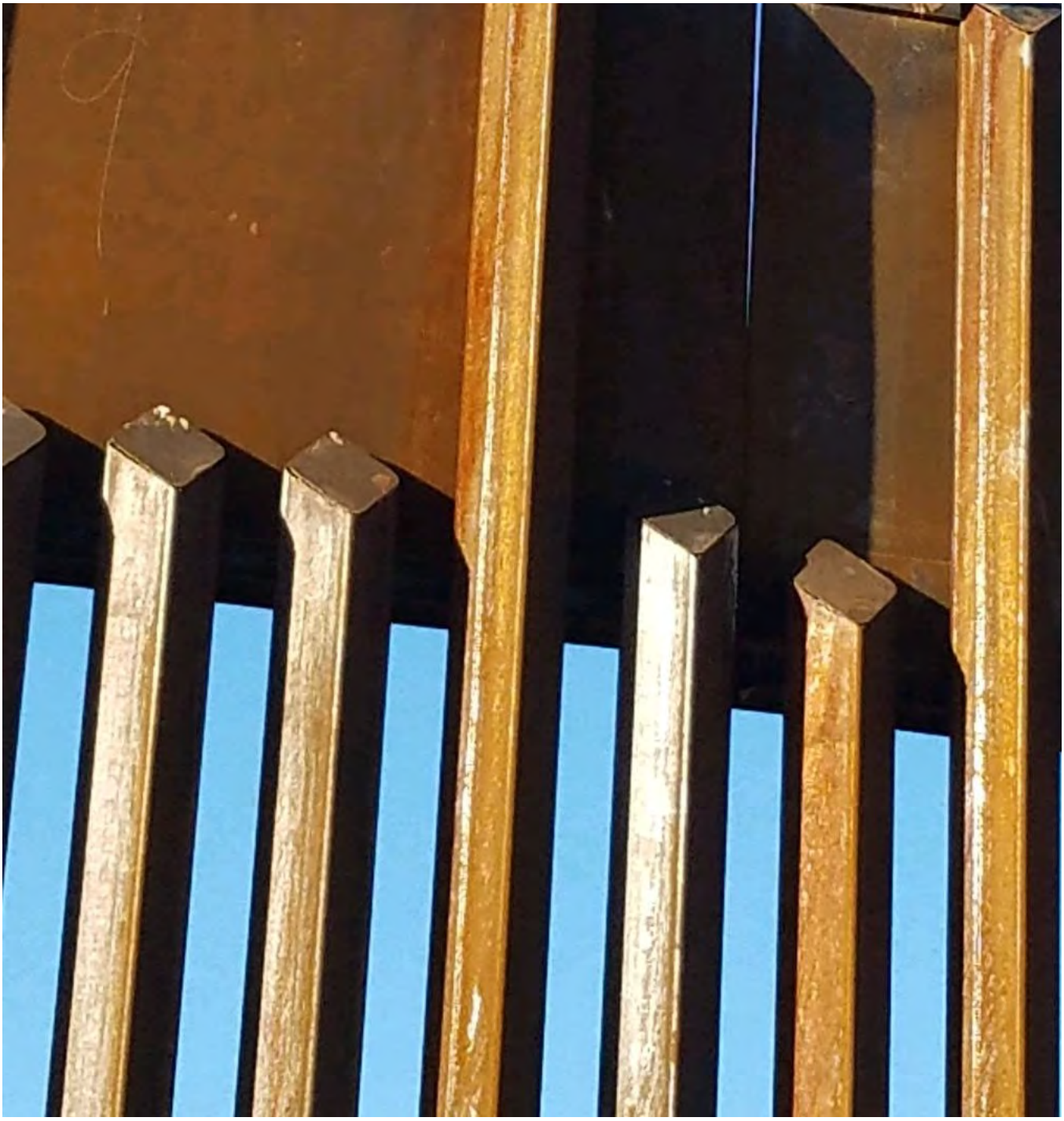
This picture was release to the media and has circulated, but I wanted to make sure y'all saw it too Have a great day!

Respectfully,

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
U.S. Border Patrol - Tucson Sector
Office (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)

TEAM WORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK.





Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 1: Burrowing Owl rescue at border fence

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:37 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

Email response 1

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Brown, Jennifer** <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 11:33 AM
Subject: Fwd: Burrowing Owl rescue at border fence
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Lesley Kordella <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Michael Eldon Brown <Michael_Eldon_Brown@fws.gov>, Rob Doster <rob_doster@fws.gov>, Thomas Dietsch <Thomas_Dietsch@fws.gov>

Good morning everyone,

This is just an FYI, I didn't know if you already knew of the Burrowing Owl colony along the border where fence construction is taking place. We are working with the San Diego Zoo to try to save the remaining owls. They have a permit that allows burrowing owl relocation research, so I am planning to increase the authorization on that permit to cover all of the remaining owls at the border.

I'm available today, tomorrow, and Thursday this week if you have any questions.

Best,
Jen

Jennifer C. Brown
Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Migratory Bird Permit Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Dietsch, Thomas** <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Jun 29, 2018 at 5:16 PM
Subject: Burrowing Owl rescue at border fence
To: Amedee Brickey <amedee_brickey@fws.gov>, Thomas Leeman <thomas_leeman@fws.gov>, Jennifer Brown <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>, Rob Doster <rob_doster@fws.gov>

Hi Amedee and Thomas,

Susan Wynn went down to an area of the border fence in San Diego that is being replaced and discovered that the work was proceeding in an area that has a high density of Burrowing Owls nesting. The work had already bulldozed one area with many Burrowing Owls. She surveyed the next segment where work is slotted to begin and observed 30 or so Owls. Susan is going to coordinate with the San Diego Zoo which holds a permit to capture and relocate Owls to rescue as many of the Burrowing Owls as they can next week. They are going to put out cameras to try to identify which burrows are active. Susan said that the Zoo would send us a summary of what they found and what they planned to do on Monday. The Zoo had identified a relocation site that will be protected in the Otay Mesa area. On the positive side, the border patrol has granted access for the relocation effort, though it doesn't sound like the work will be slowed at all. I told Karen Goebel that this would probably be covered by the recent Nest Destruction Memo, but please let me know if we

should try to issue an additional permit or extension for the Zoo permits. I cc'd Jen and Rob in case she has any recommendations about permits.

In any case, I just got this news and thought I would share it even if my quick second-hand summary is not completely accurate. I'll keep you posted as I get more information.

Sorry for the bad news late on a Friday!

Tom

--
****

Thomas Dietsch, PhD
Migratory Bird Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214
****

Commemorating 100 Years of Bird Conservation ~ 1916-2016

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****

Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

****

Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 2: San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Follow-up from 6/29

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:38 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Brown, Jennifer** <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 1:28 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Follow-up from 6/29
To: Lesley Kordella <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Cc: [redacted] Michael Brown <Michael_Eldon_Brown@fws.gov>, Thomas Dietsch <Thomas_Dietsch@fws.gov>

You're welcome. We'll definitely keep all of you posted as soon as we get new information.

Jennifer C. Brown
Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Migratory Bird Permit Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825

On Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 10:19 AM, Lesley Kordella <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> wrote:
> Thank you for the updates- this is something I think many of us want to follow.
>
> Lesley
>
> On Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 12:12 PM Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov> wrote:
> > Hello again, here is an update on the Burrowing Owl situation at the border fence...
> >
> > Jennifer C. Brown
> > Wildlife Biologist
> > U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> > Migratory Bird Permit Office
> > 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
> > Sacramento, CA 95825
> >
> > ---------- Forwarded message ---------
> > From: **Dietsch, Thomas** <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>
> > Date: Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 9:44 AM
> > Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Follow-up from 6/29
> > To: Amedee Brickey <amedee_brickey@fws.gov>, Thomas Leeman <thomas_leeman@fws.gov>, Jennifer Brown <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>, Rob Doster <rob_doster@fws.gov>
> >
> > Hi all,
> >
> > Here's the latest update from Sunday on the situation at the border along with a tentative schedule for the relocations. I'll let you know if I get any further information.
> >
> > Tom

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Wynn, Susan** <susan_wynn@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 8:21 AM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Follow-up from 6/29
To: Jane Hendron <jane_hendron@fws.gov>, Karen Goebel <karen_goebel@fws.gov>, Thomas Dietsch <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>

fyi
Susan Wynn
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 ext 216

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Colleen Wisinski** <cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org>
Date: Sun, Jul 1, 2018 at 11:08 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Follow-up from 6/29
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) "Wynn, Susan" <susan_wynn@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: "Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US)" <juan.m.martinez@usace.army.mil>, "Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil" <Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>, "Range, Brent" <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>, David Mayer <David.Mayer@wildlife.ca.gov>, Lisa Nordstrom <LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Patrick Gower <patrick_gower@fws.gov>, Susanne Marczak <smarczak@sandiegozoo.org>

Hello everyone,
Here is an update from our site visit on Friday. We plan to return Monday afternoon (around 1 pm) to place cameras for additional observations of the owls to better understand which owls have young juveniles, etc.

I've attached a spreadsheet with all of the details, but here is a summary of how many owls were observed (between 6/25 visit and 6/29 visit):

10 pairs/families
2 single adults
1+ dispersing fledglings
Total of 47 BUOW observed so far (22 adults, 25 juveniles)

We used light pole numbers or fence panel numbers to identify where the owls are (Location column is spreadsheet).

In the field, we discussed a couple of different activities that will be occurring that may/will impact the owls. In order to plan appropriately, we need a better understanding of the timeline of these activities and how much disturbance they will cause. We identified these activities as:

1. Breaking up of concrete along primary fence
2. Work on Low Water Crossings
3. Staging of materials for fence
4. Removal/replacement of primary fence

We have put together the schedule below (per the field meeting with Susan, Pat, (b)(6) and (b)(6)), but the specifics of our trapping efforts will depend on the timelines for the activities above. It would be helpful to know if the breaking up of the concrete will continue immediately and how fast it will occur.

This acvity is lik ely to cause disturbance in the immediate area where it's occurring, and will destroy the 2 burrows that are at the base of the primary fence (panel 858, panel 936/937), so we would want to prioriz e burrows in the order they will be disturbed. This is also the case for the repairs on the low water crossings and it would be helpful to know the size of the areas of impact, the ming , and types of acvies (hea vy equipment work, etc.). If we can map all of this out in space and me, w e can come up with a strategy for geng the o wls out of harm's way in the most effecv e and safe manner

Schedule for Zoo and Agencies
7/2 (Monday): prep receiver sites/burrows--USFWS, CDFW?
7/5 & 7/6 (Thursday/Friday): install release cages (up to 5) at receiver sites--Zoo, USFWS?, CDFW?
7/9 (Monday): begin trapping of owls for translocation (actives) or transmitter application (passives)--Zoo
7/10 and beyond: Trapping will continue as long as necessary--Zoo
TBD: exclusion of burrows--who is responsible for this?
TBD: scoping and collapse of burrows--who is responsible for this?
TBD: Further planning/strategies to discourage recolonization of squirrels and owls ahead of the planned replacement of the secondary fence in early 2019

Our trapping efforts can happen both during the day and night depending on which birds we are targeng.

Thank you for working with us to try to get the owls out of the way ahead of the work that's occurring Please let me know if you have any quesons about our schedule or s trategy for removing the owls.

Thank you,
Colleen

Colleen Wisinski, M.S.
Conservation Program Specialist
Burrowing Owl Program, Recovery Ecology
San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research
15600 San Pasqual Valley Road
Escondido, CA 92027-7000

Office: 760-747-8702 ext. 5727
Cell: 406-925-0346
cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org

www.institute.sandiegozoo.org

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 1:59 PM
To: Wynn, Susan; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Colleen Wisinski; Marne z, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) David Mayer; Lisa Nordstrom; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) ; Patrick Gower
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Address is technically 3100 monument drive but it might not show up on Google maps. The trailer is located next to the IBWC water treatment facility and should be visible from road. The USACE trailer is the far left facing the gate as you enter into the facility

---

From: Wynn, Susan
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 9:55:35 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Colleen Wisinski; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Lisa Nordstrom; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Patrick Gower
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

great - we will meet you there - can you send me an address
thanks
susan

Susan Wynn
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 ext 216

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 1:28 PM, (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) wrote:
Yes, we will likely be there between 10 and 10:30. We can meet at the project staging area near the IBWC treatment plant.

From: Wynn, Susan
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 12:59:13 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Colleen Wisinski; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Lisa Nordstrom; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Patrick Gower
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Hi (b)(6), et al - I'm thinking it might be helpful to meet in person to talk things through rather then trying to play phone tag - Pat and I could come down tomorrow am and meet with you all - Do you have an estimate of when you might be there? If not - the phone is always an option.
thanks
Susan

Susan Wynn
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250<https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g>
Carlsbad, CA <https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g> 92008<https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g>
(760<https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g>) 431-9440 ext 216

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 12:06 PM, (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) rote:
Hi Colleen, (b)(6), (b)(7) and I will be onsite late morning tomorrow. We can all you when we get there.

What is a good number to reach you on?

From: Colleen Wisinski
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:49:31 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Karen Goebel; Lisa Nordstrom
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Thank you, (b)(6). We plan to be in the Otay area all day Friday, so let me know what times would work best for us to get access.

Thanks,

Colleen

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2018 7:30:11 PM
To: Colleen Wisinski; Wynn, Susan; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Karen Goebel; Lisa Nordstrom; Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Karen Goebel; Lisa Nordstrom
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Yes, we'll arrange. (b)(6) and (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) will also be down.

thanks

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

BPAM Project Manager

LMI Contractor

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

From: Colleen Wisinski [mailto:cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org<mailto:cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2018 10:12 PM
To: Wynn, Susan <susan_wynn@fws.gov<mailto:susan_wynn@fws.gov>>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Wynn, Susan <susan_wynn@fws.gov<mailto:susan_wynn@fws.gov>>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US) <juan.m.martinez@usace.army.mil<mailto:juan.m.martinez@usace.army.mil>>; shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent <brent_range@ios.doi.gov<mailto:brent_range@ios.doi.gov>>; David Mayer <david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov<mailto:david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov>>; Karen Goebel <karen_goebel@fws.gov<mailto:karen_goebel@fws.gov>>; Lisa Nordstrom <LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org<

mailto:LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org>>; Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US) <juan.m.martinez@usace.army.mil<mailto:juan.m.martinez@usace.army.mil>>; shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ; David Mayer <david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov<mailto:david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov>>; Karen Goebel <karen_goebel@fws.gov<mailto:karen_goebel@fws.gov>>; Lisa Nordstrom <LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org<mailto:LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org>>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks for giving us access to the area. After discussing the owls east of the Otay border crossing with Susan and Dave Mayer (CDFW), the next step for the zoo team is to do more observations to determine the numbers and ages of the juveniles to determine further next steps. Would it be possible for us to get access to the area on Friday to conduct observations of the owls?

Thanks,

Colleen

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 1:58:10 AM

To: Colleen Wisinski; Wynn, Susan; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ; David Mayer; Karen Goebel; Lisa Nordstrom

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Colleen and Susan: thanks for the support today. Please keep (b)(6) in the loop on your next steps. We have some work in one of the low water crossings east of Otay Mesa in mid-July (will be near but not where some owls are currently). We will be moving into full construction in the area in early August.

Thanks

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

BPAM Project Manager

LMI Contractor

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

From: Colleen Wisinski [mailto:cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org]

Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2018 7:19 PM

To: Wynn, Susan <susan_wynn@fws.gov<mailto:susan_wynn@fws.gov>>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US) <Juan.M.martinez@usace.army.mil<mailto:Juan.M.martinez@usace.army.mil>>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) David Mayer <david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov<mailto:david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov>>; Karen Goebel <karen_goebel@fws.gov<mailto:karen_goebel@fws.gov>>; Lisa Nordstrom <LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org<mailto:LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org>>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Hi All,

I can be available as early as necessary on Monday. Please let me know when we can get there and where we should go. My cell number is 406-925-0346, if needed.

Thanks,

Colleen

Colleen Wisinski, M.S.

Conservation Program Specialist

Burrowing Owl Program, Recovery Ecology

San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research

15600 San Pasqual Valley Road

Escondido, CA 92027-7000

Office<https://maps.google.com/?q=15600+San+Pasqual+Valley+Road%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Escondido,+CA+92027-7000%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Office&entry=gmail&source=g>: 760-747-8702 ext. 5727

Cell: 406-925-0346

cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org<mailto:cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org>

www.institute.sandiegozoo.org<http://www.institute.sandiegozoo.org>

From: Wynn, Susan < susan_wynn@fws.gov<mailto:susan_wynn@fws.gov>>

Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2018 3:45 PM

To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) ; Colleen Wisinski

Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Karen Goebel

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Hello all - I was able to get a hold of the folks from the zoo - they can survey the area on monday - Colleen Wisinski (included on this email) is your point of contact - please let her know how to access the area.

thank you everyone for the quick response and coordination.

Susan

Susan Wynn

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250

Carlsbad, CA <https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g> 92008<https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g>

(760<https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g>) 431-9440 ext 216

On Thu, Jun 21, 2018 at 2:35 PM, (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) wrote:

--
****
Thomas Dietsch, PhD
Migratory Bird Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214

> **********
> Commemorating 100 Years of Bird Conservation ~ 1916-2016

--
***** Acting Chief, R3 Migratory Bird Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bloomington, MN - June 22, 2018 through July 20, 2018/ Acting Deputy Chief June 11-21 & July 23-37*****

****
Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(612) 713-5470 (June 11 through July 27, 2018)
(703) 358-1963 (office in Headquarters)

Looking to help save birds at home and in the office every day from window collisions and other threats? Check out this **flyer** to find out some easy ways you can help!

****

--

****
Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

****

Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 6: CBP MOU Otay Border Fence BUOW

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:50 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

see attachments as well

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Brown, Jennifer** <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Jul 5, 2018 at 6:15 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Otay Border Fence BUOW
To: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, Lesley Kordella <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, Michael Eldon Brown <Michael_Eldon_Brown@fws.gov>, Thomas Dietsch <Thomas_Dietsch@fws.gov>, Rob Doster <rob_doster@fws.gov>

Hello everyone,

I hope all of you had a wonderful 4th! Here is a BUOW update at the Otay border fence project in S. CA.

I will be doing a detail in another program for the next 3 weeks, but I will do my best to stay on top of this and continue passing along the info that comes in.

I hope everyone has a good weekend!
Jen

Jennifer C. Brown
Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Migratory Bird Permit Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Colleen Wisinski** <cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org>
Date: Thu, Jul 5, 2018 at 3:00 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Otay Border Fence BUOW
To: Jennifer Brown <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>, "Burkett, Esther" <esther.burkett@wildlife.ca.gov>
Cc: Lisa Nordstrom <LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org>, "Wynn, Susan" <susan_wynn@fws.gov>, David Mayer <david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov>

Hi Jen and Esther,
I've been working on putting the translocation document for the border fence replacement project together but it's going a little slower than I anticipated with all of the work we're doing in the field right now. I'll send the whole thing to you once it's complete, but I wanted to make sure you had the info you need.

We are planning to move 2 family groups from the fence area (see yellow lines in table) starting tonight and the others will be passively relocated. We got 3 transmitters out last night on some of those birds and will continue to try to get transmitters on a few more so we can better understand where they go in response to the work on the fence. We are working closely with USFWS and

CDFW to do the best we can in terms of getting birds out of harm's way and collapsing burrow to the extent possible.

Below is a table with the maximum numbers of adults and juveniles we've observed since our observations began on June 25 and I've attached maps of the impact area and release area.

Please let us know if there's any other info you need immediately.
Thanks,
Colleen

P.S. Jen, thank you for amending our MBTA permit!

Locaon	Max Adults Seen	Max Juveniles Seen	Notes		Translocaon T ype
Light 16-19	2	4 fledglings	Concrete removal work occurred in this area on 7/2/18 and the owls seem to have le.		Passive
Panel 500A	1	1 fledgling	burrow near grade stake; fledgling may be from 16-19 family		Passive
Light 27/28	2		freshly molted, may be past breeding, camera installaon not possible		Probable Passive
Light 30	2 (male=A/41)	unknown	owls molng , may be past breeding		Possible Passive
Light 35	2 (female=81/Y)	3 fledglings			Passive
Light 38/39	2	3 fledglings			Passive
Light 41	2	unknown			TBD
Light 42	2	unknown	owls molng , may be past breeding; adults prey vocal		Possible Passive
Panel 858	2	5 juveniles	burrow at primary fence		Acv e
Light 47	2	5-6 juveniles			Acv e
Light 48	2			These seem to be 2 families that have merged	TBD
Panel 936/937	2	4 fledglings	burrow at primary fence		Passive
Panel 950 rock pile		1 fledgling, 1 unknown age			Passive

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****

Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov

(703) 358-1963

****

4 attachments

Figure1_OtayBorderFenceBUOW.jpg
1805K

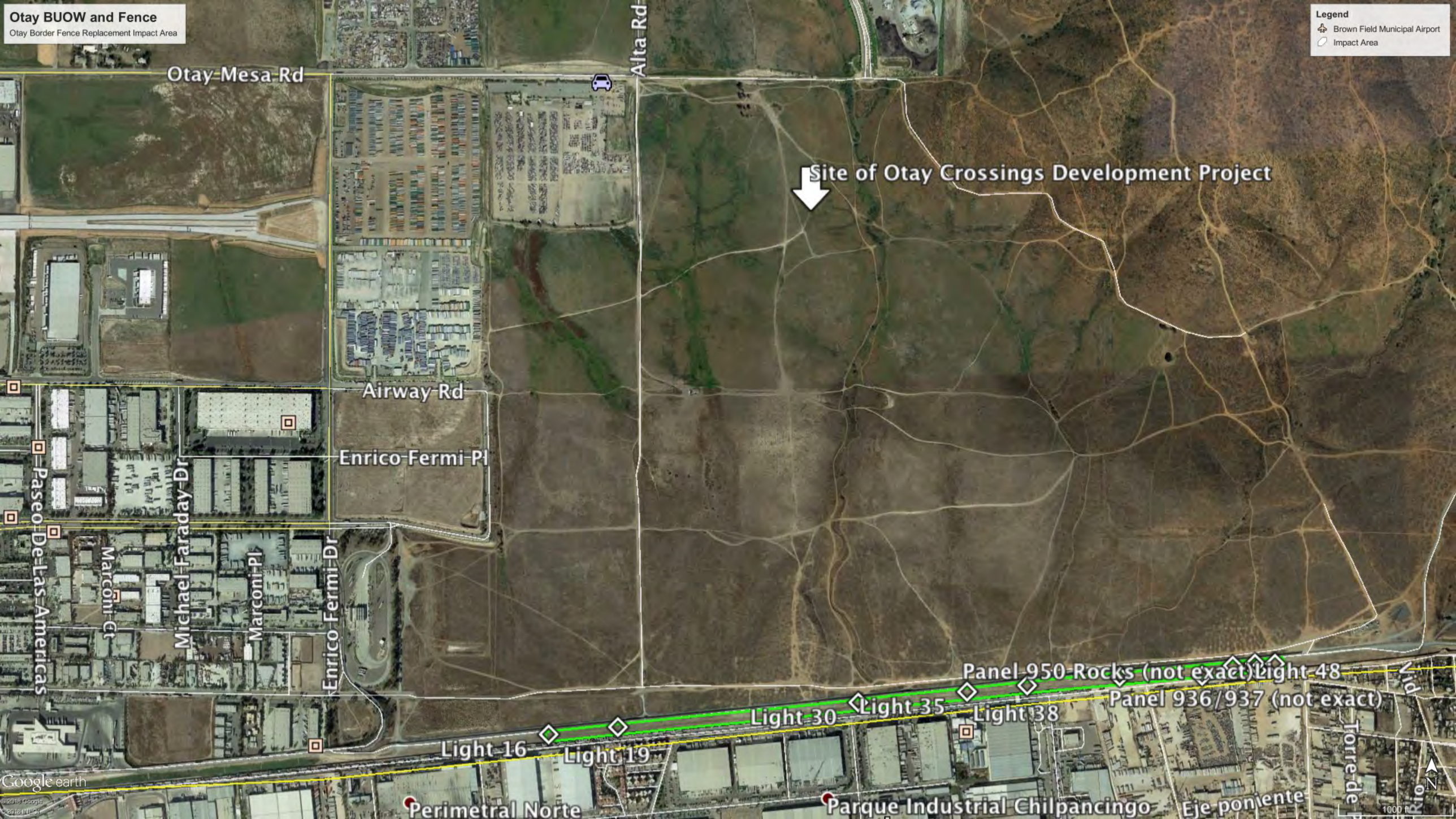
Figure2_OtayBorderFenceBUOW_ImpactArea.jpg
1558K

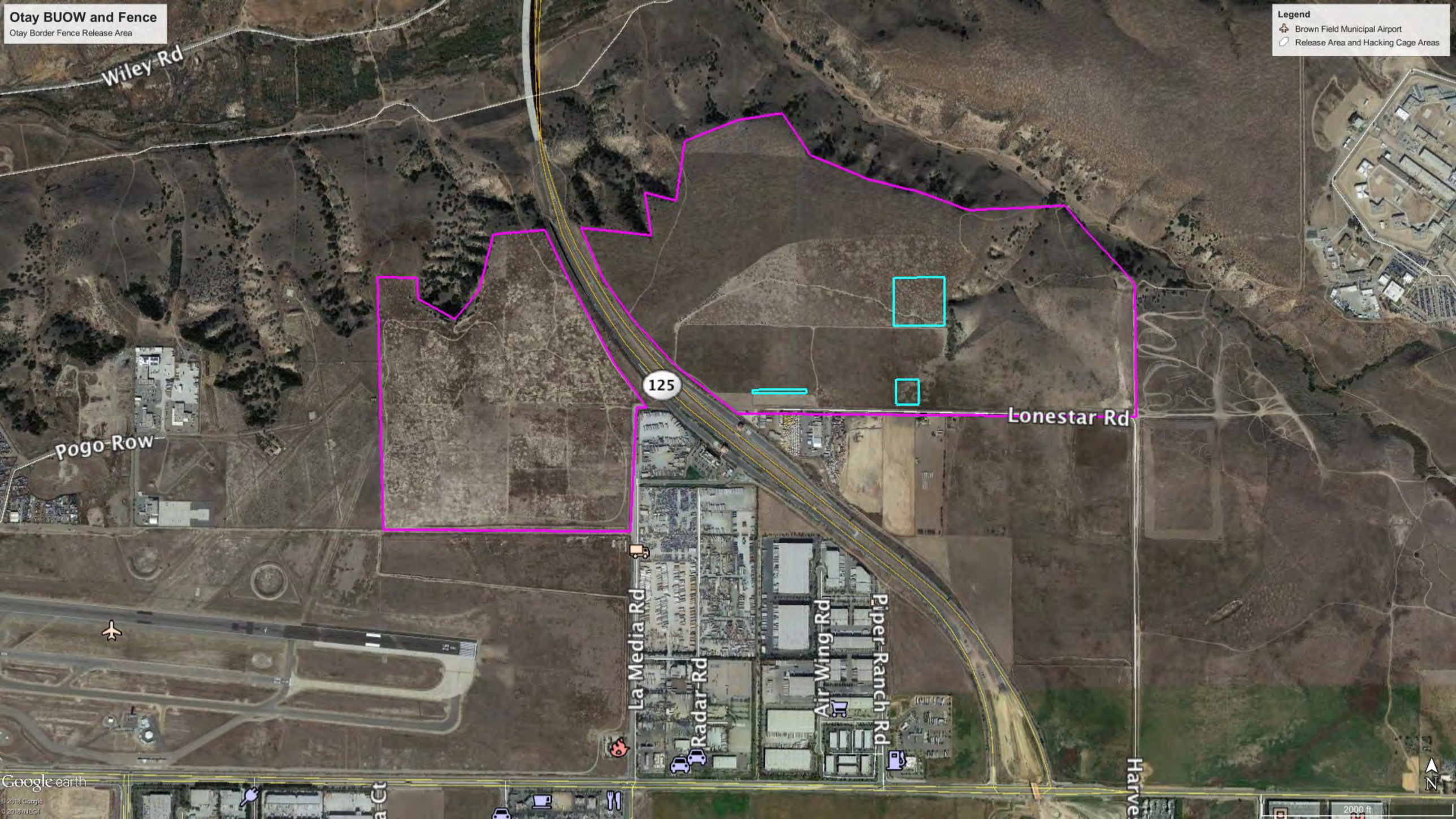
OtayBorderFenceBUOW_ImpactArea_ZoomOut.jpg
1569K

OtayBorderFenceBUOW_ReleaseArea.jpg
1586K

Otay BUOW and Fence
Otay Border Fence Replacement Impact Area and Release Area
Legend
Brown Field Airport
Impacted Burrows
Release Area & Hacking Cage Areas
125
Otay Mesa Rd
905
Airway Rd
Britannia Blvd
La Media Rd
Enrico Fermi Dr
Siempre Viva Rd
MEXICO
2
Panel 950 Rocks (not exact)
Panel 936/937 (not exact)
Light 16
Light 19
Light 30
Google earth
N
4000 ft

Otay BUOW and Fence
Otay Border Fence Replacement Impact Area
Legend
Brown Field Municipal Airport
Impact Area
Airway Rd
Enrico Fermi Pl
Siempre Viva Rd
Panel 950 Rocks (not exact)
Light 48
Panel 858 (not exact)
Light 35
Light 38
Light 30
Light 16
Light 19
Tercera
Perimetral Norte
Parque Industrial Chilpancingo
12 Norte
Paseo Norte
De los charros
Eje poniente
Latinoamericana
Sexta
Google earth
N
1000 ft


Otay BUOW and Fence
Otay Border Fence Replacement Impact Area
Legend
Brown Field Municipal Airport
Impact Area
Otay Mesa Rd
Alta Rd
Site of Otay Crossings Development Project
Airway Rd
Enrico Fermi Pl
Paseo De Las Americas
Michael Faraday Dr
Marconi Ct
Marconi Pl
Enrico Fermi Dr
Panel 950 Rocks (not exact)
Light 48
Panel 936/937 (not exact)
Light 30
Light 35
Light 38
Light 16
Light 19
Perimetral Norte
Parque Industrial Chilpancingo
Eje poniente
Torre de
Google earth
N
1000 ft


Otay BUOW and Fence
Otay Border Fence Release Area
Legend
Brown Field Municipal Airport
Release Area and Hacking Cage Areas
Wiley Rd
125
Lonestar Rd
Pogo Row
La Media Rd
Radar Rd
Air Wing Rd
Piper Ranch Rd
Harve
Google earth
2000 ft
N

From:	Wainman, Barbara
To:	Margaret Everson; Jim Kurth
Subject:	Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
Date:	Friday, December 7, 2018 10:44:21 AM
Attachments:	Doc 1.pdf Doc 2.pdf Doc 3.pdf

---

another one you should know about

Barbara W. Wainman
Assistant Director, External Affairs
US Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-5256 (office)
(571) 471-4159 (cell)

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Shire, Gavin** <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 12:15 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
To: Faith VanderVoort <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>, Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>, Bockmier, John <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>, Russell Newell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Laury Parramore <laury_parramore@fws.gov>, Darin Schroeder <darin_schroeder@fws.gov>, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <matthew_huggler@fws.gov>

Looks like it's our day for big media inquiries. I'm checking with our regional folks and also with our FOIA lead to see whether a draft of a letter should have been released to begin with. Nevertheless, we are left with needing to respond to this inquiry. Usually, we bump border wall stuff to CBP, but we aren't going to be able to do this here. Thoughts?

G

Gavin Shire
Chief of Public Affairs
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gavin_shire@fws.gov

---------- Forwarded message ---------

From: **Grandoni, Dino** <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:33 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
To: Gavin_Shire@fws.gov <Gavin_Shire@fws.gov>, Laury_Parramore@fws.gov <Laury_Parramore@fws.gov>, Vanessa_Kauffman@fws.gov <Vanessa_Kauffman@fws.gov>

Hi all,

Hope you're all well today. I'm writing in to ask about a pair of letters — one draft and the other final — related to a proposed border wall in southern Texas.

On Aug. 25, 2017, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol sent a letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service seeking the agency's input on the environmental impacts of constructing 28 miles of levee wall in Hidalgo County and 32 miles of bollard wall in Starr County (Doc 1 attached).

According to a draft letter released under the Freedom of Information Act to Defenders of Wildlife and other litigants, USFWS staffers drafted a letter in Sept. 2017 outlining their concerns, which included reduction of habitat connectivity, flood and fire risk and direct mortality for animals in the area (Doc 2).

However, the final letter sent to CBP dated Oct. 13 did not included those risks listed above (Doc 3).

My questions: Why did the USFWS decide to edit those risks out of the final letter? And who made that decision?

Feel free to give me a call at 716-818-0825 if you have any questions for me.

All the best,
Dino

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(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

AUG 25 2017

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Mr. Robert Jess
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3325 Green Jay Road
Alamo, TX 78516

Dear Mr. Jess:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is in the initial stages of planning for proposed levee wall along 28 miles of existing levee located in Hidalgo County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's McAllen and Weslaco stations area of responsibility (AOR) and 32 miles of bollard wall in Starr County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande City station AOR. In addition, CBP is in the planning stages of its second phase of gate installation to close 35 gaps in existing border fence in Hidalgo and Cameron counties. The 35 gates were funded in CBP's fiscal year (FY) 2017 appropriation, while the proposed 28 miles of levee wall and 32 miles of bollard wall are included in the President's FY18 budget request to Congress.

In Hidalgo County, CBP is proposing 28 miles of levee wall. The proposed levee wall alignment will be on the south face of the northern U.S. International Boundary Water Commission (IBWC) levee. The proposed design includes construction of a reinforced concrete levee wall to the height of the existing levee with 18-foot tall steel bollards installed on the top of the levee wall, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the levee wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, automated vehicle gates, pedestrian gates, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the levee wall. In addition, CBP will install gates within 20 gaps in existing border levee wall within Hidalgo County and in 15 existing gaps within Cameron County.

In Starr County, CBP is proposing 32 miles of bollard wall. The proposed design includes construction of 20 to 30-foot tall steel bollards, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the bollard wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the bollard wall.

Additional details of the possible components of the proposed action are as follows:

- **Levee Wall** -The levee wall will be a concrete wall to the height of the levee crest with 18 foot tall bollards installed in the top of the levee wall.
- **Bollard Wall** – The bollard wall will be 20 to 30 feet high utilizing 8-inch diameter, concrete filled steel bollards.
- **150 Foot Enforcement Zone** – The enforcement zone will be an area extending from the south/river side of the levee wall or bollard wall approximately 150 feet. All vegetation within the 150-foot enforcement zone will be cleared.
- **Gates** - Automated vehicle gates will be installed with a minimum height of 18 feet and minimum width of 20 feet. In addition, gates designed to allow for farming equipment will be installed where appropriate and range in width from 40 to 50 feet. All gates will be motorized overhead sliding gates with an enclosed drive and operator system.

- **Lighting** - LED lighting will be installed as part of this project. CBP will work with the appropriate stakeholders to develop solutions to avoid excess lighting beyond the enforcement zone.
- **All Weather Road** - An all-weather aggregate patrol road (type FC-2) will be constructed on the south side and parallel to the levee or bollard wall and within the 150-foot enforcement zone. The specific location of the road within the enforcement zone will be determined during the design phase of the project.
- **Cameras** - A camera surveillance system will be installed to ensure visibility of the enforcement zone and southern approach.

The purpose of the proposed action is to increase CBP's ability to impede or deny illegal border crossings, and to provide improved surveillance and detection capabilities to the areas of greatest risk of illegal cross-border activity located within the US. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will be similar to other levee and border wall systems located within the Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will also support CBPs action under Executive Order (EO) 13767, where CBP is directed to "...secure the southern border of the United States through the immediate construction of a physical wall on the southern border, monitored and supported by adequate personnel so as to prevent illegal immigration, drug and human trafficking, and acts of terrorism."

CBP will evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. CBP is gathering data and input from state and local government agencies, federal agencies, and Native American Tribes that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in the proposed actions. Since your agency or organization may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding the potential environmental impacts from CBP's proposed action, your input is sought regarding the likely or anticipated effects to biological, cultural, and natural resources from the implementation of the proposed actions. Your response should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which CBP should consider during project siting, construction, and operation.

This letter is intended to provide initial information for CBP's proposed projects in the Rio Grande Valley and seek comments and concerns from potentially affected parties and interested groups. CBP intends similar outreach in other border regions as projects are identified and defined. Your prompt attention to this request is appreciated. Comments and information will be accepted up to 30 days following the date of this letter. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include "RGV Wall and Gates Construction" in the title of your email. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Border Patrol & Air and Marine
Program Management Office

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Post Office Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R2/NWRS/Coastal TX/066633

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U.S. Customs and Border Protection
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(b) (6)(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6) :

Thank you for your letter dated August 25, 2017, regarding U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) proposed border infrastructure in South Texas which includes the installation of 35 gates in existing border fence gaps, 32 miles of bollard wall, and 28 miles of levee wall. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) reviewed your letter and is providing our initial concerns related to Federally listed species, other Federal trust resources, and Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuges (NWR). Once there is a proposed action, that is spatially explicit, we can provide a formal response and coordination under the National Environmental Policy Act, National Wildlife Refuge System (Refuge System) Improvement Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Endangered Species Act.

Over the past several years, there has been a substantial increase in coordination between the Service, CBP, and the U.S. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector along the Texas border. The Service appreciates the excellent communication and information sharing that has occurred and looks forward to maintaining this relationship into the future.

The Refuge System lands in the Lower Rio Grande Valley are considered to be one of the most biodiverse in the continental United States. The Service supports CBP addressing direct and indirect impacts of the proposed border activities on Federally listed species and other Federal trust resources in the project area. In general, concerns are similar to those discussed during initial border wall/fence construction in 2008. The Service will continue to work with CBP on the proposed activities, with a focus on ensuring impacts to Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs and its ecotourism-based economy are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible.

In response to the possible components of the proposed action identified in your letter, the Service's informal comments are as follows:

<u>Levee and bollard walls</u>
In general, the Service recommends considering technology, additional border patrol agents and other mechanisms, when possible, instead of installation of levee or bollard walls.

Connectivity
The Service understands that 10.2 miles of border wall will be constructed on Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs in Hidalgo County, Texas. The Service does not currently have information on specific alignments on Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR in Starr County. Currently, there are 34 miles of existing levee wall in Hidalgo County; the proposed 28 mile addition would result in 62 miles of impermeable barrier, precluding access to habitats by the Federally listed endangered ocelot and jaguarundi, along with other terrestrial species. Reduction of habitat connectivity in portions of the existing wildlife corridor will affect ocelot and jaguarundi movement, impact access to traditional water sources, and reduce potential for gene flow. The Service recommends wildlife openings to allow ocelots, jaguarundis and other wildlife to move through the wall to maintain habitat connectivity.

In Hidalgo County, Santa Ana NWR will be bisected, with substantial acreage south of the proposed wall and less acreage north of the wall. Any acres north of the wall that do not have habitat corridors will represent a direct loss of habitat particularly for ocelots and jaguarundis on refuge land in Texas. The Service requests CBP document and assess these impacts for Starr County when the border wall alignments are determined.

Flooding
The Lower Rio Grande Valley is a flood-prone area. The Service is concerned the levee wall in Hidalgo County could be subject to catastrophic natural flood events, leaving terrestrial wildlife trapped behind the levee wall to drown or starve. This project will likely cause widespread mortality for terrestrial organisms during catastrophic flood events. The Service recommends an assessment of escape routes and consideration of constructing elevated berms south of the levee to allow terrestrial animals to retreat from rising waters during flooding events, as well as leaving the gates open during those events.

Fire
The Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs experience numerous wildfires each year. Fighting wildfire is dangerous, particularly if escape routes are limited due to a border wall. Natural resource protection may be impacted due to public safety and challenges of fighting wildfires south of a border wall.

Direct Mortality
The Service requests best management practices, such as capping hollow bollard/posts, during construction to prevent entrapment of wildlife species during placement of vertical posts/bollards.

Socio-economic & Visitor Impacts
The Service is specifically concerned with potential tourism and visitor impacts. Ongoing efforts by the Service, the state of Texas, private landowners, and non-profit organizations have helped create a wildlife corridor linking numerous isolated habitat fragments in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. These efforts have helped produce habitats that are harboring unique species of plants and animals, making the area a destination for ecotourists.

The economics of Lower Rio Grande Valley wildlife and habitat diversity are important to the international border region, as over 150,000 tourists contribute approximately $10.8 million annually to the regional economy. The Santa Ana NWR is the most accessible public land for residents of Hidalgo County and approximately 70 percent of visitors come from outside of the local area. Visitors participating in outdoor recreational activities economically benefit the local community. The Service recommends a socio-economic analysis of the proposed wall.

Construction of the border wall, as proposed, will likely affect visitation and the quality of visitor experience. Construction of the border wall along the levee will separate the Santa Ana NWR visitor

center and all administrative facilities (equipment storage, residences, parking lots, etc.) from the rest of the refuge (99 percent of refuge lands). The proposal could result in visitors entering and exiting Santa Ana NWR through a large gate, similar to going through a security checkpoint. This could result in a reduction in visitation due to a perceived unsafe and unwelcoming atmosphere.

Enforcement Zones

Construction of a 150-foot enforcement zone will directly remove habitat. The enforcement zone will also create barriers and restrict wildlife movement, especially for species such as ocelots, which require dense brush to travel through. The Service recommends minimizing this zone, as operations allow, especially in and near thick thornscrub and walking trails. We also recommend calculating the direct habitat loss of the 150-foot enforcement zone based on a vegetation and endangered species survey. The proposed cleared enforcement zone in Hidalgo County will directly remove approximately 170 acres of habitat from Lower Rio Grande Valley and Santa Ana NWRs reducing the ability to meet refuge purposes. In Hidalgo County, Refuge System lands will have approximately 7,800 acres south of the proposed wall and 2,400 acres north of the wall. The 2,400 acres represent a direct loss of habitat for ocelots and jaguarundis on Refuge System lands in Texas.

Lighting

Increased lighting at night, along the wall, will likely have negative impacts on ocelot, jaguarundi and other nocturnal species by making them more susceptible to predation. The Service recommends down shielding lights to focus away from thornscrub habitat and shining lights only within the enforcement zone. The Service recommends CBP continue to analyze the effects of lighting to nocturnal wildlife and work with the Service to minimize impacts.

All Weather Roads

The Service recommends the width of all roads created or maintained by CBP be measured and recorded using Geographic Information System (GPS) coordinates and integrated into the CBP GPS database. The Service suggests maintenance actions not increase the width of the roadbed or the amount of disturbed area beyond the roadbed. The all-weather road within the enforcement zone is capable of high speed use, causing concern for public safety and increased wildlife mortality. The Service requests coordination to address speeding issues.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide informal comments and look forward to future opportunities to discuss the proposed project. Please feel free to contact me at 505-248-6282 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Regional Director

cc: Field Supervisor, Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office, Houston, Texas
Refuge Manager, South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Alamo, Texas
Inter-agency Borderlands Coordinator, Department of Interior Washington, D.C.
EA-ARD

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Post Office Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R2/NWRS/Coastal TX/066633

OCT 13 2017

(b) (6)(b) (6)
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U.S. Customs and Border Protection
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
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Dear (b) (6)(b) (6)

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Over the past several years, there has been a substantial increase in coordination between the Service, CBP, and the U.S. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector along the Texas border. The Service appreciates the excellent communication and information sharing that has occurred and looks forward to maintaining this relationship into the future.

The Refuge System lands in the Lower Rio Grande Valley are considered to be one of the most biodiverse in the continental United States. In general, our concerns are similar to those discussed during initial border wall/fence construction in 2008. The Service will continue to work with CBP on the proposed activities, with a focus on ensuring impacts to Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible.

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The Service is specifically concerned with potential tourism and visitor impacts on the affected NWRs. Ongoing efforts by the Service, the state of Texas, private landowners, and non-profit organizations have helped create a wildlife corridor linking numerous isolated habitat fragments in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. These efforts have helped produce habitats that are harboring unique species of plants and animals, making the area a destination for ecotourists.

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Construction of the border wall, as proposed, will likely affect visitation and the quality of visitor experience to the affected NWRs. Construction of the border wall along the levee will separate the Santa Ana NWR visitor center and all administrative facilities (equipment storage, residences, parking lots, etc.) from the rest of the refuge (99 percent of refuge lands). The proposal could result in visitors entering and exiting Santa Ana NWR through a large gate, similar to going through a security checkpoint. This could result in a reduction in visitation due to a perceived unsafe and unwelcoming atmosphere, which in turn could impact local economies.

Enforcement Zones
Construction of a 150-foot enforcement zone will directly remove habitat used by threatened and/or endangered species and other wildlife in the area. The enforcement zone will also create barriers and restrict wildlife movement, especially for species such as ocelots, which require dense brush to travel through. The Service recommends minimizing this zone, as operations allow, especially in and near thick thornscrub and walking trails. We also recommend calculating the direct habitat loss of the 150-foot enforcement zone based on a vegetation and endangered species survey. The proposed cleared enforcement zone in Hidalgo County will directly remove approximately 170 acres of habitat from Lower Rio Grande Valley and Santa Ana NWRs reducing the ability to meet refuge purposes and impacting the visitor experience. The Service recommends leaving vegetated areas near entrances and exits to public use areas to mitigate the potential impacts to the visiting public and quality of their experience.

Lighting
Increased lighting at night, along the wall, will likely have negative impacts on ocelot, jaguarundi and other nocturnal species by making them more susceptible to predation. The Service recommends down shielding lights to focus away from thornscrub habitat and shining lights only within the enforcement zone. The Service recommends CBP continue to analyze the effects of lighting to nocturnal wildlife and work with the Service to minimize impacts.

All Weather Roads
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GPS database. The Service suggests maintenance actions not increase the width of the roadbed or the amount of disturbed area beyond the roadbed. The all-weather road within the enforcement zone is capable of high speed use, causing concern for public safety and increased wildlife mortality. The Service requests coordination to address speeding issues, especially near high visitor use areas.

The Service's comments in this letter are based upon general information we have been given to date. The Service may change these comments and opinions depending on more specific information regarding the border wall that we expect will be provided by CBP in the future. We appreciate the opportunity to provide informal comments and look forward to continued coordination on the proposed project. Please feel free to contact me at 505-248-6282 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Regional Director

cc: Field Supervisor, Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office, Houston, Texas
Refuge Manager, South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Alamo, Texas
Inter-agency Borderlands Coordinator, Department of Interior Washington, D.C.
EA-ARD

From:	Hyde-Michaels, Carrie
To:	Melissa Beaumont
Subject:	Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
Date:	Wednesday, December 12, 2018 6:59:39 AM
Attachments:	Doc 1.pdf Doc 2.pdf Doc 3.pdf

Carrie Hyde-Michaels
FWS FOIA Officer
Chief, Branch of FOIA, Records, Privacy
US Fish & Wildlife Service Headquarters
703-358-2291 (direct)

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Shire, Gavin** <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 12:09 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
To: Carrie Hyde-Michaels <carrie_hyde-michaels@fws.gov>

Here's the incoming inquiry.

G

Gavin Shire
Chief of Public Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MS: EA
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2649 (o)
703-346-9123 (c)
gavin_shire@fws.gov

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Grandoni, Dino** <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:33 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
To: Gavin_Shire@fws.gov <Gavin_Shire@fws.gov>, Laury_Parramore@fws.gov <Laury_Parramore@fws.gov>, Vanessa_Kauffman@fws.gov <Vanessa_Kauffman@fws.gov>

Hi all,

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other final — related to a proposed border wall in southern Texas.

On Aug. 25, 2017, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol sent a letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service seeking the agency's input on the environmental impacts of constructing 28 miles of levee wall in Hidalgo County and 32 miles of bollard wall in Starr County (Doc 1 attached).

According to a draft letter released under the Freedom of Information Act to Defenders of Wildlife and other litigants, USFWS staffers drafted a letter in Sept. 2017 outlining their concerns, which included reduction of habitat connectivity, flood and fire risk and direct mortality for animals in the area (Doc 2).

However, the final letter sent to CBP dated Oct. 13 did not included those risks listed above (Doc 3).

My questions: Why did the USFWS decide to edit those risks out of the final letter? And who made that decision?

Feel free to give me a call at 716-818-0825 if you have any questions for me.

All the best,
Dino

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

AUG 25 2017

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Mr. Robert Jess
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3325 Green Jay Road
Alamo, TX 78516

Dear Mr. Jess:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is in the initial stages of planning for proposed levee wall along 28 miles of existing levee located in Hidalgo County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's McAllen and Weslaco stations area of responsibility (AOR) and 32 miles of bollard wall in Starr County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande City station AOR. In addition, CBP is in the planning stages of its second phase of gate installation to close 35 gaps in existing border fence in Hidalgo and Cameron counties. The 35 gates were funded in CBP's fiscal year (FY) 2017 appropriation, while the proposed 28 miles of levee wall and 32 miles of bollard wall are included in the President's FY18 budget request to Congress.

In Hidalgo County, CBP is proposing 28 miles of levee wall. The proposed levee wall alignment will be on the south face of the northern U.S. International Boundary Water Commission (IBWC) levee. The proposed design includes construction of a reinforced concrete levee wall to the height of the existing levee with 18-foot tall steel bollards installed on the top of the levee wall, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the levee wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, automated vehicle gates, pedestrian gates, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the levee wall. In addition, CBP will install gates within 20 gaps in existing border levee wall within Hidalgo County and in 15 existing gaps within Cameron County.

In Starr County, CBP is proposing 32 miles of bollard wall. The proposed design includes construction of 20 to 30-foot tall steel bollards, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the bollard wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the bollard wall.

Additional details of the possible components of the proposed action are as follows:

- **Levee Wall** -The levee wall will be a concrete wall to the height of the levee crest with 18 foot tall bollards installed in the top of the levee wall.
- **Bollard Wall** – The bollard wall will be 20 to 30 feet high utilizing 8-inch diameter, concrete filled steel bollards.
- **150 Foot Enforcement Zone** – The enforcement zone will be an area extending from the south/river side of the levee wall or bollard wall approximately 150 feet. All vegetation within the 150-foot enforcement zone will be cleared.
- **Gates** - Automated vehicle gates will be installed with a minimum height of 18 feet and minimum width of 20 feet. In addition, gates designed to allow for farming equipment will be installed where appropriate and range in width from 40 to 50 feet. All gates will be motorized overhead sliding gates with an enclosed drive and operator system.

- **Lighting** - LED lighting will be installed as part of this project. CBP will work with the appropriate stakeholders to develop solutions to avoid excess lighting beyond the enforcement zone.
- **All Weather Road** - An all-weather aggregate patrol road (type FC-2) will be constructed on the south side and parallel to the levee or bollard wall and within the 150-foot enforcement zone. The specific location of the road within the enforcement zone will be determined during the design phase of the project.
- **Cameras** - A camera surveillance system will be installed to ensure visibility of the enforcement zone and southern approach.

The purpose of the proposed action is to increase CBP's ability to impede or deny illegal border crossings, and to provide improved surveillance and detection capabilities to the areas of greatest risk of illegal cross-border activity located within the US. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will be similar to other levee and border wall systems located within the Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will also support CBPs action under Executive Order (EO) 13767, where CBP is directed to "...secure the southern border of the United States through the immediate construction of a physical wall on the southern border, monitored and supported by adequate personnel so as to prevent illegal immigration, drug and human trafficking, and acts of terrorism."

CBP will evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. CBP is gathering data and input from state and local government agencies, federal agencies, and Native American Tribes that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in the proposed actions. Since your agency or organization may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding the potential environmental impacts from CBP's proposed action, your input is sought regarding the likely or anticipated effects to biological, cultural, and natural resources from the implementation of the proposed actions. Your response should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which CBP should consider during project siting, construction, and operation.

This letter is intended to provide initial information for CBP's proposed projects in the Rio Grande Valley and seek comments and concerns from potentially affected parties and interested groups. CBP intends similar outreach in other border regions as projects are identified and defined. Your prompt attention to this request is appreciated. Comments and information will be accepted up to 30 days following the date of this letter. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include "RGV Wall and Gates Construction" in the title of your email. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)
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U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Border Patrol & Air and Marine
Program Management Office

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Post Office Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R2/NWRS/Coastal TX/066633

(b) (6)(b) (6)
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U.S. Customs and Border Protection
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6) :

Thank you for your letter dated August 25, 2017, regarding U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) proposed border infrastructure in South Texas which includes the installation of 35 gates in existing border fence gaps, 32 miles of bollard wall, and 28 miles of levee wall. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) reviewed your letter and is providing our initial concerns related to Federally listed species, other Federal trust resources, and Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuges (NWR). Once there is a proposed action, that is spatially explicit, we can provide a formal response and coordination under the National Environmental Policy Act, National Wildlife Refuge System (Refuge System) Improvement Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Endangered Species Act.

Over the past several years, there has been a substantial increase in coordination between the Service, CBP, and the U.S. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector along the Texas border. The Service appreciates the excellent communication and information sharing that has occurred and looks forward to maintaining this relationship into the future.

The Refuge System lands in the Lower Rio Grande Valley are considered to be one of the most biodiverse in the continental United States. The Service supports CBP addressing direct and indirect impacts of the proposed border activities on Federally listed species and other Federal trust resources in the project area. In general, concerns are similar to those discussed during initial border wall/fence construction in 2008. The Service will continue to work with CBP on the proposed activities, with a focus on ensuring impacts to Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs and its ecotourism-based economy are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible.

In response to the possible components of the proposed action identified in your letter, the Service's informal comments are as follows:

<u>Levee and bollard walls</u>
In general, the Service recommends considering technology, additional border patrol agents and other mechanisms, when possible, instead of installation of levee or bollard walls.

Connectivity
The Service understands that 10.2 miles of border wall will be constructed on Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs in Hidalgo County, Texas. The Service does not currently have information on specific alignments on Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR in Starr County. Currently, there are 34 miles of existing levee wall in Hidalgo County; the proposed 28 mile addition would result in 62 miles of impermeable barrier, precluding access to habitats by the Federally listed endangered ocelot and jaguarundi, along with other terrestrial species. Reduction of habitat connectivity in portions of the existing wildlife corridor will affect ocelot and jaguarundi movement, impact access to traditional water sources, and reduce potential for gene flow. The Service recommends wildlife openings to allow ocelots, jaguarundis and other wildlife to move through the wall to maintain habitat connectivity.

In Hidalgo County, Santa Ana NWR will be bisected, with substantial acreage south of the proposed wall and less acreage north of the wall. Any acres north of the wall that do not have habitat corridors will represent a direct loss of habitat particularly for ocelots and jaguarundis on refuge land in Texas. The Service requests CBP document and assess these impacts for Starr County when the border wall alignments are determined.

Flooding
The Lower Rio Grande Valley is a flood-prone area. The Service is concerned the levee wall in Hidalgo County could be subject to catastrophic natural flood events, leaving terrestrial wildlife trapped behind the levee wall to drown or starve. This project will likely cause widespread mortality for terrestrial organisms during catastrophic flood events. The Service recommends an assessment of escape routes and consideration of constructing elevated berms south of the levee to allow terrestrial animals to retreat from rising waters during flooding events, as well as leaving the gates open during those events.

Fire
The Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs experience numerous wildfires each year. Fighting wildfire is dangerous, particularly if escape routes are limited due to a border wall. Natural resource protection may be impacted due to public safety and challenges of fighting wildfires south of a border wall.

Direct Mortality
The Service requests best management practices, such as capping hollow bollard/posts, during construction to prevent entrapment of wildlife species during placement of vertical posts/bollards.

Socio-economic & Visitor Impacts
The Service is specifically concerned with potential tourism and visitor impacts. Ongoing efforts by the Service, the state of Texas, private landowners, and non-profit organizations have helped create a wildlife corridor linking numerous isolated habitat fragments in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. These efforts have helped produce habitats that are harboring unique species of plants and animals, making the area a destination for ecotourists.

The economics of Lower Rio Grande Valley wildlife and habitat diversity are important to the international border region, as over 150,000 tourists contribute approximately $10.8 million annually to the regional economy. The Santa Ana NWR is the most accessible public land for residents of Hidalgo County and approximately 70 percent of visitors come from outside of the local area. Visitors participating in outdoor recreational activities economically benefit the local community. The Service recommends a socio-economic analysis of the proposed wall.

Construction of the border wall, as proposed, will likely affect visitation and the quality of visitor experience. Construction of the border wall along the levee will separate the Santa Ana NWR visitor

center and all administrative facilities (equipment storage, residences, parking lots, etc.) from the rest of the refuge (99 percent of refuge lands). The proposal could result in visitors entering and exiting Santa Ana NWR through a large gate, similar to going through a security checkpoint. This could result in a reduction in visitation due to a perceived unsafe and unwelcoming atmosphere.

Enforcement Zones

Construction of a 150-foot enforcement zone will directly remove habitat. The enforcement zone will also create barriers and restrict wildlife movement, especially for species such as ocelots, which require dense brush to travel through. The Service recommends minimizing this zone, as operations allow, especially in and near thick thornscrub and walking trails. We also recommend calculating the direct habitat loss of the 150-foot enforcement zone based on a vegetation and endangered species survey. The proposed cleared enforcement zone in Hidalgo County will directly remove approximately 170 acres of habitat from Lower Rio Grande Valley and Santa Ana NWRs reducing the ability to meet refuge purposes. In Hidalgo County, Refuge System lands will have approximately 7,800 acres south of the proposed wall and 2,400 acres north of the wall. The 2,400 acres represent a direct loss of habitat for ocelots and jaguarundis on Refuge System lands in Texas.

Lighting

Increased lighting at night, along the wall, will likely have negative impacts on ocelot, jaguarundi and other nocturnal species by making them more susceptible to predation. The Service recommends down shielding lights to focus away from thornscrub habitat and shining lights only within the enforcement zone. The Service recommends CBP continue to analyze the effects of lighting to nocturnal wildlife and work with the Service to minimize impacts.

All Weather Roads

The Service recommends the width of all roads created or maintained by CBP be measured and recorded using Geographic Information System (GPS) coordinates and integrated into the CBP GPS database. The Service suggests maintenance actions not increase the width of the roadbed or the amount of disturbed area beyond the roadbed. The all-weather road within the enforcement zone is capable of high speed use, causing concern for public safety and increased wildlife mortality. The Service requests coordination to address speeding issues.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide informal comments and look forward to future opportunities to discuss the proposed project. Please feel free to contact me at 505-248-6282 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Regional Director

cc: Field Supervisor, Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office, Houston, Texas
Refuge Manager, South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Alamo, Texas
Inter-agency Borderlands Coordinator, Department of Interior Washington, D.C.
EA-ARD

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Post Office Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R2/NWRS/Coastal TX/066633

OCT 13 2017

(b) (6)(b) (6)
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U.S. Customs and Border Protection
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

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Over the past several years, there has been a substantial increase in coordination between the Service, CBP, and the U.S. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector along the Texas border. The Service appreciates the excellent communication and information sharing that has occurred and looks forward to maintaining this relationship into the future.

The Refuge System lands in the Lower Rio Grande Valley are considered to be one of the most biodiverse in the continental United States. In general, our concerns are similar to those discussed during initial border wall/fence construction in 2008. The Service will continue to work with CBP on the proposed activities, with a focus on ensuring impacts to Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible.

Socio-economic & Visitor Impacts
The Service is specifically concerned with potential tourism and visitor impacts on the affected NWRs. Ongoing efforts by the Service, the state of Texas, private landowners, and non-profit organizations have helped create a wildlife corridor linking numerous isolated habitat fragments in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. These efforts have helped produce habitats that are harboring unique species of plants and animals, making the area a destination for ecotourists.

The economics of Lower Rio Grande Valley wildlife and habitat diversity are important to the international border region, as over 150,000 tourists contribute approximately $10.8 million annually to the regional economy. The Santa Ana NWR is the most accessible public land for residents of Hidalgo County and approximately 70 percent of visitors come from outside of the local area. Visitors participating in outdoor recreational activities economically benefit the local community.

Construction of the border wall, as proposed, will likely affect visitation and the quality of visitor experience to the affected NWRs. Construction of the border wall along the levee will separate the Santa Ana NWR visitor center and all administrative facilities (equipment storage, residences, parking lots, etc.) from the rest of the refuge (99 percent of refuge lands). The proposal could result in visitors entering and exiting Santa Ana NWR through a large gate, similar to going through a security checkpoint. This could result in a reduction in visitation due to a perceived unsafe and unwelcoming atmosphere, which in turn could impact local economies.

Enforcement Zones
Construction of a 150-foot enforcement zone will directly remove habitat used by threatened and/or endangered species and other wildlife in the area. The enforcement zone will also create barriers and restrict wildlife movement, especially for species such as ocelots, which require dense brush to travel through. The Service recommends minimizing this zone, as operations allow, especially in and near thick thornscrub and walking trails. We also recommend calculating the direct habitat loss of the 150-foot enforcement zone based on a vegetation and endangered species survey. The proposed cleared enforcement zone in Hidalgo County will directly remove approximately 170 acres of habitat from Lower Rio Grande Valley and Santa Ana NWRs reducing the ability to meet refuge purposes and impacting the visitor experience. The Service recommends leaving vegetated areas near entrances and exits to public use areas to mitigate the potential impacts to the visiting public and quality of their experience.

Lighting
Increased lighting at night, along the wall, will likely have negative impacts on ocelot, jaguarundi and other nocturnal species by making them more susceptible to predation. The Service recommends down shielding lights to focus away from thornscrub habitat and shining lights only within the enforcement zone. The Service recommends CBP continue to analyze the effects of lighting to nocturnal wildlife and work with the Service to minimize impacts.

All Weather Roads
The Service recommends the width of all roads created or maintained by CBP be measured and recorded using Geographic Information System (GPS) coordinates and integrated into the CBP

GPS database. The Service suggests maintenance actions not increase the width of the roadbed or the amount of disturbed area beyond the roadbed. The all-weather road within the enforcement zone is capable of high speed use, causing concern for public safety and increased wildlife mortality. The Service requests coordination to address speeding issues, especially near high visitor use areas.

The Service's comments in this letter are based upon general information we have been given to date. The Service may change these comments and opinions depending on more specific information regarding the border wall that we expect will be provided by CBP in the future. We appreciate the opportunity to provide informal comments and look forward to continued coordination on the proposed project. Please feel free to contact me at 505-248-6282 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Regional Director

cc: Field Supervisor, Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office, Houston, Texas
Refuge Manager, South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Alamo, Texas
Inter-agency Borderlands Coordinator, Department of Interior Washington, D.C.
EA-ARD

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail

Fischer, Tate <tate_fischer@fws.gov>

Border Wall POC

6 messages

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 8:48 AM
To: "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Tate Fischer <tate_fischer@fws.gov>

Hi Jeff and Craig,

On 1/29/19 I provided the FWS information (treasury account symbol, DUN's number, tax ID #,etc...) required to establish an interagency agreement to:

(b) (6)(b) (6)
Border Wall Program Management Office
United States Border Patrol
Program Management Office Directorate
office: (b) (6)
cell: (b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

There hasn't been any contact since then (1/29/19) regarding the inter-agency agreement they will prepare and send to me for signature. Once all the signatures are in place I will get a copy of the agreement and forward to FWS finance in Denver and they will post the reimbursable agreement in FBMS. I've already created the needed WBS tracking numbers in FBMS, and I'll be able to target the funds out to the regions for the specific border wall projects as soon as it posts in FBMS. All border project activity will be reported at the national level.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
gill

****
Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

Fischer, Tate <tate_fischer@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:00 AM
To: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>
Cc: "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>

As per discussion with Brent Range yesterday, he is also involved in the the inter-agency agreement. I'd suggest touching bases with him as well in this regard.

Tate Fischer
National Fuels Mgmt. Specialist
USFWS Branch of Fire Mgmt.
3833 South Development Ave.
Boise, ID 83705
(208) 387-5941 (Desk)
(208) 859-1806 (Cell)

[Quoted text hidden]

Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:33 AM
To: "Fischer, Tate" <tate_fischer@fws.gov>
Cc: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>

Gill, can you share the actual information/documents you shared with BP? Thanks

Jeff Rupert
Office: 202-208-2719
Cell: 571-451-6525
[Quoted text hidden]

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:37 AM
To: Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Fischer, Tate" <tate_fischer@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>

Jeff
Just to clarify, do you want only the interagency information I provided or the project documentation that Tate would have provided for the projects.
Thanks

****
Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

[Quoted text hidden]

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:42 AM
To: Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Fischer, Tate" <tate_fischer@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>

Please see the email below where I provided the FWS information for the interagency agreement.

Thx
gill

From: **Fay, Gillian** <gillian_fay@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 29, 2019 at 11:09 AM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: IAA for Southern Border Initiative
To: <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>, Craig Leff <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >, Thao Tran <thao_tran@ios.doi.gov>, Reah Reedy <reah_reedy@fws.gov>, Tate Fischer <tate_fischer@fws.gov>

Good Morning (b) (6)

I've entered the information you requested below. Please note that myself or Reah Reedy (copied on this email) will be the points of contact for administration of this agreement, and Tate Fischer (also copied on this email) is the National Fuels Lead for the FWS Fire Program and our subject matter expert.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Thank you,
Gillian

Specific Agency information is as follows:

Full Agency Name: Department of the Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Full Agency Address: 3833 S. Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705-5354

Telephone Number: 208-387-5536 (gillian) and 208-387-5736 (reah)

Fax Number: 208-387-5668

Tax Identification Number: 84-1024566

DUNS Number: 151157950

Agency Locator Code: 14-16-0006

Treasury Account Symbol: 14.14X1125.16

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Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

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Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

[Quoted text hidden]

Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:48 AM
To: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>
Cc: "Fischer, Tate" <tate_fischer@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

No, disregard looking at the draft IAA now, we'd be better off to talk on the phone ASAP and work through some of the numbers and project timeline. Do you have time to talk at 1:30 eastern?

Jeff Rupert
Office: 202-208-2719
Cell: 571-451-6525

[Quoted text hidden]

Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

Border Wall POC

Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:48 AM
To: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>
Cc: "Fischer, Tate" <tate_fischer@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

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Cell: 571-451-6525

On Feb 12, 2019, at 11:37 AM, Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> wrote:

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> Just to clarify, do you want only the interagency information I provided or the project documentation that Tate would have provided for the projects.
> Thank
>
> **********
> Gillian Fay
> National Fire Budget Officer
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 3833 S. Development Avenue
> Boise, ID 83705-5354
> 208 387 5536 work
> 208-559-1124 cell
>
> On Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9 33 AM Jeffery Rupert jeffery rupert@io doi gov wrote
> > Gill, can you share the actual information/documents you shared with BP? Thanks
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> > Jeff Rupert
> > Office 202 208 2719
> > Cell: 571-451-6525
> >
> > On Feb 12, 2019, at 11:00 AM, Fischer, Tate <tate_fischer@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > A per di cu ion with (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ye terday, he i al o involved in the the inter agency agreement. I'd suggest touching bases with him as well in this regard.
> > >
> > > **Tate Fischer**
> > > National Fuel Mgmt Speciali t
> > > USFWS Branch of Fire Mgmt.
> > > 3833 South Development Ave
> > > Boi e, ID 83705
> > > (208) 387 5941 (Desk)
> > > (208) 859 1806 (Cell)
> > >
> > > On Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 8:49 AM Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > > Hi Jeff and Craig,
> > > >
> > > > On 1/29/19 I provided the FWS information (treasury account symbol, DUN's number, tax ID #,etc...) required to establish an interagency agreement to:

(b) (6)(b) (6)
Border Wall Program Management Office
United States Border Patrol
Program Management Office Directorate
office: (b) (6)
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(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

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gill

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Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

FWS Statement of Work for Sourthern Border Projects

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 4:31 PM
To: "(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) >
Cc: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Tate Fischer <tate_fischer@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Jeff Rupert <jeff_rupert@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <cleff@blm.gov>

Hi Irma,

It was great talking with you this afternoon to coordinate the SOW and IAA for the $1M in funding Border Patrol will transfer to the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

I've revised the amounts in the SOW to reflect the distribution of the $1M to the Sweetwater River and Tijuana River Border Projects. I understand that this interagency agreement will be initiated with FY2019 as the base year and option years to accommodate additional funding transfers if funds become available to complete the projects previously identified.

I'll be ready on this end once your procurement shop has an agreement ready for me to route through my leadership for approval/signatures.

I'll be sure to include you on all correspondence regarding the SOW and IAA so we all stay on the same page. I appreciate that we speak the same budget/agreement language, and look forward to working together on this effort.

Thank you,
Gillian

****

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

2 attachments

BASE.2010XXXX SOW DOI FWS IAA Veg Controlled Burn 020619 (1).doc
85K

BASE.2010XXXX SOW DOI FWS IAA Veg Controlled Burn 020619 (1).doc
85K

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
STATEMENT OF WORK
BETWEEN
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR (DOI), U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES (FWS)

I. AUTHORITY

The authority of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) which is acting as the servicing agency (collectively the "Parties") to enter into this Interagency Agreement (IAA) is the Economy Act of 1932 (31 U.S.C. 1535), resulting in an assisted acquisition.

II. OBJECTIVE/PURPOSE

This Interagency Agreement (IAA) is between the Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (FWS) and the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Border Wall (BW) Program Management Office (PMO). In accordance with this agreement, FWS (servicing agency), will, on behalf of CBP (requesting agency), use its experience, background, and expertise to chemically and mechanically control non-native invasive plant species that exploit openings in the riparian forest canopy in the Tijuana River Valley and the Sweetwater River Valley which are located in the San Diego Border Patrol Sector.

The overall goals of the project are to: reduce the risk of wildfire; improve habitat for riparian nesting bird species including the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo and Southwestern willow flycatcher; mitigate safety risks to FWS staff and Border Patrol personnel; and improve access and visibility for Border Patrol operations. The San Diego Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol is one of the busiest in the country in terms of illegal entries and smuggling activity from Mexico.

III. SCOPE

This Statement of Work describes the comprehensive scope of support services for CBP's requirements. During the Base Period, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will use its best efforts to provide the following services either by contract or by in-house efforts:

a. **Sweetwater River Valley** (using either in-house or contractor resources), including but not limited to:

    1) The primary actions are to chemically and mechanically control non-native invasive plant species that exploit openings in the riparian forest canopy. Chemical treatments would include application of herbicide at the appropriate point of the growth cycle for the chemical to be transported to the roots and kill the plant. Mechanical treatments would include cutting, removal, and chipping. Non-native species that contribute to hazardous fuel loading and are targeted for

removal include giant reed (*Arundo donax*), saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.), Peruvian peppertree (*Schinus molle*), eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.), Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*), and castor bean (*Ricinus communis*). Planning activities include project plan development, mapping of target species, environmental compliance, contract development and administration, treatment effectiveness monitoring, and reporting. Two units of the Sweetwater River totaling 242 acres would be treated – Unit 1 (upstream of SR 94 to the Refuge boundary with private land) is 124 acres; Unit 2 (downstream of SR 94 to boundary with Sweetwater Authority) is 118 acres.

Follow-up chemical and mechanical treatments will likely be necessary for 3 years to achieve 100% control of invasive plant species and to remove live or dead biomass.

The project area is designated critical habitat for the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) and Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*).

b. **Tijuana River Valley** (using either in-house or contractor resources), including but not limited to:

1) The primary actions are to mechanically remove woody debris from the riparian zone and to chemically and mechanically control invasive plant species that exploit openings in the forest canopy created by the beetle infestation. Mechanical treatment of large woody debris would include cutting, removal, and chipping. Invasive plant species would be controlled with herbicides followed by mechanical removal of the dead material. The main species to be targeted include giant reed (*Arundo donax*), saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.), and castor bean (*Ricinus communis*). Planning activities include project plan development, mapping of target species, environmental compliance, contract development and administration, treatment effectiveness monitoring, and reporting. The total footprint of the project area is approximately 200 acres.

Follow-up mechanical and chemical treatments will likely be necessary for 3-5 years to achieve 100% control of invasive plant species or to remove additional woody debris generated by beetle activity.

Portions of the project area include designated critical habitat for the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*).

IV. REQUIREMENTS/TASKS:

a. **Sweetwater River Valley:** The total footprint is 242 acres; and 242 acres would be counted for accomplishments.
   1) Treatment #1: CATNR-FY19-CX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   2) Treatment #2: CATNR-FY19-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP

b. **Tijuana River Valley:** The total footprint is approximately 200 acres; however, approximately 1,120 acres will be counted for accomplishments (each treatment type is counted once; follow-up treatments will occur for 3-5 years on each unit).
   1) Treatment #1: CATJR-FY19-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   2) Treatment #2: CATJR-FY19-CX-SCA-Units 3,4-BP
   3) Treatment #3: CATJR-FY20-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   4) Treatment #4: CATJR-FY20-CX-SCA-Units 3,4-BP
   5) Treatment #5: CATJR-FY20-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   6) Treatment #6: CATJR-FY20-CX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP

V. ESTIMATED COST BREAKOUT (INCLUDING APPLICABLE FEES):

Project Title	TOTAL COST ESTIMATE
Sweetwater River Valley	
FY19	350,000.00
Sub-Total	**350,000.00**
Tijuana River Valley	
FY19	330,000.00
FY20	320,000.00
Subtotal	**650,000.00**
Grand Total	**1,000,000.00**

Table 1: Project Cost Estimate

The Base Period amount includes all costs for all work included in the scope of this IAA plus the project management costs charged by FWS for the Base Period. Actual costs are dependent on the work performed. This budgetary estimate is based on a summation of all the labor, contract and other direct and indirect costs assumed to be required to fund the mechanical / chemical treatments executed during the Base Period through contract closeout.

VI. DELIVERABLES:

The servicing agency must provide an electronic version of the following:

- Monthly expense burn rate report
- Monthly Project Delivery Schedule

VII. PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

The place of performance for this requirement shall include San Diego Border Patrol Sector.

VIII. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

This Agreement is effective from _____ through four years from date of award, which is estimated to be from XXX 2019 – XXX, 2024.

IX. FUNDING

The initial value of the IAA base year is **$1,000,000.00**
Any modifications resulting from a CBP approved change request will be funded from the change management reserve contract line item number (CLIN) 10. Use of the change management reserve funding CLIN 10 is only authorized after receipt of a CBP approved change request. Funding will be provided by CBP BW PMO to the Department of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Specific funding information is as follows:

[Information found in the PRR in FMB Section or under Account Section of PR]

Cost Center:
Order:
Fund:
Functional Area:
Fund Center:
PR:

X. POINTS OF CONTACT

CBP:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Program Official
Border Wall Program Management Office
Program Management Office Directorate
Phone: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
E-mail: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Contracting Officer Representative
Acquisition, Real Estate, and Environmental
Border Wall Program Management Office
Phone: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
E-mail: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Financial Analyst
Border Wall Program Management Office
Phone: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
E-mail: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

CBP Acquisitions:

TBD
Contracting Specialist
US Customs and Border Protection/DHS
Phone: TBD
Email: TBD

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Contracting Officer
US Customs and Border Protection/DHS
Phone: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Email: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Department Of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service:

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Phone: 208-387-5536
Cell Phone: 208-559-1124
Email: gillian_fay@fws.gov

XI. PARTICIPATING AGENCY INFORMATION

Specific Agency information is as follows:
Full Agency Name: Department of the Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Full Agency Address: 3383 S Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705-5354
Telephone Number: 208- 387-5536
Fax Number: 208-387-5668
Tax Identification Number: 84-1024566
DUNS Number: 151157950
Agency Locator Code: 14-16-006
Treasury Account Symbol: 14.14X1125.16

From: Kodis, Martin
To: Margaret Everson
Cc: Wainman, Barbara; Matthew Huggler; Melissa Beaumont
Subject: For your review -- DRAFT email to respond to Hill inquiry on Border Maps
Date: Monday, February 25, 2019 10:29:56 AM

Hi Margaret,

Per our conversation late Friday, we have carefully crafted the following draft message to be sent to House Natural Resources Committee majority staff. We are hoping to get your approval, then Andrea's if necessary, and then run it by Taylor Playforth before sending to HNRC.

The maps we would send are FWS maps and have been reviewed by you and other officials through Cynthia's briefings.

Can you please let me know if this looks good and then I'll figure out if and how best to run it by Andrea?

Thank you!

Marty

The full final proposed response text to be sent in an email is below, and the four maps to attach to the email can be found here:

"Thank you for your inquiry and we apologize for the delay.

Per your request, attached are maps of the La Parida Banco Tract and the El Morillo Banco Tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge located on the Texas-Mexico border. Please note that there is a preexisting levee easement held by the International Boundary and Water Commission, indicated in red on the attached maps. Where it crosses National Wildlife Refuge System administered lands, such easement existed prior to these tracts being acquired and added to the Refuge System.

Questions regarding type of barrier construction and timing are not determined by or within the authorities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and we suggest contacting U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to address these types of questions. Here is the congressional affairs contact at CBP: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) *. This public CBP press release may also be helpful to your inquiry.*

We would like to suggest an in-person briefing to further explain these maps and the land jurisdictional arrangement; please let me know and we can set something up. If so, we propose 2:00

pm Friday, March 1st.

Attachments:

- *Map 1 – Overview map of US-Mexico border*
- *Map 2 – Zoomed-in map of refuge tracts in Southeastern Texas*
- *Map 3 – Satellite image with basic overlay of **La Parida Banco tract**, levee, and the Rio Grande.*
- *Map 4 – Satellite image with basic overlay of **El Morillo Banco tract**, levee, and the Rio Grande.*

--
Martin Kodis
Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041

703-358-2241 ph
703-358-2245 fax

From:	Margaret Everson
To:	Kodis, Martin
Cc:	Wainman, Barbara; Matthew Huggler; Melissa Beaumont
Subject:	Re: For your review -- DRAFT email to respond to Hill inquiry on Border Maps
Date:	Wednesday, February 27, 2019 5:01:13 AM

The language looks good to me. We will need to get it down to Andrea for a quick review. I will forward it to her and copy you.
Best
Margaret

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 25, 2019, at 1:29 PM, Kodis, Martin <martin_kodis@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hi Margaret,
>
> Per our conversation late Friday, we have carefully crafted the following draft message to be sent to House Natural Resources Committee majority staff. We are hoping to get your approval, then Andrea's if necessary, and then run it by Taylor Playforth before sending to HNRC.
>
> The maps we would send are FWS maps and have been reviewed by you and other officials through Cynthia's briefings.
>
> Can you please let me know if this looks good and then I'll figure out if and how best to run it by Andrea?
>
> Thank you!
>
> Marty
>
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>
> *"Thank you for your inquiry and we apologize for the delay.*
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> *Per your request, attached are maps of the La Parida Banco Tract and the El Morillo Banco Tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge located on the Texas-Mexico border. Please note that there is a preexisting levee easement held by the International Boundary and Water Commission, indicated in red on the attached maps. Where it crosses National Wildlife Refuge System administered lands, such easement existed prior to these tracts being acquired and added to the Refuge System.*

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Martin Kodis
Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041

703-358-2241 ph
703-358-2245 fax

From:	Margaret Everson
To:	andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov
Cc:	maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; barbara_wainman@fws.gov; charisa_morris@fws.gov; melissa_beaumont@fws.gov; matthew_huggler@fws.gov
Subject:	Fwd: For your review -- DRAFT email to respond to Hill inquiry on Border Maps
Date:	Wednesday, February 27, 2019 5:03:09 AM

Andrea,
Please take a look at the language below and let me know if you have any comments or questions. We will also be running this through Taylor in 0CL.
Thank you
Margaret

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Kodis, Martin" <martin_kodis@fws.gov>
> **Date:** February 25, 2019 at 1:29:12 PM EST
> **To:** Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>
> **Cc:** "Wainman, Barbara" <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <matthew_huggler@fws.gov>, Melissa Beaumont <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>
> **Subject: For your review -- DRAFT email to respond to Hill inquiry on Border Maps**
>
> Hi Margaret,
>
> Per our conversation late Friday, we have carefully crafted the following draft message to be sent to House Natural Resources Committee majority staff. We are hoping to get your approval, then Andrea's if necessary, and then run it by Taylor Playforth before sending to HNRC.
>
> The maps we would send are FWS maps and have been reviewed by you and other officials through Cynthia's briefings.
>
> Can you please let me know if this looks good and then I'll figure out if and how best to run it by Andrea?
>
> Thank you!
>
> Marty
>
> The full final proposed response text to be sent in an email is below, and the four maps to attach to the email

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Martin Kodis
Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041

703-358-2241 ph
703-358-2245 fax

From: Kodis, Martin
To: Margaret Everson
Cc: Wainman, Barbara; Matthew Huggler; Melissa Beaumont
Subject: Re: For your review -- DRAFT email to respond to Hill inquiry on Border Maps
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 5:08:46 AM

Thank you.

On Wed, Feb 27, 2019 at 8:01 AM Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov> wrote:

> The language looks good to me. We will need to get it down to Andrea for a quick review. I will forward it to her and copy you.
> Best
> Margaret
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Feb 25, 2019, at 1:29 PM, Kodis, Martin <martin_kodis@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hi Margaret,
> >
> > Per our conversation late Friday, we have carefully crafted the following draft message to be sent to House Natural Resources Committee majority staff. We are hoping to get your approval, then Andrea's if necessary, and then run it by Taylor Playforth before sending to HNRC.
> >
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> > Can you please let me know if this looks good and then I'll figure out if and how best to run it by Andrea?
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> >
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maps. Where it crosses National Wildlife Refuge System administered lands, such easement existed prior to these tracts being acquired and added to the Refuge System.

Questions regarding type of barrier construction and timing are not determined by or within the authorities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and we suggest contacting U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to address these types of questions. Here is the congressional affairs contact at CBP: (b)(6), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) *This public CBP press release may also be helpful to your inquiry.*

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--
Martin Kodis
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041

703-358-2241 ph
703-358-2245 fax

Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 3: CBP MOU

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:42 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

See attachment as well.

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Date: Fri, Mar 8, 2019 at 12:32 PM
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU
To: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>

Lesley,

I have attached the MOU. I left the comments in so you could see the responses but cleared out many of the track changes. Let me know if you have any questions and I will start working with my team to figure out next steps on this side.

Thank you.

(b) (6)

From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 1:23 PM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

Thank you, both of you!

Lesley

On Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 12:46 PM (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)> wrote:

> Great, I will get the changes made and sent it over to Lesley by tomorrow.

From: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 12:45 PM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

I'm good with making the changes. No real need for a call if we are all in agreement.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Energy and Environmental Management Division

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 12:34 PM
To: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>; (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

I am ok making the changes and then I can send it to you. I don't think we need a call if we agree on everything else.

(b) (6), what do you think?

-(b) (6)

From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 12:12 PM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

I'm A-OK with that change. And I understand the issue- it's not the first time I've heard this.

Would you like to chat more about it? Or perhaps we should just make the changes and I can upload a new document into the system for our Director's office?

On Wed, Mar 6, 2019 at 3:08 PM (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) > wrote:

Hi Lesley,

We got the comments back from our counsel. The only issue is that we want to keep negative effects over adverse effects as his response is below.

(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client
(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client
(b) (5) attorney-client (b) (5) attorney-client (b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client
(b) (5) attorney-client (b) (5) attorney-client (b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client
(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client
(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client

Let me know if you are free in the next few days to discuss and we can try to move the MOU forward.

Thanks

(b) (6)

From: Kordella, Lesley le ley kordella@fw gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 11:53 AM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: Re [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

Sounds good!

On Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 9:12 AM (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) > wrote:

Hi Lesley!

I just pinged our office of chief counsel yesterday to get his take on the comments. Once we have his comments back then I was going to schedule a meeting with you to go through the solicitors comments. Thanks for checking in!

(b) (6)

From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 9:05 AM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

Hi there (b) (6) and (b) (6),

I am digging through my emails to track the status of various MOUs. This was the last conversation I could find on our MOU, and I thought I'd check in to find out if your team was able to review the changes to the MOU.

I hope things are well!

Lesley

On Wed, Nov 28, 2018 at 10:55 AM Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> wrote:

> Sounds good, (b) (6) I encourage your legal team to take another look, too. It's important that you all feel comfortable with the changes.
>
> Have a wonderful vacation!!
>
> Lesley
>
> On Wed, Nov 28, 2018 at 10:53 AM (b) (6)(b) (6) . (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) > wrote:
>
> > Lesley,
> >
> > Thank you. I will review and discuss with our team. I may need to have our legal person review it again as well.
> >
> > I will let you know next week as I am headed on vacation tomorrow afternoon.
> >
> > (b) (6)
> >
> > **From:** Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
> > **Sent:** Wednesday, November 28, 2018 10:38 AM
> > **To:** (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
> > **Cc:** (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
> > **Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

(b) (6) and (b) (6),

Good morning! I've attached the MOU draft with tracked changes and comments from me and our solicitor Philip. Many changes were recommended due to the M Opinion, and the proposed rule that was on the Unified Agenda I shared with you last month. Language now reflects what you might find in NEPA, such as 'reduction of negative impacts'. This is happening to all new and updated MOUs, by the way.

I'll make myself available for a walk-through on the phone or in person if that's helpful to you. Most of the comments are pretty easy to follow, though.

Please let me know your thoughts and if you have any questions or concerns with these changes. I do not believe they are significant enough to warrant any backtracking of FWS review with the regions or Ecological Services. If you are happy with these changes, I will re-initiate the formal review and briefing process here at the Service and within DOI. This will likely need to be reviewed by the Secretary's office now as well, due to any political discussions or perceptions that may or may not be going on presently. But I'm prepared to handle that, so leave that to me.

Have a great Wednesday!

Lesley

On Tue, Nov 27, 2018 at 2:06 PM Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> wrote:

> Good afternoon (b) (6) and (b) (6),
>
> I wanted to let you know that I have feedback on the draft MOU from our solicitor. I'm going through it and will get it to you in the next day or two (not all the comments were in tracked changes, so I need to incorporate them).
>
> Just wanted you to know that I'm about to send it back your way.
>
> Lesley
>
> On Wed, Oct 17, 2018 at 12:13 PM Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > I haven't heard anything yet. I'll prompt my solicitor again. He said he'd have it reviewed by last week. Given what's on the unified agenda today, though, I imagine he's a little behind. See below.
> >
> > **DOI/FWS** **RIN:** 1018-BD76 **Publication ID:** Fall 2018

Title: ●Migratory Bird Permits; Regulations Governing Take of Migratory Birds

Abstract:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to establish regulations that define the scope of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA or Act) as it applies to conduct resulting in the injury or death of migratory birds protected by the Act. This rule would codify the legal opinion in the Department of the Interior Solicitor's Opinion M 37050 that incidental take re ulting from an otherwi e lawful activity i not prohibited under the MBTA. These regulations would reduce regulatory burdens and uncertainty on the public with regards to complying with bird take prohibitions.

Agency: Department of the Interior(DOI)

Priority: Other Significant

RIN Statu Fir t time publi hed in the Unified Agenda

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking Propo ed Rule Stage

Major No

Unfunded Mandate No

EO 13771 Designation: Deregulatory

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 10

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 703 to 712

Legal Deadline: None

Timetable

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/2018	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Federal, Local, State, Tribal

Federalism: No

Included in the Regulatory Plan: No

RIN Data Printed in the FR: No

Agency Contact:
Dr. Eric L. Kershner

On Fri, Oct 12, 2018 at 9:39 AM (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)> wrote:

> Lesley
>
> Just checking in on the status of the MOU on your end. I am updating our briefing slides to prepare for when we need to get it signed. Let me know if you have an update.
>
> (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)(b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2018 1:50 PM
To: 'Kordella, Lesley' <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

Thank you!

From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2018 12:01 PM
To (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

Thank you! That's great news!

I'll let our solicitor know, and I'll ensure (b) (6) is on the distribution list.

Lesley

On Thu, Sep 27, 2018 at 11:40 AM (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) > wrote:

> Lesley,
> I want to let you know that we got the green light from our legal department, so the document is good on our end.
>
> Also could you please add (b) (6) (cc'd here) to the list for the CCMB staff meeting.
>
> Thanks!
>
> (b) (6)(b) (6)

-----Original Message-----
From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2018 2:23 PM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

(b) (6) and(b) (6),
Thank you for the call today. Here is a newer version of the MOU, with the adjusted wording we discussed.

Please read it over to ensure you're comfortable with my recommended changes. Where intentional take was mentioned, I did not see a reason to make changes. I'll send this now to our solicitors, as I mentioned, to help keep the ball rolling!

Lesley
On Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 3:06 PM Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> Here you go- I went ahead and changed two names since our former Chief
> Brad Bortner, and our former Acting Director Greg Sheehan, both left
> the Service. The appropriate contacts and signature blocks are in
> there for us right now. I did not yet review anything else in the
> MOU.
>
> Would you like to set up a time to chat about any possible changes? I
> am more than happy to get this up to date as quickly as you'd like so
> we can try to move it again. I can't thank you enough for all of your
> patience.
>
> Lesley
> On Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 10:58 AM (b) (6)(b) (6)
> <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)> wrote:
> >
> > Lesley,
> >
> > There weren't any concerns with the way it was the last we saw it. Could you send me over the version you have though. I want to make sure. Also we have a new Natural Resources POC (b) (6)(b) (6) and I would love to have her look at it.
> >
> > But I would love to move it forward again if possible.
> >
> > Thank you
> > (b) (6)
> >
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
> > Sent: Monday, September 10, 2018 10:53 AM
> > To: (b) (6)(b) (6) . <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
> > Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
> > Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU
> >
> > Hi Rebekah,
> > I'd love to move this forward again. Thank you for contacting me about it. I think we can do so- I'd like to take one more look at it with fresh eyes. But I won't let that hold up the final parts of the review.
> >
> > Before I do so- were there any last concerns or questions you had before I make the push for this? Since so much has changed in the past year, I thought I should ask for your agency's perspective, first. If you're comfortable with me trying to get this over the finish line as is, then I think it's a good time to try.
> >
> > Lesley
> > On Fri, Sep 7, 2018 at 10:30 AM (b) (6)(b) (6)
> > <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)> wrote:

> > >
> > > Hi Lesley
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > I know that this is probably a no, but I was wondering if there was any idea if movement would be made to move forward with the MOU. Just curious if it was still on indefinite hold or if maybe things might start moving again.
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > Thanks.
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
> > >
> > > LMI Government Consulting
> > >
> > > Energy and Environment Managment Division
> > >
> > > US Customs and Border Protection
> > >
> > > (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
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> > >
> > > Cell (b) (6)(b) (6)
> > >
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> >
> >
> >
> > --
> >
> > **********
> > Lesley Kordella
> > Wildlife Biologist
> > US Fish & Wildlife Service
> > Division of Migratory Bird Management
> > 5275 Leesburg Pike
> > Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> > Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
> > (703) 358-1963
> >
> > Looking to help save birds at home and in the office every day from window collisions and other threats? Check out this flyer to find out some easy ways you can help!
> >
> > **********
>
>
>
> --
>
> **********
> Lesley Kordella
> Wildlife Biologist
> US Fish & Wildlife Service
> Division of Migratory Bird Management
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> Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

> Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
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>
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> some easy ways you can help!
>
> **********

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****
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Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

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Le ley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist

Acting NEPA Coordinator

US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Fall Church, VA 22041 3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

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Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist

Acting NEPA Coordinator

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5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358 1963

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Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
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Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist

US Fish & Wildlife Service

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Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
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Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist

US Fish & Wildlife Service

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(703) 358-1963

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Lesley Kordella
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US Fish & Wildlife Service

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Lesley Kordella
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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

****

CBP-FWS MOU_MigBirds_March_2019.docx
70K

Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>

Re: Incoming request for info from HNRC on border refuges

1 message

Playforth, Taylor <taylor_playforth@ios.doi.gov> Wed, Mar 20, 2019 at 10:46 AM
To: "Wainman, Barbara" <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>
Cc: "Helfrich, Devin" <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>, "Kodis, Martin" <martin_kodis@fws.gov>, Angela Gustavson <angela_gustavson@fws.gov>

I understand the slide deck used at yesterday's EPW budget briefing was not cleared with FWP leadership before presenting externally, so please forgive me if I'm particularly cautious on what information we provide externally.

Thanks,

On Wed, Mar 20, 2019 at 10:40 AM Wainman, Barbara <barbara_wainman@fws.gov> wrote:
> no we just cut through all the red tape and went to the top
>
> Barbara W. Wainman
> Assistant Director, External Affairs
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> (202) 208-5256 (office)
> (571) 471-4159 (cell)
>
> On Wed, Mar 20, 2019 at 10:32 AM Playforth, Taylor <taylor_playforth@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> > If the Acting Secretary is satisfied then I assume Andrea and Margaret are satisfied and so am I.
> >
> > Thank you for the awareness.
> >
> > On Wed, Mar 20, 2019 at 10:21 AM Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > Hi Taylor,
> > >
> > > We wanted to be sure to keep you apprised of the latest on this issue: I understand that David Bernhardt had a chance to review this request and our proposed response yesterday, and has approved for sharing with the committee. We plan to send the below email and attached maps to the committee today.
> > >
> > > Thank you for your patience
> > >
> > > **Devin Helfrich**
> > > Congressional Legislative Affairs
> > > U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> > > Office Direct: (703) 358-2130
> > > Mobile: (202) 365-5971
> > >
> > > *"Thank you for your inquiry and we apologize for the delay.*
> > >
> > > *Per your request, a ached are maps of the La Parida Banco Tract and the El Morillo Banco Tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Naonal Wildlif e Refuge located on the Texas-Mexico border. Please note that there is a*

preexisng le vee easement held by the Internaonal Boundar y and Water Commission, indicated in red on the a ached maps. Where it crosses Naonal Wildlif e Refuge System administered lands, such easement existed prior to these tracts being acquired and added to the Refuge System.

Quesons regarding the type of c onstrucon and ming are not de termined by or within the authories of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and we suggest contacng U .S. Customs and Border Protecon (CBP) t o address these types of quesons. Here is a c ongressional affairs contact at CBP: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) *.This public CBP press release may also be helpful to your inquiry.*

A achments:

- *Map 1 – Overview map of US-Mexico border*
- *Map 2 – Zoomed-in map of refuge tracts in Southeastern Texas*
- *Map 3 – Satellite image with basic overlay of **La Parida Banco tract**, levee, and the Rio Grande.*
- *Map 4 – Satellite image with basic overlay of **El Morillo Banco tract**, levee, and the Rio Grande.*

On Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 3:01 PM Playforth, Taylor <taylor_playforth@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> Thanks, please keep me in the loop as we progress with the scheduling.
>
> On Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 11:50 AM Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov> wrote:
> > Hi Taylor,
> >
> > I just spoke with Cynthia (Refuge Chief) and confirmed that we are all good re: that the previous briefings (w Everson, Travnicek, Cason, Willens, MacGregor, DOI comms) went well and FWS indicated in these meetings that there was a Congressional inquiry that we were getting ready to respond to with this information.
> >
> > Cynthia is unavailable almost the entirety of the next two weeks, but it looks like we may have a window to do the briefing next Friday afternoon, March 1 that I will try to work on securing.
> >
> > Devin
> >
> > On Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 9:47 AM Playforth, Taylor <taylor_playforth@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> > > Yes, If we're certain DOI leadership is comfortable then we should proceed and I would like to attend. The last I understood there was mixed information whether DOI leadership was comfortable but my info could be outdated.
> > >
> > > On Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 9:44 AM Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > > Hi Taylor,
> > > >
> > > > I wanted to finally follow-up on this one - now that the briefings of FWP and DOI leadership are under our belt (and I've also had the chance to touch-base with CBP), we are ready to go ahead and offer a response email and/or briefing to HNRC Majority on the border barrier and South Texas refuges.
> > > >
> > > > I was going to try to set something up for a briefing time ASAP with the committee and I assume that you would like to attend?
> > > >
> > > > Best,
> > > > Devin
> > > >
> > > > On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 12:06 PM Playforth, Taylor <taylor_playforth@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> > > > > Acknowledging receipt of your email, let me get back to you shortly.
> > > > >
> > > > > On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 11:18 AM Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > > > > Hi all,
> > > > > >
> > > > > > We have good parcel maps of the refuge, showing the ROW that is being reviewed for barrier construction, and which we have already provided to Congress.
> > > > > > However, for answers to Lora's other questions, I don't believe that we are the correct Agency to have the info and develop the answers (most likely CBP).

Devin Helfrich
Congre ional Legi lative Affair
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Direct: (703) 358-2130
Mobile: (202) 365-5971

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 11:10 AM Kodis, Martin <martin_kodis@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hi Devin and Taylor.
>
> Lora Snyder from HNRC majority contacted u with reque t for ome information regarding FWS refuges in TX on the border. See her questions below.
>
> Devin, I know you provided maps and some info to Senator Heinrich last year (in coordination with Micah) and o you may have ome of thi information at the ready Some of the other que tion may be answered through a quick call to the region.
>
> Taylor we will wait for your ok before sending anything to Lora, but hopefully the maps at least could be omething we end very oon
>
> Devin, can you please work to gather the responsive information that we are able to develop, and let this group know what the answers to those questions are?
>
> Barbara will inform Margaret and Andrea of this incoming.
>
> Finally, Taylor, we will input this request into the OCL google form.
>
> Thanks all.
>
> Marty
>
> From Lora Snyder this morning:
>
> "Can you plea e end me an actual map howing federal parcel in the two refuge in South Texas, where bulldozers may be lining up, and what impacts any of that may have on non-federal land? And is it new construction or building a levee higher?
>
> They are tarting thi now, correct? Or i the admini tration waiting for an emergency declaration?
>
> Can you please send me something ASAP?"
>
> Martin Kodis
> Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
>
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041
>
> 703 358 2241 ph
> 703-358-2245 fax

Taylor Playforth

> > > > > > Senior Advisor
> > > > > > US Department of Interior
> > > > > > Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs
> > > > > > (202) 795-0977
>
> > > > > --
> > > > > Taylor Playforth
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Taylor Playforth
Senior Advisor
US Department of Interior
Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs
(202) 795-0977

Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>

[EXTERNAL] RE: Maps of refuges on the Texas-Mexico border

1 message

Snyder, Lora <Lora.Snyder@mail.house.gov> Thu, Mar 21, 2019 at 5:01 PM
To: "Helfrich, Devin" <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>
Cc: "Martin Kodis (Marty)" <martin_kodis@fws.gov>, Angela Gustavson <angela_gustavson@fws.gov>

Thank you, Devein. Very much appreciate it.

From: Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:49 PM
To: Snyder, Lora <Lora.Snyder@mail.house.gov>
Cc: Martin Kodis (Marty) <martin_kodis@fws.gov>; Angela Gustavson <angela_gustavson@fws.gov>
Subject: Maps of refuges on the Texas-Mexico border

Hi Lora,

Here is the response to your earlier inquiry received on February 5 and we apologize for the delay.

Per your request, attached are maps of the La Parida Banco Tract and the El Morillo Banco Tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge located on the Texas-Mexico border. Please note that there is a preexisting levee easement held by the International Boundary and Water Commission, indicated in red on the attached maps. Where it crosses National Wildlife Refuge System administered lands, such easement existed prior to these tracts being acquired and added to the Refuge System.

Questions regarding the type of construction and timing are not determined by or within the authorities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and we suggest contacting U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to address these types of questions. Here is a congressional affairs contact at CBP: (b) (6)(b) (6) - (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) . This public CBP press release may also be helpful to your inquiry.

Attachments:

- Map 1 – Overview map of US-Mexico border
- Map 2 – Zoomed-in map of refuge tracts in Southeastern Texas
- Map 3 – Satellite image with basic overlay of La Parida Banco tract, levee, and the Rio Grande
- Map 4 – Satellite image with basic overlay of El Morillo Banco tract, levee, and the Rio Grande

Please let me know if you have any further questions

Best,

Devin Helfrich

Congressional Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Direct: (703) 358-2130
Mobile: (202) 365-5971

Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

IAA with Border Protection for SBI $1M

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Fri, Apr 5, 2019 at 2:03 PM
To: "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>
Cc: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, Tate Fischer <tate_fischer@fws.gov>

Shane,
I have the IAA between FWS and CBP attached. I've had Ketti sign for Cynthia, and I signed electronically. Could you please sign as acting for Chris, and I'll get it to CBP so they can go through their signature process.

Hopefully we get word that the 0% was approved by the Director next week and I can get the WBS set up by the time CBP is finished with the IAA.

Thanks,
Gill

****

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208 387 5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

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166K

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
(IAA)

1. Agreement No.	2. Modification No.	3. Order No.	4. Requisition No.
70B01C19K00000062			0020111384

5. Period of Performance	6. Statutory Authority	7. Date IAA Prepared
From 04/08/2019 To 04/07/2024	Economy Act, 1932, as amended	

8. Requesting Agency

Agency Name: DHS - Customs & Border Protection
Office/Division: Customs and Border Protection
POC: (b) (6)(b) (6)
Address: (b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6)
POC Phone No.: (b) (6)

9. Servicing Agency

Agency Name: DOI - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office/Division: National Wildlife Refuge System-Branch of Fire Mgmt
POC: Tate Fischer
Address: 3383 S. Development Ave
Boise ID 83705-5354
POC Phone No.: 208-387-5941

10. Scope of Work

This Interagency Agreement (IAA) between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Office of Administration, Facilities Management and Engineering (FM&E) Border Wall (BW) Program Management Office (PMO) is for the purpose of obtaining services to chemically and mechanically control non-native invasive plant species that exploit openings in the riparian forest canopy in the Tijuana River Valley and the Sweetwater River Valley, in accordance with the attached Statement of Work. The period of performance includes a one (1) year base period, plus four (4) 1-year option periods, at $1,000,000.00 each. Funding is hereby provided in the amount of $1,000,000.00.

11. Delivery/Shipping Schedule

See Attached Delivery Schedule

12. IAA Amount

Base Price of IAA	$1,000,000.00
Modification Amount	$0.00
Assisted Acquisition Servicing Fee	$0.00
Total IAA Price	$1,000,000.00

13. Billing and Payment

Requesting Agency

Locator Code: 70050800
DUNS #: DUNS# 879824324
Address: DHS - Customs & Border Protection
Commercial Accounts Sect.
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6)
POC: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
POC Phone #: (b) (6)
POC Fax #: (b) (6)
POC Email: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Servicing Agency

Locator Code: 14-16-0006
DUNS #: 151157950
Address: US Fish and Wildlife Service
3383 S Development Avenue
Boise ID 83705-5354
POC: Gillian Fay
POC Phone #: (208) 387-5536
POC Fax #: 208-387-5668
POC Email: gillian_fay@fws.gov

14. Requesting Agency TAS No.	15. Servicing Agency TAS No.
10 ____070____X0533000__	10 ____14X1125.16____
20 ____070____X0533000__	20 ____14X1125.16____

16. Invoice/Payment Method

- [ ] Requesting Agency Initiate IPAC
- [ ] Servicing Agency Initiate IPAC
- [ ] Credit Card
- [ ] Other (explain below)

17. Billing Frequency

- [X] Monthly
- [ ] Quarterly
- [ ] Semi-annually
- [ ] Annual
- [ ] Advanced Payment (explain below)
- [ ] Other (explain below)

18. Requesting Agency Accounting and Appropriation Data

10	6100.2525USCSGLCS093520611OZ00009173SB0201002900 BPE752525 TAS# 070 X0533000
20	6100.2525USCSGLCS093520611OZ00009173SB0201002900 BPE752525 TAS# 070 X0533000

19. Approvals				
Program Officials	**Requesting Agency**		**Servicing Agency**	
Name	(b) (6)		Chris Wilcox	
Title	COR		Chief, Fire Management Branch, NWRS	
Telephone No.	(b) (6)		208-387-5599	
Fax No.			208-387-5668	
Email	(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)		chris_wilcox@fws.gov	
Signature		Date:		Date:
Funding Officials				
Name	(b) (6)(b) (6)		Cynthia T. Martinez	
Title	Budget Official		Chief, National Wildlife Refuge Sys	
Telephone No.	(b) (6)		202-208-5333	
Fax No.			703-358-2248	
Email	(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)		cynthia_martinez@fws.gov	
Signature		Date:		Date:
Contracting Officials				
Name	(b) (6)(b) (6)		Gillian Fay	
Title	Contracting Officer		National Fire Budget Officer	
Telephone No.	(b) (6)		208-387-5536	
Fax No.	(b) (6)		208-387-5668	
Email	(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)		gillian_fay@fws.gov	
Signature		Date:		Date:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT (IAA)

INSTRUCTIONS

Block 1: Insert IAA number (automatic system populated).

Block 2: Insert modification number of the IAA (automatic system populated).

Block 3: Insert IAA order number (automatic system populated).

Block 4: Insert IAA requisition number (automatic system populated).

Block 5: Insert period of performance for the IAA.

Block 6: Insert statutory authority for the IAA.

Block 7: Insert date the IAA was prepared (automatic system populated).

Block 8: Insert requesting agency information.

Block 9: Insert servicing agency information.

Block 10: Insert a brief description of the IAA requirements (scope of work) and list the applicable attachments in this block. At a minimum, the attachments should include the IAA terms and conditions, statement of work, and analysis of alternative, if applicable.

Block 11: Insert the delivery and/or shipping schedule for the IAA or indicate where the delivery/shipping schedule may be found.

Block 12: Insert the base price of the IAA, modification amount, assisted acquisition servicing fee, and total IAA price--automatic system populated.

Block 13: Insert the billing and payment information for the requesting and servicing agency (requesting agency information automatic system populated).

Block 14: Insert the requesting agency TAS number for each line item (automatic system populated).

Block 15: Insert the servicing agency TAS number for each line item (automatic system populated).

Block 16: Check the invoice/payment method for the IAA and explain if “other” is selected.

Block 17: Check the billing frequency for the IAA and explain if “advanced payment” or “other” is selected.

Block 18: Insert the requesting agency accounting and appropriation data per line item (automatic system populated).

Block 19: Insert IAA approval information for the requesting and servicing agency pertaining to program officials, funding officials, and contracting officers. Include the date for each signature.

From: Hires, Brian
To: Morris, Charisa
Cc: Foster, Maureen; Hancock, Donnise
Subject: Re: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach
Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 8:56:26 AM
Attachments: Note to Reviewers - Jaguar Recovery Plan FINAL.docx
Jaguar Recovery Plan News Release FINAL.doc
Jaguar_Recovery_PlanQ_A FINAL.doc
Jaguar Recovery Plan Comms Strategy FINAL.docx
Final Jaguar Plan Cover.pdf

Hi Charisa,

Please see attached requested items, for announcing the final jaguar recovery plan. Let me know you think they'd also like to see the actual final recovery plan as a PDF (it's a fairly large file). Thanks,

Brian

On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:49 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:
> I think that would definitely be helpful for context, if those items are available!
>
> On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:23 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:
> > Thanks Charisa! That's correct, this is just a comms package. Happy to share a copy of the final recovery plan if helpful, as well as the outreach as attachments.
> >
> > Brian
> >
> > On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:21 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > + Maureen
> > >
> > > Good morning, Brian-
> > >
> > > Unfortunately, yesterday was Andrea Travnicek's last day in the office this week, and we got all of this week's priority packages in front of her before COB Monday, as a result. The chances of us getting her to clear this while she's on the road is slim, but we can try! It sounds like it is just a coms package - is this correct?
> > >
> > > I've cc'd her Chief of Staff, Maureen Foster, who may have intel on whether this package was set to move this week or if they need more information.
> > >
> > > Thanks!
> > > Charisa
> > >
> > > On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 9:59 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > > Good morning Charisa,
> > > >
> > > > Donnise suggested I reach out to you regarding clearance of the jaguar final recovery plan, that our regional office would like to announce this Thursday 4/11 or as soon as possible after that date.
> > > >
> > > > As an FYI, It looks like this outreach has been with the Assistant Secretary's office

since 4/4 in DTS. As a final recovery plan, this does not have a FR notice associated with it and we don't normally bring final recovery plans into HQ for review but this one is a high-profile species that touches on border wall issues.

Thanks in advance for helping us get this one over the finish line. Don't hesitate to write or call if you have any questions or follow up on anything.

--
Brian Hires
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Office of Public Affairs | Falls Church, VA
(Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

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Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

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Brian Hires
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DTS NOTE TO REVIEWERS

DCN: 068832

Subject: Outreach Package for Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

Background: The Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar. Although the vast majority of the jaguar's population in the Americas is from Mexico to Argentina, this recovery plan focuses on its range in the American Southwest and Mexico, where the United States has the most jurisdiction.

Deadline for completing surname: The Notice of Availability announcing the posting of this final recovery plan to a FWS Region 2 website is targeted for being sent to the *Federal Register* on April 11, 2019. This date is flexible.

Materials: *Outreach plan, news release, FAQs*

Special considerations:

While recovery plans are non-regulatory guidance documents, this action will likely generate significant national and international attention, stakeholder interest and controversy. The jaguar is a charismatic megafauna and its northernmost range extends across the US-Mexico border to the US Southwest. **As such, this issue involves border wall issues.** (The recovery plan for the US includes two 'border dispersal corridors' in rugged, remote areas of Arizona).

Careful messaging has been crafted and prioritized in this outreach to detail political sensitivities and how the US portion of the jaguar's historic range represents just 1/10th of 1 percent of its 19-country range. Outreach to DOI, Congress, stakeholders and media should account for the potential for controversy and misconceptions around this issue.

Contact: *Brian Hires, brian_hires@fws.gov, 703-358-2191*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

News Release

Arizona Ecological Services
Field Office
9828 N. 31st Ave, #C3
Phoenix, Arizona 85051-2518
602/242-0210

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [insert date here] [DRAFT]
Contact: Jeff Humphrey, (602) 889-5946, jeff_humphrey@fws.gov

Service and Binational Team Complete ESA Recovery Plan for America's Largest Wild Cat

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery plan for the jaguar, currently listed under the act at endangered. The plan provides a recovery framework and goals for improving the species' status throughout its entire 19-country range while focusing on the jaguar populations in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States.

The final recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. More than 99 percent of the jaguar's range is in Central and South America, so the plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery. The Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar, including continued funding support.

The Service has established strong working relationships with state and local partners, conservation groups and the Mexican government. The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but calls for focusing efforts on sustaining potential habitat. In addition, the plan calls for establishing at least two borderland dispersal corridors for jaguars' continued movement through remote, rugged habitat between the countries, eliminating poaching, and improving social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate their return to the United States.

"The binational recovery team's scientific expertise in protecting the jaguar has been invaluable," said Amy Lueders, the Service's Southwest Regional Director. "We recognize the challenges involved in conserving and recovering a species with such an expansive international range, and the team has laid out a comprehensive plan with goals that are achievable and realistic. We look forward to continuing to work with our diverse partners on this effort within and outside the United States."

Loss of habitat, direct killing of the cats, and depletion of prey are the primary factors contributing to the jaguar's current status and decreasing population trend. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. However, conservation of key jaguar populations and habitat -- including core breeding and connective areas -- will be critical to jaguar recovery. We anticipate it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States, all in southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. These jaguars are believed to have come from the nearest core area and breeding population, approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora.

Across the jaguar's primary range in Latin America, the Service is actively working with countries and local partners to protect and recover the cat. Conservation efforts include providing incentives for protecting jaguar habitat and prey, education campaigns addressing misinformation and fears, and providing landowners with strategies for co-existing with jaguars.

Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations must be secured throughout their range. This will require protecting jaguar habitat quality and connectivity; providing incentives to protect jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico. These protections must remain in place after delisting to ensure the long-term viability of the species.

The binational Jaguar Recovery Team includes representatives of CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico), CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora), U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS Wildlife Services and U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Border Patrol, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Tohono O'odham Nation, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance, Malpai Borderlands Group, Naturalia, Panthera and several ranchers, landowners, stakeholders and universities in Mexico and the United States. Additionally, the Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the recovery plan.

The Jaguar Recovery Plan is available at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm or by request from Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Ecological Services Office, 9828 North 31st Avenue, #C3, Phoenix, AZ 85051–2517; phone 602/242-0210.

*The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit **www.fws.gov**, or connect with us through any of these social media channels: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube.*

Photos available at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/
Video at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guuhu_-G-Pw&feature=youtu.be

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Questions and Answers: Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [Enter date here]
Contacts: Jeff Humphrey 602-242-0210

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar, America's largest wild cat. The plan sets goals for improving the species' status through its entire 19-country range and provides a framework for achieving recovery. The recovery plan focuses on the cat's population in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States and recommends site-specific conservation actions that contribute to jaguar recovery across its range.

Q: What does the jaguar recovery plan tell us?

A: Reversing the decline of the jaguar is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework for aligning stakeholder efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core areas and connective corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

Q: What are the primary threats to the jaguar?

A: Loss of habitat, killing of individuals and depletion of prey throughout its range are the primary reasons for decreasing populations of jaguars. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing each of these threats. It establishes goals for minimizing threats and for establishing viable populations throughout the jaguar's expansive range.

Q: What is a recovery plan?

A: Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

Q: What are the strategies for conserving and recovering the jaguar in the final recovery plan?

A: The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units: the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. The plan

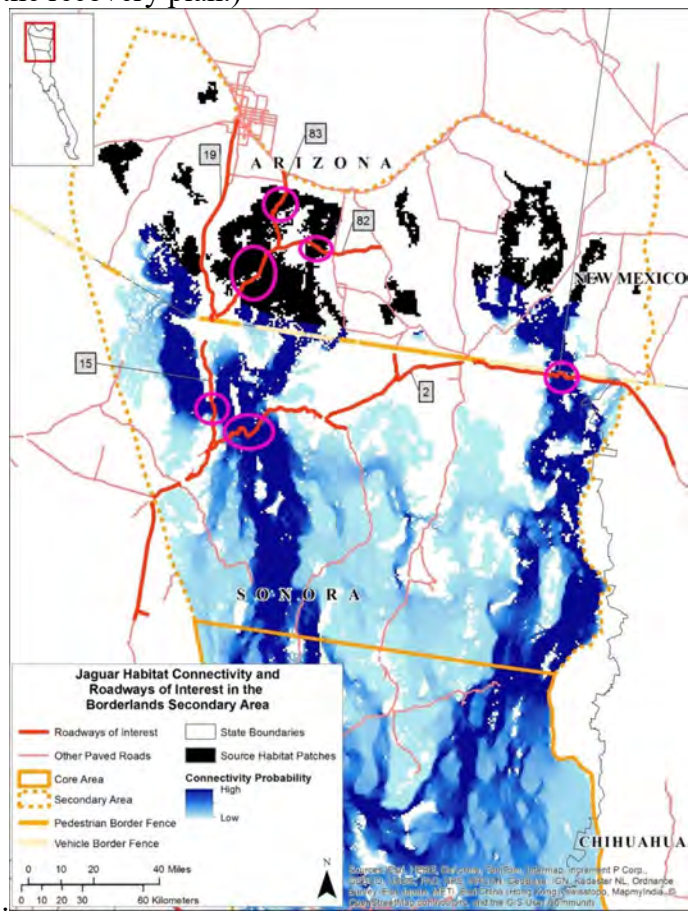
recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery. As it has in the past, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar.

The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction and has an established working relationship with Mexico. The NRU includes the jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors (see Figure 4 in the final recovery plan), and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

Q: What are the borderland dispersal corridors referred to in the recovery plan and how critical are they to the recovery of jaguars in the United States?

A: Dispersal corridors are rugged, remote areas that presently male jaguars, presumably from the Sonora Core breeding area in Mexico, use to access secondary area habitat, a portion of which is in southern Arizona and New Mexico. These areas have been identified from habitat characteristics, historical records, recent sightings and photo monitoring in the United States and Mexico. (See Jaguar Habitat Connectivity and Identification of Potential Road Mitigation Locations in the NRU for the Jaguar report, as well as Figure 4 of the recovery plan.)



Continued jaguar access to habitat through transborder linkages is the sole mechanism identified in the recovery plan for continued jaguar occupation in the U.S. portion of the species' range. Maintaining this habitat connectivity is one of the recovery criteria for the Northwestern Recovery Unit. Research documents the importance of animal populations at the extremities of their ranges for the expansion and contraction of species' ranges and, ultimately, the long-term recovery of species.

These jaguar dispersal corridors are rugged and remote areas. Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors. Continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allowing ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Q: How important is the recovery of jaguars in the United States to their overall recovery across their range?

A: The U.S. range of the jaguar represents the very northernmost edge of its 19-country range that extends all the way to South America. The U.S. range represents just one-tenth of 1 percent of its historic range.

Given that the jaguar is an international species with the vast majority of its range outside of the United States, primary actions to recover the jaguar will occur in other countries. Because more than 95 percent of the jaguar's habitat in the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) is in Mexico, Mexico will be the primary contributor to the jaguar's recovery in the NRU. In the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU), countries within the jaguar's range will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery.

The Service's limited resources are better applied to planning and on-the-ground implementation of conservation actions within the United States boundaries and in partnership with Mexico. Therefore, the Service and the Jaguar Recovery Team have established objective and measurable criteria for recovery and site-specific actions that, if implemented, will conserve viable jaguar populations in the northwestern portion of its range (e.g., the NRU). Priority is given to this unit because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction, and we have an established working relationship with Mexico on issues of mutual concern.

Q: Was Customs and Border Patrol included in the developing of this plan?

A: Yes. U.S. Border Patrol (Tucson Sector) is represented on the Implementation Subgroup of the Jaguar Recovery Team. Other U.S. border area groups on the subgroup include ranchers, Malpais Borderlands Group, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance (ranching group), and state and federal land and wildlife managers.

Q: What are the actions and partnerships the Service is taking to support recovery of the jaguar in its primary range in 19 Central and South American countries?

A: In recent years, the Service's International Affairs Program has been at the forefront of supporting the conservation of jaguars throughout their range in Mexico, Central America and South America. During the past four years alone, we have supported 23 jaguar-related projects in 10 countries with more than $1 million in conservation funding. When jaguar habitat is conserved, many other species directly benefit.

In addition to providing incentives to protect habitat, many of the projects we support, seek to alleviate fears about jaguars in human communities through education. They also frequently provide

landowners with concrete strategies and methods that reduce conflict in such a way that humans and jaguars can co-exist. As a result, landowners are better able to protect their livelihoods and economic interests while helping protect jaguars. They achieve these goals by discouraging jaguars from coming into contact with their livestock, by reforesting areas of their land, and by helping maintain the species' natural prey populations. Based on project reporting to date, most landowners who employ jaguar-friendly ranching techniques see a dramatic reduction in attacks and subsequent livestock mortality. A project in Paraguay has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by 80-100 percent at 12 sites that cover an area more than 770 square miles. Another project in the Maya Biosphere of Guatemala has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by approximately 70 percent at 283 properties, covering about 11,603 hectares of land now under improved management.

Q: What are the requirements for a full recovery of the jaguar?

A: The approach in this Recovery Plan is as follows:

- Two recovery units are included, the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) and the larger Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU). The NRU extends from south-central Arizona and extreme southwestern New Mexico, United States, south to Colima, Mexico. The PARU encompasses 18 countries from Mexico to Argentina. These units are further divided into core, secondary, and peripheral areas.
- The status of and threats to jaguars in the PARU are summarized and general actions and criteria for addressing these threats and evaluating rangewide recovery are recommended.
- Detailed criteria and actions necessary to recover jaguar populations in the NRU are provided.

The Service will consider removing the jaguar from the ESA list due to recovery when <u>all</u> of the following conditions are met:

<u>A. PARU</u>

i. The status of the jaguar changes to Least Concern (LC) and is maintained under the IUCN Red List criteria (as defined by the World Conservation Union, http://www.iucnredlist.org) for at least 20 more years after first qualifying for LC, which would mean threats have been reduced so the jaguar population is no longer at risk of a $\geq$ 30 percent decline because its area of occupancy, extent of occurrence, and/or habitat quality, as well as actual or potential levels of exploitation, have been stable for at least 40 years.

<u>B. NRU</u>

i. Maintain approximately 60 percent occupancy (proportion of cells) in each of the Core Areas over 40 years (inclusive of the 20 years required to downlist).

ii. Over 40 years, genetic distance (e.g., F_{ST} or G_{ST}) between the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas does not significantly increase, and inbreeding coefficients (F_{IS} or G_{IS}) within each of the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas do not significantly increase.

iii. During a period of 40 years, the average of at least 30 percent of the adult population within the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas are female (based on data gathered through surveying, monitoring, genetic analysis, etc.).

iv. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation siting and design), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure the network of ≥ 100-km^2 blocks (the minimum area capable of supporting at least three breeding females) of high-quality habitat and habitat connections between blocks within each Core Area (Sonora and Jalisco) will support genetically and demographically viable jaguar populations for the foreseeable future.

v. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability will be maintained for jaguars within the Sinaloa Secondary Area.

vi. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in the United States and Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability, including at least two trans-border linkages, will be maintained for jaguars throughout the Borderlands Secondary Area.

vii. The threat of direct human killing of jaguars is decreased or maintained at sustainable levels as measured by acceptable evidence or an index.

viii. Effective federal, state, tribal, and/or local laws are in place in the NRU that ensure killing of jaguars is prohibited or regulated so viable populations of the species can be maintained.

BASIC COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

FOR ROUTINE NON-CONTROVERSIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Title:** Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

2. **DTS number** 068832

3. **What is the action triggering this communications plan?** *(Please explain in no more than three sentences)*

The Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar.

4. **What is the proposed date for this action? Why has it been selected? Is it flexible?**

Proposed date for the announcement is April 11, 2019. The plan was signed by the Southwest Regional Director in July 2018; however, the announcement was delayed to accommodate extensive review and inter-agency coordination. The April 11 date allows for a final review by headquarters, notification of DOI, and facilitation of a coordinated rollout by the Jaguar Recovery Team (state, NGO, tribal and international partners.)

5. **Which office is leading this communications effort and which other programs, regions or groups are involved?**

Region 2 External Affairs and Arizona Ecological Services Office. (The Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the plan and will be available to contribute technical expertise.)

SECTION II: GOALS AND MESSAGES

6. **What story do we want to tell?**

Reversing the decline of the jaguar (America's largest cat) is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan

sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework whereby all stakeholders can align their efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core habitat areas and corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

7. What are our key messages? *(These should be top concepts that readers should take away, including an understanding of why this action matters and why they should care, not a list of facts, which should be placed in the appendix. List no more than four!)*

Primary messages:

- Reversing the decline of the jaguar -- America's largest wild cat -- is possible. It will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States to Argentina.
- Through the Endangered Species Act recovery planning process, nineteen nations and diverse conservation organizations are working together to protect this important and charismatic species.
- Primary threats to the jaguar throughout its range are loss of habitat, direct killing and depletion of its prey. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing threats and sets goals for minimizing threats and establishing viable jaguar populations throughout their expansive range.
- The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in remote and rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States/Mexico border.
- Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors, and continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Secondary messages:

- The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. *The plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery.* Through the NRU, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout its range, as it has in the past.
- The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has legal jurisdiction. We also have close working relationships with Mexico on

behalf of the jaguar's recovery. The NRU includes jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

If-Asked Only Statements:

- The Service is working closely with federal and other partners to promote border security while protecting the jaguar and its habitat. The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in particularly rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States – Mexico border.
- The Service is not aware of any proposals to build new border fence on the Arizona border. Some existing fence is being replaced, but it is a direct replacement, not an upgrade from vehicle to pedestrian fence.]

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States. The recovery plan focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors, and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

For additional background and approved messaging on role of CBP and the U.S. Border Patrol in the Jaguar Recovery Plan, see Appendix II below.

SECTION III: IMPLEMENTATION

8. Implementation timeline *(If not known, put TBD or the number of days/hours before/after the announcement*

Target Date	Tactic	Responsible
All times are in the Mountain (ET -2) time zone		
All dates and times are predicated on date determined for release of Final Recovery Plan		

At least 7 days prior to public announcement	Wildlife Conservation Society notification	Humphrey
2-3 days before announcement	Embargoed pitch to AP and/or national reporter(s)? Susan Montoya (AP)	Humphrey/Hires
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify New Mexico and Arizona fish and wildlife agency directors	Lueders or Millsap/Humphrey/McIntyre
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify AZ and NM congressional members, and congressional committees of anticipated availability	R2 Lesli Gray/CLA Alyssa Hausman
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify southern Arizona and New Mexico tribes of anticipated availability	Nystedt/Humphrey
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Confirm plan availability with recovery team member organizations	Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (8 am MT)	Post final recovery plan and news release to Arizona ES, ECOS, and R2 homepage	Kaplan/Crouse/ Campbell
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Distribute news release to AZ, NM, Mexico, and international environmental news outlets	Humphrey
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	SMEs available for media response	Humphrey/Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Social media (Facebook) post	Barrus
Week after signature	[*Optional*] Provide written notification to affected parties, agencies	AESO

9. **Which communications tools are needed to support these strategies and tactics?** *(Be as specific as possible about the products identified and who will produce them)*

Tool	Responsible	Due Date
News Release	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Photos (www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/)	Humphrey	3/15/2019
"If-asked" border talking points	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Video support: www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Jaguar population maps	Alanen	3/15/2019
FAQs (FAQs presently in Item 7 (above) as if-asked only) can be converted into FAQs)	Humphrey	3/15/2019

10. **Social media plan** *(Provide a list of accounts to be used as well as sample hashtags, messages, multimedia and other links, etc. as appropriate)*

https://www.facebook.com/USFWSSouthwest?ref=mf

The Service and its partners in the binational Jaguar Recovery Team can recover the jaguar, but it will take time, effort and collaboration with partners across species' 19-country range. A recently released recovery plan sets goals for improving the species status across its range and provides a framework for achieving recovery.

Here in the Southwest, male jaguars from a core breeding population in Mexico occasionally occupy mountain ranges along our southern border with the country.

See more at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm

11. **Stakeholder contact grids** *(For each, paste in a table that provides organization name, contact person, how the person will be contacted, phone or email address as appropriate and a name of the person who will be making contact)*

Internal

DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator	Brent Range (DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator) (202) 208-7431 brent_range@ios.doi.gov	Pro	McIntyre/ Maestas

FWS International Affairs	Amanda Gonzales 703-358-2110 amanda_gonzales@fws.gov	Pro	Fernandez/ Alanen

External

Stakeholder Name	Contact Info	Pro/Anti / Neutral	Contact By
Binational Recovery Team Members • CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico) • CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora) • USDA's Wildlife Services • U.S. Forest Service-Coronado National Forest • Bureau of Land Management-Tucson • U.S. Border Patrol • Arizona Game and Fish Department • New Mexico Department of Game and Fish • Tohono O'odham Nation • Altar Valley Conservation Alliance • Malpai Borderlands Group • Naturalia • Panthera • Conservation Planning Specialist Group • Wildlife Conservation Society	(List Serve)	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Sky Island Alliance	Louise Misxtal (Exec Director) 520-624-7080 x 19, louise@skyislandalliance.org	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre
Arizona Cattle Grazers Association	Exec VP Patrick Bray,	Neutral	Humphrey/

	602-267-1129, pbray@arizonabeef.org		McIntyre
Borderlands Restoration	Executive Director: David Seibert, 520-882-8202 or dseibert@email.arizona.edu Caleb Weaver, (860) 237-0381 **weaver.caleb**@gmail.com	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre
University of Arizona	Kirk Emerson (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-3315 kemerson@email.arizona.edu Susan Malusa (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-2161 smalusa@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Alanen/ Fernandez
USGS-Univ Arizona	Melanie Culver (USGS-Univ Arizona (520) 626-3775 mculver@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen
University of Ariz -Rancher Incentive Program	Scott Bonar (University of Ariz -- Rancher Incentive Program) sbonar@ag.arizona.edu Laura Lopez Hoffman lauralh@email.arizona.edu Aaron Lien alien@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen
Wildlife Conservation Society	John Delaney (WCS Communications) 347-675-2294	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen

	jdelaney@wcs.org Eric Sanderson (WCS Senior Conservation Ecologist) (718) 220-6825 esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (WCS Senior Researcher) (718) 741-8206 kfisher@wcs.org Scott Smith (WCS) (718) 220-3698 ssmith@wcs.org		
New Mexico Department of Game & Fish	Alexandra Sandoval, Dir., alexandra.sandoval@state.nm.us Jim Stuart (Biologist) 505-476-8107 james.stuart@state.nm.us Karl Moffatt Public Affairs (505) 476-8007 karl.moffatt@state.nm.us Dan Williams, Communications dan.williams@state.nm.us	Neutral	Lueders/Millsap Millsap Humphrey Humphrey
Arizona Game & Fish Department	Ty Gray (Director) 623-236-7278 tgray@azgfd.gov Josh Avey, (AD Wildlife Management) 623-236-7385 javey@azgfd.gov Tim Snow (Biologist) tsnow@azgfd.gov Bill Andres (Communications) 623-236-7223 bandres@azgfd.gov Mark Hart (Tucson	Neutral	Lueders/ McIntyre McIntyre Alanen Humphrey Humphrey

	Comms) (520) 388-4445MHart@azgfd.gov		
US Forest Service	Bobbi Barrera 505-842-3194, blbarrera@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre
US Forest Service – Coronado National Forest	Kerwin Dewberry (Forest Supervisor) kdewberry@fs.fed.us Heidi Schewel (Communications Coronado) (520) 388-8343 hschewel@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre Humphrey
DHS CBP Tucson Sector	(b) (6)(b) (6) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)	Neutral	McIntyre/ Humphrey
National Park Service - Intermountain Region	Endangered Species Coordinator Mike_Wrigley@nps.gov 303/969-2929	Pro	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Tohono O'odham Nation	Assistant Director Marlakay Henry (520-383-1511) Marlakay.henry@tonation-nsn.gov	Pro	Scott Richardson/John Nystedt
San Carlos Apache Tribe		Pro	John Nystedt

Wildlife Conservation Society	Eric Sanderson (Wildlife Conservation Society) esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (Wildlife Conservation Society) kfisher@wcs.org	Pro	Humphrey/Alanen
Conservation Planning Specialist Group	Phil Miller (Conservation Planning Specialist Group) pmiller@cbsg.org	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Harris Environmental Group	Lisa Harris (Harris Environmental Group) harris@heg-inc.com	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen
Defenders of Wildlife	Bryan Bird (Southwest Program Director)(505) 395-7332 BBird@defenders.org	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Malpai Borderlands Group	Bill McDonald (Exec Director) 520-558-2475 malpaigroup@gmail.com	Pro	McIntyre/ Alanen
Center For Biological Diversity	Kieran Suckling or Michael Robinson (575-313-7017) michaelr@biologicaldiversity.org Robin Silver: rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org 602-246-4170	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Cochise County	Board of Supervisors: board@cochise.az.gov	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Hereford NRCD	Board Clerk, Kathy Morris nrcdhereford@gmail.com	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Fort Huachuca	Director of Public Affairs Angela Moncur	Pro	McIntyre/

	(520) 533-1850 angela.moncur@us.army.mil		Humphrey
BLM - Arizona	BLM T&E Species Arizona State Office Philip Cooley (602) 417-9423 pcooley@blm.gov	Pro	McIntyre/ Humphrey
BLM- New Mexico	BLM New Mexico Acting State Director Aiden Seidlitz, aseidlitz@blm.gov 505-954-2222 NM T&E Lead for BLM Marikay Ramsey (marikayr@blm.gov) Lisa Rivera Morrison (Deputy Chief Office of Communications) lmorriso@blm.gov (505) 954-2023 work; (505) 920-6532 cell	Pro	Millsap/ Humphrey
Arizona State Lands Commissioner	Lisa Atkins 602-542-4621 latkins@land.az.gov	Neutral	McIntyre/ Humphrey
New Mexico State Lands Commissioner	Aubrey Dunn 505-827-5760	Neutral	Millsap/ Humphrey

Organization:	**Name:**	**Email:**	**Pro/Neut/ Anti**	**Contacted by:**
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Backcountry Hunter & Anglers	Katie McKalip	mckalip@backcountryhunters.org	Pro	DPIA
Center for Biological	Brett Hartl	bhartl@biologicaldiversity.org	Pro	DPIA

Diversity				
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation	Sara Leonard Gary Kania	Sleonard@congressionalsportsmen.org garyk@sportsmenslink.org	Neut	DPIA
Conservation International	Justin Ward	jward@conservation.org	Pro	DPIA
Defenders of Wildlife	Robert Dewey Jared Saylor	rdewey@defenders.org jsaylor@defenders.org	Pro	DPIA
Endangered Species Coalition	Leda Huta	lhuta@stopextinction.org	Pro	DPIA
Environmental Defense Fund	Mark Rupp Chandler Clay	mrupp@edf.org cclay@edf.org	Pro	DPIA
Izaak Walton League	Scott Kovarovics Dawn Merritt	skovarovics@iwla.org dmerritt@iwla.org	Pro	DPIA
International Fund for Animal Welfare	Jeff Flocken Danielle Kessler	jflocken@ifaw.org dkessler@ifaw.org	Pro	DPIA
National Association of Counties	Deborah Cox Jonathan Shuffield Fred Wong	dcox@naco.org jshuffield@naco.org fwong@naco.org	Neut	DPIA
National Association of Home Builders	Michael Mittelholzer	mmittelholzer@nahb.org	Anti	DPIA
National Rifle Association	Susan Recce	srecce@nrahq.org	Neut	DPIA
National Wildlife Federation	Mike Leahy Judith Kohler Casey Skeens	leahym@nwf.org kohlerj@nwf.org skeens@nwf.org	Pro	DPIA
Natural Resources Defense Council	Andrew Wetzler	awetzler@nrdc.org	Pro	DPIA
Outdoor Writers Association of	Kelsey Dayton	kdayton@owaa.org	Neut	DPIA

America				
Public Lands Alliance	Marci Schlup	mschlup@beef.org	Anti	DPIA
Safari Club International	Steve Comus	scomus@safariclub.org		DPIA
The Nature Conservancy	Brent Keith LR Clawson	brent.keith@tnc.org lroseclawson@tnc.org	Pro	DPIA
The Wilderness Society	Jamie Williams Kitty Thomas	jamie_williams@tws.org kitty_thomas@tws.org	Pro	DPIA
The Wildlife Society	Keith Norris Chuck Shively	keith.norris@wildlife.org chuck.shively@wildlife.org	Pro	DPIA
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership	Steve Kline Geoff Mullins Kristyn Brady	skline@trcp.org gmullins@trcp.org kbrady@trcp.org	Pro	DPIA
Western Governors' Association	Zach Bodhane Joe Rassenfoss	zbodhane@westgov.org joe@westgov.org		DPIA
Wildlife Management Institute	Steve Williams	swilliams@wildlifemgt.org	Neut	DPIA
World Wildlife Fund	Will Gartshore	Will.gartshore@wwfus.org	Pro	DPIA

12. Congressional member email list

Title	Last	Seat ID	DC Staff	District Staff
Sen.	Sinema	AZ	michael_brawnlie@sinema.senate.gov	michelle_davidson@sinema.senate.gov haleigh_williams@sinema.senate.gov
Sen.	McSally	AZ	pace_mcmullan@mcsally.senate.gov	tanya_wheeless@mcsally.senate.gov
Rep.	O'Halleran	AZ1	paul.babbitt@mail.house.gov	chip.davis@mail.house.gov blanca.varela@mail.house

				.gov
Rep.	Kirkpatrick	AZ2	lisa.walker@mail.house.gov	ron.barber@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Grijalva	AZ3	glenn.miller@mail.house.gov	Ruben.Reyes@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Gosar	AZ4	rory.burke@mail.house.gov, jeff.small@mail.house.gov	Penny.Pew@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Stanton	AZ9	tracee.sutton@mail.house.gov	eric.chalmers@mail.house.gov
Sen.	Heinrich	NM	maya_hermann@heinrich.senate.gov	alex_eubanks@heinrich.senate.gov
Sen.	Udall	NM	jonathan_black@tomudall.senate.gov Caitlin_Keating-Bitonti@tomudall.senate.gov, Lisa_VanTheemsche@tomudall.senate.gov	David_williams@tomudall.senate.gov greg_bloom@tomudall.senate.gov
Rep.	Haaland	NM1	eric.werwa@mail.house.gov	scott.forrester@mail.house.gov sofia.sanchez@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Torres Small	NM2	brooke.stuedell@mail.house.gov	nayomi.valdez@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Lujan	NM3	levi.patterson@mail.house.gov	jennifer.catechis@mail.house.gov

13. Congressional committee email list

CLA will contact authorizing committee staff; Division of Budget will contact appropriations committee staff

Senate Appropriations Interior S/C – Majority	emy_lesofski@appro.senate.gov	(202) 224-7233
Senate Appropriations Interior S/C – Minority	ryan_hunt@appro.senate.gov	(202) 228-0774
Senate EPW – Majority	matt_leggett@epw.senate.gov andrew_harding@epw.senate.gov james_willson@epw.senate.gov	(202) 224-6176
Senate EPW – Minority	christophe_tulou@epw.senate.gov elizabeth_mabry@epw.senate.gov	(202) 224-8832

Senate ENR – Majority	chuck_kleeschulte@energy.senate.gov lucy_murfitt@energy.senate.gov colin_hayes@energy.senate.gov	(202) 224-4971
Senate ENR – Minority	david_brooks@energy.senate.gov	(202) 224-4971
House Appropriations Interior S/C – Majority	rita.culp@mail.house.gov jocelyn.hunn@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3481
House Appropriations Interior S/C – Minority	darren.benjamin@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3081
House Natural Resources – Majority	lora.snyder@mail.house.gov brandon.bragato@mail.house.gov sarah.lim@mail.house.gov rachel.gentile@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-6065
House Natural Resources – Minority	william.ball@mail.house.gov parish.braden@mail.house.gov christopher.santini@mail.house.gov brandon.miller@mail.house.gov syi@mail.house.gov steve.petersen@mail.house.gov will.layden@mail.house.gov john.sullivan1@mail.house.gov steven.parr@mail.house.gov chris.esparza@mail.house.gov john.strom@mail.house.gov marc.alberts@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2761
Leadership – House Majority Leader Hoyer	trent.bauserman@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4131
Leadership – House Minority Leader McCarthy	Jennifer.Loraine@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2915
Congressional Research Service	PSHEIKH@crs.loc.gov RCRAFTON@crs.loc.gov LTSANG@crs.loc.gov EWARD@crs.loc.gov	

SECTION IV: PRIMARY POINTS OF CONTACT

14. Media coordinators *(For national-level plans, list at least one person from HQ Public Affairs and others from region/program if appropriate. For regional-level plans, only regional coordinators are required. Enter name, email and phone)*

Jeff Humphrey (Southwest Region) jeff_humphrey@fws.gov, 602-242-0210

Brian Hires (Headquarters) Brian_Hires@fws.gov, 703-358-2191

15. **Congressional coordinators** (*For national-level plans, list at least one person from HQ Public Affairs and others from region/program if appropriate. For regional-level plans, only regional coordinators are required. Enter name, email and phone)*

CLA Alyssa Hausman (CLA) alyssa_hausman@fws.gov 703-358-2275 Lisa Jones (CLA) lisa_m_jones@fws.gov 703-358-2536 Lesli Gray (Southwest Region) lesli_gray@fws.gov 817-277-9057

16. **Subject matter experts available for interview** *(Must be approved by HQ Public Affairs for an HQ-led announcement or by Regional Public Affairs for region-led announcement. Enter name, email and phone)*

Marit Alanen (Biologist) marit_alanen@fws.gov 520-670-6150 x234 Julie McIntyre (Assistant Field Supervisor) Julie_McIntyre@fws.gov 520-670-6150 x223 Jeff Humphrey (Field Supervisor) 602-242-0210

17. **Additional technical experts for reference** *(Enter name, email and phone)*

18. **Are there any non-FWS points of contact for this action?** *(Enter name, organization, role, email and phone)*

John Delaney (Wildlife Conservation Society - Comms Director) jdelaney@wcs.org 718-220-3275 (Regarding mapping/modelling)

SECTION V: DOCUMENT INFO

19. **Date Created** **Created By**

7/13/2018	Jeff Humphrey

20. **Date last edited** **Edited By**

7/24/2018	Laurel Barnhill, Julie McIntyre and

	Marit Alanen
7/27/2018	Brian Hires
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8/23/2018	McIntyre
8/26/2018	Humphrey
8/29/2018	Brian Hires
9/8/2018	Laury Parramore
9/12/2018	Alyssa Hausman
9/28/2018	Humphrey
3/22/2019	Humphrey
3/26/2019	Mary Elder
3/28/2019	Brian Hires
3/29/2019	Matt Huggler
3/29/2019	Alyssa Hausman

APPENDIX: ADDITIONAL BACKROUND INFORMATION AND MATERIALS

DO NOT PUT OTHER MATERIALS SUCH AS FAQs, NEWS RELEASE OR TALKING POINTS IN THIS SECTION. KEEP THOSE AS SEPARATE DOCUMENTS.

(Consider the following: What is the historical context? Does this relate to other issues that may not immediately be apparent (consider other programs and regions)? Is there a scientific basis to this issue? If so what is it?)

APPENDIX 1

Historical Context:

Following a 2009, Arizona District Court decision, FWS determined that developing a recovery plan for jaguars will contribute to their conservation (in recognition that most of the species' habitat and almost all individuals occur outside if the United States).

FWS reconfigured and expanded a binational Jaguar Recovery Team and charged them with developing a recovery outline, which they completed in April 2012. The FWS drew heavily from the data compiled in the recovery outline for the development of jaguar critical habitat designation (in the U.S.), which was finalized in March 2014.

Summary:

In 2010, a binational Jaguar Recovery Team was convened with experts and stakeholders from both the U.S. and Mexico to develop a jaguar recovery plan. The Recovery Plan considers the jaguar throughout its range, but primarily focuses on the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU), which extends from the southwestern U.S. to western Mexico. To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations should be secured by protecting jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting, and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey, and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico.

Regarding the role of the U.S. in recovering the jaguar, recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity. Actions to implement this involve identifying and mapping corridors and potential impediments to these linkages, along with developing and implementing strategies to maintain connectivity. Recovery actions to maintain connectivity and overall ecosystem/watershed health are ongoing in many areas in the U.S. by the U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management, where much of the linkage habitat into the U.S. occurs.

We received over 13,000 public comments on the draft Recovery Plan. We requested five peer reviews and received comments from two, both from Mexico. We also received comments from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Game and Fish Department, and the San Carlos Apache Tribe. We incorporated all substantive comments into the final Recovery Plan. If we did not incorporate substantive comments, we responded to them in our response to comments documents. Review of the Recovery Plan was also coordinated with the New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, and Buenos Aires and San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuges.

MAIN DECISION OR MESSAGE: Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their historical range; however, conservation of key jaguar habitat and populations in their current range will be critical to the recovery of jaguars. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar. The estimated cost to recovery is $605,648,000 (among 19 countries over 50 years).

APPENDIX II

Jaguar Recovery Plan - Customs and Border Protection/U.S. Border Patrol Involvement
August 31, 2018

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) via U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) has been involved through all phases of jaguar draft and final recovery plan planning processes. In 2010, at the inception of the binational Jaguar Recovery Team (JRT), USBP was invited to serve as a member of the Implementation Subgroup of the JRT, as an official representative of USBP. Since 2010, USBP has had a member on the JRT through the present (Charles Trost).

CBP also has significantly financially supported several projects, described in Table 3 of the Jaguar Recovery Plan (JRP), that were conducted to inform important content for the Plan and implement recovery actions identified in the JRP. These projects include genetics studies, habitat modeling, jaguar surveying and monitoring, citizen science education and outreach, rancher incentives, road crossing designs, citizen attitude surveys, and portions of Population Viability Analyses (PVA and PHVA) (see Table 3 below).

USBP participated in many meetings to discuss and prepare the JRP, and did not express significant concerns about border issues. In the spirit of cooperation, CBP permitted FWS and Jaguar Recovery Team to use their GIS layers of the border to develop a map that illustrates degrees of border permeability (no fences, including a vehicle or pedestrian fence), and this information is illustrated on Figure 4 of the JRP. Both this figure and the JRP indicate that portions of the border are currently permeable to jaguar movement and that continued work between FWS and CBP will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border jaguar movement.

As part of outreach on the JRP, CBP was informed of the option to comment during the public comment period, and did not provide any comments. Throughout the development of the JRP, CBP has had opportunities to address border issues and through these and related actions CBP's and BP's concerns have been fully incorporated into the Jaguar Recovery Plan.

Table 3. Summary of U.S. Customs and Border Protection-funded projects and their conservation benefit to jaguars. NRU = Northwestern Recovery Unit for the jaguar. USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Final reports of these projects can be found at https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm.

Project	Final Deliverable(s)	Purpose/Conservation Benefit
Genetics	*Jaguar taxonomy and genetic diversity for southern Arizona, U.S., and Sonora, Mexico*	Investigates unique genetic diversity of jaguars at the northern edge of the range and answers taxonomic question of whether or not northern jaguars are a distinct subspecies
PVAs	*Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes demographic viability of the jaguar metapopulation defined as the NRU
PVAs (cont.)	*Addendum: Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes the structure, implementation, and interpretation of a new set of demographic simulations of jaguar population viability in core areas of the NRU
Habitat Modeling	*Digital Mapping in Support of Recovery Planning for the Northern Jaguar*	Assisted USFWS in digital mapping aspects of recovery planning for the northern jaguar (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, and Recovery Outline for the Jaguar)
	Jaguar Habitat Modeling and Database Update	Updates jaguar database with additional observations, conducts analyses of different selections of jaguar observations, produces five revised versions of the habitat model (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, as well as this Recovery Plan)
	jaguardata.info	Converts jaguar observations database to web-based platform allowing stakeholders, general public, and scientific community to search and access jaguar data; provides an interface for administrators to add, edit, and delete jaguar observations in the NRU
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (U.S. portion of NRU)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring in the United States: Final Report*	Culver (2016) provides results and analyses of the two-year investigation of jaguars, prey base, and habitat in the U.S. portion of the NRU to inform recovery planning; multiple photos of one jaguar (and three ocelots) provided to USFWS and posted on USFWS Flickr site
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (Tohono O'odham Nation; TON)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring on the Tohono O'odham Nation*	Provides results and analyses of surveys for jaguars and ocelots on the TON to inform recovery planning

Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing	*Citizen Science Teams*	Developed and implementing a citizen science program to survey and monitor for jaguars within the U.S. portion of the NRU
	K-12 Jaguar Educational Curricula	Developed and implementing formal educational curricula on jaguar and ocelot conservation for different educational levels to promote an understanding of feline conservation
Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing (cont.)	*Jaguar Conservation Outreach*	Developed and presented a PowerPoint presentation on jaguar and ocelot biology and conservation for the general public to promote an understanding of feline conservation
	Education and Outreach Materials	Developed posters, stickers, etc. to promote jaguar conservation within the NRU
	Grant Writing	Applied for funding opportunities to continue aspects of jaguar survey and monitoring effort currently being conducted, to continue and/or expand the volunteer citizen science program, and to continue and/or expand public outreach and school education programs
Rancher Incentive Program	*Complete Project Overview*	See http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/jaguarproject/ for project summary, additional information, and reports
	Assessment of Rancher Knowledge	Pilot assessment of nine ranch owner/manager's knowledge of jaguar conservation issues
	Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Survey of ranch owner/manager knowledge about and attitudes toward jaguar conservation issues
	Results of Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Summary of survey results included in Results of Rancher Workshops report (below); comprehensive analysis of data still to be published
	Report on PES sources	Conducted research policy analysis of payment for ecosystem services (PES) program and analysis of jaguar-friendly ranch management options for distribution; available at http://extension.arizona.edu/pubs/payments-ecosystem-services-southern-arizona-ranchers
	Rancher Workshops	Developed workshops to enhance rancher knowledge of jaguar conservation, jaguar friendly ranch management practices, and conservation incentive programs; as well as receive feedback from ranchers regarding incentive programs that may generate participation

	Brochures	Provides a simple program of actions for landowners to implement for promoting jaguar conservation on their lands
Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation	*Results of Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation*	Provides insights into attitudes, mores, and level of knowledge of stakeholders in the U.S. portion of the NRU regarding jaguars to understand what is needed from a social perspective to create an environment that is conducive to jaguar conservation
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol	*Review of Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Techniques and Methodologies* (English and Spanish)	Provides a review of literature on jaguar and, as appropriate, other large felid survey and monitoring techniques and methodologies
	Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol (English and Spanish)	Provides a jaguar survey and monitoring protocol applicable in measuring occupancy recovery criteria (3.3.1.B.i. and 3.3.2.B.i.) in the NRU, as well as other areas rangewide
Review and Develop Recommendations for Road Crossing Designs	*Review of Road Passage Designs for Jaguars*	Conducts a review of enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of large carnivores, particularly jaguars, across road corridors
	Road Passage Design Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Develops recommendations for enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of jaguars across road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types in the NRU
	Road Passage Location Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Identifies potential areas in the NRU where enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) would improve the passage of jaguars across different types of road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types

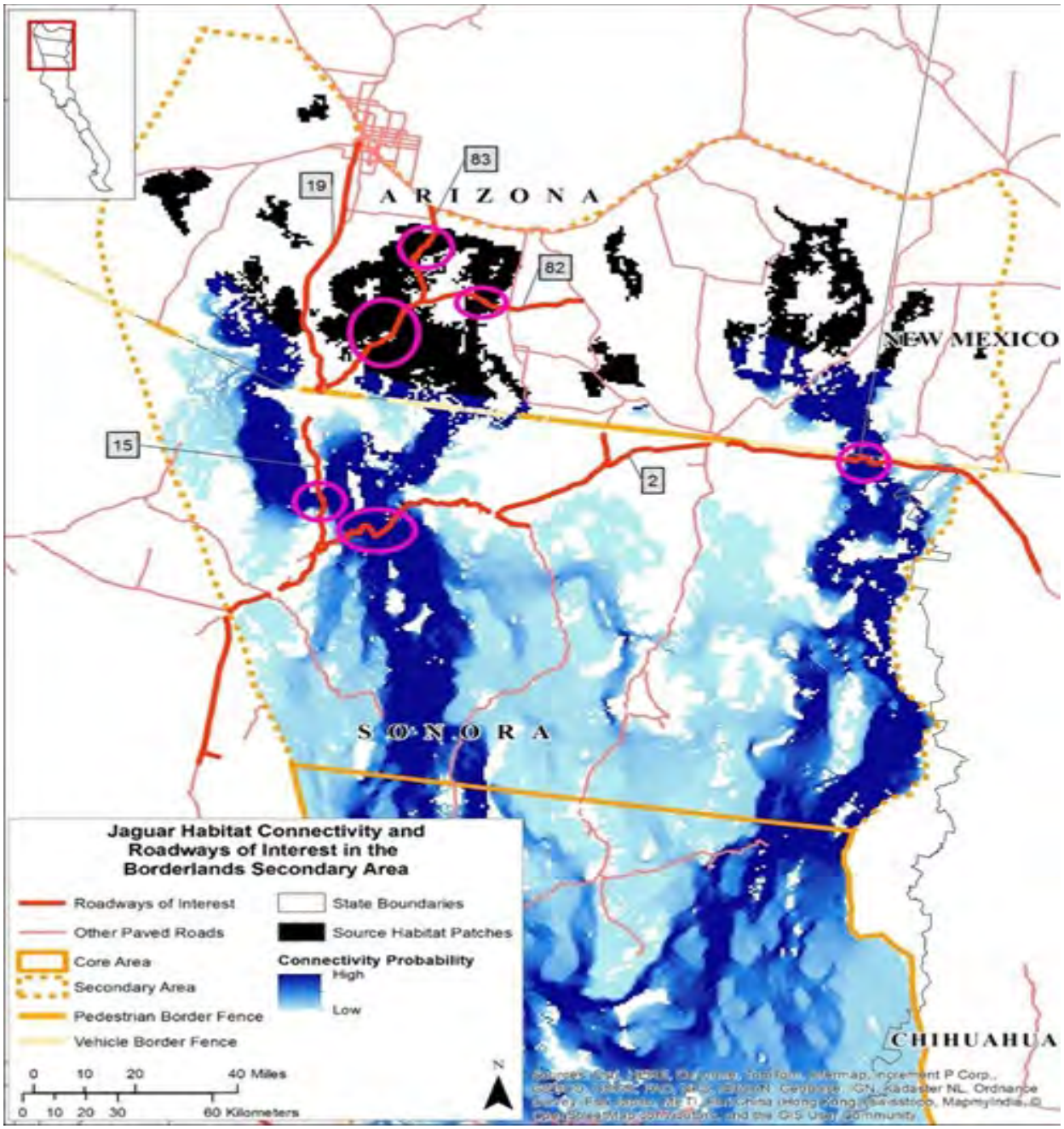

Figure 4. Map of habitat connectivity and roadways of interest in the Borderlands Secondary Area as modeled by Stoner et al. (2015) (some road segments in densely populated areas omitted). A visual examination of this connectivity model, which extends across the entirety of the Northwestern Recovery Unit, reveals three corridors that extend across the U.S.-Mexico border. These corridors are intersected by Mexico Federal Highways 2 and 15. U.S. State Routes 82 and 83 also intersect with "source" habitat patches (used for modeling purposes), which may impact jaguar habitat connectivity. These areas are good candidates for further assessment to determine the potential for road crossing mitigation structures.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Jaguar Recovery Plan

Final

July 2018

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arizona Ecological Services Field Office
Southern Arizona
201 N Bonita Ave, Suite 141
Tucson, AZ 85745
520/670-6144

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southwest Regional Office
500 Gold Avenue, SW
Albuquerque NM 87102
505/248-6920

Male jaguar (front cover) followed by female jaguar on the Northern Jaguar Reserve, Sonora, Mexico. © Northern Jaguar Project

July 2018

From: Morris, Charisa
To: Aurelia Skipwith
Subject: Fwd: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach
Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 12:50:07 PM
Attachments: Note to Reviewers - Jaguar Recovery Plan FINAL.docx
Jaguar Recovery Plan News Release FINAL.doc
Jaguar_Recovery_PlanQ_A FINAL.doc
Jaguar Recovery Plan Comms Strategy FINAL.docx
Final Jaguar Plan Cover.pdf

FYI

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Hires, Brian** <brian_hires@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:56 AM
Subject: Re: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach
To: Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
Cc: Foster, Maureen <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>, Hancock, Donnise <donnise_hancock@fws.gov>

Hi Charisa,

Please see attached requested items, for announcing the final jaguar recovery plan. Let me know you think they'd also like to see the actual final recovery plan as a PDF (it's a fairly large file). Thanks,

Brian

On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:49 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> I think that would definitely be helpful for context, if those items are available!
>
> On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:23 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Thanks Charisa! That's correct, this is just a comms package. Happy to share a copy of the final recovery plan if helpful, as well as the outreach as attachments.
> >
> > Brian
> >
> > On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:21 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > + Maureen
> > >
> > > Good morning, Brian-
> > >
> > > Unfortunately, yesterday was Andrea Travnicek's last day in the office this week, and we got all of this week's priority packages in front of her before COB Monday, as a result. The chances of us getting her to clear this while she's on the road is slim, but we can try! It sounds like it is just a coms package - is this correct?
> > >
> > > I've cc'd her Chief of Staff, Maureen Foster, who may have intel on whether this package was set to move this week or if they need more information.

Thanks!
Charisa

On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 9:59 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:

> Good morning Charisa,
>
> Donnise suggested I reach out to you regarding clearance of the jaguar final recovery plan, that our regional office would like to announce this Thursday 4/11 or as soon as possible after that date.
>
> As an FYI, It looks like this outreach has been with the Assistant Secretary's office since 4/4 in DTS. As a final recovery plan, this does not have a FR notice associated with it and we don't normally bring final recovery plans into HQ for review but this one is a high-profile species that touches on border wall issues.
>
> Thanks in advance for helping us get this one over the finish line. Don't hesitate to write or call if you have any questions or follow up on anything.
>
> --
> Brian Hires
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Office of Public Affairs | Falls Church, VA
> (Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

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DTS NOTE TO REVIEWERS

DCN: 068832

Subject: Outreach Package for Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

Background: The Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar. Although the vast majority of the jaguar's population in the Americas is from Mexico to Argentina, this recovery plan focuses on its range in the American Southwest and Mexico, where the United States has the most jurisdiction.

Deadline for completing surname: The Notice of Availability announcing the posting of this final recovery plan to a FWS Region 2 website is targeted for being sent to the *Federal Register* on April 11, 2019. This date is flexible.

Materials: *Outreach plan, news release, FAQs*

Special considerations:

While recovery plans are non-regulatory guidance documents, this action will likely generate significant national and international attention, stakeholder interest and controversy. The jaguar is a charismatic megafauna and its northernmost range extends across the US-Mexico border to the US Southwest. **As such, this issue involves border wall issues.** (The recovery plan for the US includes two 'border dispersal corridors' in rugged, remote areas of Arizona).

Careful messaging has been crafted and prioritized in this outreach to detail political sensitivities and how the US portion of the jaguar's historic range represents just 1/10th of 1 percent of its 19-country range. Outreach to DOI, Congress, stakeholders and media should account for the potential for controversy and misconceptions around this issue.

Contact: *Brian Hires, brian_hires@fws.gov, 703-358-2191*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

News Release

Arizona Ecological Services
Field Office
9828 N. 31st Ave, #C3
Phoenix, Arizona 85051-2518
602/242-0210

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [insert date here] [DRAFT]
Contact: Jeff Humphrey, (602) 889-5946, jeff_humphrey@fws.gov

Service and Binational Team Complete ESA Recovery Plan for America's Largest Wild Cat

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery plan for the jaguar, currently listed under the act at endangered. The plan provides a recovery framework and goals for improving the species' status throughout its entire 19-country range while focusing on the jaguar populations in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States.

The final recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. More than 99 percent of the jaguar's range is in Central and South America, so the plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery. The Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar, including continued funding support.

The Service has established strong working relationships with state and local partners, conservation groups and the Mexican government. The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but calls for focusing efforts on sustaining potential habitat. In addition, the plan calls for establishing at least two borderland dispersal corridors for jaguars' continued movement through remote, rugged habitat between the countries, eliminating poaching, and improving social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate their return to the United States.

"The binational recovery team's scientific expertise in protecting the jaguar has been invaluable," said Amy Lueders, the Service's Southwest Regional Director. "We recognize the challenges involved in conserving and recovering a species with such an expansive international range, and the team has laid out a comprehensive plan with goals that are achievable and realistic. We look forward to continuing to work with our diverse partners on this effort within and outside the United States."

Loss of habitat, direct killing of the cats, and depletion of prey are the primary factors contributing to the jaguar's current status and decreasing population trend. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. However, conservation of key jaguar populations and habitat -- including core breeding and connective areas -- will be critical to jaguar recovery. We anticipate it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States, all in southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. These jaguars are believed to have come from the nearest core area and breeding population, approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora.

Across the jaguar's primary range in Latin America, the Service is actively working with countries and local partners to protect and recover the cat. Conservation efforts include providing incentives for protecting jaguar habitat and prey, education campaigns addressing misinformation and fears, and providing landowners with strategies for co-existing with jaguars.

Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations must be secured throughout their range. This will require protecting jaguar habitat quality and connectivity; providing incentives to protect jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico. These protections must remain in place after delisting to ensure the long-term viability of the species.

The binational Jaguar Recovery Team includes representatives of CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico), CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora), U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS Wildlife Services and U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Border Patrol, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Tohono O'odham Nation, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance, Malpai Borderlands Group, Naturalia, Panthera and several ranchers, landowners, stakeholders and universities in Mexico and the United States. Additionally, the Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the recovery plan.

The Jaguar Recovery Plan is available at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm or by request from Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Ecological Services Office, 9828 North 31st Avenue, #C3, Phoenix, AZ 85051–2517; phone 602/242-0210.

*The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit **www.fws.gov**, or connect with us through any of these social media channels: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube.*

Photos available at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/
Video at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guuhu_-G-Pw&feature=youtu.be

Questions and Answers: Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [Enter date here]
Contacts: Jeff Humphrey 602-242-0210

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar, America's largest wild cat. The plan sets goals for improving the species' status through its entire 19-country range and provides a framework for achieving recovery. The recovery plan focuses on the cat's population in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States and recommends site-specific conservation actions that contribute to jaguar recovery across its range.

Q: What does the jaguar recovery plan tell us?

A: Reversing the decline of the jaguar is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework for aligning stakeholder efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core areas and connective corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

Q: What are the primary threats to the jaguar?

A: Loss of habitat, killing of individuals and depletion of prey throughout its range are the primary reasons for decreasing populations of jaguars. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing each of these threats. It establishes goals for minimizing threats and for establishing viable populations throughout the jaguar's expansive range.

Q: What is a recovery plan?

A: Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

Q: What are the strategies for conserving and recovering the jaguar in the final recovery plan?

A: The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units: the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. The plan

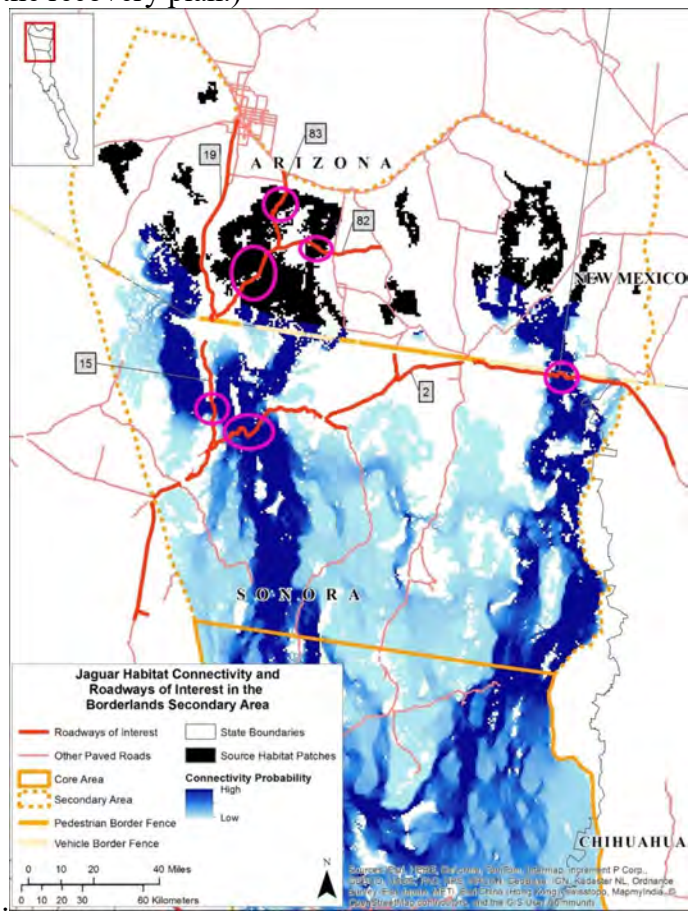
recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery. As it has in the past, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar.

The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction and has an established working relationship with Mexico. The NRU includes the jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors (see Figure 4 in the final recovery plan), and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

Q: What are the borderland dispersal corridors referred to in the recovery plan and how critical are they to the recovery of jaguars in the United States?

A: Dispersal corridors are rugged, remote areas that presently male jaguars, presumably from the Sonora Core breeding area in Mexico, use to access secondary area habitat, a portion of which is in southern Arizona and New Mexico. These areas have been identified from habitat characteristics, historical records, recent sightings and photo monitoring in the United States and Mexico. (See Jaguar Habitat Connectivity and Identification of Potential Road Mitigation Locations in the NRU for the Jaguar report, as well as Figure 4 of the recovery plan.)



Continued jaguar access to habitat through transborder linkages is the sole mechanism identified in the recovery plan for continued jaguar occupation in the U.S. portion of the species' range. Maintaining this habitat connectivity is one of the recovery criteria for the Northwestern Recovery Unit. Research documents the importance of animal populations at the extremities of their ranges for the expansion and contraction of species' ranges and, ultimately, the long-term recovery of species.

These jaguar dispersal corridors are rugged and remote areas. Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors. Continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allowing ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Q: How important is the recovery of jaguars in the United States to their overall recovery across their range?

A: The U.S. range of the jaguar represents the very northernmost edge of its 19-country range that extends all the way to South America. The U.S. range represents just one-tenth of 1 percent of its historic range.

Given that the jaguar is an international species with the vast majority of its range outside of the United States, primary actions to recover the jaguar will occur in other countries. Because more than 95 percent of the jaguar's habitat in the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) is in Mexico, Mexico will be the primary contributor to the jaguar's recovery in the NRU. In the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU), countries within the jaguar's range will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery.

The Service's limited resources are better applied to planning and on-the-ground implementation of conservation actions within the United States boundaries and in partnership with Mexico. Therefore, the Service and the Jaguar Recovery Team have established objective and measurable criteria for recovery and site-specific actions that, if implemented, will conserve viable jaguar populations in the northwestern portion of its range (e.g., the NRU). Priority is given to this unit because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction, and we have an established working relationship with Mexico on issues of mutual concern.

Q: Was Customs and Border Patrol included in the developing of this plan?

A: Yes. U.S. Border Patrol (Tucson Sector) is represented on the Implementation Subgroup of the Jaguar Recovery Team. Other U.S. border area groups on the subgroup include ranchers, Malpais Borderlands Group, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance (ranching group), and state and federal land and wildlife managers.

Q: What are the actions and partnerships the Service is taking to support recovery of the jaguar in its primary range in 19 Central and South American countries?

A: In recent years, the Service's International Affairs Program has been at the forefront of supporting the conservation of jaguars throughout their range in Mexico, Central America and South America. During the past four years alone, we have supported 23 jaguar-related projects in 10 countries with more than $1 million in conservation funding. When jaguar habitat is conserved, many other species directly benefit.

In addition to providing incentives to protect habitat, many of the projects we support, seek to alleviate fears about jaguars in human communities through education. They also frequently provide

landowners with concrete strategies and methods that reduce conflict in such a way that humans and jaguars can co-exist. As a result, landowners are better able to protect their livelihoods and economic interests while helping protect jaguars. They achieve these goals by discouraging jaguars from coming into contact with their livestock, by reforesting areas of their land, and by helping maintain the species' natural prey populations. Based on project reporting to date, most landowners who employ jaguar-friendly ranching techniques see a dramatic reduction in attacks and subsequent livestock mortality. A project in Paraguay has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by 80-100 percent at 12 sites that cover an area more than 770 square miles. Another project in the Maya Biosphere of Guatemala has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by approximately 70 percent at 283 properties, covering about 11,603 hectares of land now under improved management.

Q: What are the requirements for a full recovery of the jaguar?

A: The approach in this Recovery Plan is as follows:

- Two recovery units are included, the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) and the larger Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU). The NRU extends from south-central Arizona and extreme southwestern New Mexico, United States, south to Colima, Mexico. The PARU encompasses 18 countries from Mexico to Argentina. These units are further divided into core, secondary, and peripheral areas.
- The status of and threats to jaguars in the PARU are summarized and general actions and criteria for addressing these threats and evaluating rangewide recovery are recommended.
- Detailed criteria and actions necessary to recover jaguar populations in the NRU are provided.

The Service will consider removing the jaguar from the ESA list due to recovery when <u>all</u> of the following conditions are met:

<u>A. PARU</u>

i. The status of the jaguar changes to Least Concern (LC) and is maintained under the IUCN Red List criteria (as defined by the World Conservation Union, http://www.iucnredlist.org) for at least 20 more years after first qualifying for LC, which would mean threats have been reduced so the jaguar population is no longer at risk of a $\geq$ 30 percent decline because its area of occupancy, extent of occurrence, and/or habitat quality, as well as actual or potential levels of exploitation, have been stable for at least 40 years.

<u>B. NRU</u>

i. Maintain approximately 60 percent occupancy (proportion of cells) in each of the Core Areas over 40 years (inclusive of the 20 years required to downlist).

ii. Over 40 years, genetic distance (e.g., F_{ST} or G_{ST}) between the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas does not significantly increase, and inbreeding coefficients (F_{IS} or G_{IS}) within each of the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas do not significantly increase.

iii. During a period of 40 years, the average of at least 30 percent of the adult population within the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas are female (based on data gathered through surveying, monitoring, genetic analysis, etc.).

iv. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation siting and design), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure the network of ≥ 100-km^2 blocks (the minimum area capable of supporting at least three breeding females) of high-quality habitat and habitat connections between blocks within each Core Area (Sonora and Jalisco) will support genetically and demographically viable jaguar populations for the foreseeable future.

v. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability will be maintained for jaguars within the Sinaloa Secondary Area.

vi. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in the United States and Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability, including at least two trans-border linkages, will be maintained for jaguars throughout the Borderlands Secondary Area.

vii. The threat of direct human killing of jaguars is decreased or maintained at sustainable levels as measured by acceptable evidence or an index.

viii. Effective federal, state, tribal, and/or local laws are in place in the NRU that ensure killing of jaguars is prohibited or regulated so viable populations of the species can be maintained.

BASIC COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

FOR ROUTINE NON-CONTROVERSIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Title:** Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

2. **DTS number** 068832

3. **What is the action triggering this communications plan?** *(Please explain in no more than three sentences)*

The Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar.

4. **What is the proposed date for this action? Why has it been selected? Is it flexible?**

Proposed date for the announcement is April 11, 2019. The plan was signed by the Southwest Regional Director in July 2018; however, the announcement was delayed to accommodate extensive review and inter-agency coordination. The April 11 date allows for a final review by headquarters, notification of DOI, and facilitation of a coordinated rollout by the Jaguar Recovery Team (state, NGO, tribal and international partners.)

5. **Which office is leading this communications effort and which other programs, regions or groups are involved?**

Region 2 External Affairs and Arizona Ecological Services Office. (The Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the plan and will be available to contribute technical expertise.)

SECTION II: GOALS AND MESSAGES

6. **What story do we want to tell?**

Reversing the decline of the jaguar (America's largest cat) is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan

sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework whereby all stakeholders can align their efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core habitat areas and corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

7. What are our key messages? *(These should be top concepts that readers should take away, including an understanding of why this action matters and why they should care, not a list of facts, which should be placed in the appendix. List no more than four!)*

Primary messages:

- Reversing the decline of the jaguar -- America's largest wild cat -- is possible. It will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States to Argentina.
- Through the Endangered Species Act recovery planning process, nineteen nations and diverse conservation organizations are working together to protect this important and charismatic species.
- Primary threats to the jaguar throughout its range are loss of habitat, direct killing and depletion of its prey. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing threats and sets goals for minimizing threats and establishing viable jaguar populations throughout their expansive range.
- The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in remote and rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States/Mexico border.
- Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors, and continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Secondary messages:

- The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. *The plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery.* Through the NRU, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout its range, as it has in the past.
- The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has legal jurisdiction. We also have close working relationships with Mexico on

behalf of the jaguar's recovery. The NRU includes jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

If-Asked Only Statements:

- The Service is working closely with federal and other partners to promote border security while protecting the jaguar and its habitat. The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in particularly rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States – Mexico border.
- The Service is not aware of any proposals to build new border fence on the Arizona border. Some existing fence is being replaced, but it is a direct replacement, not an upgrade from vehicle to pedestrian fence.]

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States. The recovery plan focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors, and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

For additional background and approved messaging on role of CBP and the U.S. Border Patrol in the Jaguar Recovery Plan, see Appendix II below.

SECTION III: IMPLEMENTATION

8. Implementation timeline *(If not known, put TBD or the number of days/hours before/after the announcement*

Target Date	Tactic	Responsible
All times are in the Mountain (ET -2) time zone		
All dates and times are predicated on date determined for release of Final Recovery Plan		

At least 7 days prior to public announcement	Wildlife Conservation Society notification	Humphrey
2-3 days before announcement	Embargoed pitch to AP and/or national reporter(s)? Susan Montoya (AP)	Humphrey/Hires
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify New Mexico and Arizona fish and wildlife agency directors	Lueders or Millsap/Humphrey/McIntyre
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify AZ and NM congressional members, and congressional committees of anticipated availability	R2 Lesli Gray/CLA Alyssa Hausman
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify southern Arizona and New Mexico tribes of anticipated availability	Nystedt/Humphrey
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Confirm plan availability with recovery team member organizations	Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (8 am MT)	Post final recovery plan and news release to Arizona ES, ECOS, and R2 homepage	Kaplan/Crouse/ Campbell
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Distribute news release to AZ, NM, Mexico, and international environmental news outlets	Humphrey
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	SMEs available for media response	Humphrey/Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Social media (Facebook) post	Barrus
Week after signature	[*Optional*] Provide written notification to affected parties, agencies	AESO

9. **Which communications tools are needed to support these strategies and tactics?** *(Be as specific as possible about the products identified and who will produce them)*

Tool	Responsible	Due Date
News Release	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Photos (www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/)	Humphrey	3/15/2019
"If-asked" border talking points	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Video support: www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Jaguar population maps	Alanen	3/15/2019
FAQs (FAQs presently in Item 7 (above) as if-asked only) can be converted into FAQs)	Humphrey	3/15/2019

10. **Social media plan** *(Provide a list of accounts to be used as well as sample hashtags, messages, multimedia and other links, etc. as appropriate)*

https://www.facebook.com/USFWSSouthwest?ref=mf

The Service and its partners in the binational Jaguar Recovery Team can recover the jaguar, but it will take time, effort and collaboration with partners across species' 19-country range. A recently released recovery plan sets goals for improving the species status across its range and provides a framework for achieving recovery.

Here in the Southwest, male jaguars from a core breeding population in Mexico occasionally occupy mountain ranges along our southern border with the country.

See more at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm

11. **Stakeholder contact grids** *(For each, paste in a table that provides organization name, contact person, how the person will be contacted, phone or email address as appropriate and a name of the person who will be making contact)*

Internal

DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator	Brent Range (DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator) (202) 208-7431 brent_range@ios.doi.gov	Pro	McIntyre/ Maestas

FWS International Affairs	Amanda Gonzales 703-358-2110 amanda_gonzales@fws.gov	Pro	Fernandez/ Alanen

External

Stakeholder Name	Contact Info	Pro/Anti / Neutral	Contact By
Binational Recovery Team Members • CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico) • CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora) • USDA's Wildlife Services • U.S. Forest Service-Coronado National Forest • Bureau of Land Management-Tucson • U.S. Border Patrol • Arizona Game and Fish Department • New Mexico Department of Game and Fish • Tohono O'odham Nation • Altar Valley Conservation Alliance • Malpai Borderlands Group • Naturalia • Panthera • Conservation Planning Specialist Group • Wildlife Conservation Society	(List Serve)	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Sky Island Alliance	Louise Misxtal (Exec Director) 520-624-7080 x 19, louise@skyislandalliance.org	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre
Arizona Cattle Grazers Association	Exec VP Patrick Bray,	Neutral	Humphrey/

	602-267-1129, pbray@arizonabeef.org		McIntyre
Borderlands Restoration	Executive Director: David Seibert, 520-882-8202 or dseibert@email.arizona.edu Caleb Weaver, (860) 237-0381 (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b)	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre
University of Arizona	Kirk Emerson (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-3315 kemerson@email.arizona.edu Susan Malusa (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-2161 smalusa@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Alanen/ Fernandez
USGS-Univ Arizona	Melanie Culver (USGS-Univ Arizona (520) 626-3775 mculver@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen
University of Ariz -Rancher Incentive Program	Scott Bonar (University of Ariz -- Rancher Incentive Program) sbonar@ag.arizona.edu Laura Lopez Hoffman lauralh@email.arizona.edu Aaron Lien alien@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen
Wildlife Conservation Society	John Delaney (WCS Communications) 347-675-2294	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen

	jdelaney@wcs.org Eric Sanderson (WCS Senior Conservation Ecologist) (718) 220-6825 esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (WCS Senior Researcher) (718) 741-8206 kfisher@wcs.org Scott Smith (WCS) (718) 220-3698 ssmith@wcs.org		
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US Forest Service – Coronado National Forest	Kerwin Dewberry (Forest Supervisor) kdewberry@fs.fed.us Heidi Schewel (Communications Coronado) (520) 388-8343 hschewel@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre Humphrey
DHS CBP Tucson Sector	(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)	Neutral	McIntyre/ Humphrey
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San Carlos Apache Tribe		Pro	John Nystedt

Wildlife Conservation Society	Eric Sanderson (Wildlife Conservation Society) esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (Wildlife Conservation Society) kfisher@wcs.org	Pro	Humphrey/Alanen
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Harris Environmental Group	Lisa Harris (Harris Environmental Group) harris@heg-inc.com	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen
Defenders of Wildlife	Bryan Bird (Southwest Program Director)(505) 395-7332 BBird@defenders.org	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Malpai Borderlands Group	Bill McDonald (Exec Director) 520-558-2475 malpaigroup@gmail.com	Pro	McIntyre/ Alanen
Center For Biological Diversity	Kieran Suckling or Michael Robinson (575-313-7017) michaelr@biologicaldiversity.org Robin Silver: rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org 602-246-4170	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
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Hereford NRCD	Board Clerk, Kathy Morris nrcdhereford@gmail.com	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Fort Huachuca	Director of Public Affairs Angela Moncur	Pro	McIntyre/

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National Association of Home Builders	Michael Mittelholzer	mmittelholzer@nahb.org	Anti	DPIA
National Rifle Association	Susan Recce	srecce@nrahq.org	Neut	DPIA
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Rep.	Gosar	AZ4	rory.burke@mail.house.gov, jeff.small@mail.house.gov	Penny.Pew@mail.house.gov
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13. Congressional committee email list

CLA will contact authorizing committee staff; Division of Budget will contact appropriations committee staff

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Senate Appropriations Interior S/C – Minority	ryan_hunt@appro.senate.gov	(202) 228-0774
Senate EPW – Majority	matt_leggett@epw.senate.gov andrew_harding@epw.senate.gov james_willson@epw.senate.gov	(202) 224-6176
Senate EPW – Minority	christophe_tulou@epw.senate.gov elizabeth_mabry@epw.senate.gov	(202) 224-8832

Senate ENR – Majority	chuck_kleeschulte@energy.senate.gov lucy_murfitt@energy.senate.gov colin_hayes@energy.senate.gov	(202) 224-4971
Senate ENR – Minority	david_brooks@energy.senate.gov	(202) 224-4971
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House Appropriations Interior S/C – Minority	darren.benjamin@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3081
House Natural Resources – Majority	lora.snyder@mail.house.gov brandon.bragato@mail.house.gov sarah.lim@mail.house.gov rachel.gentile@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-6065
House Natural Resources – Minority	william.ball@mail.house.gov parish.braden@mail.house.gov christopher.santini@mail.house.gov brandon.miller@mail.house.gov syi@mail.house.gov steve.petersen@mail.house.gov will.layden@mail.house.gov john.sullivan1@mail.house.gov steven.parr@mail.house.gov chris.esparza@mail.house.gov john.strom@mail.house.gov marc.alberts@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2761
Leadership – House Majority Leader Hoyer	trent.bauserman@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4131
Leadership – House Minority Leader McCarthy	Jennifer.Loraine@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2915
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SECTION IV: PRIMARY POINTS OF CONTACT

14. Media coordinators *(For national-level plans, list at least one person from HQ Public Affairs and others from region/program if appropriate. For regional-level plans, only regional coordinators are required. Enter name, email and phone)*

Jeff Humphrey (Southwest Region) jeff_humphrey@fws.gov, 602-242-0210

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15. **Congressional coordinators** (*For national-level plans, list at least one person from HQ Public Affairs and others from region/program if appropriate. For regional-level plans, only regional coordinators are required. Enter name, email and phone)*

CLA Alyssa Hausman (CLA) alyssa_hausman@fws.gov 703-358-2275 Lisa Jones (CLA) lisa_m_jones@fws.gov 703-358-2536 Lesli Gray (Southwest Region) lesli_gray@fws.gov 817-277-9057

16. **Subject matter experts available for interview** *(Must be approved by HQ Public Affairs for an HQ-led announcement or by Regional Public Affairs for region-led announcement. Enter name, email and phone)*

Marit Alanen (Biologist) marit_alanen@fws.gov 520-670-6150 x234 Julie McIntyre (Assistant Field Supervisor) Julie_McIntyre@fws.gov 520-670-6150 x223 Jeff Humphrey (Field Supervisor) 602-242-0210

17. **Additional technical experts for reference** *(Enter name, email and phone)*

18. **Are there any non-FWS points of contact for this action?** *(Enter name, organization, role, email and phone)*

John Delaney (Wildlife Conservation Society - Comms Director) jdelaney@wcs.org 718-220-3275 (Regarding mapping/modelling)

SECTION V: DOCUMENT INFO

19. **Date Created** **Created By**

7/13/2018	Jeff Humphrey

20. **Date last edited** **Edited By**

7/24/2018	Laurel Barnhill, Julie McIntyre and

	Marit Alanen
7/27/2018	Brian Hires
8/3/2018	Humphrey
8/20/2018	Alanen
8/23/2018	McIntyre
8/26/2018	Humphrey
8/29/2018	Brian Hires
9/8/2018	Laury Parramore
9/12/2018	Alyssa Hausman
9/28/2018	Humphrey
3/22/2019	Humphrey
3/26/2019	Mary Elder
3/28/2019	Brian Hires
3/29/2019	Matt Huggler
3/29/2019	Alyssa Hausman

APPENDIX: ADDITIONAL BACKROUND INFORMATION AND MATERIALS

DO NOT PUT OTHER MATERIALS SUCH AS FAQs, NEWS RELEASE OR TALKING POINTS IN THIS SECTION. KEEP THOSE AS SEPARATE DOCUMENTS.

(Consider the following: What is the historical context? Does this relate to other issues that may not immediately be apparent (consider other programs and regions)? Is there a scientific basis to this issue? If so what is it?)

APPENDIX 1

Historical Context:

Following a 2009, Arizona District Court decision, FWS determined that developing a recovery plan for jaguars will contribute to their conservation (in recognition that most of the species' habitat and almost all individuals occur outside if the United States).

FWS reconfigured and expanded a binational Jaguar Recovery Team and charged them with developing a recovery outline, which they completed in April 2012. The FWS drew heavily from the data compiled in the recovery outline for the development of jaguar critical habitat designation (in the U.S.), which was finalized in March 2014.

Summary:

In 2010, a binational Jaguar Recovery Team was convened with experts and stakeholders from both the U.S. and Mexico to develop a jaguar recovery plan. The Recovery Plan considers the jaguar throughout its range, but primarily focuses on the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU), which extends from the southwestern U.S. to western Mexico. To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations should be secured by protecting jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting, and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey, and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico.

Regarding the role of the U.S. in recovering the jaguar, recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity. Actions to implement this involve identifying and mapping corridors and potential impediments to these linkages, along with developing and implementing strategies to maintain connectivity. Recovery actions to maintain connectivity and overall ecosystem/watershed health are ongoing in many areas in the U.S. by the U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management, where much of the linkage habitat into the U.S. occurs.

We received over 13,000 public comments on the draft Recovery Plan. We requested five peer reviews and received comments from two, both from Mexico. We also received comments from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Game and Fish Department, and the San Carlos Apache Tribe. We incorporated all substantive comments into the final Recovery Plan. If we did not incorporate substantive comments, we responded to them in our response to comments documents. Review of the Recovery Plan was also coordinated with the New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, and Buenos Aires and San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuges.

MAIN DECISION OR MESSAGE: Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their historical range; however, conservation of key jaguar habitat and populations in their current range will be critical to the recovery of jaguars. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar. The estimated cost to recovery is $605,648,000 (among 19 countries over 50 years).

APPENDIX II

Jaguar Recovery Plan - Customs and Border Protection/U.S. Border Patrol Involvement
August 31, 2018

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) via U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) has been involved through all phases of jaguar draft and final recovery plan planning processes. In 2010, at the inception of the binational Jaguar Recovery Team (JRT), USBP was invited to serve as a member of the Implementation Subgroup of the JRT, as an official representative of USBP. Since 2010, USBP has had a member on the JRT through the present (Charles Trost).

CBP also has significantly financially supported several projects, described in Table 3 of the Jaguar Recovery Plan (JRP), that were conducted to inform important content for the Plan and implement recovery actions identified in the JRP. These projects include genetics studies, habitat modeling, jaguar surveying and monitoring, citizen science education and outreach, rancher incentives, road crossing designs, citizen attitude surveys, and portions of Population Viability Analyses (PVA and PHVA) (see Table 3 below).

USBP participated in many meetings to discuss and prepare the JRP, and did not express significant concerns about border issues. In the spirit of cooperation, CBP permitted FWS and Jaguar Recovery Team to use their GIS layers of the border to develop a map that illustrates degrees of border permeability (no fences, including a vehicle or pedestrian fence), and this information is illustrated on Figure 4 of the JRP. Both this figure and the JRP indicate that portions of the border are currently permeable to jaguar movement and that continued work between FWS and CBP will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border jaguar movement.

As part of outreach on the JRP, CBP was informed of the option to comment during the public comment period, and did not provide any comments. Throughout the development of the JRP, CBP has had opportunities to address border issues and through these and related actions CBP's and BP's concerns have been fully incorporated into the Jaguar Recovery Plan.

Table 3. Summary of U.S. Customs and Border Protection-funded projects and their conservation benefit to jaguars. NRU = Northwestern Recovery Unit for the jaguar. USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Final reports of these projects can be found at https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm.

Project	Final Deliverable(s)	Purpose/Conservation Benefit
Genetics	*Jaguar taxonomy and genetic diversity for southern Arizona, U.S., and Sonora, Mexico*	Investigates unique genetic diversity of jaguars at the northern edge of the range and answers taxonomic question of whether or not northern jaguars are a distinct subspecies
PVAs	*Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes demographic viability of the jaguar metapopulation defined as the NRU
PVAs (cont.)	*Addendum: Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes the structure, implementation, and interpretation of a new set of demographic simulations of jaguar population viability in core areas of the NRU
Habitat Modeling	*Digital Mapping in Support of Recovery Planning for the Northern Jaguar*	Assisted USFWS in digital mapping aspects of recovery planning for the northern jaguar (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, and Recovery Outline for the Jaguar)
	Jaguar Habitat Modeling and Database Update	Updates jaguar database with additional observations, conducts analyses of different selections of jaguar observations, produces five revised versions of the habitat model (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, as well as this Recovery Plan)
	jaguardata.info	Converts jaguar observations database to web-based platform allowing stakeholders, general public, and scientific community to search and access jaguar data; provides an interface for administrators to add, edit, and delete jaguar observations in the NRU
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (U.S. portion of NRU)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring in the United States: Final Report*	Culver (2016) provides results and analyses of the two-year investigation of jaguars, prey base, and habitat in the U.S. portion of the NRU to inform recovery planning; multiple photos of one jaguar (and three ocelots) provided to USFWS and posted on USFWS Flickr site
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (Tohono O'odham Nation; TON)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring on the Tohono O'odham Nation*	Provides results and analyses of surveys for jaguars and ocelots on the TON to inform recovery planning

Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing	*Citizen Science Teams*	Developed and implementing a citizen science program to survey and monitor for jaguars within the U.S. portion of the NRU
	K-12 Jaguar Educational Curricula	Developed and implementing formal educational curricula on jaguar and ocelot conservation for different educational levels to promote an understanding of feline conservation
Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing (cont.)	*Jaguar Conservation Outreach*	Developed and presented a PowerPoint presentation on jaguar and ocelot biology and conservation for the general public to promote an understanding of feline conservation
	Education and Outreach Materials	Developed posters, stickers, etc. to promote jaguar conservation within the NRU
	Grant Writing	Applied for funding opportunities to continue aspects of jaguar survey and monitoring effort currently being conducted, to continue and/or expand the volunteer citizen science program, and to continue and/or expand public outreach and school education programs
Rancher Incentive Program	*Complete Project Overview*	See http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/jaguarproject/ for project summary, additional information, and reports
	Assessment of Rancher Knowledge	Pilot assessment of nine ranch owner/manager's knowledge of jaguar conservation issues
	Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Survey of ranch owner/manager knowledge about and attitudes toward jaguar conservation issues
	Results of Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Summary of survey results included in Results of Rancher Workshops report (below); comprehensive analysis of data still to be published
	Report on PES sources	Conducted research policy analysis of payment for ecosystem services (PES) program and analysis of jaguar-friendly ranch management options for distribution; available at http://extension.arizona.edu/pubs/payments-ecosystem-services-southern-arizona-ranchers
	Rancher Workshops	Developed workshops to enhance rancher knowledge of jaguar conservation, jaguar friendly ranch management practices, and conservation incentive programs; as well as receive feedback from ranchers regarding incentive programs that may generate participation

	Brochures	Provides a simple program of actions for landowners to implement for promoting jaguar conservation on their lands
Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation	*Results of Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation*	Provides insights into attitudes, mores, and level of knowledge of stakeholders in the U.S. portion of the NRU regarding jaguars to understand what is needed from a social perspective to create an environment that is conducive to jaguar conservation
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol	*Review of Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Techniques and Methodologies* (English and Spanish)	Provides a review of literature on jaguar and, as appropriate, other large felid survey and monitoring techniques and methodologies
	Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol (English and Spanish)	Provides a jaguar survey and monitoring protocol applicable in measuring occupancy recovery criteria (3.3.1.B.i. and 3.3.2.B.i.) in the NRU, as well as other areas rangewide
Review and Develop Recommendations for Road Crossing Designs	*Review of Road Passage Designs for Jaguars*	Conducts a review of enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of large carnivores, particularly jaguars, across road corridors
	Road Passage Design Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Develops recommendations for enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of jaguars across road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types in the NRU
	Road Passage Location Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Identifies potential areas in the NRU where enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) would improve the passage of jaguars across different types of road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types

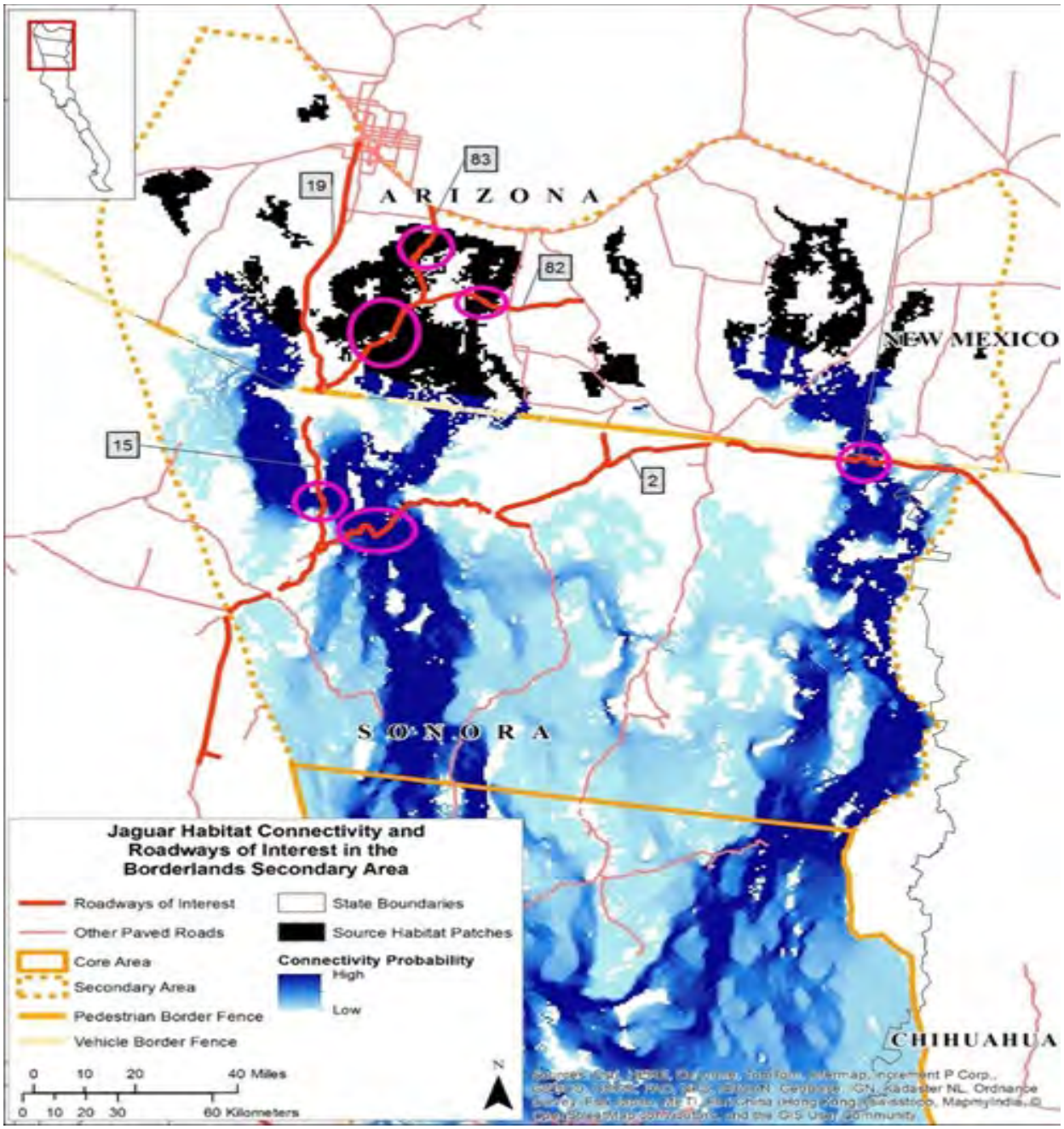

Figure 4. Map of habitat connectivity and roadways of interest in the Borderlands Secondary Area as modeled by Stoner et al. (2015) (some road segments in densely populated areas omitted). A visual examination of this connectivity model, which extends across the entirety of the Northwestern Recovery Unit, reveals three corridors that extend across the U.S.-Mexico border. These corridors are intersected by Mexico Federal Highways 2 and 15. U.S. State Routes 82 and 83 also intersect with "source" habitat patches (used for modeling purposes), which may impact jaguar habitat connectivity. These areas are good candidates for further assessment to determine the potential for road crossing mitigation structures.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Jaguar Recovery Plan

Final

July 2018

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Southern Arizona
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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505/248-6920

Male jaguar (front cover) followed by female jaguar on the Northern Jaguar Reserve, Sonora, Mexico. © Northern Jaguar Project

July 2018

From:	Charisa Morris
To:	Matthew Huggler; Brian Hires; barbara_wainman@fws.gov
Subject:	Fwd: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach
Date:	Thursday, April 11, 2019 1:05:10 PM
Attachments:	ATT00001.htm Jaguar Recovery Plan Comms Strategy FINAL_11April2019.pdf Jaguar_Recovery_PlanQ_A FINAL_11April2019.pdf ATT00002.htm Jaguar Recovery Plan News Release FINAL_11April2019.pdf ATT00003.htm

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Skipwith, Aurelia" <aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov>
Date: April 11, 2019 at 4:01:41 PM EDT
To: "Morris, Charisa" <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach

Comments from FWP.

Aurelia Skipwith
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3148
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-5837

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 3:50 PM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> FYI
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ---------
> From: **Hires, Brian** <brian_hires@fws.gov>
> Date: Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:56 AM
> Subject: Re: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach

To: Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
Cc: Foster, Maureen <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>, Hancock, Donnise <donnise_hancock@fws.gov>

Hi Charisa,

Please see attached requested items, for announcing the final jaguar recovery plan. Let me know you think they'd also like to see the actual final recovery plan as a PDF (it's a fairly large file). Thanks,

Brian

On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:49 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> I think that would definitely be helpful for context, if those items are available!
>
> On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:23 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Thanks Charisa! That's correct, this is just a comms package. Happy to share a copy of the final recovery plan if helpful, as well as the outreach as attachments.
> >
> > Brian
> >
> > On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:21 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > + Maureen
> > >
> > > Good morning, Brian-
> > >
> > > Unfortunately, yesterday was Andrea Travnicek's last day in the office this week, and we got all of this week's priority packages in front of her before COB Monday, as a result. The chances of us getting her to clear this while she's on the road is slim, but we can try! It sounds like it is just a coms package - is this correct?
> > >
> > > I've cc'd her Chief of Staff, Maureen Foster, who may have intel on whether this package was set to move this week or if they need more information.
> > >
> > > Thanks!
> > > Charisa
> > >
> > > On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 9:59 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:
> > >
> > > > Good morning Charisa,
> > > >
> > > > Donnise suggested I reach out to you regarding clearance of the jaguar

final recovery plan, that our regional office would like to announce this Thursday 4/11 or as soon as possible after that date.

As an FYI, It looks like this outreach has been with the Assistant Secretary's office since 4/4 in DTS. As a final recovery plan, this does not have a FR notice associated with it and we don't normally bring final recovery plans into HQ for review but this one is a high-profile species that touches on border wall issues.

Thanks in advance for helping us get this one over the finish line. Don't hesitate to write or call if you have any questions or follow up on anything.

--
Brian Hires
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Office of Public Affairs | Falls Church, VA
(Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

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Brian Hires
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Office of Public Affairs | Falls Church, VA
(Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

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Brian Hires
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(Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

BASIC COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

FOR ROUTINE NON-CONTROVERSIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Title:** Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

2. **DTS number** 068832

3. **What is the action triggering this communications plan?** *(Please explain in no more than three sentences)*

   The Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar.

4. **What is the proposed date for this action? Why has it been selected? Is it flexible?**

   Proposed date for the announcement is April 11, 2019. The plan was signed by the Southwest Regional Director in July 2018; however, the announcement was delayed to accommodate extensive review and inter-agency coordination. The April 11 date allows for a final review by headquarters, notification of DOI, and facilitation of a coordinated rollout by the Jaguar Recovery Team (state, NGO, tribal and international partners.)

5. **Which office is leading this communications effort and which other programs, regions or groups are involved?**

   Region 2 External Affairs and Arizona Ecological Services Office. (The Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the plan and will be available to contribute technical expertise.)

SECTION II: GOALS AND MESSAGES

6. **What story do we want to tell?**

   Reversing the decline of the jaguar (America's largest cat) is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan

sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework whereby all stakeholders can align their efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core habitat areas and corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. ~~We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.~~

7. **What are our key messages?** *(These should be top concepts that readers should take away, including an understanding of why this action matters and why they should care, not a list of facts, which should be placed in the appendix. List no more than four!)*

Primary messages:

- Reversing the decline of the jaguar -- America's largest wild cat -- is possible. It will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States to Argentina.
- Through the Endangered Species Act recovery planning process, nineteen nations and diverse conservation organizations are working together to protect this important and charismatic species.
- Primary threats to the jaguar throughout its range are loss of habitat, direct killing and depletion of its prey. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing threats and sets goals for minimizing threats and establishing viable jaguar populations throughout their expansive range.
- The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in remote and rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States/Mexico border.
- Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors, and continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Secondary messages:

- The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. *The plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery.* Through the NRU, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout its range, as it has in the past.
- The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has legal jurisdiction. We also have close working relationships with Mexico on

behalf of the jaguar's recovery. The NRU includes jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

If-Asked Only Statements:

- The Service is working closely with federal and other partners to promote border security while protecting the jaguar and its habitat. The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in particularly rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States – Mexico border.
- The Service is not aware of any proposals to build new border fence on the Arizona border. Some existing fence is being replaced, but it is a direct replacement, not an upgrade from vehicle to pedestrian fence.]

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States. The recovery plan focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors, and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

For additional background and approved messaging on role of CBP and the U.S. Border Patrol in the Jaguar Recovery Plan, see Appendix II below.

SECTION III: IMPLEMENTATION

8. Implementation timeline *(If not known, put TBD or the number of days/hours before/after the announcement*

Target Date	Tactic	Responsible
All times are in the Mountain (ET -2) time zone		
All dates and times are predicated on date determined for release of Final Recovery Plan		

At least 7 days prior to public announcement	Wildlife Conservation Society notification	Humphrey
2-3 days before announcement	Embargoed pitch to AP and/or national reporter(s)? Susan Montoya (AP)	Humphrey/Hires
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify New Mexico and Arizona fish and wildlife agency directors	Lueders or Millsap/Humphrey/McIntyre
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify AZ and NM congressional members, and congressional committees of anticipated availability	R2 Lesli Gray/CLA Alyssa Hausman
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify southern Arizona and New Mexico tribes of anticipated availability	Nystedt/Humphrey
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Confirm plan availability with recovery team member organizations	Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (8 am MT)	Post final recovery plan and news release to Arizona ES, ECOS, and R2 homepage	Kaplan/Crouse/ Campbell
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Distribute news release to AZ, NM, Mexico, and international environmental news outlets	Humphrey
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	SMEs available for media response	Humphrey/Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Social media (Facebook) post	Barrus
Week after signature	[*Optional*] Provide written notification to affected parties, agencies	AESO

9. **Which communications tools are needed to support these strategies and tactics?** *(Be as specific as possible about the products identified and who will produce them)*

Tool	Responsible	Due Date
News Release	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Photos (www flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/)	Humphrey	3/15/2019
"If-asked" border talking points	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Video support: www fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar htm	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Jaguar population maps	Alanen	3/15/2019
FAQs (FAQs presently in Item 7 (above) as if-asked only) can be converted into FAQs)	Humphrey	3/15/2019

10. **Social media plan** *(Provide a list of accounts to be used as well as sample hashtags, messages, multimedia and other links, etc. as appropriate)*

https://www facebook.com/USFWSSouthwest?ref=mf

The Service and its partners in the binational Jaguar Recovery Team can recover the jaguar, but it will take time, effort and collaboration with partners across species' 19-country range. A recently released recovery plan sets goals for improving the species status across its range and provides a framework for achieving recovery.

Here in the Southwest, male jaguars from a core breeding population in Mexico occasionally occupy mountain ranges along our southern border with the country.

See more at: https://www fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar htm

11. **Stakeholder contact grids** *(For each, paste in a table that provides organization name, contact person, how the person will be contacted, phone or email address as appropriate and a name of the person who will be making contact)*

Internal

DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator	Brent Range (DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator) (202) 208-7431 brent_range@ios.doi.gov	Pro	McIntyre/ Maestas

FWS International Affairs	Amanda Gonzales 703-358-2110 amanda_gonzales@fws.gov	Pro	Fernandez/ Alanen

External

Stakeholder Name	Contact Info	Pro/Anti / Neutral	Contact By
Binational Recovery Team Members • CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico) • CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora) • USDA's Wildlife Services • U.S. Forest Service-Coronado National Forest • Bureau of Land Management-Tucson • U.S. Border Patrol • Arizona Game and Fish Department • New Mexico Department of Game and Fish • Tohono O'odham Nation • Altar Valley Conservation Alliance • Malpai Borderlands Group • Naturalia • Panthera • Conservation Planning Specialist Group • Wildlife Conservation Society	(List Serve)	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Sky Island Alliance	Louise Misxtal (Exec Director) 520-624-7080 x 19, louise@skyislandalliance.org	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre

Arizona Cattle Grazers Association	Exec VP Patrick Bray, 602-267-1129, pbray@arizonabeef.org	Neutral	Humphrey/ McIntyre
Borderlands Restoration	Executive Director: David Seibert, 520-882-8202 or dseibert@email.arizona.edu Caleb Weaver, (860) 237-0381 (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre
University of Arizona	Kirk Emerson (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-3315 kemerson@email.arizona.edu Susan Malusa (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-2161 smalusa@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Alanen/ Fernandez
USGS-Univ Arizona	Melanie Culver (USGS-Univ Arizona (520) 626-3775 mculver@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen
University of Ariz -Rancher Incentive Program	Scott Bonar (University of Ariz -- Rancher Incentive Program) sbonar@ag.arizona.edu Laura Lopez Hoffman lauralh@email.arizona.edu Aaron Lien alien@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen

Wildlife Conservation Society	John Delaney (WCS Communications) 347-675-2294 jdelaney@wcs.org Eric Sanderson (WCS Senior Conservation Ecologist) (718) 220-6825 esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (WCS Senior Researcher) (718) 741-8206 kfisher@wcs.org Scott Smith (WCS) (718) 220-3698 ssmith@wcs.org	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen
New Mexico Department of Game & Fish	Alexandra Sandoval, Dir., alexandra.sandoval@state.nm.us Jim Stuart (Biologist) 505-476-8107 james.stuart@state.nm.us Karl Moffatt Public Affairs (505) 476-8007 karl.moffatt@state.nm.us Dan Williams, Communications dan.williams@state.nm.us	Neutral	Lueders/Millsap Millsap Humphrey Humphrey
Arizona Game & Fish Department	Ty Gray (Director) 623-236-7278 tgray@azgfd.gov Josh Avey, (AD Wildlife Management) 623-236-7385 javey@azgfd.gov Tim Snow (Biologist) tsnow@azgfd.gov Bill Andres (Communications) 623-	Neutral	Lueders/ McIntyre McIntyre Alanen Humphrey Humphrey

	236-7223 bandres@azgfd.gov Mark Hart (Tucson Comms) (520) 388-4445MHart@azgfd.gov		
US Forest Service	Bobbi Barrera 505-842-3194, blbarrera@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre
US Forest Service – Coronado National Forest	Kerwin Dewberry (Forest Supervisor) kdewberry@fs.fed.us Heidi Schewel (Communications Coronado) (520) 388-8343 hschewel@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre Humphrey
DHS CBP Tucson Sector	(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)	Neutral	McIntyre/ Humphrey
National Park Service - Intermountain Region	Endangered Species Coordinator Mike_Wrigley@nps.gov 303/969-2929	Pro	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Tohono O'odham Nation	Assistant Director Marlakay Henry (520-383-1511)	Pro	Scott Richardson/John Nystedt

	Marlakay.henry@tonation-nsn.gov		
San Carlos Apache Tribe		Pro	John Nystedt
Wildlife Conservation Society	Eric Sanderson (Wildlife Conservation Society) esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (Wildlife Conservation Society) kfisher@wcs.org	Pro	Humphrey/Alanen
Conservation Planning Specialist Group	Phil Miller (Conservation Planning Specialist Group) pmiller@cbsg.org	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Harris Environmental Group	Lisa Harris (Harris Environmental Group) harris@heg-inc.com	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen
Defenders of Wildlife	Bryan Bird (Southwest Program Director)(505) 395-7332 BBird@defenders.org	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Malpai Borderlands Group	Bill McDonald (Exec Director) 520-558-2475 malpaigroup@gmail.com	Pro	McIntyre/ Alanen
Center For Biological Diversity	Kieran Suckling or Michael Robinson (575-313-7017) michaelr@biologicaldiversity.org Robin Silver: rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org 602-246-4170	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Cochise County	Board of Supervisors: board@cochise.az.gov	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Hereford NRCD	Board Clerk, Kathy Morris	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey

	nrcdhereford@gmail.com		
Fort Huachuca	Director of Public Affairs Angela Moncur (520) 533-1850 angela.moncur@us.army.mil	Pro	McIntyre/ Humphrey
BLM - Arizona	BLM T&E Species Arizona State Office Philip Cooley (602) 417-9423 pcooley@blm.gov	Pro	McIntyre/ Humphrey
BLM- New Mexico	BLM New Mexico Acting State Director Aiden Seidlitz, aseidlitz@blm.gov 505-954-2222 NM T&E Lead for BLM Marikay Ramsey (marikayr@blm.gov) Lisa Rivera Morrison (Deputy Chief Office of Communications) lmorriso@blm.gov (505) 954-2023 work; (505) 920-6532 cell	Pro	Millsap/ Humphrey
Arizona State Lands Commissioner	Lisa Atkins 602-542-4621 latkins@land.az.gov	Neutral	McIntyre/ Humphrey
New Mexico State Lands Commissioner	Aubrey Dunn 505-827-5760	Neutral	Millsap/ Humphrey

Organization:	**Name:**	**Email:**	**Pro/Neut/ Anti**	**Contacted by:**
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies	Jen Mock-Schaeffer Patricia Allen	jenmock@fishwildlife.org pallen@fishwildlife.org	Neutral	DPIA

Formatted Table

Backcountry Hunter & Anglers	Katie McKalip	mckalip@backcountryhunters.org	Pro	DPIA
Center for Biological Diversity	Brett Hartl	bhartl@biologicaldiversity.org	Pro	DPIA
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation	Sara Leonard Gary Kania	Sleonard@congressionalsportsmen.org garyk@sportsmenslink.org	Neut	DPIA
Conservation International	Justin Ward	jward@conservation.org	Pro	DPIA
Defenders of Wildlife	Robert Dewey Jared Saylor	rdewey@defenders.org jsaylor@defenders.org	Pro	DPIA
Endangered Species Coalition	Leda Huta	lhuta@stopextinction.org	Pro	DPIA
Environmental Defense Fund	Mark Rupp Chandler Clay	mrupp@edf.org cclay@edf.org	Pro	DPIA
Izaak Walton League	Scott Kovarovics Dawn Merritt	skovarovics@iwla.org dmerritt@iwla.org	Pro	DPIA
International Fund for Animal Welfare	Jeff Flocken Danielle Kessler	jflocken@ifaw.org dkessler@ifaw.org	Pro	DPIA
National Association of Counties	Deborah Cox Jonathan Shuffield Fred Wong	dcox@naco.org jshuffield@naco.org fwong@naco.org	Neut	DPIA
National Association of Home Builders	Michael Mittelholzer	mmittelholzer@nahb.org	Anti	DPIA
National Rifle Association	Susan Recce	srecce@nrahq.org	Neut	DPIA
National Wildlife Federation	Mike Leahy Judith Kohler Casey Skeens	leahym@nwf.org kohlerj@nwf.org skeens@nwf.org	Pro	DPIA

Natural Resources Defense Council	Andrew Wetzler	awetzler@nrdc.org	Pro	DPIA
Outdoor Writers Association of America	Kelsey Dayton	kdayton@owaa.org	Neut	DPIA
Public Lands Alliance	Marci Schlup	mschlup@beef.org	Anti	DPIA
Safari Club International	Steve Comus	scomus@safariclub.org		DPIA
The Nature Conservancy	Brent Keith LR Clawson	brent.keith@tnc.org lroseclawson@tnc.org	Pro	DPIA
The Wilderness Society	Jamie Williams Kitty Thomas	jamie_williams@tws.org kitty_thomas@tws.org	Pro	DPIA
The Wildlife Society	Keith Norris Chuck Shively	keith.norris@wildlife.org chuck.shively@wildlife.org	Pro	DPIA
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership	Steve Kline Geoff Mullins Kristyn Brady	skline@trcp.org gmullins@trcp.org kbrady@trcp.org	Pro	DPIA
Western Governors' Association	Zach Bodhane Joe Rassenfoss	zbodhane@westgov.org joe@westgov.org		DPIA
Wildlife Management Institute	Steve Williams	swilliams@wildlifemgt.org	Neut	DPIA
World Wildlife Fund	Will Gartshore	Will.gartshore@wwfus.org	Pro	DPIA
American Farm Bureau Federation	Ryan Yates	ryany@fb.org		
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture	Dr. Barbara Glenn	barb.glenn@nasda.org		
National Cattlemen's	Tanner Beymer	tbeymer@beef.org		

Beef Association			
National Public Lands Council	Ethan Lane	elane@beef.org	

12. Congressional member email list

Title	Last	Seat ID	DC Staff	District Staff
Sen.	Sinema	AZ	michael_brawnlie@sinema.senate.gov	michelle_davidson@sinema.senate.gov haleigh_williams@sinema.senate.gov
Sen.	McSally	AZ	pace_mcmullan@mcsally.senate.gov	tanya_wheeless@mcsally.senate.gov
Rep.	O'Halleran	AZ1	paul.babbitt@mail house.gov	chip.davis@mail.house.gov blanca.varela@mail house.gov
Rep.	Kirkpatrick	AZ2	lisa.walker@mail house.gov	ron.barber@mail house.gov
Rep.	Grijalva	AZ3	glenn miller@mail house.gov	Ruben.Reyes@mail house.gov
Rep.	Gosar	AZ4	rory.burke@mail.house.gov, jeff.small@mail house.gov	Penny.Pew@mail house.gov
Rep.	Stanton	AZ9	tracee.sutton@mail house.gov	eric.chalmers@mail house.gov
Sen.	Heinrich	NM	maya_hermann@heinrich.senate.gov	alex_eubanks@heinrich.senate.gov
Sen.	Udall	NM	jonathan_black@tomudall.senate.gov Caitlin_Keating-Bitonti@tomudall.senate.gov, Lisa_VanTheemsche@tomudall.senate.gov	David_williams@tomudall.senate.gov greg_bloom@tomudall.senate.gov
Rep.	Haaland	NM1	eric.werwa@mail house.gov	scott forrester@mail house.gov sofia.sanchez@mail house.gov

Rep.	Torres Small	NM2	brooke.stuedell@mail.house.gov	nayomi.valdez @mail house.gov
Rep.	Lujan	NM3	levi.patterson@mail house.gov	jennifer.catechis@mail.house.gov

13. Congressional committee email list

CLA will contact authorizing committee staff; Division of Budget will contact appropriations committee staff

Senate Appropriations Interior S/C – Majority	emy_lesofski@appro.senate.gov	(202) 224-7233
Senate Appropriations Interior S/C – Minority	ryan_hunt@appro.senate.gov	(202) 228-0774
Senate EPW – Majority	matt_leggett@epw.senate.gov andrew_harding@epw.senate.gov james_willson@epw.senate.gov	(202) 224-6176
Senate EPW – Minority	christophe_tulou@epw.senate.gov elizabeth_mabry@epw.senate.gov	(202) 224-8832
Senate ENR – Majority	chuck_kleeschulte@energy.senate.gov lucy_murfitt@energy.senate.gov colin_hayes@energy.senate.gov	(202) 224-4971
Senate ENR – Minority	david_brooks@energy.senate.gov	(202) 224-4971
House Appropriations Interior S/C – Majority	rita.culp@mail house.gov jocelyn hunn@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3481
House Appropriations Interior S/C – Minority	darren.benjamin@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3081
House Natural Resources – Majority	lora.snyder@mail house.gov brandon.bragato@mail.house.gov sarah.lim@mail.house.gov rachel.gentile@mail house.gov	(202) 225-6065
House Natural Resources – Minority	william.ball@mail house.gov parish.braden@mail.house.gov christopher.santini@mail house.gov brandon miller@mail house.gov syi@mail.house.gov steve.petersen@mail.house.gov will.layden@mail house.gov john.sullivan1@mail house.gov steven.parr@mail house.gov chris.esparza@mail house.gov john.strom@mail house.gov	(202) 225-2761

	marc.alberts@mail house.gov	
Leadership – House Majority Leader Hoyer	trent.bauserman@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4131
Leadership – House Minority Leader McCarthy	Jennifer.Loraine@mail house.gov	(202) 225-2915
Congressional Research Service	PSHEIKH@crs.loc.gov RCRAFTON@crs.loc.gov LTSANG@crs.loc.gov EWARD@crs.loc.gov	

SECTION IV: PRIMARY POINTS OF CONTACT

14. Media coordinators *(For national-level plans, list at least one person from HQ Public Affairs and others from region/program if appropriate. For regional-level plans, only regional coordinators are required. Enter name, email and phone)*

Jeff Humphrey (Southwest Region) jeff_humphrey@fws.gov, 602-242-0210

Brian Hires (Headquarters) Brian_Hires@fws.gov, 703-358-2191

15. Congressional coordinators *(For national-level plans, list at least one person from HQ Public Affairs and others from region/program if appropriate. For regional-level plans, only regional coordinators are required. Enter name, email and phone)*

CLA Alyssa Hausman (CLA) alyssa_hausman@fws.gov 703-358-2275

Lisa Jones (CLA) lisa_m_jones@fws.gov 703-358-2536

Lesli Gray (Southwest Region) lesli_gray@fws.gov 817-277-9057

16. Subject matter experts available for interview *(Must be approved by HQ Public Affairs for an HQ-led announcement or by Regional Public Affairs for region-led announcement. Enter name, email and phone)*

Marit Alanen (Biologist) marit_alanen@fws.gov 520-670-6150 x234

Julie McIntyre (Assistant Field Supervisor) Julie_McIntyre@fws.gov 520-670-6150 x223 Jeff Humphrey (Field Supervisor) 602-242-0210

17. Additional technical experts for reference *(Enter name, email and phone)*

18. Are there any non-FWS points of contact for this action? *(Enter name, organization, role, email and phone)*

John Delaney (Wildlife Conservation Society - Comms Director) jdelaney@wcs.org 718-220-3275 (Regarding mapping/modelling)

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APPENDIX: ADDITIONAL BACKROUND INFORMATION AND MATERIALS

DO NOT PUT OTHER MATERIALS SUCH AS FAQs, NEWS RELEASE OR TALKING POINTS IN THIS SECTION. KEEP THOSE AS SEPARATE DOCUMENTS.

(Consider the following What is the historical context? Does this relate to other issues that may not immediately be apparent (consider other programs and regions)? Is there a scientific basis to this issue? If so what is it?)

APPENDIX 1

Historical Context:

Following a 2009, Arizona District Court decision, FWS determined that developing a recovery plan for jaguars will contribute to their conservation (in recognition that most of the species' habitat and almost all individuals occur outside if the United States).

FWS reconfigured and expanded a binational Jaguar Recovery Team and charged them with developing a recovery outline, which they completed in April 2012. The FWS drew heavily from the data compiled in the recovery outline for the development of jaguar critical habitat designation (in the U.S.), which was finalized in March 2014.

Summary:

In 2010, a binational Jaguar Recovery Team was convened with experts and stakeholders from both the U.S. and Mexico to develop a jaguar recovery plan. The Recovery Plan considers the jaguar throughout its range, but primarily focuses on the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU), which extends from the southwestern U.S. to western Mexico. To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations should be secured by protecting jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing

due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting, and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey, and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico.

Regarding the role of the U.S. in recovering the jaguar, recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity. Actions to implement this involve identifying and mapping corridors and potential impediments to these linkages, along with developing and implementing strategies to maintain connectivity. Recovery actions to maintain connectivity and overall ecosystem/watershed health are ongoing in many areas in the U.S. by the U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management, where much of the linkage habitat into the U.S. occurs.

We received over 13,000 public comments on the draft Recovery Plan. We requested five peer reviews and received comments from two, both from Mexico. We also received comments from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Game and Fish Department, and the San Carlos Apache Tribe. We incorporated all substantive comments into the final Recovery Plan. If we did not incorporate substantive comments, we responded to them in our response to comments documents. Review of the Recovery Plan was also coordinated with the New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, and Buenos Aires and San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuges.

MAIN DECISION OR MESSAGE: Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their historical range; however, conservation of key jaguar habitat and populations in their current range will be critical to the recovery of jaguars. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar. The estimated cost to recovery is $605,648,000 (among 19 countries over 50 years).

APPENDIX II

Jaguar Recovery Plan - Customs and Border Protection/U.S. Border Patrol Involvement
August 31, 2018

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) via U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) has been involved through all phases of jaguar draft and final recovery plan planning processes. In 2010, at the inception of the binational Jaguar Recovery Team (JRT), USBP was invited to serve as a member of the Implementation Subgroup of the JRT, as an official representative of

USBP. Since 2010, USBP has had a member on the JRT through the present (Charles Trost).

CBP also has significantly financially supported several projects, described in Table 3 of the Jaguar Recovery Plan (JRP), that were conducted to inform important content for the Plan and implement recovery actions identified in the JRP. These projects include genetics studies, habitat modeling, jaguar surveying and monitoring, citizen science education and outreach, rancher incentives, road crossing designs, citizen attitude surveys, and portions of Population Viability Analyses (PVA and PHVA) (see Table 3 below).

USBP participated in many meetings to discuss and prepare the JRP, and did not express significant concerns about border issues. In the spirit of cooperation, CBP permitted FWS and Jaguar Recovery Team to use their GIS layers of the border to develop a map that illustrates degrees of border permeability (no fences, including a vehicle or pedestrian fence), and this information is illustrated on Figure 4 of the JRP. Both this figure and the JRP indicate that portions of the border are currently permeable to jaguar movement and that continued work between FWS and CBP will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border jaguar movement.

As part of outreach on the JRP, CBP was informed of the option to comment during the public comment period, and did not provide any comments. Throughout the development of the JRP, CBP has had opportunities to address border issues and through these and related actions CBP's and BP's concerns have been fully incorporated into the Jaguar Recovery Plan.

Table 3. Summary of U.S. Customs and Border Protection-funded projects and their conservation benefit to jaguars. NRU = Northwestern Recovery Unit for the jaguar. USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Final reports of these projects can be found at https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm.

Project	Final Deliverable(s)	Purpose/Conservation Benefit
Genetics	*Jaguar taxonomy and genetic diversity for southern Arizona, U.S., and Sonora, Mexico*	Investigates unique genetic diversity of jaguars at the northern edge of the range and answers taxonomic question of whether or not northern jaguars are a distinct subspecies
PVAs	*Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes demographic viability of the jaguar metapopulation defined as the NRU

PVAs (cont.)	*Addendum Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes the structure, implementation, and interpretation of a new set of demographic simulations of jaguar population viability in core areas of the NRU
Habitat Modeling	*Digital Mapping in Support of Recovery Planning for the Northern Jaguar*	Assisted USFWS in digital mapping aspects of recovery planning for the northern jaguar (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, and Recovery Outline for the Jaguar)
	Jaguar Habitat Modeling and Database Update	Updates jaguar database with additional observations, conducts analyses of different selections of jaguar observations, produces five revised versions of the habitat model (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, as well as this Recovery Plan)
	jaguardata.info	Converts jaguar observations database to web-based platform allowing stakeholders, general public, and scientific community to search and access jaguar data; provides an interface for administrators to add, edit, and delete jaguar observations in the NRU
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (U.S. portion of NRU)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring in the United States Final Report*	Culver (2016) provides results and analyses of the two-year investigation of jaguars, prey base, and habitat in the U.S. portion of the NRU to inform recovery planning; multiple photos of one jaguar (and three ocelots) provided to USFWS and posted on USFWS Flickr site
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (Tohono O'odham Nation; TON)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring on the Tohono O'odham Nation*	Provides results and analyses of surveys for jaguars and ocelots on the TON to inform recovery planning
Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing	*Citizen Science Teams*	Developed and implementing a citizen science program to survey and monitor for jaguars within the U.S. portion of the NRU
	K-12 Jaguar Educational Curricula	Developed and implementing formal educational curricula on jaguar and ocelot conservation for different educational levels to promote an understanding of feline conservation
Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing (cont.)	*Jaguar Conservation Outreach*	Developed and presented a PowerPoint presentation on jaguar and ocelot biology and conservation for the general public to promote an understanding of feline conservation

	Education and Outreach Materials	Developed posters, stickers, etc. to promote jaguar conservation within the NRU
	Grant Writing	Applied for funding opportunities to continue aspects of jaguar survey and monitoring effort currently being conducted, to continue and/or expand the volunteer citizen science program, and to continue and/or expand public outreach and school education programs
Rancher Incentive Program	*Complete Project Overview*	See http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/jaguarproject/ for project summary, additional information, and reports
	Assessment of Rancher Knowledge	Pilot assessment of nine ranch owner/manager's knowledge of jaguar conservation issues
	Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Survey of ranch owner/manager knowledge about and attitudes toward jaguar conservation issues
	Results of Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Summary of survey results included in Results of Rancher Workshops report (below); comprehensive analysis of data still to be published
	Report on PES sources	Conducted research policy analysis of payment for ecosystem services (PES) program and analysis of jaguar-friendly ranch management options for distribution; available at http://extension.arizona.edu/pubs/payments-ecosystem-services-southern-arizona-ranchers
	Rancher Workshops	Developed workshops to enhance rancher knowledge of jaguar conservation, jaguar friendly ranch management practices, and conservation incentive programs; as well as receive feedback from ranchers regarding incentive programs that may generate participation
	Brochures	Provides a simple program of actions for landowners to implement for promoting jaguar conservation on their lands
Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation	*Results of Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation*	Provides insights into attitudes, mores, and level of knowledge of stakeholders in the U.S. portion of the NRU regarding jaguars to understand what is needed from a social perspective to create an environment that is conducive to jaguar conservation
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol	*Review of Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Techniques and Methodologies* (English and Spanish)	Provides a review of literature on jaguar and, as appropriate, other large felid survey and monitoring techniques and methodologies

	Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol (English and Spanish)	Provides a jaguar survey and monitoring protocol applicable in measuring occupancy recovery criteria (3.3.1.B.i. and 3.3.2.B.i.) in the NRU, as well as other areas rangewide
Review and Develop Recommendations for Road Crossing Designs	*Review of Road Passage Designs for Jaguars*	Conducts a review of enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of large carnivores, particularly jaguars, across road corridors
	Road Passage Design Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Develops recommendations for enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of jaguars across road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types in the NRU
	Road Passage Location Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Identifies potential areas in the NRU where enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) would improve the passage of jaguars across different types of road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types

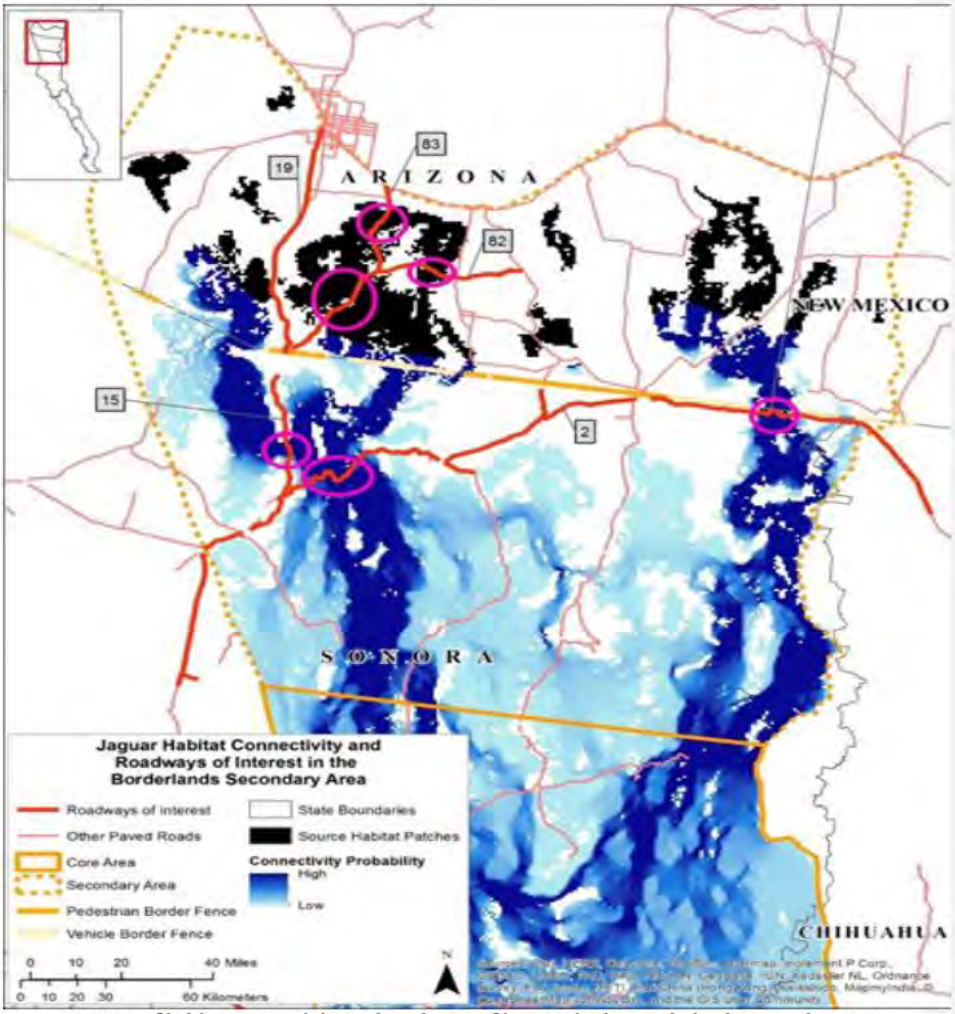


Figure 4. Map of habitat connectivity and roadways of interest in the Borderlands Secondary Area as modeled by Stoner et al. (2015) (some road segments in densely populated areas omitted). A visual examination of this connectivity model, which extends across the entirety of the Northwestern Recovery Unit, reveals three corridors that extend across the U.S.-Mexico border. These corridors are intersected by Mexico Federal Highways 2 and 15. U.S. State Routes 82 and 83 also intersect with "source" habitat patches (used for modeling purposes), which may impact jaguar habitat connectivity. These areas are good candidates for further assessment to determine the potential for road crossing mitigation structures.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Questions and Answers: Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [Enter date here]
Contacts: Jeff Humphrey 602-242-0210

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar, America's largest wild cat. The plan sets goals for improving the species' status through its entire 19-country range and provides a framework for achieving recovery. The recovery plan focuses on the cat's population in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States and recommends site-specific conservation actions that contribute to jaguar recovery across its range.

Q: What does the jaguar recovery plan tell us?

A: Reversing the decline of the jaguar is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework for aligning stakeholder efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core areas and connective corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. ~~We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.~~

Q: What are the primary threats to the jaguar?

A: Loss of habitat, killing of individuals and depletion of prey throughout its range are the primary reasons for decreasing populations of jaguars. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing each of these threats. It establishes goals for minimizing threats and for establishing viable populations throughout the jaguar's expansive range.

Q: What is a recovery plan?

A: Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

Q: What are the strategies for conserving and recovering the jaguar in the final recovery plan?

A: The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units: the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern

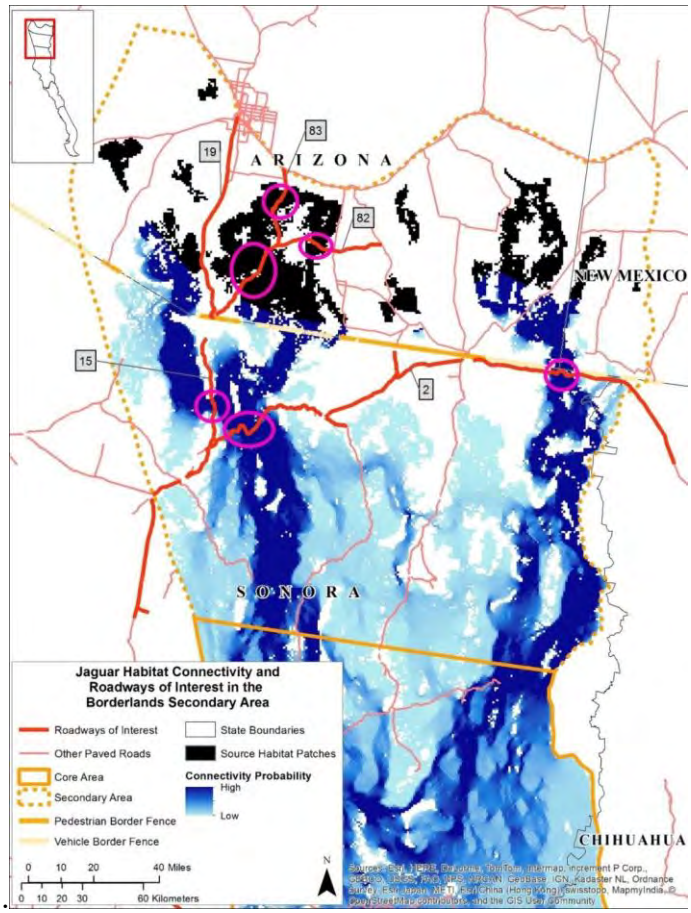
Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. The plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery. As it has in the past, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar.

The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction and has an established working relationship with Mexico. The NRU includes the jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors (see Figure 4 in the final recovery plan), and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

Q: What are the borderland dispersal corridors referred to in the recovery plan and how critical are they to the recovery of jaguars in the United States?

A: Dispersal corridors are rugged, remote areas that presently male jaguars, presumably from the Sonora Core breeding area in Mexico, use to access secondary area habitat, a portion of which is in southern Arizona and New Mexico. These areas have been identified from habitat characteristics, historical records, recent sightings and photo monitoring in the United States and Mexico. (See Jaguar Habitat Connectivity and Identification of Potential Road Mitigation Locations in the NRU for the Jaguar report, as well as Figure 4 of the recovery plan.)



Continued jaguar access to habitat through transborder linkages is the sole mechanism identified in the recovery plan for continued jaguar occupation in the U.S. portion of the species' range. Maintaining this habitat connectivity is one of the recovery criteria for the Northwestern Recovery Unit. Research documents the importance of animal populations at the extremities of their ranges for the expansion and contraction of species' ranges and, ultimately, the long-term recovery of species.

These jaguar dispersal corridors are rugged and remote areas. Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors. Continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allowing ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Q: How important is the recovery of jaguars in the United States to their overall recovery across their range?

A: The U.S. range of the jaguar represents the very northernmost edge of its 19-country range that extends all the way to South America. The U.S. range represents just one-tenth of 1 percent of its historic range.

Given that the jaguar is an international species with the vast majority of its range outside of the United States, primary actions to recover the jaguar will occur in other countries. Because more than 95 percent of the jaguar's habitat in the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) is in Mexico, Mexico will be the primary contributor to the jaguar's recovery in the NRU. In the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU), countries within the jaguar's range will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery.

The Service's limited resources are better applied to planning and on-the-ground implementation of conservation actions within the United States boundaries and in partnership with Mexico. Therefore, the Service and the Jaguar Recovery Team have established objective and measurable criteria for recovery and site-specific actions that, if implemented, will conserve viable jaguar populations in the northwestern portion of its range (e.g., the NRU). Priority is given to this unit because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction, and we have an established working relationship with Mexico on issues of mutual concern.

Q: Was Customs and Border Patrol included in the developing of this plan?

A: Yes. U.S. Border Patrol (Tucson Sector) is represented on the Implementation Subgroup of the Jaguar Recovery Team. Other U.S. border area groups on the subgroup include ranchers, Malpais Borderlands Group, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance (ranching group), and state and federal land and wildlife managers.

Q: What are the actions and partnerships the Service is taking to support recovery of the jaguar in its primary range in 19 Central and South American countries?

A: In recent years, the Service's International Affairs Program has been at the forefront of supporting the conservation of jaguars throughout their range in Mexico, Central America and South America. During the past four years alone, we have supported 23 jaguar-related projects in 10 countries with more than $1 million in conservation funding. When jaguar habitat is conserved, many other species directly benefit.

In addition to providing incentives to protect habitat, many of the projects we support, seek to alleviate fears about jaguars in human communities through education. They also frequently provide landowners with concrete strategies and methods that reduce conflict in such a way that humans and jaguars can co-exist. As a result, landowners are better able to protect their livelihoods and economic interests while helping protect jaguars. They achieve these goals by discouraging jaguars from coming into contact with their livestock, by reforesting areas of their land, and by helping maintain the species' natural prey populations. Based on project reporting to date, most landowners who employ jaguar-friendly ranching techniques see a dramatic reduction in attacks and subsequent livestock mortality. A project in Paraguay has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by 80-100 percent at 12 sites that cover an area more than 770 square miles. Another project in the Maya Biosphere of Guatemala has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by approximately 70 percent at 283 properties, covering about 11,603 hectares of land now under improved management.

Q: What are the requirements for a full recovery of the jaguar?

A: The approach in this Recovery Plan is as follows:

- Two recovery units are included, the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) and the larger Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU). The NRU extends from south-central Arizona and extreme southwestern New Mexico, United States, south to Colima, Mexico. The PARU encompasses 18 countries from Mexico to Argentina. These units are further divided into core, secondary, and peripheral areas.
- The status of and threats to jaguars in the PARU are summarized and general actions and criteria for addressing these threats and evaluating rangewide recovery are recommended.
- Detailed criteria and actions necessary to recover jaguar populations in the NRU are provided.

The Service will consider removing the jaguar from the ESA list due to recovery when all of the following conditions are met:

A. PARU

i. The status of the jaguar changes to Least Concern (LC) and is maintained under the IUCN Red List criteria (as defined by the World Conservation Union, http://www.iucnredlist.org) for at least 20 more years after first qualifying for LC, which would mean threats have been reduced so the jaguar population is no longer at risk of a ≥ 30 percent decline because its area of occupancy, extent of occurrence, and/or habitat quality, as well as actual or potential levels of exploitation, have been stable for at least 40 years.

B. NRU

i. Maintain approximately 60 percent occupancy (proportion of cells) in each of the Core Areas over 40 years (inclusive of the 20 years required to downlist).

ii. Over 40 years, genetic distance (e.g., F_{ST} or G_{ST}) between the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas does not significantly increase, and inbreeding coefficients (F_{IS} or G_{IS}) within each of the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas do not significantly increase.

iii. During a period of 40 years, the average of at least 30 percent of the adult population within the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas are female (based on data gathered through surveying, monitoring, genetic analysis, etc.).

iv. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation siting and design), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure the network of ≥ 100-km^2 blocks (the minimum area capable of supporting at least three breeding females) of high-quality habitat and habitat connections between blocks within each Core Area (Sonora and Jalisco) will support genetically and demographically viable jaguar populations for the foreseeable future.

v. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability will be maintained for jaguars within the Sinaloa Secondary Area.

vi. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in the United States and Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability, including at least two trans-border linkages, will be maintained for jaguars throughout the Borderlands Secondary Area.

vii. The threat of direct human killing of jaguars is decreased or maintained at sustainable levels as measured by acceptable evidence or an index.

viii. Effective federal, state, tribal, and/or local laws are in place in the NRU that ensure killing of jaguars is prohibited or regulated so viable populations of the species can be maintained.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

News Release

Arizona Ecological Services
Field Office
9828 N. 31st Ave, #C3
Phoenix, Arizona 85051-2518
602/242-0210

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [insert date here] [DRAFT]
Contact: Jeff Humphrey, (602) 889-5946, jeff_humphrey@fws.gov

Service and Binational Team Complete ESA Recovery Plan for America's Largest Wild Cat

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery plan for the jaguar, currently listed under the Aact at endangered. The plan provides a recovery framework and goals for improving the species' status throughout its entire 19-country range while focusing on the jaguar populations in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States.

The final recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. More than 99 percent of the jaguar's range is in Central and South America, so the plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery. The Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar, including continued funding support.

The Service has established strong working relationships with state and local partners, conservation groups and the Mexican government. The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but calls for focusing efforts on sustaining potential habitat. In addition, the plan calls for establishing at least two borderland dispersal corridors for jaguars' continued movement through remote, rugged habitat between the countries, eliminating poaching, and improving social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate their return to the United States.

"The binational recovery team's scientific expertise in protecting the jaguar has been invaluable," said Amy Lueders, the Service's Southwest Regional Director. "We recognize the challenges involved in conserving and recovering a species with such an expansive international range, and the team has laid out a comprehensive plan with goals that are achievable and realistic. We look forward to continuing to work with our diverse partners on this effort within and outside the United States."

Loss of habitat, direct killing of the cats, and depletion of prey are the primary factors contributing to the jaguar's current status and decreasing population trend. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. However, conservation of key jaguar populations and habitat -- including core breeding and connective areas -- will be critical to jaguar recovery. ~~We anticipate it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.~~

Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States, all in southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. These jaguars are believed to have come from the nearest core area and breeding population, approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora.

Across the jaguar's primary range in Latin America, the Service is actively working with countries and local partners to protect and recover the cat. Conservation efforts include providing incentives for protecting jaguar habitat and prey, education campaigns addressing misinformation and fears, and providing landowners with strategies for co-existing with jaguars.

Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations must be secured throughout their range. This will require protecting jaguar habitat quality and connectivity; providing incentives to protect jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico. Once recovery is achieved and the jaguar is delisted, the states manage the species ~~These protections must remain in place after delisting~~ to ensure its ~~the~~ long-term viability~~. of the species.~~

The binational Jaguar Recovery Team includes representatives of CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico), CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora), U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS Wildlife Services and U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Border Patrol, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Tohono O'odham Nation, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance, Malpai Borderlands Group, Naturalia, Panthera and several ranchers, landowners, stakeholders and universities in Mexico and the United States. Additionally, the Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the recovery plan.

The Jaguar Recovery Plan is available at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm or by request from Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Ecological Services Office, 9828 North 31st Avenue, #C3, Phoenix, AZ 85051–2517; phone 602/242-0210.

*The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit **www.fws.gov**, or connect with us through any of these social media channels: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube.*

Photos available at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/
Video at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guuhu_-G-Pw&feature=youtu.be

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
AND THE
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Regarding Implementation of Executive Order 13186: "Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds"

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), herein collectively referred to as the Parties.

A. Purpose and Scope

The Parties enter into this MOU pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 13186 (66 FR 3853, Jan. 17, 2001) concerning the responsibilities of Federal agencies to protect migratory birds. The EO directs executive departments and agencies to take certain actions to further implement the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)[1]. This MOU focuses on avoiding and minimizing adverse impacts on migratory birds and strengthening migratory bird conservation through enhanced collaboration between the Parties. This MOU does not waive any applicable legal requirements and does not authorize the take of migratory birds.

B. Authority

The Parties enter into this MOU under the provisions of the following laws and other authorities available to the Parties:

- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act) of 1940, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668–668d);
- Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1451–1466);
- Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531–1544);
- Executive Order 13186, Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds, 2001 (66 Fed. Reg. 3853, Jan. 17, 2001);
- Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act), as amended (33 U.S.C.

[1] This MOU focuses on improving bird conservation actions under the provisions of the MBTA. However, some birds are protected by other environmental laws and associated regulations such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). As such, the coordination, permitting procedures; and requirements under these statutes are different. Therefore, if migratory bird species also covered by the ESA or the Eagle Act are present, CBP should coordinate with FWS to ensure compliance with the specific considerations of these statutes.

1251–1388);
- Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742a–j-2 *et seq*.);
- Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2901–2911);
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1980, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661–667d);
- Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742l);
- Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929, as amended (16 U.S.C. 715–715r);
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended (16 U.S.C. 703–712); and
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321–4347).

C. Missions of Both Parties

CBP

CBP is the largest federal law enforcement agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) charged with the dual mission of securing the Nation's borders while facilitating legitimate trade and travel. As the guardian of U.S. borders, CBP protects approximately 4,000 miles of the international border between the contiguous United States and Canada, as well as 1,000 miles between Alaska and Canada, 1,900 miles of international border with Mexico, and 95,000 miles of shoreline in the contiguous United States.

CBP serves as the front line in defending the United States against terrorists and instruments of terror and protects the economic security of the United States by regulating and facilitating the lawful movement of goods and people across the U.S. border. CBP protects the U.S. economy by enforcing trade laws, intellectual property rights, and collection of revenue on goods imported into the United States; protects the food supply and agricultural industry from pests and disease; and increases the security of our airspace. CBP accomplishes its goals by:

- Effective targeting - each year, more than 11 million maritime containers arrive at U.S. seaports. At land borders, another 11 million containers arrive by truck and 2.7 million by rail. CBP is responsible for knowing the contents of these containers and any safety issues they might pose to the American people. In addition, CBP assesses all people and cargo entering the United States from abroad for terrorist risk.

- Enforcing trade laws – CBP works with internal and external stakeholders to facilitate legitimate trade and address areas of non-compliance while effectively communicating the terms of trade agreements and preferential trade legislation. CBP enforces import and export laws at port-of-entry locations under provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Endangered Species Act. CBP inspects for potential signs of violation of environmental laws such as transnational smuggling of migratory bird parts, invasive species, or other wildlife items. CBP also confirms that all cargo is legally possessed and collects proper revenues for imports.

- Fostering legitimate and safe travel - a key goal of CBP, which increases passenger security through effective risk assessment.

- Inspection technology and equipment - given the magnitude of CBP's responsibility, the development and deployment of sophisticated detection technology is essential. Deployment of nonintrusive inspection technologies is increasing. These technologies are viewed as "force multipliers" that enable CBP officers to screen or examine a larger portion of the stream of commercial traffic. CBP does not rely on any single technology or inspection process. Instead, officers and agents use various technologies in different combinations to substantially increase the likelihood that terrorist weapons, including a nuclear or radiological weapon, will be detected and interdicted.

- Outbound inspections: Keeping weapons and money out of terrorist hands - CBP has the authority to search outbound as well as inbound shipments and uses targeting to carry out its mission in this area. Targeting of outbound shipments and people is a multi-dimensional effort that is enhanced by interagency cooperation.

- Protecting border areas between official ports of entry - Border Patrol agents and Air and Marine Operations personnel are securing areas between the ports of entry by implementing a comprehensive border enforcement strategy, expanding, integrating, and coordinating the use of technology and communications.

In carrying out its statutory mandate to control and guard the border of the United States, CBP performs a number of operational, administrative, and management-related activities and projects that potentially impact migratory birds and their habitat. These activities include, but are not limited to, construction, demolition, operation, maintenance, and repair of:

- Facilities - defined as ports of entry, U.S. Border Patrol Stations, forward operating bases, Air and Marine Operations Facilities, Customs Quarters (housing), camps, checkpoints, or other CBP operated installations, which consists of the land, buildings, on-site roadways, and parking lots that CBP owns, leases, or uses as free space.

- Tactical infrastructure - defined by CBP as any physical component designed to consistently slow, delay, and act as an obstacle to illegal cross-border activity. These components include: fences and gates; roads; bridges, crossovers, and low-water crossings; drainage management structures; boat ramps; lighting and ancillary power systems; remote surveillance systems; mobile detection and inspection technologies and equipment; underground sensors; traffic checkpoints; license-plate readers; and barriers to prohibit illegal vehicle entry.

- Towers and aerostats with infrastructure - to support communications and surveillance activities. This includes fixed-site, tether-controlled approximately 200 foot-long aerostats operating up to 10,000 feet Mean Sea Level (MSL) and smaller relocatable aerostats tethered up to 5000 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) from under 200-foot tower

systems.

- Landscape and vegetation maintenance - to support surveillance activities and Border Patrol safety by improving line of sight and reducing physical obstacles when monitoring cross-border activity.

CBP is committed to executing its mission in an environmentally responsible manner and in compliance with environmental laws, regulations, and EOs, including EO 13186. As part of CBP's commitment to migratory bird conservation, CBP prepared a Migratory Bird Treaty Act Handbook to meet its responsibility to avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and/or their habitats.

FWS

The mission of the FWS is to work with others to conserve, protect, manage, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The FWS Migratory Bird Program serves as the focal point in the United States for policy development and strategic planning, program implementation, and evaluation of actions designed to conserve migratory birds and their habitats.

The FWS is legally mandated to implement the conservation provisions of the MBTA, which includes responsibilities for managing migratory bird populations, domestic and international coordination, and the development and enforcement of regulations. The Migratory Bird Conservation Act and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act mandate migratory bird habitat conservation including habitat protection through acquisition, enhancement, and/or management, and avoidance and minimization of impacts.

FWS programs that involve bird conservation activities include:

1. The Division of Migratory Bird Management and the Migratory Bird Programs in the FWS Regional Offices serve as focal points for policy development and strategic planning. These offices develop and implement monitoring and management initiatives and issue permits for intentional take. Migratory Bird Programs help maintain healthy populations of migratory birds and their habitats to provide continued opportunities for citizens to enjoy bird-related recreation.

2. The Division of Bird Habitat Conservation is instrumental in supporting habitat conservation partnerships through the administration of bird conservation grant programs and development of Joint Ventures that serve as major vehicles for implementing the various bird conservation plans across the country.

3. Ecological Services Field Offices across the country serve as the primary contacts for technical assistance and environmental reviews of projects involving migratory bird issues. The Field Offices coordinate with the Regional FWS Migratory Bird Offices, as necessary,

during these reviews, regarding permits and overall migratory bird conservation strategies.

4. The Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) is the principal FWS program that enforces the legal provisions of the MBTA, Eagle Act, ESA, and other laws pertaining to migratory bird conservation.

5. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) provides the basis for international cooperation and collaboration to ensure trade does not contribute to decline in wild populations of animals and plants, including protected bird species. All documents must be validated or certified by an officially recognized, originating country CITES-inspection authority at the time of export. FWS receives inspection documentation on all regulated CITES commodities including migratory birds and migratory bird parts after CBP completes its inspections.

6. The National Wildlife Refuge System manages National Wildlife Refuges, Waterfowl Protection Areas, and Wetland Management Districts across the country. Many units of this system were established to protect and conserve migratory birds. Refuges not only protect important habitat, but also focus on monitoring migratory bird populations and native habitat restoration for the benefit of migratory birds. The Division of Refuge Law Enforcement enforces the legal provisions of wildlife laws on National Wildlife Refuges, Waterfowl Production Areas, and National Fisheries. The Division of Refuge Law Enforcement also assists OLE when needed.

7. The Science Applications program works with other Service programs and partners to ensure that the necessary science, tools, and capacity are available for planning and implementing the most efficient and effective best management practices (BMPs) to protect fish and wildlife including migratory birds. They facilitate regional self-directed science management partnerships called Landscape Conservation Cooperatives to develop and apply shared science capacity to conservation.

D. Statement of Mutual Interest and Benefit

Both Parties agree that migratory birds are important components of biological diversity. Their conservation will help to sustain ecological integrity and serve the public demand for outdoor recreation, conservation education, wildlife viewing, and hunting opportunities. Further, the Parties agree that it is important to identify measures that will: 1) promote migratory bird conservation; 2) avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and their habitats; and 3) recognize that actions that may provide long-term benefits to migratory bird populations as a whole may result in short-term negative effects on individual birds. It is in the interest of both Parties that potential impacts, direct and indirect, are thoroughly assessed and unavoidable impacts are appropriately mitigated.

Nothing in this MOU is intended to prevent Border Patrol agents from exercising existing exigent/emergency authorities to access lands, including authority to conduct motorized off-road pursuit of cross border violators at any time.

E. Obligations of Both Parties

To the extent allowed by law, subject to the availability of appropriations and within administration budgetary limits, and in accord with the CBP and FWS missions and capabilities, each Party shall:

1. Support the conservation intent of EO 13186 and the migratory bird conventions, to the extent practicable, by: 1) integrating bird conservation principles, measures, and practices into agency actions, and 2) avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

2. Develop BMPs and implement accepted BMPs that are consistent with EO 13186 resulting in the avoidance, minimization, and reduction of negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

3. Promote economic and recreational value of birds to the general public as appropriate by developing and integrating information on migratory birds and their habitats into environmental studies, outreach, and education materials.

4. To the extent practicable, protect, restore, and enhance habitat of migratory birds on facilities and lands administered (controlled or leased) by CBP and prevent and minimize the loss or degradation of remaining natural habitats. This includes:

    a. Collaboration on development and implementation of management practices to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory bird populations and/or their migration, breeding, nesting, foraging, staging, or wintering habitats.

    b. Working collaboratively with other Federal and State agencies, Tribes, non-governmental organizations, private landowners, and other partners, where appropriate, in joint efforts to identify, protect, restore, enhance, monitor, and manage important migratory bird areas (e.g., Important Bird Areas, other significant bird sites that occur on CBP properties) potentially affected by agency actions, focusing efforts in areas of current or future project activities.

5. Promote research and information exchange related to migratory bird conservation including inventorying and monitoring, developing studies related to agency decisions and management practices that may impact migratory birds, and information on environmental contaminants and other physical and biological stressors that are relevant to the conservation of migratory birds. Share information through online tools such as the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN) and Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support

system. The Parties agree to:

a. As practicable and compatible with other study needs and program mandates, collaborate in developing studies: 1) on migratory bird species that may be potentially affected by agency actions, with an emphasis on Birds of Conservation Concern; 2) on the effects of management activities; 3) on avoiding and minimizing degradation of migratory bird habitat; and 4) on creating a framework for implementing appropriate mitigation measures for CBP actions that will negatively effect migratory birds.

b. Identifying BMPs for: 1) avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat; 2) conserving and restoring migratory bird habitats; 3) promoting bird conservation; and 4) inventorying and monitoring migratory birds. Feasible BMPs will be incorporated into online tools, job aids, guidance, and agency policy documents where appropriate.

c. Developing partnerships to further migratory bird conservation, as practicable. This includes cooperation, coordination, and data sharing with other Federal or State agencies, universities, potential developers or their contractors, and nongovernmental organizations involved in monitoring and research studies to provide reliable and comparable information on the distribution and abundance or status and trends of migratory bird populations. Utilize and contribute information to online data sharing sites, such as AKN or IPaC.

d. Promoting the implementation of existing regional or national inventory and monitoring programs and systems such as Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), eBIRD, Christmas Bird Counts, bird atlas projects, or migratory game bird surveys when practicable.

e. Collaborating on studies and research to understand the effects of agency actions on migratory birds, and monitoring bird population responses to BMPs once these practices have been developed and implemented.

f. Contributing information on migratory bird resources to partners developing outreach and education materials and activities.

6. Promoting training opportunities in the most appropriate methods and techniques to: 1) increase migratory bird conservation awareness in compliance with applicable legislation, regulations, and policies; 2) evaluate impacts of projects on migratory birds; and 3) develop management practices that avoid and minimize adverse impacts and promote beneficial proactive approaches to migratory bird conservation.

7. As new information on effectiveness of BMPs become available, evaluate the measures described in this MOU intended to protect, restore, and enhance migratory bird populations and their habitats, including avoiding and minimizing adverse impacts to migratory birds. The FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management, FWS Ecological Services Offices and

CBP agree to design and implement feasible and effective BMPs.

8. Participate, as appropriate, in the interagency Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds (through DHS representatives) to share information on the conservation of migratory birds. The Council's duties include:

    a. Sharing the latest resource information to assist in the conservation and management of migratory birds.

    b. Developing an annual report of accomplishments and recommendations related to EO 13186. CBP will provide information to be incorporated in the DHS highlighted page.

    c. Fostering partnerships to further the goals of EO 13186.

    d. When appropriate, CBP can nominate a project that exemplifies the implementation of EO 13186 for consideration of the Presidential Migratory Bird Federal Stewardship Award for contributions to the protection of migratory birds.

F. CBP Obligations:

The appropriateness and practicality of implementing any specific conservation measure that reduces negative effects on migratory birds and destruction of migratory bird habitat will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Best management practices (BMPs) have been developed to benefit a variety of migratory bird species and their associated habitats. CBP will work cooperatively with FWS to provide information on existing BMPs, develop new BMPs as needed, and provide recommendations regarding feasible BMPs for CBP projects and actions that have the potential to negatively affect migratory birds. To the extent allowed by law, subject to the availability of appropriations and within Administration budgetary limits, and consistent with CBP missions and capabilities, CBP shall:

1) Follow CBP guidance as outlined in the internal *CBP Migratory Bird Treaty Act Handbook for CBP Preparers* (Sept. 4, 2013) regarding CBP's responsibility to avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and/or their habitats pursuant to the MBTA and EO 13186.

2) Prior to starting CBP activities that are associated with general BMP measures (described in #9), utilize credible online tools such as IPaC and AKN to identify activities that are likely to result in negative effects on migratory birds. If additional information is needed, CBP shall engage in early planning and scoping with the FWS to identify migratory bird species likely to occur in areas affected by a proposed action.

3) Integrate migratory bird conservation principles, measures, and practices into agency activities. Avoid and minimize, to the extent practicable, adverse impacts on migratory bird

resources when conducting agency actions, in compliance with, and supporting the purposes of the MBTA, the Eagle Act, the ESA, NEPA, and other applicable statutes.

4) During the NEPA process CBP will assess the potential adverse impacts of proposed actions on migratory birds and their habitat, proactively address migratory bird conservation (including conservation measures in budgeting), initiate appropriate actions to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory birds, and assess and document effects on species of concern. CBP will use the best available demographic, population, and/or habitat association data in the assessment of effects on species of concern.

5) To the extent practicable, protect, restore, and enhance habitat of migratory birds on facilities and lands administered (controlled or leased) by CBP and prevent and minimize the loss or degradation of remaining natural habitats. This includes the following:

    a) Prevent, contain, or abate pollution detrimental to migratory birds and their habitats.

    b) Prevent or abate detrimental alteration of migratory bird habitats, to the extent practicable.

    c) Communicate with FWS, as practicable, to resolve any negative effects on migratory birds occurring during immediate actions taken by CBP to respond to exigent/emergency situations involving human life, health, safety of persons, posing threat to national security. Examples of such CBP actions include pursuit of cross-border violators, search and rescue, response to credible threat, or, in some cases, emergency repair of certain strategic communications equipment. Communication may occur through most expedient channels including through coordination with uniformed FWS law enforcement personnel.

6) Implement the following approaches for avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds, focusing first on species of concern, priority habitats, and key risk factors:

    a) Assess and estimate the effects of proposed actions on migratory birds and their habitats through the project planning process (include this analysis in the NEPA document associated with the proposed action whenever possible). Use best available demographic, population, behavioral, and habitat data in the assessment of effects upon migratory birds. If sufficient data are unavailable, attempt to acquire necessary data by working with Federal, State, and other partners. Utilize online tools, such as AKN, for obtaining geospatial and biological data, and IPaC to obtain information regarding practices relating to geospatial data necessary to support the impact analysis.

    b) Evaluate, through the NEPA process, a reasonable range of alternatives in environmental reviews and, as applicable, incorporate practices to avoid and minimize adverse effects to migratory birds or degradation of habitats consistent with CBP's primary mission to protect the Nation's borders and facilitate legitimate trade and travel. Develop practices,

in coordination with FWS, to avoid and minimize impacts to migratory birds and their habitat and determine how to improve evaluation of impacts.

c) Work collaboratively with FWS and other partners, and develop partnerships with non-federal entities, to monitor migratory birds, as resources allow and within the agency's capabilities and authorities, to improve and better understand the need for, and effectiveness of, conservation efforts tied to projects under CBP authority.

7) Encourage incorporation of comprehensive migratory bird management objectives and BMPs in CBP environmental planning and guiding documents, including MBTA Handbook, ESA Handbook, NEPA Handbook, and other environmental documents consistent with NEPA, CEQ regulations, and other Federal environmental mandates.

8) Comply with applicable Federal migratory bird permitting requirements for activities subject to 50 CFR Part 21. While working through the permitting process with FWS, CBP will, to the maximum extent practicable, avoid and minimize the intentional take of migratory bird species, with an emphasis on species of concern, and, if necessary, develop standards and procedures regarding such take.

9) Develop BMPs to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory birds or migratory bird habitat. The agreed-upon practices should be documented through the NEPA process. These BMPs should emphasize taking steps to avoid and minimize any potential impacts of known stressors associated with the proposed action on migratory birds, which will in turn reduce threats and assist with meeting migratory-bird conservation goals. Examples of BMPs include, but are not limited to:

a) General measures:
   i) Avoid construction, demolition, installation, and maintenance activities during migratory bird nesting/breeding season to the extent practicable. Where project work cannot occur outside the migratory bird nesting season, conduct surveys prior to scheduled activity to determine if active nests are present within the area of impact. Generally, the surveys should be conducted no more than five days prior to scheduled activity. If active nests are identified within or in the vicinity of a project site, avoid the site if practicable until nestlings have fledged or the nest fails. Coordinate with FWS if an active nest needs to be removed or relocated.
   ii) Limit roadside food source or habitat plantings (including landscaping projects near roads) to trees that do not bear fruit (e.g., choosing not to plant attractants like serviceberries, wild cherries, and spicebush, etc.).
   iii) Stay within existing roads and trails to the extent feasible. For motorized off-road pursuits, CBP will use the least intrusive or damaging motorized vehicle readily available, without compromising agent or officer safety. In accordance with the principles of the 2006 MOU (Memorandum of Understanding Among U. S. Department of Homeland Security and U. S. Department of the Interior and U. S. Department of Agriculture Regarding Cooperative National Security and

Counterterrorism Efforts on Federal Lands along the United States' Borders), between CBP-BP and the Department of the Interior (DOI) for Cooperative National Security and Counterterrorism Efforts on Federal Lands along the United States' Border, agents and officers will use their professional judgment in each specific situation based on available evidence to conclude if motorized off-road pursuit is reasonably expected to result in the apprehension of suspected cross-border violators.

iv) Avoid vegetation removal, trimming, and maintenance (e.g., general landscaping activities, tree trimming, grubbing, etc.) during the nesting season to the extent practicable consistent with USBP operational needs to maintain clear lines of sight to the border in key areas of illegal cross-border traffic and otherwise where citizen and agent safety and security is at risk. Periodic vegetation maintenance (e.g. grass mowing once a week) does not require nesting bird surveys prior to each maintenance event. When possible, consider clearing woody vegetation during the non-nesting season a year in advance of a proposed action.

v) Prevent release of non-native plants within project areas and use native plants in CBP facility landscaping where appropriate.

vi) Minimize wildfire potential by reducing hazards that can cause or help spread accidental fires.

b) Lighting, noise, and structural additions:

i) Prevent bird injury or death due to collisions with windows by turning off lights at night or putting up curtains.

ii) To improve avian ability to detect and avoid glass, break up window glass with either a pattern of vertical stripes that are at least ¼ inch wide with a maximum spacing of 4 inches, or horizontal stripes that are at least ¼ inch wide with a maximum spacing of 2 inches. Pattern variations may be appropriate for particular species and habitats.. Patterns should be applied on the outside of see-through windows and reflective glass. The pattern should also contrast enough with the glass to be seen clearly by birds.

iii) Minimize and shield lighting (e.g., downshield lights, install motion sensors).

iv) If migratory birds commonly nest on facilities that must be maintained/repaired during the nesting season, when feasible, prevent nesting by installing anti-perching devices on affected sections of the structure.

c) Communication towers, utilities and energy development:

i) Review BMPs outlined in FWS Guidance and consult with FWS when appropriate on the BMPs that are most suitable for CBP implementation and for prevention of negative effects. Available guidance includes, but is not limited to:

(1) The Federal Aviation Administration's Obstruction Marking and Lighting Advisory Circular AC 70/7460-1L.

(2) Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Decommissioning Division of Migratory Bird Management U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Falls Church, Virginia August 2016.);

(3) Avian Power Line Interaction Committee – Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines (2006);
(4) Avian Power Line Interaction Committee – Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines (2012); and
(5) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Land-based Wind Energy Guidelines (2012)

CBP will coordinate with FWS, as needed, in considering potential effects on migratory birds of CBP proposals for locating communication towers, utilities, and energy development projects such as power lines or wind turbines. Construction of new communications, utility and energy systems, and associated infrastructure should be designed to avoid and minimize impacts on migratory bird populations where feasible. Existing utilities may also be considered for retrofitting to eliminate or reduce impacts.

10) Consistent with safety and security protocols, allow FWS and other partners reasonable access to CBP properties when necessary for conducting sampling or survey programs such as Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship stations, Breeding Bird Surveys, International Shorebird Survey, and breeding bird atlases.

11) Support efforts by FWS to promote the ecological, economic, and recreational values of migratory birds by supporting outreach and educational activities and materials, when appropriate.

12) Minimize or prevent the pollution or detrimental alteration of the environment used by migratory birds whenever practicable by assessing information on environmental contaminants and other stressors associated with CBP actions or existing infrastructure relevant to migratory bird conservation.

13) Where BMPs require inventorying and monitoring, develop and implement new and/or existing inventory and monitoring programs, at appropriate scales, using national standardized protocols when available, to evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs designed to avoid and minimize take of migratory birds, with emphasis on those actions that have the potential to significantly impact species of concern.

14) Where appropriate and feasible, work with FWS to identify opportunities and processes for CBP vessels and aircraft to accommodate FWS staff ride-alongs where such accommodation will not interfere with CBP mission capability or create a financial burden on CBP, but will enable the FWS to conduct important research beneficial to migratory sea birds.

15) Advise the public of the availability of this MOU through a notice published in the Federal Register.

G. The Fish and Wildlife Service Shall:

1. Work with CBP by providing recommendations to avoid and minimize adverse effects

upon migratory birds from CBP actions. FWS may also incorporate these recommendations into IPaC for ease of reference.

2. Through the Division of Migratory Bird Management, maintain a web page on permits that provides links to all offices responsible for issuing permits and permit application forms for take of migratory birds.

3. Provide essential background information to CBP when requested, or through online tools such as AKN and IPaC, to ensure sound management decisions. This may include:

    a. Migratory bird distributions, status, key habitats, conservation guidelines, and risk factors within each Bird Conservation Region.

    b. Changes to the MBTA and its regulations and procedures or other Acts and their regulations affecting management of migratory birds.

    c. Population trends of species that CBP's activities may affect.

    d. Protection measures for reducing human-caused bird mortality that may be applicable to CBP activities, as new information becomes available.

    e. Proactively share with CBP new guidance documents, tools, and job aids designed to improve understanding of MBTA requirements and further the ability of CBP to promote the conservation of migratory birds.

4. Update the FWS publication of *Birds of Conservation Concern* at regular intervals for reliable reference.

5. Recommend accepted BMPs that CBP could programmatically adopt in dealing with migratory bird issues and reducing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

6. FWS will work cooperatively with CBP to provide information on existing BMPs, develop new BMPs as needed, and provide recommendations regarding feasible BMPs for CBP projects and actions that have the potential to take migratory birds.

7. Work to identify important migratory bird habitats (i.e., migration corridors and staging, wintering, nesting, brood-rearing, stop-over habitats, ecological conditions important to nesting habitats, foraging habitats on or adjoining OCS) to aid in collaborative planning.

8. Through IPAC or through the Regional Migratory Bird office, provide to CBP, upon request, technical assistance on migratory bird species and their habitats.

9. Through the appropriate Ecological Services Field office, provide to CBP, upon request, technical assistance for avoiding and minimizing project-related effects on migratory

birds and their habitat resulting from CBP actions.

10. Review and comment on NEPA documents and other planning documents forwarded by CBP (through the Department of Homeland Security). When appropriate, due to special expertise, join as a cooperating agency for preparation of NEPA documents, consistent with the 2013 Memorandum of Agreement for Environmental Coordination and Review of Border Security Activities between the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

H. Dispute Resolution

To prevent potential conflicts and resolve actual disagreements between the Parties, the appropriate CBP Office and the corresponding FWS Ecological Services Field Office will first attempt to resolve the dispute. The Parties will use collaborative processes, including informal meetings or negotiations, to avoid or minimize a dispute. If necessary, the Parties will use conflict prevention or traditional Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes to achieve consensus. . If there is no resolution at the field-office level within 30 days the CBP Office should elevate the issue to the CBP Office of Facilities and Asset Management, Facilities Management and Engineering Directorate, Energy and Environmental Management Division, and the FWS Ecological Services Field Office should elevate the issue to the FWS Regional Office. In the event that the Parties cannot resolve the matter at this level within 30 days, CBP may elevate the dispute to the CBP Office of Facilities and Asset Management, Facilities Management and Engineering Directorate and FWS may elevate the dispute to the FWS Headquarters.

Representatives of both agencies agree to enter into a conflict prevention process using collaborative methods or to enter into a traditional ADR process, as appropriate.

I. Agreement

The Parties mutually agree and understand that:

1. This MOU in no way alters either Party's obligations or responsibilities under the authorities listed in Section B of this MOU or any other statute or other legal authority.

2. Documents furnished to a Party under this MOU may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552). A Party shall not release documents originating in the other Party to a FOIA requester. Rather, the Party shall forward such document(s) to the originating Party for review, determination, and response directly to the requester.

3. This MOU is neither a fiscal- nor a funds-obligation document. The Parties will handle any endeavor involving reimbursement, contribution of funds, or other transfer of anything of value between the Parties in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures,

including those for government procurement and printing. This instrument does not provide such authority.

4. Press releases prepared by either Party that reference this MOU, or the relationship established between the Parties of this MOU, must have prior approval of both Parties appropriate departments.

5. The Parties shall schedule periodic meetings every three years to review progress and identify opportunities for advancing the principles of this MOU.

6. This MOU in no way alters or takes the place of the respective Parties' obligations to comply with applicable requirements pursuant to NEPA, MBTA, ESA, CZMA, the Eagle Act, or other applicable statutes and legal authorities.

7. CBP may incorporate the responsibilities established by this MOU into existing CBP actions; however, CBP may not be able to implement some responsibilities identified in the MOU until CBP has successfully included them in formal planning processes. This MOU does not require changes to current contracts, permits, or other third-party agreements, until such time as CBP has successfully included them in a formal planning process. The Parties will implement this MOU when initiating new actions, when creating new agency guidance documents, and when revising the existing CBP MBTA Handbook, ESA Handbook, NEPA Handbook, or other environmental documents. It does not apply to ongoing CBP actions for which a NEPA decision document was finalized prior to, or within 180 days of the date this MOU was signed, unless supplemental NEPA analysis is subsequently required for the underlying action.

8. This MOU is intended only to improve the internal management of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government and does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, separately enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies or instrumentalities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

9. This MOU takes effect upon the signature of CBP and FWS, and shall be reviewed every three years from the date of execution. This MOU may be amended upon written request of either Party and the subsequent written concurrence of the other Party. Either Party may terminate this MOU, in whole or in part, at any time by providing the other Party 30-days written notice to that effect. This MOU in no way restricts either Party from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, governments, organizations, or individuals.

The principal contacts for this MOU are as follows:

Ken Richkus, Chief
Division of Migratory Bird Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
(b) (6)

(b) (6)
Environmental Planning and Compliance

U.S. Department of the Interior
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Environmental and Energy Division
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

The Parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the last date shown below.

_____
James W. Kurth
Deputy Director
Exercising the Authority of the Director
for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Date: _____

_____
(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) Office of Facilities and
Asset Management
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Date: _____

Appendix A

Definitions:

Action – a program, activity, project, official policy, rule, regulation, or formal plan directly carried out by CBP.

Active nest – nest containing viable eggs, unfledged young, or fledged young that are still dependent on the nest, except bald and golden eagles. An active bald or golden eagle nest is defined by regulation as an "in-use nest," which means "a bald or golden eagle nest characterized by the presence of one or more eggs, dependent young, or adult eagles on the nest in the past 10 days during breeding season." 50 C.F.R. § 22.3 (also note additional definitions for "alternate nest" and "eagle nest").

Avian Knowledge Network (AKN) – An online database of bird distribution and abundance dedicated to the development of tools and resources that guide and inform conservation management (www.avianknowledge.net).

Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) – a standardized international survey that provides information on population trends of breeding birds, through volunteer observations located along randomly selected roadside routes in the United States, Canada and Mexico (http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/html).

Birds of Conservation Concern – A list published and periodically updated by the FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management. The overall goal of this list is to identify the migratory and non-migratory bird species that, in addition to species already listed under ESA, represent the FWS's highest conservation priorities. The most current version of the list, Birds of Conservation Concern 2008, is available at http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds.

CBP Office – All CBP organizational elements, including: Headquarters, Program Management Offices, Facility Divisions or Centers, Field Offices, and any other entity that reports to the Commissioner of CBP.

Conservation Measure – an action undertaken to avoid or minimize action-related environmental effects (in this case specific to migratory birds) and ultimately improve the conservation status of one or more species of migratory birds. Examples include BMPs, surveys and inventories, monitoring, status assessments, land acquisition or protection, habitat restoration, population manipulation, research, and outreach.

Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds – an interagency council established by the Secretary of Interior to oversee the implementation of Executive Order 13186.

Ecological Condition – the composition, structure, and processes of ecosystems over time and space. This includes the diversity of plant and animal communities, the productive capacity of

ecological systems and species diversity, ecosystem diversity, disturbance processes, soil productivity, water quality and quantity, and air quality. Often referred to in terms of ecosystem health, which is the degree to which ecological factors and their interactions are reasonably complete and functioning for continued resilience, productivity, and renewal of the ecosystem.

Effect (adverse or beneficial) – "effects" and "impacts," as used in this MOU are synonymous. Effects may be direct, indirect, or cumulative, and refer to effects from management actions or categories of management actions on migratory bird populations, habitats, ecological conditions, or significant bird conservation sites.

Facility (CBP) - Ports of Entry, U.S. Border Patrol Stations, Forward Operating Bases, Air and Marine Operations Facilities, Customs Quarters (housing), camps, checkpoints, or other CBP-operated installations, which consists of the land, buildings, on-site roadways, and parking lots that CBP owns, leases, or uses as free space.

Important Bird Areas (IBA) – a network of sites that provide essential habitat for the long-term conservation of birds. In the United States, the IBA network is administered by the American Bird Conservancy and the National Audubon Society. (http://www.audubon.org/bird/iba/).

Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support system - a conservation planning tool for streamlining the environmental review process (http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac).

International Shorebird Survey – a monitoring program started in 1974 to survey shorebirds (sandpipers, plovers, etc.) across the Western Hemisphere. (http://www.manomet.org/programs.shorebirds).

Management Action – an activity by a government agency that could cause a positive or negative effect on migratory bird populations or habitats.

Migratory Bird – an individual of any species protected by the MBTA. A list of migratory birds can be found in 50 CFR § 10.13 and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/intrnltr/mbta/mbtandx.html.

Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) – a program that uses the banding of birds during the breeding season to track the changes and patterns in the number of young produced and the survivorship of adults and young. (http://www.birdpop.org/maps.htm).

Mitigation – For NEPA purposes, mitigation includes (a) avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action, (b) minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, (c) rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment, (d) reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action, and (e) compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments

(from 40 C.F.R. § 1508.20, CEQ Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act).

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – the law that requires Federal agencies to prepare a detailed analysis of the environmental impacts of their proposed action with alternatives and to include public involvement in the decision making process for major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. 42 U.S.C. § 4321–4347.

Species of Concern – refers to several categories of birds including: 1) species listed in the periodic report, *Birds of Conservation Concern*, published by the FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management (http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds); 2) priority migratory bird species documented in the comprehensive bird conservation plans (North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, United States Shorebird Conservation Plan, Partners in Flight Bird Conservation Plans); 3) species or populations of waterfowl identified as high, or moderately high, continental priority in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan; 4) listed threatened and endangered bird species in 50 C.F.R. § 17.11; and 5) MBTA-listed gamebirds of management concern (http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds).

Take – to pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect or attempt to pursue, hunt, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect (50 C.F.R. § 10.12). The Eagle Act defines take to mean pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, destroy, molest, or disturb bald and golden eagles (16 U.S.C. § 668c). "Disturb" is further defined by regulation to mean "agitate or bother an eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, (1) injury to an eagle, (2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or (3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior." 50 C.F.R. § 22.3.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
AND THE
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Regarding Implementation of Executive Order 13186: "Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds"

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), herein collectively referred to as the Parties.

A. Purpose and Scope

The Parties enter into this MOU pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 13186 (66 FR 3853, Jan. 17, 2001) concerning the responsibilities of Federal agencies to protect migratory birds. The EO directs executive departments and agencies to take certain actions to further implement the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)[1]. This MOU focuses on avoiding and minimizing adverse impacts on migratory birds and strengthening migratory bird conservation through enhanced collaboration between the Parties. This MOU does not waive any applicable legal requirements and does not authorize the take of migratory birds.

B. Authority

The Parties enter into this MOU under the provisions of the following laws and other authorities available to the Parties:

- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act) of 1940, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668–668d);
- Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1451–1466);
- Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531–1544);
- Executive Order 13186, Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds, 2001 (66 Fed. Reg. 3853, Jan. 17, 2001);
- Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act), as amended (33 U.S.C.

[1] This MOU focuses on improving bird conservation actions under the provisions of the MBTA. However, some birds are protected by other environmental laws and associated regulations such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). As such, the coordination, permitting procedures; and requirements under these statutes are different. Therefore, if migratory bird species also covered by the ESA or the Eagle Act are present, CBP should coordinate with FWS to ensure compliance with the specific considerations of these statutes.

1251–1388);
- Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742a–j-2 *et seq*.);
- Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2901–2911);
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1980, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661–667d);
- Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742l);
- Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929, as amended (16 U.S.C. 715–715r);
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended (16 U.S.C. 703–712); and
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321–4347).

C. Missions of Both Parties

CBP

CBP is the largest federal law enforcement agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) charged with the dual mission of securing the Nation's borders while facilitating legitimate trade and travel. As the guardian of U.S. borders, CBP protects approximately 4,000 miles of the international border between the contiguous United States and Canada, as well as 1,000 miles between Alaska and Canada, 1,900 miles of international border with Mexico, and 95,000 miles of shoreline in the contiguous United States.

CBP serves as the front line in defending the United States against terrorists and instruments of terror and protects the economic security of the United States by regulating and facilitating the lawful movement of goods and people across the U.S. border. CBP protects the U.S. economy by enforcing trade laws, intellectual property rights, and collection of revenue on goods imported into the United States; protects the food supply and agricultural industry from pests and disease; and increases the security of our airspace. CBP accomplishes its goals by:

- Effective targeting - each year, more than 11 million maritime containers arrive at U.S. seaports. At land borders, another 11 million containers arrive by truck and 2.7 million by rail. CBP is responsible for knowing the contents of these containers and any safety issues they might pose to the American people. In addition, CBP assesses all people and cargo entering the United States from abroad for terrorist risk.

- Enforcing trade laws – CBP works with internal and external stakeholders to facilitate legitimate trade and address areas of non-compliance while effectively communicating the terms of trade agreements and preferential trade legislation. CBP enforces import and export laws at port-of-entry locations under provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Endangered Species Act. CBP inspects for potential signs of violation of environmental laws such as transnational smuggling of migratory bird parts, invasive species, or other wildlife items. CBP also confirms that all cargo is legally possessed and collects proper revenues for imports.

- Fostering legitimate and safe travel - a key goal of CBP, which increases passenger security through effective risk assessment.

- Inspection technology and equipment - given the magnitude of CBP's responsibility, the development and deployment of sophisticated detection technology is essential. Deployment of nonintrusive inspection technologies is increasing. These technologies are viewed as "force multipliers" that enable CBP officers to screen or examine a larger portion of the stream of commercial traffic. CBP does not rely on any single technology or inspection process. Instead, officers and agents use various technologies in different combinations to substantially increase the likelihood that terrorist weapons, including a nuclear or radiological weapon, will be detected and interdicted.

- Outbound inspections: Keeping weapons and money out of terrorist hands - CBP has the authority to search outbound as well as inbound shipments and uses targeting to carry out its mission in this area. Targeting of outbound shipments and people is a multi-dimensional effort that is enhanced by interagency cooperation.

- Protecting border areas between official ports of entry - Border Patrol agents and Air and Marine Operations personnel are securing areas between the ports of entry by implementing a comprehensive border enforcement strategy, expanding, integrating, and coordinating the use of technology and communications.

In carrying out its statutory mandate to control and guard the border of the United States, CBP performs a number of operational, administrative, and management-related activities and projects that potentially impact migratory birds and their habitat. These activities include, but are not limited to, construction, demolition, operation, maintenance, and repair of:

- Facilities - defined as ports of entry, U.S. Border Patrol Stations, forward operating bases, Air and Marine Operations Facilities, Customs Quarters (housing), camps, checkpoints, or other CBP operated installations, which consists of the land, buildings, on-site roadways, and parking lots that CBP owns, leases, or uses as free space.

- Tactical infrastructure - defined by CBP as any physical component designed to consistently slow, delay, and act as an obstacle to illegal cross-border activity. These components include: fences and gates; roads; bridges, crossovers, and low-water crossings; drainage management structures; boat ramps; lighting and ancillary power systems; remote surveillance systems; mobile detection and inspection technologies and equipment; underground sensors; traffic checkpoints; license-plate readers; and barriers to prohibit illegal vehicle entry.

- Towers and aerostats with infrastructure - to support communications and surveillance activities. This includes fixed-site, tether-controlled approximately 200 foot-long aerostats operating up to 10,000 feet Mean Sea Level (MSL) and smaller relocatable aerostats tethered up to 5000 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) from under 200-foot tower

systems.

- Landscape and vegetation maintenance - to support surveillance activities and Border Patrol safety by improving line of sight and reducing physical obstacles when monitoring cross-border activity.

CBP is committed to executing its mission in an environmentally responsible manner and in compliance with environmental laws, regulations, and EOs, including EO 13186. As part of CBP's commitment to migratory bird conservation, CBP prepared a Migratory Bird Treaty Act Handbook to meet its responsibility to avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and/or their habitats.

FWS

The mission of the FWS is to work with others to conserve, protect, manage, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The FWS Migratory Bird Program serves as the focal point in the United States for policy development and strategic planning, program implementation, and evaluation of actions designed to conserve migratory birds and their habitats.

The FWS is legally mandated to implement the conservation provisions of the MBTA, which includes responsibilities for managing migratory bird populations, domestic and international coordination, and the development and enforcement of regulations. The Migratory Bird Conservation Act and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act mandate migratory bird habitat conservation including habitat protection through acquisition, enhancement, and/or management, and avoidance and minimization of impacts.

FWS programs that involve bird conservation activities include:

1. The Division of Migratory Bird Management and the Migratory Bird Programs in the FWS Regional Offices serve as focal points for policy development and strategic planning. These offices develop and implement monitoring and management initiatives and issue permits for intentional take. Migratory Bird Programs help maintain healthy populations of migratory birds and their habitats to provide continued opportunities for citizens to enjoy bird-related recreation.

2. The Division of Bird Habitat Conservation is instrumental in supporting habitat conservation partnerships through the administration of bird conservation grant programs and development of Joint Ventures that serve as major vehicles for implementing the various bird conservation plans across the country.

3. Ecological Services Field Offices across the country serve as the primary contacts for technical assistance and environmental reviews of projects involving migratory bird issues. The Field Offices coordinate with the Regional FWS Migratory Bird Offices, as necessary,

during these reviews, regarding permits and overall migratory bird conservation strategies.

4. The Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) is the principal FWS program that enforces the legal provisions of the MBTA, Eagle Act, ESA, and other laws pertaining to migratory bird conservation.

5. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) provides the basis for international cooperation and collaboration to ensure trade does not contribute to decline in wild populations of animals and plants, including protected bird species. All documents must be validated or certified by an officially recognized, originating country CITES-inspection authority at the time of export. FWS receives inspection documentation on all regulated CITES commodities including migratory birds and migratory bird parts after CBP completes its inspections.

6. The National Wildlife Refuge System manages National Wildlife Refuges, Waterfowl Protection Areas, and Wetland Management Districts across the country. Many units of this system were established to protect and conserve migratory birds. Refuges not only protect important habitat, but also focus on monitoring migratory bird populations and native habitat restoration for the benefit of migratory birds. The Division of Refuge Law Enforcement enforces the legal provisions of wildlife laws on National Wildlife Refuges, Waterfowl Production Areas, and National Fisheries. The Division of Refuge Law Enforcement also assists OLE when needed.

7. The Science Applications program works with other Service programs and partners to ensure that the necessary science, tools, and capacity are available for planning and implementing the most efficient and effective best management practices (BMPs) to protect fish and wildlife including migratory birds. They facilitate regional self-directed science management partnerships called Landscape Conservation Cooperatives to develop and apply shared science capacity to conservation.

D. Statement of Mutual Interest and Benefit

Both Parties agree that migratory birds are important components of biological diversity. Their conservation will help to sustain ecological integrity and serve the public demand for outdoor recreation, conservation education, wildlife viewing, and hunting opportunities. Further, the Parties agree that it is important to identify measures that will: 1) promote migratory bird conservation; 2) avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and their habitats; and 3) recognize that actions that may provide long-term benefits to migratory bird populations as a whole may result in short-term negative effects on individual birds. It is in the interest of both Parties that potential impacts, direct and indirect, are thoroughly assessed and unavoidable impacts are appropriately mitigated.

Nothing in this MOU is intended to prevent Border Patrol agents from exercising existing exigent/emergency authorities to access lands, including authority to conduct motorized off-road pursuit of cross border violators at any time.

E. Obligations of Both Parties

To the extent allowed by law, subject to the availability of appropriations and within administration budgetary limits, and in accord with the CBP and FWS missions and capabilities, each Party shall:

1. Support the conservation intent of EO 13186 and the migratory bird conventions, to the extent practicable, by: 1) integrating bird conservation principles, measures, and practices into agency actions, and 2) avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

2. Develop BMPs and implement accepted BMPs that are consistent with EO 13186 resulting in the avoidance, minimization, and reduction of negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

3. Promote economic and recreational value of birds to the general public as appropriate by developing and integrating information on migratory birds and their habitats into environmental studies, outreach, and education materials.

4. To the extent practicable, protect, restore, and enhance habitat of migratory birds on facilities and lands administered (controlled or leased) by CBP and prevent and minimize the loss or degradation of remaining natural habitats. This includes:

    a. Collaboration on development and implementation of management practices to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory bird populations and/or their migration, breeding, nesting, foraging, staging, or wintering habitats.

    b. Working collaboratively with other Federal and State agencies, Tribes, non-governmental organizations, private landowners, and other partners, where appropriate, in joint efforts to identify, protect, restore, enhance, monitor, and manage important migratory bird areas (e.g., Important Bird Areas, other significant bird sites that occur on CBP properties) potentially affected by agency actions, focusing efforts in areas of current or future project activities.

5. Promote research and information exchange related to migratory bird conservation including inventorying and monitoring, developing studies related to agency decisions and management practices that may impact migratory birds, and information on environmental contaminants and other physical and biological stressors that are relevant to the conservation of migratory birds. Share information through online tools such as the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN) and Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support

system. The Parties agree to:

a. As practicable and compatible with other study needs and program mandates, collaborate in developing studies: 1) on migratory bird species that may be potentially affected by agency actions, with an emphasis on Birds of Conservation Concern; 2) on the effects of management activities; 3) on avoiding and minimizing degradation of migratory bird habitat; and 4) on creating a framework for implementing appropriate mitigation measures for CBP actions that will negatively effect migratory birds.

b. Identifying BMPs for: 1) avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat; 2) conserving and restoring migratory bird habitats; 3) promoting bird conservation; and 4) inventorying and monitoring migratory birds. Feasible BMPs will be incorporated into online tools, job aids, guidance, and agency policy documents where appropriate.

c. Developing partnerships to further migratory bird conservation, as practicable. This includes cooperation, coordination, and data sharing with other Federal or State agencies, universities, potential developers or their contractors, and nongovernmental organizations involved in monitoring and research studies to provide reliable and comparable information on the distribution and abundance or status and trends of migratory bird populations. Utilize and contribute information to online data sharing sites, such as AKN or IPaC.

d. Promoting the implementation of existing regional or national inventory and monitoring programs and systems such as Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), eBIRD, Christmas Bird Counts, bird atlas projects, or migratory game bird surveys when practicable.

e. Collaborating on studies and research to understand the effects of agency actions on migratory birds, and monitoring bird population responses to BMPs once these practices have been developed and implemented.

f. Contributing information on migratory bird resources to partners developing outreach and education materials and activities.

6. Promoting training opportunities in the most appropriate methods and techniques to: 1) increase migratory bird conservation awareness in compliance with applicable legislation, regulations, and policies; 2) evaluate impacts of projects on migratory birds; and 3) develop management practices that avoid and minimize adverse impacts and promote beneficial proactive approaches to migratory bird conservation.

7. As new information on effectiveness of BMPs become available, evaluate the measures described in this MOU intended to protect, restore, and enhance migratory bird populations and their habitats, including avoiding and minimizing adverse impacts to migratory birds. The FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management, FWS Ecological Services Offices and

CBP agree to design and implement feasible and effective BMPs.

8. Participate, as appropriate, in the interagency Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds (through DHS representatives) to share information on the conservation of migratory birds. The Council's duties include:

    a. Sharing the latest resource information to assist in the conservation and management of migratory birds.

    b. Developing an annual report of accomplishments and recommendations related to EO 13186. CBP will provide information to be incorporated in the DHS highlighted page.

    c. Fostering partnerships to further the goals of EO 13186.

    d. When appropriate, CBP can nominate a project that exemplifies the implementation of EO 13186 for consideration of the Presidential Migratory Bird Federal Stewardship Award for contributions to the protection of migratory birds.

F. CBP Obligations:

The appropriateness and practicality of implementing any specific conservation measure that reduces negative effects on migratory birds and destruction of migratory bird habitat will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Best management practices (BMPs) have been developed to benefit a variety of migratory bird species and their associated habitats. CBP will work cooperatively with FWS to provide information on existing BMPs, develop new BMPs as needed, and provide recommendations regarding feasible BMPs for CBP projects and actions that have the potential to negatively affect migratory birds. To the extent allowed by law, subject to the availability of appropriations and within Administration budgetary limits, and consistent with CBP missions and capabilities, CBP shall:

1) Follow CBP guidance as outlined in the internal *CBP Migratory Bird Treaty Act Handbook for CBP Preparers* (Sept. 4, 2013) regarding CBP's responsibility to avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and/or their habitats pursuant to the MBTA and EO 13186.

2) Prior to starting CBP activities that are associated with general BMP measures (described in #9), utilize credible online tools such as IPaC and AKN to identify activities that are likely to result in negative effects on migratory birds. If additional information is needed, CBP shall engage in early planning and scoping with the FWS to identify migratory bird species likely to occur in areas affected by a proposed action.

3) Integrate migratory bird conservation principles, measures, and practices into agency activities. Avoid and minimize, to the extent practicable, adverse impacts on migratory bird

resources when conducting agency actions, in compliance with, and supporting the purposes of the MBTA, the Eagle Act, the ESA, NEPA, and other applicable statutes.

4) During the NEPA process CBP will assess the potential adverse impacts of proposed actions on migratory birds and their habitat, proactively address migratory bird conservation (including conservation measures in budgeting), initiate appropriate actions to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory birds, and assess and document effects on species of concern. CBP will use the best available demographic, population, and/or habitat association data in the assessment of effects on species of concern.

5) To the extent practicable, protect, restore, and enhance habitat of migratory birds on facilities and lands administered (controlled or leased) by CBP and prevent and minimize the loss or degradation of remaining natural habitats. This includes the following:

    a) Prevent, contain, or abate pollution detrimental to migratory birds and their habitats.

    b) Prevent or abate detrimental alteration of migratory bird habitats, to the extent practicable.

    c) Communicate with FWS, as practicable, to resolve any negative effects on migratory birds occurring during immediate actions taken by CBP to respond to exigent/emergency situations involving human life, health, safety of persons, posing threat to national security. Examples of such CBP actions include pursuit of cross-border violators, search and rescue, response to credible threat, or, in some cases, emergency repair of certain strategic communications equipment. Communication may occur through most expedient channels including through coordination with uniformed FWS law enforcement personnel.

6) Implement the following approaches for avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds, focusing first on species of concern, priority habitats, and key risk factors:

    a) Assess and estimate the effects of proposed actions on migratory birds and their habitats through the project planning process (include this analysis in the NEPA document associated with the proposed action whenever possible). Use best available demographic, population, behavioral, and habitat data in the assessment of effects upon migratory birds. If sufficient data are unavailable, attempt to acquire necessary data by working with Federal, State, and other partners. Utilize online tools, such as AKN, for obtaining geospatial and biological data, and IPaC to obtain information regarding practices relating to geospatial data necessary to support the impact analysis.

    b) Evaluate, through the NEPA process, a reasonable range of alternatives in environmental reviews and, as applicable, incorporate practices to avoid and minimize adverse effects to migratory birds or degradation of habitats consistent with CBP's primary mission to protect the Nation's borders and facilitate legitimate trade and travel. Develop practices,

in coordination with FWS, to avoid and minimize impacts to migratory birds and their habitat and determine how to improve evaluation of impacts.

c) Work collaboratively with FWS and other partners, and develop partnerships with non-federal entities, to monitor migratory birds, as resources allow and within the agency's capabilities and authorities, to improve and better understand the need for, and effectiveness of, conservation efforts tied to projects under CBP authority.

7) Encourage incorporation of comprehensive migratory bird management objectives and BMPs in CBP environmental planning and guiding documents, including MBTA Handbook, ESA Handbook, NEPA Handbook, and other environmental documents consistent with NEPA, CEQ regulations, and other Federal environmental mandates.

8) Comply with applicable Federal migratory bird permitting requirements for activities subject to 50 CFR Part 21. While working through the permitting process with FWS, CBP will, to the maximum extent practicable, avoid and minimize the intentional take of migratory bird species, with an emphasis on species of concern, and, if necessary, develop standards and procedures regarding such take.

9) Develop BMPs to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory birds or migratory bird habitat. The agreed-upon practices should be documented through the NEPA process. These BMPs should emphasize taking steps to avoid and minimize any potential impacts of known stressors associated with the proposed action on migratory birds, which will in turn reduce threats and assist with meeting migratory-bird conservation goals. Examples of BMPs include, but are not limited to:

a) General measures:
   i) Avoid construction, demolition, installation, and maintenance activities during migratory bird nesting/breeding season to the extent practicable. Where project work cannot occur outside the migratory bird nesting season, conduct surveys prior to scheduled activity to determine if active nests are present within the area of impact. Generally, the surveys should be conducted no more than five days prior to scheduled activity. If active nests are identified within or in the vicinity of a project site, avoid the site if practicable until nestlings have fledged or the nest fails. Coordinate with FWS if an active nest needs to be removed or relocated.
   ii) Limit roadside food source or habitat plantings (including landscaping projects near roads) to trees that do not bear fruit (e.g., choosing not to plant attractants like serviceberries, wild cherries, and spicebush, etc.).
   iii) Stay within existing roads and trails to the extent feasible. For motorized off-road pursuits, CBP will use the least intrusive or damaging motorized vehicle readily available, without compromising agent or officer safety. In accordance with the principles of the 2006 MOU (Memorandum of Understanding Among U. S. Department of Homeland Security and U. S. Department of the Interior and U. S. Department of Agriculture Regarding Cooperative National Security and

Counterterrorism Efforts on Federal Lands along the United States' Borders), between CBP-BP and the Department of the Interior (DOI) for Cooperative National Security and Counterterrorism Efforts on Federal Lands along the United States' Border, agents and officers will use their professional judgment in each specific situation based on available evidence to conclude if motorized off-road pursuit is reasonably expected to result in the apprehension of suspected cross-border violators.

iv) Avoid vegetation removal, trimming, and maintenance (e.g., general landscaping activities, tree trimming, grubbing, etc.) during the nesting season to the extent practicable consistent with USBP operational needs to maintain clear lines of sight to the border in key areas of illegal cross-border traffic and otherwise where citizen and agent safety and security is at risk. Periodic vegetation maintenance (e.g. grass mowing once a week) does not require nesting bird surveys prior to each maintenance event. When possible, consider clearing woody vegetation during the non-nesting season a year in advance of a proposed action.

v) Prevent release of non-native plants within project areas and use native plants in CBP facility landscaping where appropriate.

vi) Minimize wildfire potential by reducing hazards that can cause or help spread accidental fires.

b) Lighting, noise, and structural additions:

i) Prevent bird injury or death due to collisions with windows by turning off lights at night or putting up curtains.

ii) To improve avian ability to detect and avoid glass, break up window glass with either a pattern of vertical stripes that are at least ¼ inch wide with a maximum spacing of 4 inches, or horizontal stripes that are at least ¼ inch wide with a maximum spacing of 2 inches. Pattern variations may be appropriate for particular species and habitats.. Patterns should be applied on the outside of see-through windows and reflective glass. The pattern should also contrast enough with the glass to be seen clearly by birds.

iii) Minimize and shield lighting (e.g., downshield lights, install motion sensors).

iv) If migratory birds commonly nest on facilities that must be maintained/repaired during the nesting season, when feasible, prevent nesting by installing anti-perching devices on affected sections of the structure.

c) Communication towers, utilities and energy development:

i) Review BMPs outlined in FWS Guidance and consult with FWS when appropriate on the BMPs that are most suitable for CBP implementation and for prevention of negative effects. Available guidance includes, but is not limited to:

(1) The Federal Aviation Administration's Obstruction Marking and Lighting Advisory Circular AC 70/7460-1L.

(2) Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Decommissioning Division of Migratory Bird Management U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Falls Church, Virginia August 2016.);

(3) Avian Power Line Interaction Committee – Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines (2006);
(4) Avian Power Line Interaction Committee – Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines (2012); and
(5) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Land-based Wind Energy Guidelines (2012)

CBP will coordinate with FWS, as needed, in considering potential effects on migratory birds of CBP proposals for locating communication towers, utilities, and energy development projects such as power lines or wind turbines. Construction of new communications, utility and energy systems, and associated infrastructure should be designed to avoid and minimize impacts on migratory bird populations where feasible. Existing utilities may also be considered for retrofitting to eliminate or reduce impacts.

10) Consistent with safety and security protocols, allow FWS and other partners reasonable access to CBP properties when necessary for conducting sampling or survey programs such as Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship stations, Breeding Bird Surveys, International Shorebird Survey, and breeding bird atlases.

11) Support efforts by FWS to promote the ecological, economic, and recreational values of migratory birds by supporting outreach and educational activities and materials, when appropriate.

12) Minimize or prevent the pollution or detrimental alteration of the environment used by migratory birds whenever practicable by assessing information on environmental contaminants and other stressors associated with CBP actions or existing infrastructure relevant to migratory bird conservation.

13) Where BMPs require inventorying and monitoring, develop and implement new and/or existing inventory and monitoring programs, at appropriate scales, using national standardized protocols when available, to evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs designed to avoid and minimize take of migratory birds, with emphasis on those actions that have the potential to significantly impact species of concern.

14) Where appropriate and feasible, work with FWS to identify opportunities and processes for CBP vessels and aircraft to accommodate FWS staff ride-alongs where such accommodation will not interfere with CBP mission capability or create a financial burden on CBP, but will enable the FWS to conduct important research beneficial to migratory sea birds.

15) Advise the public of the availability of this MOU through a notice published in the Federal Register.

G. The Fish and Wildlife Service Shall:

1. Work with CBP by providing recommendations to avoid and minimize adverse effects

upon migratory birds from CBP actions. FWS may also incorporate these recommendations into IPaC for ease of reference.

2. Through the Division of Migratory Bird Management, maintain a web page on permits that provides links to all offices responsible for issuing permits and permit application forms for take of migratory birds.

3. Provide essential background information to CBP when requested, or through online tools such as AKN and IPaC, to ensure sound management decisions. This may include:

    a. Migratory bird distributions, status, key habitats, conservation guidelines, and risk factors within each Bird Conservation Region.

    b. Changes to the MBTA and its regulations and procedures or other Acts and their regulations affecting management of migratory birds.

    c. Population trends of species that CBP's activities may affect.

    d. Protection measures for reducing human-caused bird mortality that may be applicable to CBP activities, as new information becomes available.

    e. Proactively share with CBP new guidance documents, tools, and job aids designed to improve understanding of MBTA requirements and further the ability of CBP to promote the conservation of migratory birds.

4. Update the FWS publication of *Birds of Conservation Concern* at regular intervals for reliable reference.

5. Recommend accepted BMPs that CBP could programmatically adopt in dealing with migratory bird issues and reducing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

6. FWS will work cooperatively with CBP to provide information on existing BMPs, develop new BMPs as needed, and provide recommendations regarding feasible BMPs for CBP projects and actions that have the potential to take migratory birds.

7. Work to identify important migratory bird habitats (i.e., migration corridors and staging, wintering, nesting, brood-rearing, stop-over habitats, ecological conditions important to nesting habitats, foraging habitats on or adjoining OCS) to aid in collaborative planning.

8. Through IPAC or through the Regional Migratory Bird office, provide to CBP, upon request, technical assistance on migratory bird species and their habitats.

9. Through the appropriate Ecological Services Field office, provide to CBP, upon request, technical assistance for avoiding and minimizing project-related effects on migratory

birds and their habitat resulting from CBP actions.

10. Review and comment on NEPA documents and other planning documents forwarded by CBP (through the Department of Homeland Security). When appropriate, due to special expertise, join as a cooperating agency for preparation of NEPA documents, consistent with the 2013 Memorandum of Agreement for Environmental Coordination and Review of Border Security Activities between the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

H. Dispute Resolution

To prevent potential conflicts and resolve actual disagreements between the Parties, the appropriate CBP Office and the corresponding FWS Ecological Services Field Office will first attempt to resolve the dispute. The Parties will use collaborative processes, including informal meetings or negotiations, to avoid or minimize a dispute. If necessary, the Parties will use conflict prevention or traditional Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes to achieve consensus. . If there is no resolution at the field-office level within 30 days the CBP Office should elevate the issue to the CBP Office of Facilities and Asset Management, Facilities Management and Engineering Directorate, Energy and Environmental Management Division, and the FWS Ecological Services Field Office should elevate the issue to the FWS Regional Office. In the event that the Parties cannot resolve the matter at this level within 30 days, CBP may elevate the dispute to the CBP Office of Facilities and Asset Management, Facilities Management and Engineering Directorate and FWS may elevate the dispute to the FWS Headquarters.

Representatives of both agencies agree to enter into a conflict prevention process using collaborative methods or to enter into a traditional ADR process, as appropriate.

I. Agreement

The Parties mutually agree and understand that:

1. This MOU in no way alters either Party's obligations or responsibilities under the authorities listed in Section B of this MOU or any other statute or other legal authority.

2. Documents furnished to a Party under this MOU may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552). A Party shall not release documents originating in the other Party to a FOIA requester. Rather, the Party shall forward such document(s) to the originating Party for review, determination, and response directly to the requester.

3. This MOU is neither a fiscal- nor a funds-obligation document. The Parties will handle any endeavor involving reimbursement, contribution of funds, or other transfer of anything of value between the Parties in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures,

including those for government procurement and printing. This instrument does not provide such authority.

4. Press releases prepared by either Party that reference this MOU, or the relationship established between the Parties of this MOU, must have prior approval of both Parties appropriate departments.

5. The Parties shall schedule periodic meetings every three years to review progress and identify opportunities for advancing the principles of this MOU.

6. This MOU in no way alters or takes the place of the respective Parties' obligations to comply with applicable requirements pursuant to NEPA, MBTA, ESA, CZMA, the Eagle Act, or other applicable statutes and legal authorities.

7. CBP may incorporate the responsibilities established by this MOU into existing CBP actions; however, CBP may not be able to implement some responsibilities identified in the MOU until CBP has successfully included them in formal planning processes. This MOU does not require changes to current contracts, permits, or other third-party agreements, until such time as CBP has successfully included them in a formal planning process. The Parties will implement this MOU when initiating new actions, when creating new agency guidance documents, and when revising the existing CBP MBTA Handbook, ESA Handbook, NEPA Handbook, or other environmental documents. It does not apply to ongoing CBP actions for which a NEPA decision document was finalized prior to, or within 180 days of the date this MOU was signed, unless supplemental NEPA analysis is subsequently required for the underlying action.

8. This MOU is intended only to improve the internal management of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government and does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, separately enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies or instrumentalities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

9. This MOU takes effect upon the signature of CBP and FWS, and shall be reviewed every three years from the date of execution. This MOU may be amended upon written request of either Party and the subsequent written concurrence of the other Party. Either Party may terminate this MOU, in whole or in part, at any time by providing the other Party 30-days written notice to that effect. This MOU in no way restricts either Party from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, governments, organizations, or individuals.

The principal contacts for this MOU are as follows:

Ken Richkus, Chief
Division of Migratory Bird Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
(b) (6)

(b) (6)
Environmental Planning and Compliance

U.S. Department of the Interior
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Environmental and Energy Division
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

The Parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the last date shown below.

_____
James W. Kurth
Deputy Director
Exercising the Authority of the Director
for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Date: _____

_____
(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6), Office of Facilities and
Asset Management
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Date: _____

Appendix A

Definitions:

Action – a program, activity, project, official policy, rule, regulation, or formal plan directly carried out by CBP.

Active nest – nest containing viable eggs, unfledged young, or fledged young that are still dependent on the nest, except bald and golden eagles. An active bald or golden eagle nest is defined by regulation as an "in-use nest," which means "a bald or golden eagle nest characterized by the presence of one or more eggs, dependent young, or adult eagles on the nest in the past 10 days during breeding season." 50 C.F.R. § 22.3 (also note additional definitions for "alternate nest" and "eagle nest").

Avian Knowledge Network (AKN) – An online database of bird distribution and abundance dedicated to the development of tools and resources that guide and inform conservation management (www.avianknowledge.net).

Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) – a standardized international survey that provides information on population trends of breeding birds, through volunteer observations located along randomly selected roadside routes in the United States, Canada and Mexico (http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/html).

Birds of Conservation Concern – A list published and periodically updated by the FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management. The overall goal of this list is to identify the migratory and non-migratory bird species that, in addition to species already listed under ESA, represent the FWS's highest conservation priorities. The most current version of the list, Birds of Conservation Concern 2008, is available at http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds.

CBP Office – All CBP organizational elements, including: Headquarters, Program Management Offices, Facility Divisions or Centers, Field Offices, and any other entity that reports to the Commissioner of CBP.

Conservation Measure – an action undertaken to avoid or minimize action-related environmental effects (in this case specific to migratory birds) and ultimately improve the conservation status of one or more species of migratory birds. Examples include BMPs, surveys and inventories, monitoring, status assessments, land acquisition or protection, habitat restoration, population manipulation, research, and outreach.

Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds – an interagency council established by the Secretary of Interior to oversee the implementation of Executive Order 13186.

Ecological Condition – the composition, structure, and processes of ecosystems over time and space. This includes the diversity of plant and animal communities, the productive capacity of

ecological systems and species diversity, ecosystem diversity, disturbance processes, soil productivity, water quality and quantity, and air quality. Often referred to in terms of ecosystem health, which is the degree to which ecological factors and their interactions are reasonably complete and functioning for continued resilience, productivity, and renewal of the ecosystem.

Effect (adverse or beneficial) – "effects" and "impacts," as used in this MOU are synonymous. Effects may be direct, indirect, or cumulative, and refer to effects from management actions or categories of management actions on migratory bird populations, habitats, ecological conditions, or significant bird conservation sites.

Facility (CBP) - Ports of Entry, U.S. Border Patrol Stations, Forward Operating Bases, Air and Marine Operations Facilities, Customs Quarters (housing), camps, checkpoints, or other CBP-operated installations, which consists of the land, buildings, on-site roadways, and parking lots that CBP owns, leases, or uses as free space.

Important Bird Areas (IBA) – a network of sites that provide essential habitat for the long-term conservation of birds. In the United States, the IBA network is administered by the American Bird Conservancy and the National Audubon Society. (http://www.audubon.org/bird/iba/).

Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support system - a conservation planning tool for streamlining the environmental review process (http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac).

International Shorebird Survey – a monitoring program started in 1974 to survey shorebirds (sandpipers, plovers, etc.) across the Western Hemisphere. (http://www.manomet.org/programs.shorebirds).

Management Action – an activity by a government agency that could cause a positive or negative effect on migratory bird populations or habitats.

Migratory Bird – an individual of any species protected by the MBTA. A list of migratory birds can be found in 50 CFR § 10.13 and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/intrnltr/mbta/mbtandx.html.

Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) – a program that uses the banding of birds during the breeding season to track the changes and patterns in the number of young produced and the survivorship of adults and young. (http://www.birdpop.org/maps.htm).

Mitigation – For NEPA purposes, mitigation includes (a) avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action, (b) minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, (c) rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment, (d) reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action, and (e) compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments

(from 40 C.F.R. § 1508.20, CEQ Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act).

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – the law that requires Federal agencies to prepare a detailed analysis of the environmental impacts of their proposed action with alternatives and to include public involvement in the decision making process for major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. 42 U.S.C. § 4321–4347.

Species of Concern – refers to several categories of birds including: 1) species listed in the periodic report, *Birds of Conservation Concern*, published by the FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management (http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds); 2) priority migratory bird species documented in the comprehensive bird conservation plans (North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, United States Shorebird Conservation Plan, Partners in Flight Bird Conservation Plans); 3) species or populations of waterfowl identified as high, or moderately high, continental priority in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan; 4) listed threatened and endangered bird species in 50 C.F.R. § 17.11; and 5) MBTA-listed gamebirds of management concern (http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds).

Take – to pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect or attempt to pursue, hunt, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect (50 C.F.R. § 10.12). The Eagle Act defines take to mean pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, destroy, molest, or disturb bald and golden eagles (16 U.S.C. § 668c). "Disturb" is further defined by regulation to mean "agitate or bother an eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, (1) injury to an eagle, (2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or (3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior." 50 C.F.R. § 22.3.

Appendix C: List of Bird Species Not Protected under the MBTA

Federal Register Volume 70 Number 49 - List of Bird Species to Which the Migratory Bird Treaty Act Does Not Apply

Species Not Protected under the MBTA

A. **Species that are (1) nonnative human-introduced and (2) belong to families covered by conventions implemented by the MBTA**

70 FR 12710 (March 15, 2005)

B. **Species that are (1) native and (2) belong to families not covered by any of the conventions implemented by the MBTA**[Q]

Family MEGAPODIIDAE
Megapodius laperouse, Micronesian Megapode+ (NMI)‡
Family PHASIANIDAE
Bonasa umbellus, Ruffed Grouse+ (cont. U.S.)
Centrocercus minimus, Gunnison Sage-Grouse+ (CO, UT)
Centrocercus urophasianus, Greater Sage-Grouse+ (w. U.S.)
Dendragapus obscurus, Blue Grouse+ (w. U.S.)
Falcipennis canadensis, Spruce Grouse (n. U.S.)
Lagopus lagopus, Willow Ptarmigan+ (n. U.S.)
Lagopus leucurus, White-tailed Ptarmigan+ (n. U.S.)
Lagopus mutus, Rock Ptarmigan+ (n. U.S.)
Meleagrus gallopavo, Wild Turkey+ (cont. U.S.)
Tympanuchus cupido, Greater Prairie-Chicken+ (c. & w. U.S.)‡
Tympanuchus pallidicinctus, Lesser Prairie-Chicken+ (c. & w. U.S.)
Tympanuchus phasianellus, Sharp-tailed Grouse+ (n. & w. U.S.)
Family ODONTOPHORIDAE
Callipepla californica, California Quail+ (CA, NV, OR)
Callipepla gambelii, Gambel's Quail+ (sw U.S.)
Callipepla squamata, Scaled Quail+ (sw U.S.)
Colinus virginianus, Northern Bobwhite+ (cont. U.S.)
Cyrtonyx montezumae, Montezuma Quail+ (sw U.S.)
Oreortyx pictus, Mountain Quail+ (w. U.S.)
Family BURHINIDAE
Burhinus bistriatus, Double-striped Thick-knee (TX)
Family GLAREOLIDAE
Glareola maldivarum, Oriental Pratincole (AK)
Family PSITTACIDAE
Amazona vittata, Puerto Rican Parrot+ (PR)‡
Aratinga chloroptera, Hispaniolan Parakeet (PR–Extirpated)
Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha, Thick-billed Parrot (AZ, NM)‡
Family TODIDAE
Todus mexicanus, Puerto Rican Tody+ (PR)
Family MELIPHAGIDAE

Moho braccatus, Kauai Oo+ (HI)‡
Family MONARCHIDAE
Chasiempis sandwichensis, Elepaio+ (HI)‡
Clytorhynchus vitiensis, Fiji Shrikebill+ (AS)
Myiagra freycineta, Guam Flycatcher+ (GU)
Monarcha takatsukasai, Tinian Monarch+ (NMI)
Rhipidura rufifrons, Rufous Fantail+ (GU, NMI)
Family TIMALIIDAE
Chamaea fasciata, Wrentit+ (CA, OR, WA)
Family ZOSTEROPIDAE
Zosterops conspicillatus, Bridled White-eye+ (GU, NMI)‡
Family COEREBIDAE
Coereba flaveola, Bananaquit+ (PR, VI)
Family DREPANIDINAE
Hemignathus flavus, Oahu Amakihi+ (HI)
Hemignathus kauaiensis, Kauai Amakihi+ (HI)
Hemignathus lucidus, Nukupuu+ (HI)‡
Hemignathus munroi, Akiapolaau+ (HI)
Hemignathus parvus, Anianiau+ (HI)
Hemignathus virens, Hawaii Amakihi+ (HI)
Himatione sanguinea, Apapane+ (HI)
Loxioides bailleui, Palila+ (HI)‡
Loxops caeruleirostris, Akekee+ (HI)
Loxops coccineus, Akepa+ (HI)
Melamprosops phaeosoma, Poo-uli [=Po'ouli] + (HI-Extinct 2004)‡
Oreomystis bairdi, Akikiki+ (HI)
Oreomystis mana, Hawaii Creeper+ (HI)‡
Palmeria dolei, Akohekohe [=Crested Honeycreeper]+ (HI)‡
Paroreomyza flammea, Kakawahie [=Molokai Creeper]+ (HI)‡
Paroreomyza maculata, Oahu Alauahio [=Oahu Creeper]+ (HI–probably Extinct)‡
Paroreomyza montana, Maui Alauahio+ (HI)
Pseudonestor xanthophrys, Maui Parrotbill+ (HI)‡
Psittirostra psittacea, Ou+ (HI)‡
Telespiza cantans, Laysan Finch+ (HI)‡
Telespiza ultima, Nihoa Finch+ (HI)‡
Vestiaria coccinea, Iiwi+ (HI)

C. Species that are (1) nonnative human-introduced and (2) belong to families not covered by any of the conventions implemented by the MBTA[1]

Family TINAMIDAE
Nothoprocta perdicaria, Chilean Tinamou
Nothura maculosa, Spotted Nothura

Rhynchotus rufescens, Red-winged Tinamou
Tinamus major, Great Tinamou
Family CRACIDAE
Crax rubra, Great Curassow
Ortalis cinereiceps, Gray-headed Chachalaca
Ortalis garrula, Chestnut-winged Chachalaca
Ortalis vetula, Plain Chachalaca (GA)
Penelope purpurascens, Crested Guan
Family PHASIANIDAE
Alectoris barbara, Barbary Partridge
Alectoris chukar, Chukar^ (w. U.S.)
Alectoris graeca, Rock Partridge
Ammoperdix griseogularis, See-see Partridge
Bambusicola thoracica, Chinese Bamboo-Partridge
Bonasia bonasia, Hazel Grouse
Chrysolophus amherstiae, Lady Amherst's Pheasant
Chrysolophus pictus, Golden Pheasant
Coturnix chinensis, Blue-breasted Quail
Coturnix japonica, Japanese Quail^ (HI)
Coturnix pectoralis, Stubble Quail
Francolinus adspersus, Red-billed Francolin
Francolinus clappertoni, Clapperton's Francolin
Francolinus erckelii, Erckel's Francolin^ (HI)
Francolinus francolinus, Black Francolin^ (HI)
Francolinus icterorhynchus, Heuglin's Francolin
Francolinus leucoscepus, Yellow-necked Spurfowl (HI-Extirpated)*
Francolinus pintadeanus, Chinese Francolin
Francolinus pondicerianus, Gray Francolin^ (HI)
Gallus gallus, Red Junglefowl^ (FL, HI)
Gallus sonnerati, Gray Junglefowl
Lophura leucomelanos, Kalij Pheasant^ (HI)
Lophura nycthemera, Silver Pheasant
Melanoperdix nigra, Black Partridge
Numida meleagris, helmeted Guineafowl^ (HI, PR)
Pavo cristatus, Common Peafowl^ (HI)
Perdix perdix, Gray Patridge^ (cont. U.S.)
Phasianus colchicus, Ring-necked Pheasant^ (cont. U.S., HI)
Phasianus versicolor, Green Pheasant
Rollulus rouloul, Crested Partridge
Syrmaticus ellioti, Elliot's Pheasant
Syrmaticus reevesii, Reeve's Pheasant
Syrmaticus soemmerringii, Copper Pheasant
Tetrao tetrix, Black Grouse
Tetrao urogallus, Western Capercaillie
Tetraogallus himalayensis, Himalayan Snowcock^ (NV)
Family TURNICIDAE

Turnix varia, painted Buttonquail
Family ODONTOPHORIDAE
Colinus cristatus, Crested Bobwhite^ (VI–now Extirpated)
Callipepla douglasii, Elegant Quail
Family PTEROCLIDIDAE
Pterocles exustus, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse^ (HI)
Family PSITTACIDAE
Agapornis fischeri, Fischer's Lovebird
Agapornis personatus, Yellow-collared Lovebird
Agapornis roseicollis, Peach-faced Lovebird
Amazona aestiva, Blue-fronted Parrot
Amazona albifrons, White-fronted Parrot (FL)*
Amazona amazonica, Orange-winged Parrot
Amazona auropalliata, Yellow-naped Parrot
Amazona autumnalis, Red-lored Parrot (FL–now Extirpated)*
Amazona barbadensis, Yellow-shouldered Parrot
Amazona farinosa, Mealy Parrot
Amazona festiva, Festive Parrot
Amazona finschi, Lilac-crowned Parrot
Amazona ochrocephala, Yellow-crowned Parrot^ (PR)
Amazona oratrix, Yellow-headed Parrot^ (FL, PR)
Amazona pretrei, Red-spectacled Parrot
Amazona ventralis, Hispaniolan Parrot^ (PR, VI)
Amazona viridigenalis, Red-crowned Parrot^ (CA, FL)
Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus, Hyacinth Macaw
Ara ararauna, Blue-and-yellow Macaw^ (PR)
Ara chloroptera, Red-and-green Macaw
Ara macao, Scarlet Macaw
Ara militaris, Military Macaw
Ara severa, Chestnut-fronted Macae (FL)*
Aratinga acuticaudata, Blue-crowned Parakeet (FL)*
Aratinga aurea, Peach-fronted Parakeet
Aratinga canicularis, Orange-fronted Parakeet (FL)*
Aratinga erythrogenys, Red-masked Parakeet (FL)*
Aratinga finschi, Crimson-fronted Parakeet
Aratinga holochlora, Green Parakeet^ (TX)
Aratinga leucophthalmus, White-eyed Parakeet (FL)*
Aratinga mitrata, Mitred Parakeet^ (CA, FL)
Aratinga pertinax, Brown-throated Parakeet^ (FL, PR)
Aratinga rubritorquis, Red-throated Parakeet

Aratinga solstitialis or jandaya, Sun or Jandaya parakeet
Aratinga wagleri, Scarlet-fronted Parakeet
Aratinga weddellii, Dusky-headed Parakeet (FL)*

*Brotogeris chiriri, Yellow-chevroned Parakeet * (FL)*
Brotogeris jugularis, Orange-chinned Parakeet
Brotogeris versicolurus, White-winged Parakeet^ (CA, FL)
Cacatua alba, White Cockatoo
Cacatua galerita, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (FL–now Extirpated)*
Cacatua goffini, Tanimbar Cockatoo
Cacatua moluccensis, Salmon-crested Cockatoo
Cyanoliseus patagonus, Burrowing Parrot
Diopsittaca nobilis, Red-shouldered Macaw
Eclectus roratus, Eclectus Parrot
Eolophus roseicapillus, Galah
Eos bornea, Red Lory (FL–Extirpated)*
Lorius garrulus, Chattering Lory
Melopsittacus undulatus, Budgerigar^ (FL)
Myiopsitta monachus, Monk Parakeet^ (e. U.S, PR, TX)
Nandayus nenday, Black-hooded Parakeet
Nymphicus hollandicus, Cockatiel
Pionites melanocephala, Black-headed Parrot
Pionus maximiliani, Scaly-headed Parrot
Pionus senilis, White-crowned Parrot
Poicephalus rueppellii, Rueppell's Parrot (FL–now Extirpated)*
Poicephalus senegalus, Senegal Parrot (FL–now Extirpated)*
Propyrrhura auricollis, Golden-collared Macaw
Psephotus haematonotus, Red-rumped Parrot
Pseudos fuscata, Dusky Lory
Psittacula alexandri, Red-breasted Parakeet
Psittacula columboides, Malabar Parakeet
Psittacula cyanocephala, Plum-headed Parakeet
Psittacula eupatris, Alexandrine Parakeet
Psittacula krameri, Rose-ringed Parakeet^ (FL, HI, VA)
Psittacula roseata, Blossom-headed Parakeet
Psittacus erithacus, Gray Parrot
Pyrrhura frontalis, Maroon-bellied Parakeet
Pyrrhura molinae, Green-cheeked Parakeet (FL)*
Rhynchopsitta terrisi, Maroon-fronted Parrot
Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet
Trichoglossus haematodus, Rainbow Lorikeet (FL–now Extirpated)*
Trichoglossus ornatus, Ornate Lorikeet

Family DICRURIDAE
Dicrurus macrocercus, Black Drongo^ (GU, NMI)

Family RHAMPHASTIDAE
Ramphastos sulfuratus, Keel-billed Toucan
Ramphastos citrolaemus, Citron-throated Toucan
Ramphastos toco, Toco Toucan

Family MUSOPHAGIDAE
Musophaga violacea, Violet Turaco

Tauraco corythaix, Knysna Turaco
Tauraco schalowi, Schalow's Turaco
Family BUCEROTIDAE
Tockus nasutus, African Gray Hornbill
Aceros undulatus, Wreathed Hornbill
Ceratogymna brevis, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill
Family BUCORVIDAE
Bucorvus abyssinicus, Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill
Family PYCNONOTIDAE
Hypsipetes madagascariensis, Black Bulbul
Pycnonotus cafer, Red-vented Bulbul^ (FL)
Pycnonotus jocosus, Red-whiskered Bulbul^ (FL, HI)
Family PITTIDAE
Pitta guajana, Banded Pitta
Family IRENIDAE
Irena puella, Asian Fairy-bluebird
Family TIMALIIDAE
Garrulax canorus, Hwamei^ (HI)
Garrulax leucolophus, White-crested Laughingthrush (HI-Extirpated)*
Garrulax pectoralis, Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush^ (HI)
Leiothrix lutea, Red-billed Leiothrix^ (HI)
Family ZOSTEROPIDAE
Zosterops japonicus, Japanese White-eye^ (HI)
Family STURNIDAE
Acridotheres cristatellus, Crested Myna
Acridotheres fuscus, Jungle Myna
Acridotheres tristis, Common Myna^ (FL, HI)
Gracula religiosa, Hill Myna^ (HI, PR)
Lamprotornis superbus, Superb Starling
Mino dumontii, Yellow-faced Myna
Sturnus vulgaris, European Starling^ (cont. U.S., PR)
Family PASSERIDAE
Passer domesticus, House Sparrow^ (cont. U.S., HI, PR, VI)
Passer luteus, Sudan Golden Sparrow
Passer montanus, Eurasian Tree Sparrow^ (IL, MO)
Family PLOCEIDAE
Euplectes afer, Yellow-crowned Bishop^ (PR)
Euplectes ardens, Red-collared Bishop^ (PR)
Euplectes franciscanus, Orange Bishop^ (CA, PR)
Euplectes orix, Red Bishop
Ploceus cucullatus, Village Weaver
Ploceus velatus, African Masked-Weaver
Family ESTRIDIDAE
Amandava amandava, Red Avadavat^ (HI, PR)
Estrilda astrild, Common Waxbill^ (HI, PR)
Estrilda caerulescens, Lavender Waxbill^ (HI)

Estrilda melpoda, Orange-cheeked Waxbill^ (HI, PR)
Estrilda troglodytes, Black-rumped Waxbill^ (HI, PR)
Lonchura atricapilla, Chestnut Munia^ (HI, PR)
Lonchura cantans, African Silverbill^ (HI)
Lonchura cucullata, Bronze Mannikin^ (PR)
Lonchura maja, White-headed Munia
Lonchura malabarica, Indian Silverbill^ (PR)
Lonchura malacca, Tricolored Munia^ (HI, PR)
Lonchura nana, Madagascar Munia
Lonchura punctulata, Nutmeg Mannikin^ (HI)
Padda oryzivora, Java Sparrow^ (HI, PR)
Taeniopygia guttata, Zebra Finch
Uraeginthus bengalus, Red-cheeked Cordonbleu^ (HI)
Vidua macroura, Pin-tailed Whydah^ (PR)

Source: *http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/RegulationsPolicies/mbta/MBTAProtectedNonprotected.html; Accessed on April 23, 2013*

(1)
Symbols: plus sign (+) denotes a native species with breeding populations in the U.S.; hat (^) denotes an introduced species that has established a self-sustaining breeding population; asterisk (*) denotes an introduced species that has nested in the U.S. but has not established a self-sustaining breeding population; double dagger (‡) denotes a species that is covered by the Endangered Species Act in all or part of its U.S. range.

Abbreviations (in parentheses) are used to denote the known U.S. range, and are used only for species with established populations or evidence of breeding: AK = Alaska, AS = American Samoa, AZ = Arizona, CA = California, FL = Florida, GU = Guam, HI = Hawaii, NM = New Mexico, NMI = Northern Marina Islands, NV = Nevada, OR = Oregon, PR = Puerto Rico, TX = Texas, UT = Utah, VI = Virgin Islands, WA = Washington.
main content

Appendix D: Executive Order 13186

Executive Order 13186 - Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds

Appendix E: Nesting Bird Survey Protocol and Survey Checklist

Pre-construction nesting bird surveys should be conducted during migratory bird nesting season no more than 5 days prior to commencement of a project and during the project if the site was dormant for more than 5 days. The survey area for active bird nests should include the project area and appropriate buffer zone (coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services Field Office, as necessary).

Prior to surveys, a desktop review of bird species (and their preferred habitat) with potential to nest in the project area should be conducted. A special emphasis should be placed on the presence of Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) within the action area. Please refer to the complete list of BCC species.

Survey should consist of walking transects that will be spaced accordingly to allow complete visual coverage (when possible) of all habitats including: open fields, barren areas, manmade structures (e.g., bridges and buildings), riparian corridors, wooded areas and brush dominated ground cover within, and adjacent to, the project area that could support nesting birds. Appropriate spacing will ultimately be determined by the surveyor in the field, but the following guidelines are recommended to ensure adequate coverage of habitats:

- 100-300 feet for open grasslands
- 25-50 feet for areas with dense brush or shrubs
- <25 feet as needed for a dense stand of trees or very dense vegetation

The survey should also include actively searching for low-level, ground, cavity and tree nests in the vegetation proposed for disturbance. For example, cavity nesting would include searching/inspecting all relevant local features: structures, suitable tree holes and cavities and may require an extension pole with mirror to make a determination.

When breeding or nesting activities are suspected or observed, the surveyor will spend time watching the activity (with the aid of binoculars when appropriate) to determine the status of the observed activity. The following behaviors are indicators that an active nest may be present:

1. Carrying material to build nest within the survey area
2. Copulations
3. Carrying food or feeding young
4. Carrying fecal sacks away from nest
5. Mate-feeding; repeated "bee-line" flying to likely nest site
6. Observation of nest
7. Observation of chicks

8. Alarm calls being given by one or both adults of a pair
9. Females giving call or chip notes alerting their mate that they are off the nest
10. Auditory evidence of chicks

If there is inconclusive evidence to determine whether the nest is being actively utilized, it may be necessary to conduct additional surveys. Up to three additional survey events of the nest itself, up to 2 hours each, should be conducted to document whether nest is active. If breeding activity is noted, but no nest is found, the surveyor should assume the presence of a nest and take appropriate measures to protect the nest from project-related activities.

The location of any confirmed active nest of a migratory bird species should be recorded on a survey form (see next page for a sample of a survey checklist) and submitted to the environmental project lead, preparer and project manager.

If active nests are identified within or in the vicinity of a project site, avoid the site until nestlings have fledged or the nest fails. If activity must occur, establish a buffer zone around the nest and no activities will occur within that zone until nestlings have fledged and left the nest area.

Homeland Security

Nesting Bird Survey Checklist

1. Site Name_____.

2. Day_____ Month_____ Year_____.

3. Locality: Name nearest town or prominent map feature whose latitude and longitude can be looked up: _____ . County/Township _____. State/Province_____.

Locality name (e.g. Smith Marsh, Jones Woods):_____.

Latitude/longitude to nearest minute (optional except for remote areas, but encouraged for regularly-visited sites): Latitude_____. Longitude _____ ____.

4. Observer name(s)_____.

5. Start time (to nearest quarter hour) _____.

6. End time (to nearest quarter hour) _____.

7. Evidence of active nests _____.

If active nest is identified:

Location of a nest _____.

Distance of a nest to construction _____.

Stage of nesting (eggs, nestlings) _____.

Nesting bird species (if known) _____.

Photograph of the nesting bird species (e.g. attached, emailed) _____.

8. Habitat(s) visited (check as many as apply): Deciduous woodland____ Coniferous woodland____ Scrub____ Grassland____ Agricultural____ Rural____ Suburban____ Urban____ Freshwater____ Salt water____ Other_____.

6. Site photographs (e.g. attached, emailed) _____.

Appendix F: Electronic Resources for Bird Conservation and Project Assessment

GENERAL RESOURCES

- **USFWS Division of Migratory Bird Management**
  - http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/
  - Source for Bird Lists, Conservation Plans, MBTA, BGEPA, and EO 13186 information, links to permits information

- **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service- Division of Bird Habitat Conservation**
  - http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/index.shtm
  - Information on grant programs to conserve bird habitats, bird conservation plans, and all the habitat and species joint ventures to conserve bird habitat.

- **Bird Strike Committee - USA**
  - http://www.birdstrike.org/
  - Source of information on bird and wildlife strikes at airports in U.S. including reporting strikes, meetings and workshops, BMP's for airports, risk assessment, and publications.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES/CONSERVATION MEASURES

- **USFWS Service Guidance on the Siting, Construction Operation and Decommissioning of Communications Towers**
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2000.
  - http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/com_tow_guidelines.pdf

- **Avian Protection Plan Guidelines (Electric Utilities)**
  - Avian Power Line Interaction Committee and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2005. Avian protection plan (APP) guidelines. http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/APP/AVIAN%20PROTECTION%20PLAN%20FINAL%204%2019%2005.pdf

- **USGS- Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center- Effects of Management Practices on Grassland Birds and Effects of Management Practices on Wetland Birds.**
  - http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/literatr/grasbird/index.htm
  - http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/literatr/wetbird/index.htm
  - Individual grassland and wetland bird species accounts including range maps, suitable habitat, response to management, management recommendations, and literature citations.

BIRD BIOLOGY/ECOLOGY/DATA RESOURCES

- **Birds of North America**
  - http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/
  - Source of detailed information on each bird species

- **Partners in Flight**
  - http://www.partnersinflight.org/
  - Source for population estimates of landbirds, conservation plans, outreach materials and best management practices for birds.

- **eBird**
  - http://ebird.org/content/ebird/
  - Source of bird sightings data, Citizen Science, range maps, distribution information

- **State of the Birds**
  - http://www.stateofthebirds.org/
  - Source for report about bird populations

- **North American Bird Conservation Initiative**
  - http://www.nabci-us.org/main2.html
  - Source for general bird conservation information and map of Bird Conservation Regions

- **USGS Patuxent Wildlife Resource Center**
  - http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/
  - Source of variety of bird information, survey information, banding information, bird identification information

- **The Institute for Bird Populations**
  - http://www.birdpop.org/
  - Source of information on bird distribution and ecology, changes in bird abundance, how to run a MAPS station.

- **Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN)**
  - http://www.whsrn.org/
  - U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, shorebird species conservation plans, shorebird status, information on WHSRN sites, how to nominate a site.

- **Department of Defense- Partners In Flight**
  - http://www.dodpif.org/
  - Bird conservation programs, plans, and projects on DoD lands, Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard program, and bird monitoring programs.

- **USGS- Audubon Christmas Bird Count**
  - http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/cbc.html
  - Bird population trends, abundance maps, indices, etc. based on Christmas Bird Counts.

- **USGS North American Breeding Bird Atlas Explorer**
  - http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bba/
  - Information and status of breeding bird atlas efforts for states and provinces in North America.

- **USGS National Wetlands Research Center**
  - http://www.nwrc.usgs.gov/wdb/pub/wmh/contents.html
  - Online Waterfowl Management Handbook covering waterfowl ecology and population management, and wetland ecology and habitat management.
- **U.S. National Park Service Park Flight Migratory Bird Program**
  - http://www.nps.gov/oia/topics/flight/flight.htm
  - Information on National Park Service program to conserve migratory birds and to protect breeding, migration, and winter habitat for birds.

- **U.S. Forest Service-Wings Across the Americas**
  - http://www.fs.fed.us/global/wings/birds/welcome.htm
  - Information on U.S. Forest Service programs to conserve all bird species throughout the Americas.

Appendix G: USFWS Migratory Bird Program Staff Directory

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7 Vacant	Pilot Biologist			
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8	McCabe, Tom	ARD	Management	mailto:tom_mccabe@fws.gov	916-978-6189
8	Nicolai, Chris	Wildlife Biologist	Biology	mailto:chris_nicolai@fws.gov	775-861-6333
8	Sandman, Shannon	Legal Instruments Examiner		mailto:shannon_sandman@fws.gov	916-414-6736
8	Shaffer, Bob	Fish & Wildlife Biologist	Biology	mailto:robert_shaffer@fws.gov	916-414-6458
8	Strassburger, Marie	Fish & Wildlife Biologist	Biology	mailto:marie_strassburger@fws.gov	916-414-6727
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8	Vacant	Office Assistant	Adminstration		
8	Vacant	Eagle Permit Specialist			
8	Vacant	Wildlife Biologist	Biology		
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9	Allen, George	Branch Chief, Permits and Regulation:	Management	mailto:George_Allen@fws.gov	703-358-1825
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9	Cooper, Tom	Wildlife Biologist	Population Modeling		
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9 Bjerre, Emily	Wildlife Biologist			

Appendix 3

PowerPoint Training Materials for trainings describing MBTA Laws and Regulations

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Tucson Sector specialized environmental awareness training

INTEGRATED FIXED TOWERS
BLOCK 1 REPLACEMENT PROJECT

U.S. BORDER PATROL
TUCSON AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

TUCSON SECTOR
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS BRIEFING

GENERAL ACTIVITY BMPS

PROJECT ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING STAGING, PARKING AND EQUIPMENT STORAGE WILL BE CONFINED TO THE PREVIOUSLY DISTURBED ROAD CORRIDOR AND THE MARKED 100 FOOT BY 100 FOOT TEMPORARY DISTURBANCE AREA AT ALL SENSOR TOWERS.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING STAGING, PARKING AND EQUIPMENT STORAGE WILL BE CONFINED TO THE FENCED PERIMETER OF THE TOWER SITE AND PREVIOUSLY DISTURBED ROAD CORRIDOR AT THE COMMUNICATION TOWER.

INVOLVED ENTITIES WILL MINIMIZE THE NUMBER OF VEHICLES TRAVELING TO AND FROM THE PROJECT SITE AND THE NUMBER OF TRIPS PER DAY TO REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD OF DISTURBING ANIMALS IN THE AREA OR INJURING AN ANIMAL ON THE ROAD, OR DISTURBING THEIR HABITAT.

DISTURBANCE WILL BE MINIMIZED BY LIMITING DELIVERIES OF MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT TO ONLY THOSE NEEDED FOR EFFECTIVE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.

ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC WILL USE DESIGNATED/AUTHORIZED ROADS TO ACCESS THE PROPOSED TOWER SITES AND WILL AVOID OFF-ROAD VEHICLE ACTIVITY OUTSIDE OF THE PROJECT FOOTPRINT.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

MIGRATORY BIRDS

A SURVEY FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS MUST BE CONDUCTED PRIOR TO ALL ACTIVITIES TO BE IMPLEMENTED DURING THE NESTING PERIOD (FEBRUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1).

IF AN ACTIVE NEST IS FOUND, A BUFFER ZONE OF 300 FEET MUST BE ESTABLISHED AROUND THE NEST AND NO ACTIVITIES WILL OCCUR WITHIN THAT ZONE UNTIL NESTLINGS HAVE FLEDGED AND ABANDONED THE NEST. CONFIRMATION THAT ALL YOUNG HAVE FLEDGED MUST BE MADE BY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.

IF PROJECT ACTIVITIES ARE SCHEDULED DURING THE NESTING SEASON, STEPS TO PREVENT NESTING IN THE POTENTIAL IMPACT AREA CAN BE TAKEN, INCLUDING COVERING EQUIPMENT AND STRUCTURES, AND USING NESTING DETERRENTS (E.G., NOISE).

IF PROJECT ACTIVITIES MAY RESULT IN THE "TAKE" (IMPACTS TO ACTIVE NESTS, EGGS, OR FLEDGLINGS) OF A BIRD, COORDINATION WITH USFWS AND/OR ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT IS REQUIRED.

THREATENED/ENDANGERED & OTHER
PROTECTED SPECIES OVERVIEW

THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (ESA)

THE PURPOSE OF THE ESA IS TO PROTECT AND RECOVER IMPERILED SPECIES AND THE ECOSYSTEMS UPON WHICH THEY DEPEND. IT IS ADMINISTERED BY THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AND THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT'S NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE. UNDER THE ESA, SPECIES MAY BE LISTED AS EITHER ENDANGERED OR THREATENED.

"ENDANGERED" MEANS A SPECIES IS IN DANGER OF EXTINCTION THROUGHOUT ALL OR A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF ITS RANGE.

"THREATENED" MEANS A SPECIES IS LIKELY TO BECOME ENDANGERED WITHIN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

ALL SPECIES OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS (EXCEPT PEST INSECTS) ARE ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING AS ENDANGERED OR THREATENED. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE ESA, CONGRESS DEFINED SPECIES TO INCLUDE SUBSPECIES, VARIETIES, AND, FOR VERTEBRATES, DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENTS.

STIFF PENALTIES MAY BE IMPOSED FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT. CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES MAY BE PUNISHED WITH FINES UP TO $50,000 AND/OR ONE YEAR IMPRISONMENT FOR CRIMES INVOLVING ENDANGERED SPECIES, AND $25,000 AND/OR SIX MONTHS IMPRISONMENT FOR CRIMES INVOLVING THREATENED SPECIES.

THREATENED/ENDANGERED & OTHER PROTECTED SPECIES OVERVIEW

IF A LISTED SPECIES IS OBSERVED WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA, WORK IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY MUST BE SUSPENDED UNTIL IT MOVES OUT OF HARM'S WAY ON ITS OWN, OR UNTIL IT IS RELOCATED BY A PERMITTED INDIVIDUAL.

THE UNDERSIDE OF ALL VEHICLES AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT MUST BE CHECKED FOR LISTED SPECIES AND OTHER WILDLIFE PRIOR TO MOVING AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH WORKDAY AND AFTER VEHICLES HAVE IDLED FOR MORE THAN 15 MINUTES.

SURFACE WATER FROM UNTREATED SOURCES LOCATED WITHIN ONE MILE OF AQUATIC HABITAT FOR FEDERALLY LISTED AQUATIC SPECIES MUST NOT BE USED.

SPECIES-SPECIFIC BMPS FOR
TUCSON BORDER PATROL STATION AOR
PIMA PINEAPPLE CACTUS
CHIRICAHUA LEOPARD FROG
NORTHERN MEXICAN GARTERSNAKE
YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO
(COCCYZUS AMERICANUS)

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO

TUS-035
TUS-041
TUS-181
TUS-185
TUS-287
TUS-290
TUS-299

HABITAT

THE WESTERN YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO BREEDS IN RIPARIAN HABITAT ALONG LOW GRADIENT (SURFACE SLOPE LESS THAN 3 PERCENT) RIVERS AND STREAMS, AND IN OPEN RIVERINE VALLEYS THAT PROVIDE WIDE FLOODPLAIN CONDITIONS (GREATER THAN 325 FEET).

WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENT (DPS), THESE RIPARIAN AREAS ARE LOCATED FROM SOUTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA, TO SOUTHERN SINALOA, MEXICO, AND MAY OCCUR FROM SEA LEVEL TO 7,000 FEET (OR SLIGHTLY HIGHER IN WESTERN COLORADO, UTAH, AND WYOMING) IN ELEVATION.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO

ESA STATUS: *THREATENED*

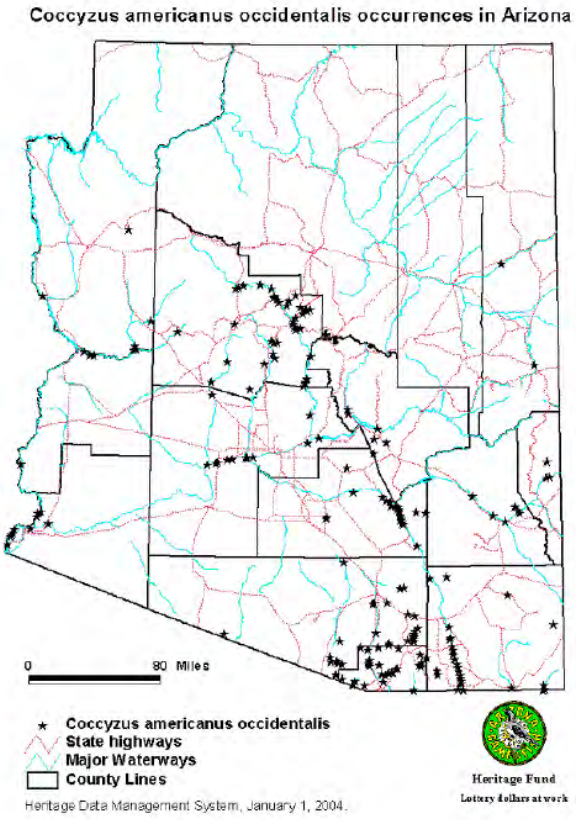
ALL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AT TUS-35 AND TUS-287, AND ASSOCIATED ACCESS ROADS, MUST CEASE FROM JUNE 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30.

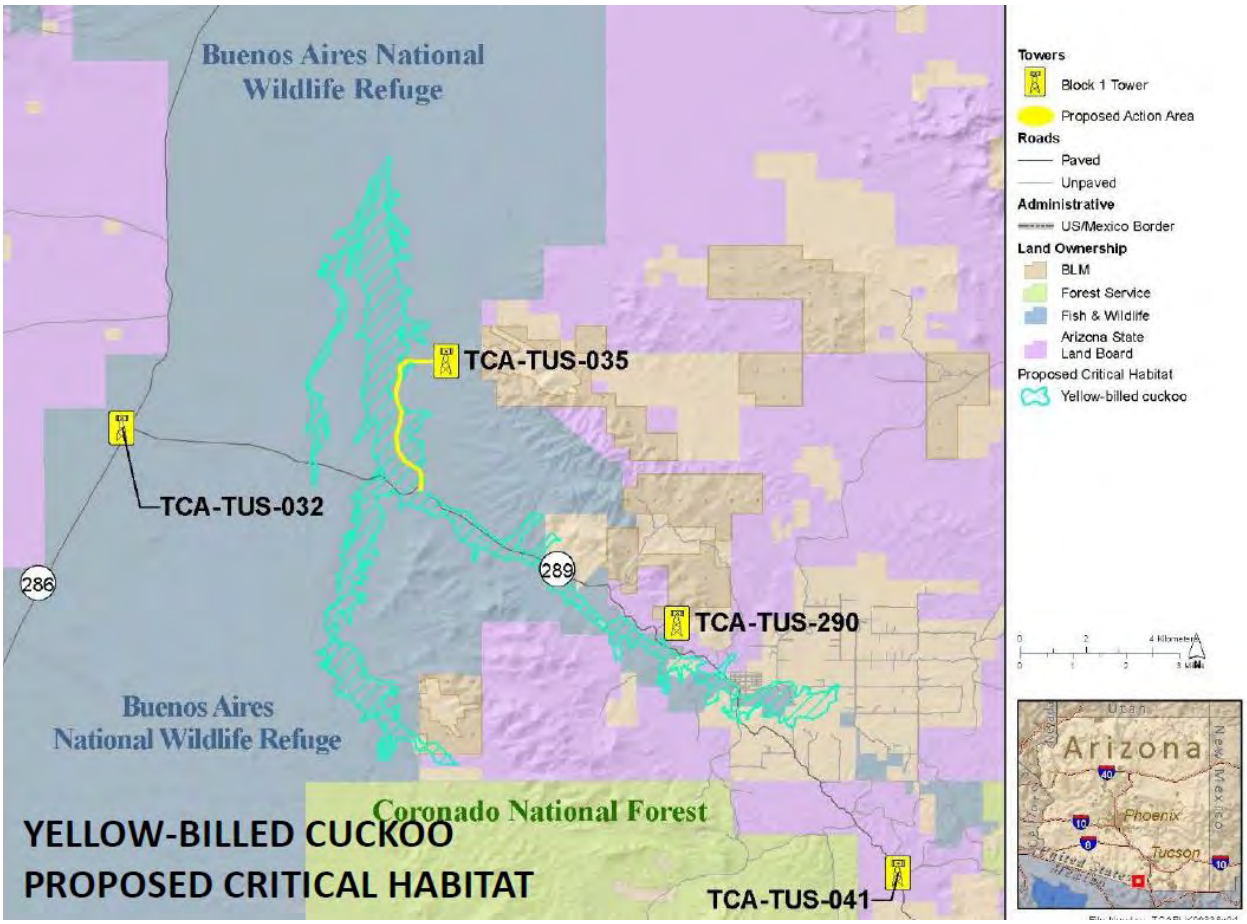
ALL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AT TUS-299 MUST CEASE FROM JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30.

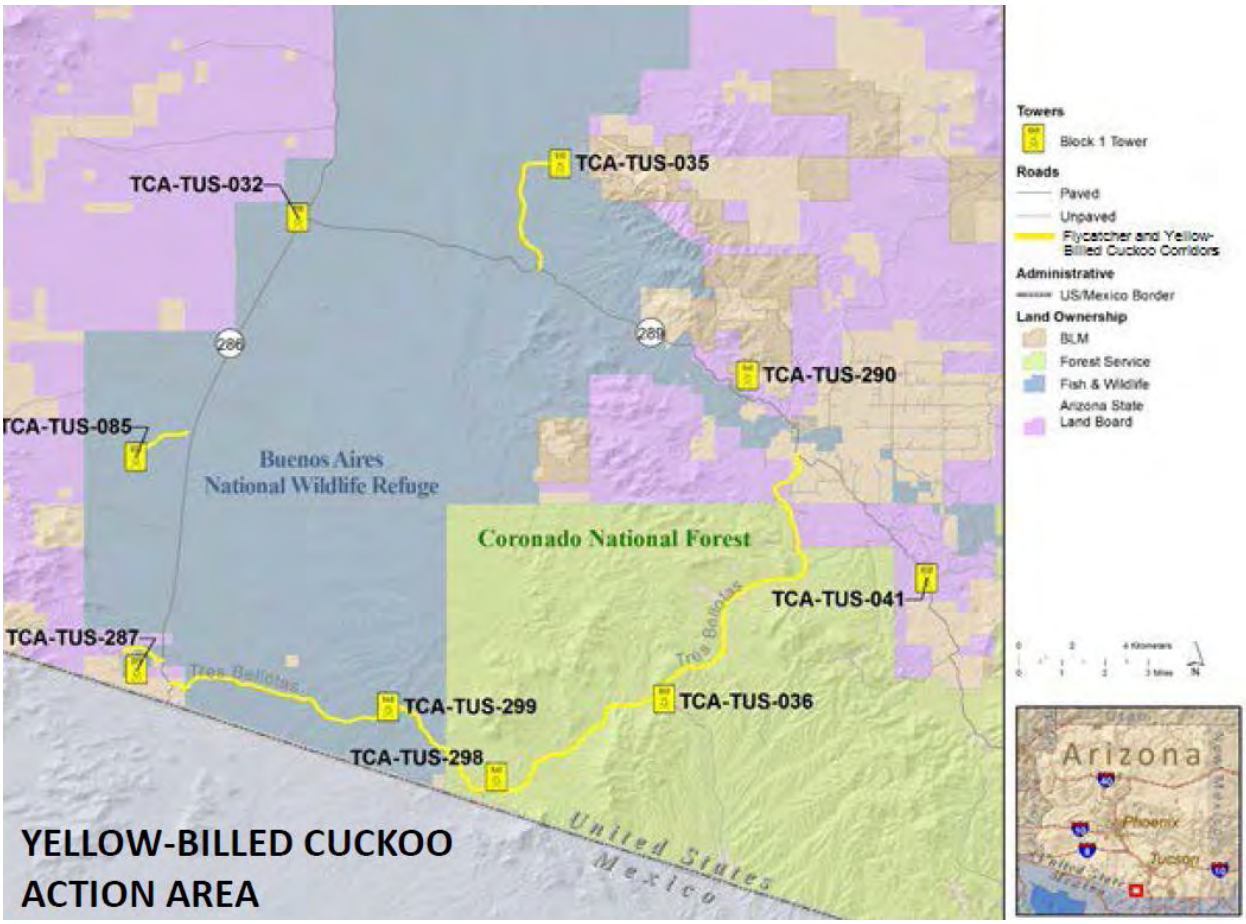
CUCKOO PROTOCOL SURVEYS MUST BE CONDUCTED IN DRAINAGES BORDERED BY TREES WITHIN 0.25 MILES OF TOWER TCA-TUS-299 FROM JUNE 1 TO JUNE 30.

IF ANY CUCKOOS ARE LOCATED WITHIN 0.25 MILES OF THIS TOWER, CBP WILL ENGAGE THE USFWS IN DEVELOPMENT OF MEASURES NECESSARY TO MINIMIZE AND AVOID IMPACTS TO THE SPECIES IN THESE LOCATIONS.

TRES BELLOTAS ROAD ALONG FRESNAL WASH MUST BE AVOIDED BETWEEN TCA-TUS-298 AND TCA-TUS-036 FROM JUNE 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30 TO AVOID DISTURBANCE TO CUCKOOS IN SUITABLE HABITAT.

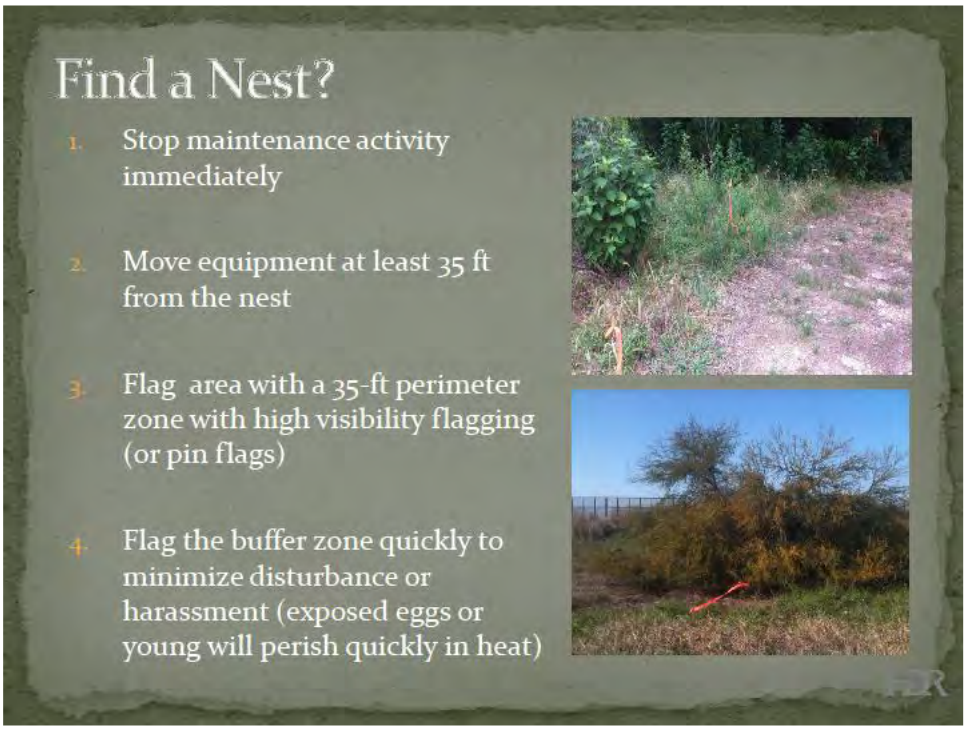



Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge
TCA-TUS-035
TCA-TUS-032
286
289
TCA-TUS-290
Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge
Coronado National Forest
YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO
PROPOSED CRITICAL HABITAT
TCA-TUS-041
Towers
Block 1 Tower
Proposed Action Area
Roads
Paved
Unpaved
Administrative
US/Mexico Border
Land Ownership
BLM
Forest Service
Fish & Wildlife
Arizona State Land Board
Proposed Critical Habitat
Yellow-billed cuckoo
Arizona
Phoenix
Tucson
New Mexico


TCA-TUS-032
TCA-TUS-035
TCA-TUS-290
TCA-TUS-085
TCA-TUS-041
TCA-TUS-287
TCA-TUS-299
TCA-TUS-036
TCA-TUS-298
286
281
Buenos Aires
National Wildlife Refuge
Coronado National Forest
Tres Bellotas
Tres Bellotas
United States
Mexico
Towers
Block 1 Tower
Roads
Paved
Unpaved
Flycatcher and Yellow-Billed Cuckoo Corridors
Administrative
US/Mexico Border
Land Ownership
BLM
Forest Service
Fish & Wildlife
Arizona State Land Board
Arizona
Phoenix
Tucson
YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO
ACTION AREA

Del Rio, Laredo, and Rio Grande Valley Sector Nesting Bird Awareness Training

This is an example of regionally specific training developed for a maintenance and repair contract. It was administered and required for all Agents, Contractors, Sub-Contractors, COTRs and PMs. Regionally specific training was developed for each area where this contract vehicle was utilized.



Draft Proposed MBTA Bird Removal/Relocation Training

Managing Bird Encounters for CBP Towers

Draft Training for Border Patrol, CBP employees, and Contractors

Managing Bird Encounters for CBP Towers

Draft Training for Border Patrol, CBP employees, and Contractors

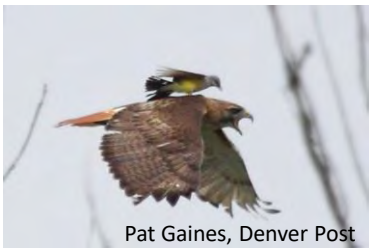
Migratory Bird Treaty Act

- International agreement to protect migratory birds
- Executive Order 13186 (January 2001)
- Agencies are required to take conservation actions to implement the MBTA
- Avoid or minimize adverse impacts on migratory bird resources
- Integrate migratory bird habitat and population conservation into agency plans
- Develop and use practices to decrease unintentional take
- Provide training to employees on methods of avoiding or minimizing take of migratory birds and conserving migratory bird habitat
- THIS TRAINING is to help CBP continue needed repairs, maintenance and operations while complying with the MBTA requirements

Nesting Habitats

- Ground (bare ground, gravel/rocks)
- Woodland
- Grasslands
- Marshes
- Shrubland
- Cavities
- Banks/cliffs
- Sometimes - Towers, Buildings & Equipment

Be Aware Nesting Behavior


Pat Gaines, Denver Post

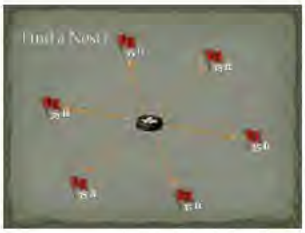
Anna Mlodzinski

- Dive bombing
- Fuss calls
- Subtle calls
- Chasing / circling
- Distraction displays
- Persistent bird in one location
- Some birds will leave the immediate area of their nest when they are disturbed
- Most active in the early morning and late afternoon

Find a Nest?

- Stop maintenance or repair activity immediately
- Move equipment at least 35 ft from the nest Immediately. Further distance may be required if the nest is occupied.
- From a distance if possible observe the nest. If no eggs or baby birds are present remove the nest unless the nest is an eagle nest (which are further protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and cannot be removed without special provisions) and **notify**.
- If eggs or baby birds are present. Flag area with a minimum 100-foot perimeter zone with high visibility flagging (or pin flags). You could reduce the buffer if it appears that a nesting pair is tolerant of disturbance. A designated monitor should watch the nesting birds for signs of stress or disturbance associated with the activities after the buffer is established. The buffer may need to be increased if they appear disturbed. Raptors require even larger buffers. For more guidance concerning appropriate buffer sizes see table 1.
- Flag the buffer zone quickly to minimize disturbance or harassment (exposed eggs or young will perish quickly in heat) and **notify**.

Photo: Duckling being harassed instead of allowing it to leave its nest naturally.



Notify

- BP Agents Notify PLLA (Specific Contact info placed here)
- CBP civilian personnel notify BPAM (Specific Contact info placed here)
- Contractors Notify Contracting Officer Technical Representative (Specific Contact info placed here)
- PLLA and COTR will contact BPAM and BPAM:
  - **If the nest is removed**, will **record the incident**
  - **If the nest is occupied**, will **determine the best course of action**:
    - If there is no critical need for removal the nest will remain until Fledging – record the incident and end of incident
    - If there is a need for removal BPAM will:
      - Contract removal, relocation, rehabilitation with an appropriate contractor as listed in the list of approved relocators and rehabilitators and record the incident – or
      - Arrange removal and transport by a BPAM trained person to an appropriate contractor as listed in the list of approved relocators and rehabilitators and record the incident

Contracting Relocators and Rehabilitators

- It will BPAM's responsibility to ensure that the relocator and the rehabilitation facility are covered by the proper permits
- The following relocators have been identified for this project from the list of approved relocators and rehabilitators
- (Specific Contact information placed here)

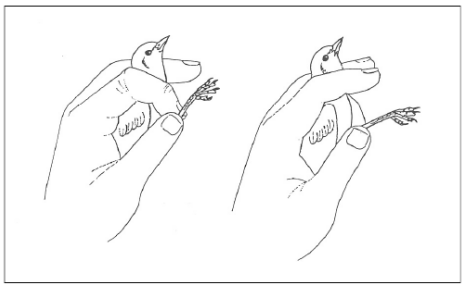
If you are tasked by BPAM to move a nest, eggs, or baby birds (fledglings)

1. Do not take any action until tasked by BPAM to remove and transport.
2. Contact the recipient (the approved rehabilitation facility provided by BPAM) of the bird, nest, eggs, or fledglings to make sure they will be present to receive them when you arrive.
3. Consider the timing to remove the birds, nest, eggs, or fledglings in light of the need to allow the birds to calm down before transport and likely transportation time.

Transporting Birds

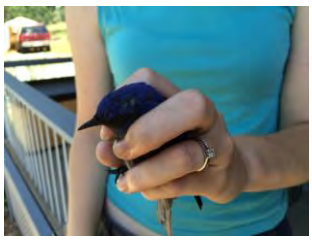
1. *Prepare a container.* Put a soft cloth in a cardboard box or pet carrier of an appropriate size to prevent the bird from sliding or being jostled during transport. If a box, make sure there are air holes.
2. *Protect yourself.* Wear heavy leather gloves if necessary. Some birds may bite or scratch to protect themselves, even if sick or injured. Remember the bird is terrified of you. Smaller birds do not require gloves
3. *Cover the container* with a light sheet or towel. You want to keep the bird warm and calm. Keeping the container dark also will help keep the animal calm.
4. *Gently pick up the bird* and put it in the prepared container. *Extreme fright can kill*
   a. With **a larger bird**, it's important to pick up the bird from the back and secure its wings in one motion. A towel will help in this process.
   b. With **a smaller bird**, its body is like a small water bag and it can be internally injured by too much handling. Do not move your hands around while holding the baby, or turn it upside down, as rapid changes in posture can also kill.
5. *Do not give the animal food or water.* Keep it away from children and pets.
6. After placing the bird into the prepared container:
   1. If it is an adult or injured bird, allow the bird to rest and unstress for at least 20 minutes before transporting. Allow for this time in your transportation estimate to the rehabilitation facility.
   2. If the bird is fledgling or if they are eggs move quickly to ensure that the fledglings or eggs do not cool down or get too hot. No unstress time interval is needed.
7. *Keep the bird warm and calm.* A bottle of warm tap water can provide warmth
8. *Note exactly where you found the bird.* The rehabilitator will want to know this information and BPAM will need the information for the official record.
9. If the bird(s) die during transportation notify the rehabilitation facility AND BPAM.

Handling Birds



THE NORTH AMERICAN BANDERS' STUDY GUIDE

- *Protect yourself.* Wear heavy leather gloves if necessary. Some birds may bite or scratch to protect themselves, even if sick or injured. Remember the bird is terrified of you. Smaller birds do not require gloves
- Approach the bird from the back with your hand. Place your pointer finger and middle finger on either side of the back of the bird's neck (to avoid crushing the bird's airway). Wrap the rest of your fingers around the wings and sides of the bird to keep the wings gently pinned against the body. Be careful not to squeeze very hard and be very careful not to squeeze the breast (they need to be able to breathe).



Merwin (Chip) Brown

Handling Larger Birds

- Approach them from behind, place one gloved hand over the wings, and slide the other hand under the body (touch the back of the bird and slide down until you feel the top of the legs),
- Put your middle finger between the top of the two legs, your pointer finger on the outside of the legs, and your ring finger on the outside of the other leg.
- Always keep control of the legs, the feet are the business end that you want to stay away from if you can.
- Once you have hold of the legs and wings, you can pick the bird up and put it's back against your chest so that you don't have to continue holding the wings, or you can cradle the bird in the crook of your arm, still holding the feet.

Merwin (Chip) Brown

Rob Doster

Managing Bird Encounters for CBP Towers

Additional Reference Material

Table 1
Buffers for Horizontal and Vertical Ground and Helicopter Construction

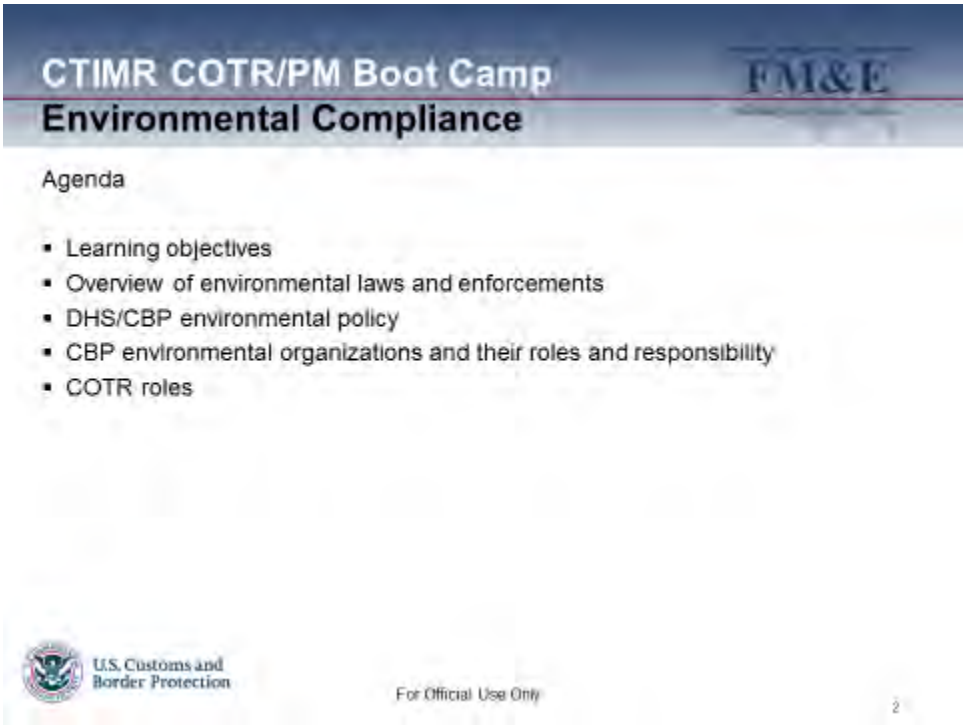
Avian Group (nest type /location)	Species Potentially Nesting within WOD Limits and Survey Area[1]	Minimum Buffers for Ground Construction Per Disturbance Level (feet)	Horizontal Buffer for Helicopter Construction (feet)	Vertical Buffer for Helicopter Construction (feet)[2]
Waterfowl and rails	Canada goose, wood duck, mallard, cinnamon teal, ruddy duck, Virginia rail, sora, American coot, pied-billed grebe	150	300	150
Quail	California quail, Gambel's quail	150	200	150
Herons	Great blue heron, great egret, snowy egret, cattle egret, black-crowned night-heron	250	500	300
Birds of prey (category 1)	American kestrel, barn owl, western screech-owl	300	200	150
Birds of prey (Category 2)	Osprey, Cooper's hawk, red-tailed hawk (2); some urban/suburban), red-shouldered hawk, great horned owl, burrowing owl[3]	300	300	200
Birds of prey (Category 3)	Turkey vulture, red-tailed hawk (2; some rural/ remote), white-tailed kite, northern harrier, long-eared owl	500	500	300
	Peregrine falcon, prairie falcon,	Consult CDFW & USFWS	Consult CDFW & USFWS	Consult CDFW & USFWS
Eagles	Golden eagle	1 mi line of site 0.5 mi no line of site	1 mi line of site 0.5 mi no line of site	1 mi line of site 0.5 mi no line of site
Shorebirds	Killdeer	200	200	200
Pigeons	Band-tailed pigeon	150	200	200
Doves	Mourning dove, white-winged dove, common ground-dove	150	200	150
Roadrunners	Greater roadrunner	300	200	150
Nightjars	Lesser nighthawk, common poorwill	150	200	150
Swifts	White-throated swift	200	200	150
Hummingbirds	Black-chinned hummingbird, Anna's hummingbird, Costa's hummingbird, Allen's hummingbird	100	200	150

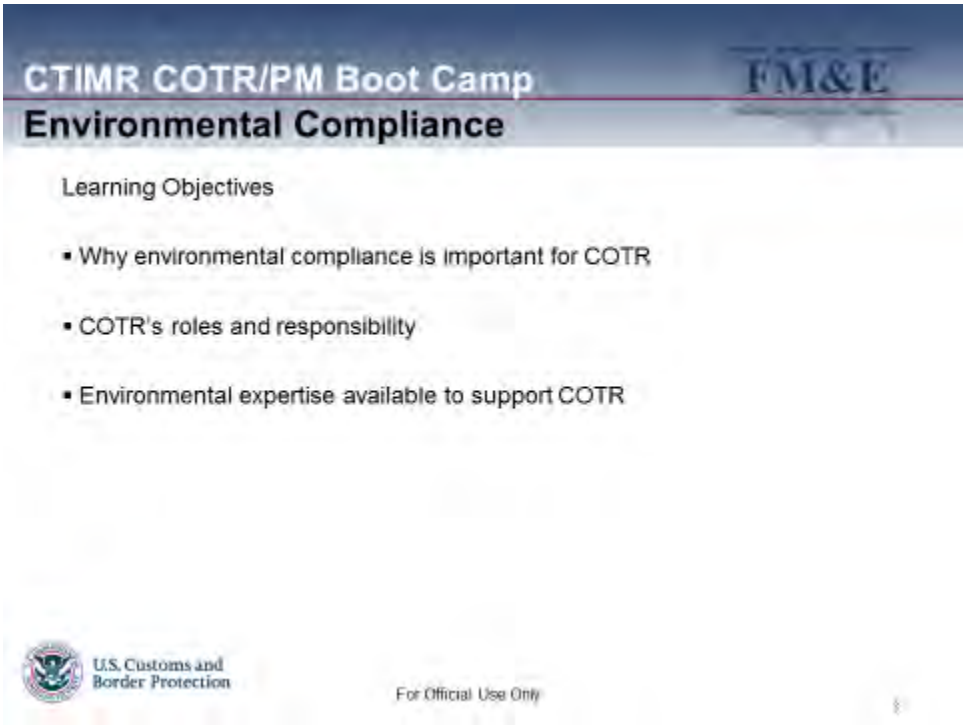
Table 1
Buffers for Horizontal and Vertical Ground and Helicopter Construction

Avian Group (nest type /location)	Species Potentially Nesting within WOD Limits and Survey Area[1]	Minimum Buffers for Ground Construction Per Disturbance Level (feet)	Horizontal Buffer for Helicopter Construction (feet)	Vertical Buffer for Helicopter Construction (feet)[2]
Woodpeckers	Acorn woodpecker, ladder-backed woodpecker, Nuttall's woodpecker, downy woodpecker, northern flicker	150	200	150
Passerines (cavity and crevice nesters)	Say's phoebe, ash-throated flycatcher, brown-crested flycatcher, tree swallow, rock wren, canyon wren, house wren, Bewick's wren (2), mountain chickadee, oak titmouse, western bluebird	100	150	100
Passerines (bridge, culvert, and building nesters)	Black phoebe, Say's phoebe, northern rough-winged swallow, cliff swallow, barn swallow, house finch (3)	100	150	100
Passerines (ground nesters, open habitats)	Horned lark, rock wren, western meadowlark, orange-crowned warbler, lark sparrow, grasshopper sparrow	150	200	150
Passerines (understory and thicket nesters)	Bushtit, Bewick's wren (2), blue-gray gnatcatcher (2), black-throated gray warbler, yellow-breasted chat, spotted towhee, black-chinned sparrow, sage sparrow, song sparrow, black-headed grosbeak, blue grosbeak, lazuli bunting, American goldfinch	150	200	150
Passerines (shrub and tree nesters)	Pacific-slope flycatcher, Cassin's kingbird, western kingbird (2), loggerhead shrike (2),* Hutton's vireo, western scrub-jay, American crow, common raven, verdin, bushtit, black-tailed gnatcatcher, blue-gray gnatcatcher (2), cactus wren (2),* American robin, northern mockingbird, Le Conte's thrasher, phainopepla, yellow warbler, black-throated gray warbler, yellow-breasted chat, California towhee, black-throated sparrow, song sparrow, summer tanager, great-tailed grackle, hooded oriole, Bullock's oriole, house finch (3), Lawrence's goldfinch, lesser goldfinch	150 (300 for species marked with an *)	200	150
Passerines (open scrub nesters)	Loggerhead shrike (2),* verdin, cactus wren (2),* black-tailed gnatcatcher, wren tit, northern mockingbird, California thrasher, Le Conte's thrasher, Phainopepla, orange-crowned warbler, southern rufous-crowned sparrow, California towhee, black-throated sparrow, Brewer's blackbird, lesser goldfinch	150 (300 for species marked with an *)	200	150
Passerines (tower nesters)	Western kingbird (2), common raven, house finch (3)	150	200	150
Passerines (marsh nesters)	Common yellowthroat, red-winged blackbird, tricolored blackbird,* great-tailed grackle	150 (300 for species marked with an *)	200	150

CTIMR COTR/PM Boot Camp: Environmental Compliance

Excerpted from Environmental compliance "Bootcamp" for COTRs and Project Managers in the Comprehensive Maintenance & Repair Program. Nationwide training.





CTIMR COTR/PM Boot Camp

Training Aids and Handouts

FM&E

- DHS Directive 023-01
- Copies of DHS Secretary's environmental waivers
- Sample copy of Environmental Assessment
- Sample copy of Environmental Stewardship Plan
- Sample copy of Categorical Exclusion/Record of Environmental Consideration (CATEX/REC)
- Sample copy of Biological Opinion
- Copy of the FM&E Executive Director's letters to federal land management agencies
- Copy of CTIMR contract best management practices (BMP) list

CTIMR COTR/PM Boot Camp

Briefing Provided to CEQ

FM&E

CTIMR COTR/PM Boot Camp

Overview of Environmental Laws

- Congress has enacted numerous environmental laws and created regulatory agencies to enforce them
  - CBP Tactical Infrastructure (TI) maintenance and repair (M&R) activities are subject to some of these laws
  - CBP is committed to complying with these laws

- This session discusses most relevant laws in implementing CTIMR
  - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
  - Endangered Species Act (ESA)
  - Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)
  - National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
  - Clean Water Act (CWA) – Wetland

CTIMR COTR/PM Boot Camp

Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)

- MBTA makes it unlawful to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, or sell birds listed therein ("migratory birds"). The statute does not discriminate between live or dead birds and also grants full protection to any bird parts including feathers, eggs, and nests. Over 800 species are currently on the list
- United States and Mexico entered the treaty in 1936
- Some of these conventions stipulate protections not only for the birds themselves, but also for habitats and environs necessary for the birds' survival
- CTIMR activities covered under the MBTA
  - Preservation of bird habitats protected under the MBTA
  - Curtailed CTIMR activities during the breeding season

Environmental Stewardship Training Program

This training was prepared for COTRs, PMs, Border Patrol Agents, Contractors, Subcontractors, Environmental Monitors, and other personnel with responsibilities in Maintenance and Repair. Although the entire environmental stewardship program was required training, this document only shows portions pertinent to MBTA compliance including general and ESA Best Management Practices.

INTRODUCTION

- This training program provides an overview of the environmental concerns, both biological and cultural, for maintenance and repair activities in Del Rio, Laredo, and Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sectors. You are required to understand the content of this program.
- The training program will cover BMPs which have been carefully designed to provide protection to natural and cultural resources, including plants and wildlife.
- Environmental stewardship is very important to CBP.
- This presentation identifies specific practices and habitat conservation measures you will be required to implement while maintaining and repairing tactical infrastructure.
- In this module, you will recognize photos outlined in green or red. Photos outlined in red depict actions that are out of compliance with BMPs. These deficiencies are also denoted with an "X" through the photo. Photos outlined in green depict actions that were performed in compliance with the BMPs.

WHAT ARE BMPs?

- BMPs are common-sense actions applied to maintenance and repair activities to promote execution of the work in an environmentally responsible manner, so that wildlife, habitat, water quality, air quality, cultural resources, and landscape integrity are conserved.
- These BMPs were developed in consultation with the USFWS and CBP is obligated to implement them.

Photo (above): Proper dust suppression during excavation activities.

Photo (right): Hydroseeding a temporarily disturbed area.

Photo (right): Properly installed silt fencing and fiber rolls to prevent erosion along waterway.

NOISE

BMP: All Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements will be followed with respect to maintenance and repair noise impacts. Ensure all motorized equipment possess properly working mufflers and are kept properly tuned to reduce backfires. Ensure all motorized generators will be in baffle boxes (a sound-resistant box that is placed over or around a generator), have an attached muffler, or use other noise-abatement methods in accordance with industry standards. For activities involving heavy equipment, seasonal restrictions might be required to avoid impacts on threatened or endangered species in areas where these species or their potential habitat occur. See species-specific BMPs.

VEGETATION

BMP: Clearly demarcate the perimeter of all new areas to be disturbed using flagging or temporary construction fence. Do not allow any disturbance outside that perimeter. Riparian vegetation should be protected during maintenance activities.

Photo (above): No perimeter markers resulted in disturbance outside the perimeter.

Photos (below and right): Correct demarcation of perimeter.

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VEGETATION

BMP: Identify fill material, sandbags, hay bales, and mulch brought in from outside the project area by its source location. Use sources that are sterile or weed-free.

BMP: Avoid the removal of mature trees providing shade or bank stabilization within the riparian area of any waterway during maintenance or repair activities.

BMP: If vegetation must be removed, allow natural regeneration of native plants by cutting vegetation with hand tools, mowing, trimming, or using other removal methods that allow root systems to remain intact.

Photo: Obtain weed-free fill material to use on site.

WILDLIFE

BMP: Minimize animal collisions during maintenance and repair activities by not exceeding 35 mph on major unpaved roads (graded with ditches on both sides) and 25 mph on all other unpaved roads. During periods of decreased visibility (e.g., night, poor weather, curves), do not exceed speeds of 25 mph.

Photo (above): Dead bird in grill.

WILDLIFE

BMP: If hollow bollards are necessary, cover hollow bollards (i.e., those that will be filled with a reinforcing material such as concrete) to prevent wildlife from entrapment. Deploy covers (and ensure they remain fully functioning) from the time the posts or hollow bollards arrive on the site and are unloaded, until they are filled with reinforcing material.

Photo (right): Uncovered bollards

BMP: Do not permit pets owned or under the care of the contractor or sector personnel inside the project boundaries, adjacent native habitats, or other associated work areas.

BMP: Clearing of riparian and aquatic vegetation will not occur within 100 feet of natural drainages, ephemeral and perennial aquatic habitats, or other water bodies to provide a buffer area to protect the habitat from sedimentation.

Photo (above): Pet monkey on construction site.

WILDLIFE

BMP: To prevent entrapment of wildlife species, ensure excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches are either completely covered by plywood or metal caps at the close of each work day or provided with one or more escape ramps (at no greater than 1,000-foot intervals and sloped less than 45 degrees) constructed of earth fill or wooden planks.

BMP: Each morning before the start of maintenance activities ensure holes and trenches are thoroughly inspected for trapped animals. Ensure that any animals discovered are allowed to escape voluntarily (by escape ramps or temporary structures), without harassment, before maintenance activities resume; or are removed from the trench or hole by a qualified person and allowed to escape unimpeded.

Photo (right): A turtle fell into an uncovered trench and became stuck in the rebar of the trench. Turtle was successfully recovered

Photo (above): Trench with an exit ramp (at each end of the trench).

WILDLIFE

BMP: Ensure permanent light poles and other permanent pole-like structures have anti-perch devices to discourage roosting by birds.

No bird deterrent

Bird deterrent

WILDLIFE

BMP: If maintenance activities will continue at night, direct shielded light only onto the area required for worker safety and productivity. Lights will not exceed 1.5-foot candles within the lit area.

Photo (above): Lights need to be pointed down and away from surrounding habitat. The light shown in the photo is not directing light onto the work area.

Photo (right): Lights are pointed into active work area.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

BMP: Initial mechanical and chemical vegetation clearing and subsequent mechanical vegetation control should be timed to avoid the migration, breeding, and nesting timeframe of Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)-covered birds (February 1 through September 1). Herbicide re-treatments could occur throughout the year. When initial mechanical and chemical vegetation control must be implemented during February 1 through September 1, a survey for nesting migratory birds will be conducted immediately prior to the start of activities. If an active nest is found, a buffer zone will be established around the nest and no activities will occur within that zone until nestlings have fledged and abandoned the nest.

Photo (above): Duckling found and removed from a nest in tall grass.

Photo (right): Duckling being harassed instead of allowing it to leave its nest naturally.

BMP: A survey for migratory birds will also be conducted prior to all other maintenance and repair activities to be implemented during the nesting period in areas where MBTA-covered birds might be nesting.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

BMP: If maintenance is scheduled during the migratory bird-nesting season, take steps to prevent MBTA-covered birds from establishing nests in the potential impact area. These steps could include covering equipment and structures, and use of various excluders (e.g., noise). Birds can be harassed to prevent them from nesting on the site. Once a nest is established, they cannot be harassed until all young have fledged and left the nest site. If nesting birds are found during the supplemental survey, defer intrusive maintenance activities until the birds have left the nest. Confirmation that all young have fledged should be made by qualified personnel.

THREATENED, ENDANGERED AND OTHER PROTECTED SPECIES

BMP: Check visible space underneath heavy equipment for listed species and other wildlife prior to moving the equipment at the beginning of each workday and after vehicles have sat idle for more than 15 minutes.

Photos (above): Didn't survive.

Photos (above): Species removed and survived.

Photo (above): Bird nest found in wheel well of equipment that had not been used for less than one week.

BIRD SPECIES

Black-capped Vireo (Del Rio Sector)

BMP: Vegetation control in suitable habitat of threatened or endangered bird species will be limited to the minimum necessary to maintain drivable access roads and to maintain the functionality of other tactical infrastructure. This limited vegetation control will be conducted outside of the nesting season. This restriction does not apply to areas where protocol surveys have been conducted and it has been determined that the area is not occupied and does not contain a primary constituent element (PCE).

Photo: TPWD

Photo (above): Duckling found and removed from a nest in tall grass.

BIRD SPECIES

Black-capped Vireo (Del Rio Sector)

BMP: If vegetation clearing is to be conducted adjacent to suitable habitat of a threatened or endangered bird species, qualified personnel with experience identifying suitable habitat of that species will delineate and clearly mark the suitable habitat to be avoided.

BMP: For all other maintenance activities to be conducted within suitable habitat of a threatened or endangered bird species during the nesting season, the following avoidance measures will apply. A qualified biologist will conduct a survey for threatened and endangered birds prior to initiating maintenance activities. If a threatened or endangered bird is present, a qualified biologist will survey for nests approximately once per week within 500 feet of the maintenance area for the duration of the activity. If an active nest is found, no maintenance will be conducted within 500 feet of the nest until the young have fledged.

Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

OMB Control No. 1018 - 0022
Expires 5/31/2017

Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Application Form

Click here for addresses.

Return to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Type of Activity: | **Special Purpose – Miscellaneous**

☑ **New Application**
☐ **Requesting Renewal or Amendment of Permit #** _____

Complete Sections A or B, and C, D, and E of this application. U.S. address may be required in Section C, see instructions for details.
See attached instruction pages for information on how to make your application complete and help avoid unnecessary delays.

A.	**Complete if applying as an individual**		
1.a. Last name	1.b. First name	1.c. Middle name or initial	1.d. Suffix
2. Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	3. Social Security No.	4. Occupation	5. Affiliation/ Doing business as (see instructions)
6.a. Telephone number	6.b. Alternate telephone number	6.c. Fax number	6.d. E-mail address

B.	**Complete if applying on behalf of a business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution**		
1.a. Name of business, agency, Tribe, or institution		1.b. Doing business as (dba)	
Customs and Border Protection		N/A	
2. Tax identification no.	3. Description of business, agency, or institution		
N/A	Border security law enforcement agency		
4.a. Principal officer Last name	4.b. Principal officer First name	4.c. Principal officer Middle name/ initial	4.d. Suffix
(b) (6)	(b) (6)	(b)	
5. Principal officer title		6. Primary contact name	
Director, Facilities Management and Engineering		(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)	
7.a. Business telephone number	7.b. Alternate telephone number	7.c. Business fax number	7.d. Business e-mail address
(b) (6)(b) (6)	(b) (6)(b) (6)	(b) (6)(b) (6)	(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

C.	**All applicants complete address information**			
1.a. Physical address (Street address; Apartment #, Suite #, or Room #; no P.O. Boxes)				
1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 755N				
1.b. City	1.c. State	1.d. Zip code/Postal code:	1.e. County/Province	1.f. Country
Washington	DC	20004	NA	USA
2.a. Mailing Address (include if different than physical address; include name of contact person if applicable)				
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)				
2.b. City	2.c. State	2.d. Zip code/Postal code:	2.e. County/Province	2.f. Country
Washington	DC	(b) (6)(b) (6)	NA	USA

D.	**All applicants MUST complete**
1.	Attach check or money order payable to the U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE **in the amount** | **$100.00** ⊥ Federal, Tribal, State, and local government agencies, and those acting on behalf of such agencies, are exempt from the processing fee – ***attach documentation of fee exempt status as outlined in instructions.*** (50 CFR 13.11(d))
2.	Do you currently have or have you ever had any Federal Fish and Wildlife permits? Yes ☑ If "yes," list the number of the most current permit you have held or that you are applying to renew/re-issue: MB37271C-0 No ☐
3.	Certification: I hereby certify that I have read and am familiar with the regulations contained in ***Title 50, Part 13 of the Code of Federal Regulations*** and the other ***applicable parts in subchapter B of Chapter I of Title 50***, and I certify that the information submitted in this application for a permit is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement herein may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Signature (**in blue ink**) of applicant/person responsible for permit (No photocopied or stamped signatures) — Date of signature (mm/dd/yyyy): 6/8/18

Please continue to next page

SECTION E. SPECIAL PURPOSE - MISCELLANEOUS
(Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 50 CFR 21.27)

Note: A Federal Special Purpose - Miscellaneous permit is required to address migratory bird activities that are not covered by other existing permit types. Activities must benefit the migratory bird resource, address important research, address human concerns for individual birds, or show other compelling justification. You must be at least 18 years of age to apply for a permit. Special Purpose Permits may be valid up to 3 years.

Please provide the following information. You may use the space provided as well as a separate sheet of paper with your responses numbered according to the application questions below. You should be as thorough and specific as possible in your responses. Incomplete applications will be returned, delayed or abandoned.

1. The species (scientific and common name) and quantity of migratory birds, parts, nests, and eggs to be covered by the permit.

2. A detailed description of the project or activity, including the purpose. Include copies of supporting documentation, research proposals, and any other information that may be useful for evaluating your request.

3. The exact location (physical – address and/or GPS coordinates in decimal degree; or geographic, as appropriate) where the activity would be conducted.

4. A full description of your background and expertise in conducting the proposed activities.

5. If live birds will be maintained in captivity, describe the facilities. Attach photographs and diagrams of your enclosures. Diagrams must include dimensions (length, width, and height) and a description of interior and exterior construction materials, such as flooring and netting materials.

6. Indicate the intended disposition of the specimens, including, if applicable, the name and address of the public, scientific, or educational institution to which all specimens ultimately will be donated upon completion of activity.

7. Anyone who will be assisting you with the permitted activities or acting as your agent must either have their own Federal migratory bird permit for the activity or be identified by you, in writing, as a subpermittee under your permit. They may also require a State permit. Subpermittees must be at least 18 years old. As the primary permittee, you will be responsible for ensuring that your subpermittees are properly trained and adhere to the terms of your permit. Provide the name of anyone besides yourself who will be conducting activities under your permit. For anyone handling or caring for live birds, briefly describe what they will be doing and their qualifications.

8. You must retain records relating to the activities conducted under your permit for at least 5 years from the date of expiration of your permit. Is the physical address you provided in Section C on page 1 of this application the address where your records will be kept? Indicate "yes" or "no." If "no," provide the physical address.

9. **Any permit issued as a result of this application is not valid unless you also have any required State or tribal permits or approvals associated with the activity.** Have you obtained all required State or tribal permits or approvals to conduct this activity? **If "yes," attach a copy of the approval(s).** If "no," indicate whether your "have applied" or whether "none is required." **If you "have applied," send a copy when it is issued.**

10. **Disqualification factor.** A conviction, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, for a felony violation of the Lacey Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act disqualifies any such person from receiving or exercising the privileges of a permit, unless such disqualification has been expressly waived by the Service Director in response to a written petition. (50 CFR 13.21(c))

    Have you or any of the owners of the business, if applying as a business, been convicted, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, forfeited collateral, or are currently under charges for any violations of the laws mentioned above? If not, indicate "no." If you have, indicate "yes," and provide the following: a) the individual's name, b) date of charge, c) charge(s), d) location of incident, e) court, and f) action taken for each violation.

PERMIT APPLICATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

The following instructions pertain to an application for a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or CITES permit. The General Permit Procedures in 50 CFR 13 address the permitting process. For simplicity, all licenses, permits, registrations, and certificates are referred to as a permit.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- Complete all blocks/lines/questions in Sections A or B, and in C, D, and E.
- **An incomplete application may cause delays in processing or may be returned to the applicant. Be sure you are filling in the appropriate application form for the proposed activity.**
- Print clearly or type in the information. Illegible applications may cause delays.
- Sign the application in blue ink. Faxes or copies of the original signature will not be accepted.
- Mail the original application to the address at the top of page one of the application or if applicable on the attached address list.
- **Keep a copy of your completed application.**
- **Please plan ahead. Allow at least 60 days for your application to be processed. Some applications may take longer than 90 days to process. (50 CFR 13.11)**
- Applications are processed in the order they are received.
- Additional forms and instructions are available from http://permits.fws.gov.

COMPLETE EITHER SECTION A OR SECTION B:

Section A. **Complete if applying as an individual:**

- Enter the complete name of the responsible individual who will be the permittee if a permit is issued. Enter personal information that identifies the applicant. ***Fax and e-mail are not required if not available.***
- If you are applying on behalf of a client, the personal information must pertain to the client, and a document evidencing power of attorney must be included with the application.
- **Affiliation/ Doing business as (dba)**: business, agency, organizational, or institutional affiliation *directly* related to the activity requested in the application (e.g., a taxidermist is an individual whose business can *directly* relate to the requested activity). The Division of Management Authority (DMA) will **not** accept *doing business as* affiliations for individuals.

Section B. **Complete if applying as a business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution:**

- Enter the complete name of the business, agency, Tribe, or institution that will be the permittee if a permit is issued. Give a brief description of the type of business the applicant is engaged in. Provide contact phone number(s) of the business.
- **Principal Officer** is the person in charge of the listed business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution. The principal officer is the person responsible for the application and any permitted activities. Often the principal officer is a Director or President. **Primary Contact** is the person at the business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution who will be available to answer questions about the application or permitted activities. Often this is the preparer of the application.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION C:

- For all applications submitted to the Division of Management Authority (DMA) a physical U.S. address is **required**. Province and Country blocks are provided for those USFWS programs which use foreign addresses and are not required by DMA.
- **Mailing address** is address where communications from USFWS should be mailed if different than applicant's physical address.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION D:

Section D.1 **Application processing fee:**

- An application processing fee is required at the time of application; unless exempted under 50 CFR13.11(d)(3). The application processing fee is assessed to partially cover the cost of processing a request. **The fee does not guarantee the issuance of a permit. Fees will not be refunded for applications that are approved, abandoned, or denied**. We may return fees for withdrawn applications prior to any significant processing occurring.
- **Documentation of fee exempt status is not required for Federal, Tribal, State, or local government agencies; but must be supplied by those applicants acting on behalf of such agencies**. Those applicants acting on behalf of such agencies must submit a letter on agency letterhead and signed by the head of the unit of government for which the applicant is acting on behalf, confirming that the applicant will be carrying out the permitted activity for the agency.

Section D.2 **Federal Fish and Wildlife permits:**

- List the number(s) of your most current FWS or CITES permit or the number of the most recent permit if none are currently valid. If applying for re-issuance of a CITES permit, the original permit must be returned with this application.

Section D.3 **CERTIFICATION:**

- **The individual identified in Section A, the principal officer named in Section B, or person with a valid power of attorney (documentation must be included in the application) must sign and date the application in blue ink.** This signature binds the applicant to the statement of certification. This means that you certify that you have read and understand the regulations that apply to the permit. You also certify that everything included in the application is true to the best of your knowledge. Be sure to read the statement and re-read the application and your answers before signing.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION E.

Please continue to next page

APPLICATION FOR A FEDERAL FISH AND WILDLIFE PERMIT
Paperwork Reduction Act, Privacy Act, and Freedom of Information Act – Notices

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) and the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), please be advised:

1. The gathering of information on fish and wildlife is authorized by:
(Authorizing statutes can be found at: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html and http://www.fws.gov/permits/ltr/ltr.html.)

   a. Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668), 50 CFR 22;
   b. Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544), 50CFR 17;
   c. Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712), 50 CFR 21;
   d. Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361, *et. seq.*), 50 CFR 18;
   e. Wild Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4901-4916), 50 CFR 15;
   f. Lacey Act: Injurious Wildlife (18 U.S.C. 42), 50 CFR 16;
   g. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (TIAS 8249), http://www.cites.org , 50 CFR 23;
   h. General Provisions, 50 CFR 10;
   i. General Permit Procedures, 50 CFR 13; and
   j. Wildlife Provisions (Import/export/transport), 50 CFR 14.

2. Information requested in this form is purely voluntary. However, submission of requested information is required in order to process applications for permits authorized under the above laws. Failure to provide all requested information may be sufficient cause for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deny the request. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

3. Certain applications for permits authorized under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1539) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1374) will be published in the **Federal Register** as required by the two laws.

4. Disclosures outside the Department of the Interior may be made without the consent of an individual under the routine uses listed below, if the disclosure is compatible with the purposes for which the record was collected. (Ref. 68 FR 52611, September 4, 2003)

   a. Routine disclosure to subject matter experts, and Federal, Tribal, State, local, and foreign agencies, for the purpose of obtaining advice relevant to making a decision on an application for a permit or when necessary to accomplish an FWS function related to this system of records.
   b. Routine disclosure to the public as a result of publishing **Federal Register** notices announcing the receipt of permit applications for public comment or notice of the decision on a permit application.
   c. Routine disclosure to Federal, Tribal, State, local, or foreign wildlife and plant agencies for the exchange of information on permits granted or denied to assure compliance with all applicable permitting requirements.
   d. Routine disclosure to Captive-bred Wildlife registrants under the Endangered Species Act for the exchange of authorized species, and to share information on the captive breeding of these species.
   e. Routine disclosure to Federal, Tribal, State, and local authorities who need to know who is permitted to receive and rehabilitate sick, orphaned, and injured birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act; federally permitted rehabilitators; individuals seeking a permitted rehabilitator with whom to place a bird in need of care; and licensed veterinarians who receive, treat, or diagnose sick, orphaned, and injured birds.
   f. Routine disclosure to the Department of Justice, or a court, adjudicative, or other administrative body or to a party in litigation before a court or adjudicative or administrative body, under certain circumstances.
   g. Routine disclosure to the appropriate Federal, Tribal, State, local, or foreign governmental agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or implementing statutes, rules, or licenses, when we become aware of a violation or potential violation of such statutes, rules, or licenses, or when we need to monitor activities associated with a permit or regulated use.
   h. Routine disclosure to a congressional office in response to an inquiry to the office by the individual to whom the record pertains.
   i. Routine disclosure to the Government Accountability Office or Congress when the information is required for the evaluation of the permit programs.
   j. Routine disclosure to provide addresses obtained from the Internal Revenue Service to debt collection agencies for purposes of locating a debtor to collect or compromise a Federal claim against the debtor or to consumer reporting agencies to prepare a commercial credit report for use by the FWS.

5. For individuals, personal information such as home address and telephone number, financial data, and personal identifiers (social security number, birth date, etc.) will be removed prior to any release of the application.

6. The public reporting burden on the applicant for information collection varies depending on the activity for which a permit is requested. The relevant burden for a Special Purpose – Miscellaneous permit application is 2 hours and 30 minutes for recordkeeping. This burden estimate includes time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data and completing and reviewing the form. You may direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the form to the Service Information Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mail Stop 222, Arlington Square, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington D.C. 20240.

Freedom of Information Act – Notice

For organizations, businesses, or individuals operating as a business (i.e., permittees not covered by the Privacy Act), we request that you identify any information that should be considered privileged and confidential business information to allow the Service to meet its responsibilities under FOIA. Confidential business information must be clearly marked "Business Confidential" at the top of the letter or page and each succeeding page and must be accompanied by a non-confidential summary of the confidential information. The non-confidential summary and remaining documents may be made available to the public under FOIA [43 CFR 2.26 – 2.33].

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Migratory Bird Regional Permit Offices

FWS REGION	AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY	MAILING ADDRESS	CONTACT INFORMATION
Region 1	**Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Washington**	911 N.E. 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232-4181	Tel. (503) 872-2715 Fax (503) 231-2019 Email *permitsR1MB@fws.gov*
Region 2	**Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas**	P.O. Box 709 Albuquerque, NM 87103	Tel. (505) 248-7882 Fax (505) 248-7885 Email *permitsR2MB@fws.gov*
Region 3	**Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin**	5600 American Blvd. West Suite 990 Bloomington, MN 55437-1458 (Effective 5/31/2011)	Tel. (612) 713-5436 Fax (612) 713-5393 Email *permitsR3MB@fws.gov*
Region 4	**Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico**	P.O. Box 49208 Atlanta, GA 30359	Tel. (404) 679-7070 Fax (404) 679-4180 Email *permitsR4MB@fws.gov*
Region 5	**Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, West Virginia**	P.O. Box 779 Hadley, MA 01035-0779	Tel. (413) 253-8643 Fax (413) 253-8424 Email *permitsR5MB@fws.gov*
Region 6	**Colorado, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming**	P.O. Box 25486 DFC(60154) Denver, CO 80225-0486	Tel. (303) 236-8171 Fax (303) 236-8017 Email *permitsR6MB@fws.gov*
Region 7	**Alaska**	1011 E. Tudor Road (MS-201) Anchorage, AK 99503	Tel. (907) 786-3693 Fax (907) 786-3641 Email *permitsR7MB@fws.gov*
Region 8	**California, Nevada**	2800 Cottage Way Room W-2606 Sacramento, CA 95825	Tel. (916) 978-6183 Fax (916) 414-6486 Email*permitsR8MB@fws.gov*

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
STATEMENT OF WORK
BETWEEN
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR (DOI), U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES (FWS)

I. AUTHORITY

The authority of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) which is acting as the servicing agency (collectively the "Parties") to enter into this Interagency Agreement (IAA) is the Economy Act of 1932 (31 U.S.C. 1535), resulting in an assisted acquisition.

II. OBJECTIVE/PURPOSE

This Interagency Agreement (IAA) is between the Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (FWS) and the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Border Wall (BW) Program Management Office (PMO). In accordance with this agreement, FWS (servicing agency), will, on behalf of CBP (requesting agency), use its experience, background, and expertise to chemically and mechanically control non-native invasive plant species that exploit openings in the riparian forest canopy in the Tijuana River Valley and the Sweetwater River Valley which are located in the San Diego Border Patrol Sector.

The overall goals of the project are to: reduce the risk of wildfire; improve habitat for riparian nesting bird species including the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo and Southwestern willow flycatcher; mitigate safety risks to FWS staff and Border Patrol personnel; and improve access and visibility for Border Patrol operations. The San Diego Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol is one of the busiest in the country in terms of illegal entries and smuggling activity from Mexico.

III. SCOPE

This Statement of Work describes the comprehensive scope of support services for CBP's requirements. During the Base Period, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will use its best efforts to provide the following services either by contract or by in-house efforts:

a. **Sweetwater River Valley** (using either in-house or contractor resources), including but not limited to:

    1) The primary actions are to chemically and mechanically control non-native invasive plant species that exploit openings in the riparian forest canopy. Chemical treatments would include application of herbicide at the appropriate point of the growth cycle for the chemical to be transported to the roots and kill the plant. Mechanical treatments would include cutting, removal, and chipping. Non-native species that contribute to hazardous fuel loading and are targeted for

removal include giant reed (*Arundo donax*), saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.), Peruvian peppertree (*Schinus molle*), eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.), Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*), and castor bean (*Ricinus communis*). Planning activities include project plan development, mapping of target species, environmental compliance, contract development and administration, treatment effectiveness monitoring, and reporting. Two units of the Sweetwater River totaling 242 acres would be treated – Unit 1 (upstream of SR 94 to the Refuge boundary with private land) is 124 acres; Unit 2 (downstream of SR 94 to boundary with Sweetwater Authority) is 118 acres.

Follow-up chemical and mechanical treatments will likely be necessary for 3 years to achieve 100% control of invasive plant species and to remove live or dead biomass.

The project area is designated critical habitat for the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) and Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*).

b. **Tijuana River Valley** (using either in-house or contractor resources), including but not limited to:

1) The primary actions are to mechanically remove woody debris from the riparian zone and to chemically and mechanically control invasive plant species that exploit openings in the forest canopy created by the beetle infestation. Mechanical treatment of large woody debris would include cutting, removal, and chipping. Invasive plant species would be controlled with herbicides followed by mechanical removal of the dead material. The main species to be targeted include giant reed (*Arundo donax*), saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.), and castor bean (*Ricinus communis*). Planning activities include project plan development, mapping of target species, environmental compliance, contract development and administration, treatment effectiveness monitoring, and reporting. The total footprint of the project area is approximately 200 acres.

Follow-up mechanical and chemical treatments will likely be necessary for 3-5 years to achieve 100% control of invasive plant species or to remove additional woody debris generated by beetle activity.

Portions of the project area include designated critical habitat for the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*).

IV. **REQUIREMENTS/TASKS:**

a. **Sweetwater River Valley:** The total footprint is 242 acres; and 242 acres would be counted for accomplishments.
   1) Treatment #1: CATNR-FY19-CX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   2) Treatment #2: CATNR-FY19-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP

b. **Tijuana River Valley:** The total footprint is approximately 200 acres; however, approximately 1,120 acres will be counted for accomplishments (each treatment type is counted once; follow-up treatments will occur for 3-5 years on each unit).
   1) Treatment #1: CATJR-FY19-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   2) Treatment #2: CATJR-FY19-CX-SCA-Units 3,4-BP
   3) Treatment #3: CATJR-FY20-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   4) Treatment #4: CATJR-FY20-CX-SCA-Units 3,4-BP
   5) Treatment #5: CATJR-FY20-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   6) Treatment #6: CATJR-FY20-CX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP

V. **ESTIMATED COST BREAKOUT (INCLUDING APPLICABLE FEES):**

Project Title	TOTAL COST ESTIMATE
Sweetwater River Valley	
FY19	350,000.00
Sub-Total	**350,000.00**
Tijuana River Valley	
FY19	330,000.00
FY20	320,000.00
Subtotal	**650,000.00**
Grand Total	**1,000,000.00**

Table 1: Project Cost Estimate

The Base Period amount includes all costs for all work included in the scope of this IAA plus the project management costs charged by FWS for the Base Period. Actual costs are dependent on the work performed. This budgetary estimate is based on a summation of all the labor, contract and other direct and indirect costs assumed to be required to fund the mechanical / chemical treatments executed during the Base Period through contract closeout.

VI. **DELIVERABLES:**

The servicing agency must provide an electronic version of the following:

- Monthly expense burn rate report
- Monthly Project Delivery Schedule

VII. PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

The place of performance for this requirement shall include San Diego Border Patrol Sector.

VIII. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

This Agreement is effective from _____ through four years from date of award, which is estimated to be from XXX 2019 – XXX, 2024.

IX. FUNDING

The initial value of the IAA base year is **$1,000,000.00**
Any modifications resulting from a CBP approved change request will be funded from the change management reserve contract line item number (CLIN) 10. Use of the change management reserve funding CLIN 10 is only authorized after receipt of a CBP approved change request. Funding will be provided by CBP BW PMO to the Department of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Specific funding information is as follows:

[Information found in the PRR in FMB Section or under Account Section of PR]

Cost Center:
Order:
Fund:
Functional Area:
Fund Center:
PR:

X. POINTS OF CONTACT

CBP:

(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)
Border Wall Program Management Office
Program Management Office Directorate
Phone: (b) (6)
E-mail: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)
Contracting Officer Representative
Acquisition, Real Estate, and Environmental
Border Wall Program Management Office
Phone: (b) (6)
E-mail: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)
Border Wall Program Management Office
Phone: (b) (6)
E-mail: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

CBP Acquisitions:

TBD
Contracting Specialist
US Customs and Border Protection/DHS
Phone: TBD
Email: TBD

(b) (6)
Contracting Officer
US Customs and Border Protection/DHS
Phone: (b) (6)
Email (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Department Of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service:

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Phone: 208-387-5536
Cell Phone: 208-559-1124
Email: gillian_fay@fws.gov

XI. PARTICIPATING AGENCY INFORMATION

Specific Agency information is as follows:
Full Agency Name: Department of the Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Full Agency Address: 3383 S Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705-5354
Telephone Number: 208- 387-5536
Fax Number: 208-387-5668
Tax Identification Number: 84-1024566
DUNS Number: 151157950
Agency Locator Code: 14-16-006
Treasury Account Symbol: 14.14X1125.16

United States Department of the Interior

Fish and Wildlife Service

Arizona Ecological Services Office
9828 North 31st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85051
Telephone: (602) 242-0210 Fax: (602) 242-2513

AESO/SE
02EAAZ00-2018-I-0091

October 31, 2017

(b) (6)(b) (6)
Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of Acquisition
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6):

Thank you for your correspondence dated October 24, 2017, received in our office on October 24, 2017. This letter documents our review of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Acquisition's proposed Block 1 Tower Replacement Project in the Tucson Border Patrol Station Area of Operation. This project involves the construction of nine IFT sensor towers to replace existing SBInet towers in the general area of the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge (BANWR) and east of the BANWR in Pima County, Arizona. In addition, the BANWR refuge manager and the Coronado National Forest Supervisor have both determined that new special use permits will be issued to authorize this action to construct replacement towers on lands they administer. The special use permit has been issued for the BANWR, but this consultation includes the issuance of the permit by the Coronado National Forest as an element of the proposed action for which CBP is acting as the lead agency for this consultation.

You are requesting informal consultation on the potential effects of this proposed action pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544) (ESA), as amended. You have requested our concurrence with your determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the endangered Pima pineapple cactus (*Coryphanta scheeri* var. *robustispina*), the threatened Chiricahua leopard frog (*Rana chiricahuaensis*) and designated critical habitat, the threatened northern Mexican gartersnake (*Thamnophis eques megalops*), the threatened yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), and the endangered jaguar (*Panthera onca*) and designated critical habitat. We concur with your determinations and provide our rationale below. Critical habitat has been proposed for the northern Mexican gartersnake and the yellow-billed cuckoo and proposed critical habitat for both

species occurs in the area of the proposed action. You have determined that the proposed action will not adversely modify proposed critical habitat for either species and we will not address proposed critical habitat in this consultation.

You also determined the propose action would have no effect on the Kearney's Blue-Star (*Amsonia kearneyana*), the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii eximus*), the masked bobwhite quail (*Colinus virginianus ssp. ridgwayi*), the lesser long-nosed bat (*Leptoncyteris curasoae yerbabuenae*), and the ocelot (*Leopardus pardalis*). The ESA does not require the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to concur with "no effect" determinations. These species will not be addressed in this consultation. However, we strongly recommend that CBP include their justification for these "no effect" determinations in their administrative record.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

The nine Block 1 sensor towers proposed for replacement in this project are identified as:

1) TCA-TUS-032 M4 occurring on lands owned by Pima County;
2) TCA-TUS-035 Guijas occurring on lands managed by BANWR;
3) TCA-TUS-036 Black Mesa occurring on lands managed by the Coronado NF;
4) TCA-TUS-041 County Line occurring on lands managed by the State of AZ;
5) TCA-TUS-085 Rose occurring on lands managed by BANWR;
6) TCA-TUS-287 De La Osa occurring on lands managed by BANWR;
7) TCA-TUS-290 Spears Property occurring on lands managed by CBP;
8) TCA-TUS-298 Blackberry Hill occurring on lands managed by the Coronado NF; and
9) TCA-TUS-299 Garcia Ranch occurring on lands managed by BANWR (see Figure 1 of the Biological Assessment).

At each of these towers, the entire tower structure and supporting equipment will be replaced. A lattice replacement tower, of similar height and design to the existing tower, with a poured concrete foundation will be constructed within the existing, permanently disturbed tower footprint (typically 50 feet by 50 feet). After construction is completed on the new tower, the above-ground portion of the existing towers will be removed. In order to enable construction of the new tower, the current fence and all support facilities (generator, propane tank, building, and solar panels) will be relocated within the original temporary disturbance footprint. The original 100 foot by 100-foot temporary disturbance footprint will be flagged and no disturbance outside of this area will be allowed. After the existing tower is removed, the grounding system will be rebuilt if and as required. At each of these towers, the existing communication equipment and power generation equipment (solar panels and propane generator) will be replaced. The solar panels will provide the primary power source for operation of the tower. When the IFT system becomes operational, the generator is only anticipated to run for a period of 20 minutes once every seven days, or during infrequent weather events when there is no sunshine for several days. The sound level as measured from the generator is anticipated to be approximately 68 dBA at 28 feet. During construction, the operating time of the generator will increase when the solar panels are removed at the five towers which are not connected to grid power (TCA-35, TCA-36, TCA-41, TCA-85, and TCA-298).

The actual construction activities at each sensor tower are expected last 40 to 60 days, not all consecutively, over the 12- to 18-month duration of the project. During these construction activities, up to an estimated 12 trips by cement trucks for foundation installation, 12 trips by flatbed trucks for delivery of materials, 3 trips for the crane truck and several hundred pick-up truck trips for workers will be required to construct each tower. Construction at towers in the Tucson Border Patrol Station AOR is planned to begin in fall 2017.

The temporary disturbance area will be restored after construction is completed as directed by the land manager. The construction schedule for work at each specific tower has not yet been developed. There will be no night time construction during the period from April 1 to October 1, and nighttime construction during the balance of the construction period is unlikely. There will be no night time operational lighting at the towers.

The Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge Manager and the Coronado National Forest Supervisor have both determined that new special use permits will be issued to authorize this action to construct replacement towers on lands they administer. The special use permit for this project has been issued by the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge Manager. This consultation includes issuance of the permit by the Coronado National Forest Supervisor as an element of the proposed action.

CBP has included a number of conservation measures in their proposed action to avoid and minimize adverse effects to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service trust resources. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

General

1. The government environmental Subject Matter Expert and environmental contract monitor will determine which threatened and endangered species could occur in the vicinity of project activities.

2. To protect individuals of listed species within the project area, suspend work in the immediate vicinity of the individual until it moves out of harm's way on its own, or enlist a qualified specialist (individuals or agency personnel with a permit to handle the species) to relocate the animal to a nearby safe location in accordance with accepted species-handling protocols.

3. CBP will develop (in conjunction with land managers) and implement a training program focusing on Trust Resources for contractor personnel. Training will be provided to all personnel associated with the project before the project begins and before any new personnel begin work on the project. Information presented in the training program will include occurrence of sensitive species in the project area, their general ecology, and sensitivity to human activities; legal protection afforded the species and the penalties for violation of state or Federal laws; implementation of included conservation actions/best management practices; and reporting requirements. Also included in this training program will be color photos of the listed species and maps of federally listed species' habitats. Following the training program, the photos and maps will be posted in the contractor and resident engineer's office, where they will remain through the duration of the project.

4. Check visible space underneath all vehicles and heavy equipment for listed species and other wildlife prior to moving vehicles and equipment at the beginning of each workday and after vehicles have idled for more than 15 minutes.

5. Groundwater or surface water from a treated municipal source will be used when within one-mile habitat for aquatic species.

6. No use of herbicides will be permitted.

7. Contractor shall not drive roads which have become impassable by heavy rains until such roads are repaired.

Migratory Bird BMPs

1. A survey for migratory birds will also be conducted prior to all activities to be implemented during the nesting period in areas where migratory birds might be nesting (February 1 through September 1). If construction is proposed in areas identified by USFWS as suitable breeding habitat for yellow-billed cuckoo, surveys will be conducted using the Halterman et al. (2016) protocol. If an active nest of any migratory bird is found in the Action Area, a buffer zone of 300 feet will be established around the nest and no activities will occur within that zone until nestlings have fledged and abandoned the nest. Confirmation that all young have fledged should be made by qualified personnel.

2. If project activity is scheduled during the migratory bird-nesting season, take steps to prevent migratory birds from establishing nests in the action area. These steps could include covering equipment and structures. Birds can be flushed to prevent them from nesting on the site.

3. If project activities could result in the take (e.g. removal of nest, eggs, and/or fledglings) of a migratory bird; then coordination with the USFWS and/ or the Arizona Game and Fish Department will be required and applicable permits would be obtained prior to project activities.

Species Specific BMPs

<u>Pima Pineapple Cactus</u>

1. No ground disturbance will occur outside the previously disturbed footprint in suitable habitat without further consultation with the USFWS.

2. Within or adjacent to Pima pineapple cactus suitable habitat, to minimize fugitive dust generation, monitor dust during construction, and conduct abatement of fugitive dust when there is a visible plume of dust extending more than 30 feet from the dust source. Abatement would include reducing travel speeds and/or applying dust suppressants, such as water.

<u>Chiricahua Leopard Frog</u>

1. To avoid running over Chiricahua leopard frogs on Highway 286 and Highway 289, construction vehicles will not cross washes when water is flowing along the following portions of these roads: (1) Highway 286 from its junction with Highway 289(Arivaca-Sasabe Road) south for 8.5 miles and (2) Highway 289 from its junction with Highway 286 continuing east for 2.4 miles to the far side of Puertocito Wash.

2. To avoid running over Chiricahua leopard frogs on Tres Boleros and Tres Bellotas Roads, construction vehicles will not travel along designated portions of these roads between July 1st and October 1st, or during rainfall events that occur outside of this time period: Tres Boleros Road within one mile overland distance of Garcia Tank, and Tres Bellotas Road beginning north of TCA-TUS-036 and continuing in a northeast direction to its intersection with Arivaca-Sasabe Road.

3. During the monsoon season, a qualified biologist will monitor the frog-proof fence at tower TCA-TUS-032 and relocate any frogs along this fence to avoid impacts to the species.

4. A site-specific storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) and a spill protection plan will be prepared and regulatory approval sought, as required by regulations. This plan will include, but is not limited to, placing straw bale type sediment traps at the inlet of ponds or stock tanks and upstream of drainages known to be occupied by the species or within critical habitat of the species.

5. To prevent the spread of amphibian diseases among drainages via water or mud on vehicles and equipment, all work within Chiricahua leopard frog Action Area shall conform to amphibian disease prevention protocols as described in the Recovery Plan for the Chiricahua leopard frog (USFWS 2007). Equipment would either be disinfected on-site between uses at different sites or rinsed to remove all dirt and mud and then completely airdried before moving to another site. This measure will not be required for travel along paved routes or portions of Ruby Road that are in the action area, as these routes are heavily traveled by the public and cleaning/sterilization of project vehicles will do little to prevent movement of disease via vehicular travel.

6. Any use or storage of chemicals or fuels will be kept 0.3 miles away from the Chiricahua leopard frog Action Area.

7. Individual animals found in the project area in danger of being harmed will be relocated by a CBP biologist to a nearby safe location in accordance with accepted species handling protocols in Federal and state permits. No animals will be moved to aquatic habitat without prior coordination with the USFWS species lead.

Northern Mexican Gartersnake

1. Within proposed critical habitat for this species, an environmental monitor will be on site during all project activities.

2. Individual animals found in the project area in danger of being harmed will be relocated by a CBP biologist to a nearby safe location in accordance with accepted species handling protocols in Federal and state permits.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

CBP will avoid all construction traffic and activity at the tower sites and access roads which USFWS has identified as the most likely locations for occupancy by yellow-billed cuckoo.

1. CBP will avoid all construction activity at the following towers and associated access roads from June 1 to September 30: TCA-TUS-35, TCA-TUS-290, and TCA-TUS-287.

2. CBP will avoid all construction activity at TCA-TUS-299 from July 1 to September 30.

3. CBP will conduct cuckoo protocol surveys (Halterman et al. 2016) in drainages bordered by trees within 0.25 miles of tower TCA-TUS-299 from June 1 to June 30. If any cuckoos are located within 0.25 miles of this tower, CBP will engage the USFWS in development of measures necessary to minimize and avoid impacts to the species in these locations.

4. CBP will avoid using Tres Bellotas Road along Fresnal Wash between TCA-TUS-298 and TCA-TUS-036 from June 1 to September 30 to avoid disturbance to cuckoos in suitable habitat.

As part of the proposed action for this project, CBP is working in coordination with the USFWS to develop an interagency agreement with USFWS to provide funding to support high priority activities for conservation and recovery of the Chiricahua leopard frog, yellow-billed cuckoo and northern Mexican gartersnake which may be found in the vicinity of the Action Area of this project.

CONCLUSION

Pima Pineapple Cactus

Environmental Baseline

The Pima pineapple cactus is a low-growing hemispherical cactus that may be found as single or multi-stemmed plants. Adults measure 4-18 inches tall and 3-7 inches in diameter. The spines are stout and arranged in clusters with one central hooked spine and 6-15 radial straight spines. Spines are originally straw colored, but become black with age. Flowers are yellow and the fruit is a green ellipsoid (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2017). The Pima pineapple cactus was listed as endangered without critical habitat throughout the species range on September 23, 1993 (58 FR 49875). This cactus species grows in the transition zone between the semi-desert grasslands and Sonora desert scrub on alluvial bajadas (lower slopes of mountains characterized by loose alluvial sediments and poor soil development) and slopes of less than 10 percent grade at elevations between 2,300 and 4,200 feet above sea level. The U.S. range of the Pima pineapple cactus is bordered by the Baboquivari Mountains to the west, and the Santa Rita Mountains to the east, and extends from the U.S./Mexico border north to the vicinity of Tucson. Individual plants are often widely scattered in low density across the suitable habitat (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2016c). The proposed action includes some areas of occupied Pima pineapple cactus habitat.

Effects of the Proposed Action

Because the proposed action is to replace existing SBInet towers, CBP conducted a previous consultation with the USFWS covering the original construction of the SBInet towers. This consultation was completed in 2008. Known occurrences of Pima pineapple cacti are based on results from the 2008 preconstruction surveys, disturbance at tower sites and temporary impact areas during initial tower construction in 2008 and 2009, and additional surveys in 2017. There are six towers in this project located in suitable Pima pineapple cactus habitat (TUS-035, TUS-041, TUS- 085, TUS-290, TUS-298 and TUS-299). There are no cacti at these tower sites within the fenced enclosure. Pima pineapple cactus located outside of the fenced enclosure, and within the 100 foot by 100-foot temporary impact area could be damaged or destroyed by construction activities during the project. However, during preconstruction surveys for the Tucson West project in 2008, a protocol survey for Pima pineapple cactus only identified the species within the potential construction disturbance footprint at the TUS-290 tower site. Informal surveys for Pima pineapple cactus performed at these six tower sites on May 25, 2017 located no Pima pineapple cactus.

Because the construction of the replacement towers will occur within the existing footprint of the original towers, no Pima pineapple cacti or habitat is expected to result from the proposed action. In addition, CBP has determined that the occurrence of Pima pineapple cacti within the temporary disturbance areas of the original construction that have germinated subsequent to the original construction is extremely unlikely. Impacts to individual plants outside of the temporary impact zone could result from fugitive dust. Because construction and travel will be within existing footprints of the original construction and because of the proposed conservation measures included in the proposed action, it is expected that dust effects will be minimal.

Conclusion

The Service concurs with your determination that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Pima pineapple cactus, based upon the following:

- Because the proposed action will occur within areas disturbed by the original tower construction in 2008 and which continue to be disturbed, there is a very low likelihood that Pima pineapple cacti will be affected by the proposed action. Therefore, effects due to trampling or crushing are discountable.
- Effects on Pima pineapple cacti from fugitive dust would be minimized through the use of BMPs. The numbers of individuals that could be impacted is very small. Therefore, such effects will be insignificant.
- During Section 7 consultation on the Tucson West tower project (Consultation #22410-2008-F-0373), CBP agreed to mitigate for all Pima pineapple cactus habitat loss at towers within suitable habitat through purchase of conservation credits at a USFWS-approved conservation bank. In April 2017, CBP delivered a report to USFWS quantifying the impacts to Pima pineapple cactus during tower construction; and in May 2017, USFWS concurred with the analysis of impacts to Pima pineapple cactus as presented in that report. The construction footprint for the Block 1 Replacement Project at towers within the Pima pineapple cactus range is identical to the construction footprint for the initial tower construction. Therefore, any potential impacts to this species arising from this project have

already been fully mitigated.

Chiricahua Leopard Frog and Critical Habitat

Environmental Baseline

The Chiricahua leopard frog is a leopard frog with a distinctive color pattern of small, raised, cream-colored spots on the thigh against a dark background with relatively rough skin on the back and sides, dorsolateral folds that are interrupted and deflected medially, and often green on the head and back. A distinctive call (a snore of 1 to 2 seconds duration) also separates this species from other leopard frogs (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2017).

The Chiricahua leopard frog was listed as threatened on June 13, 2002 (67 FR 40790). The listing was revised and critical habitat was designated for the species in Arizona and New Mexico on March 20, 2012 (77 FR 16324). The 2012 listing re-states the threats to the Chiricahua leopard frog and its habitat throughout its range that were outlined in the 2007 recovery plan for the species: mining, including mining-related contaminants; other contaminants; dams; diversions; stream channelization; groundwater pumping; woodcutting; urban and agricultural development; road construction; grazing by livestock and elk; climate change; and altered fire regimes (USFWS 2007, 2012). Although these threats are widespread and varied, a threats assessment that was accomplished as part of the recovery plan showed chytridiomycosis and predation by nonnative species as consistently more important threats than these habitat-based factors (USFWS 2007, 2012). The Recovery Plan for the species identifies 8 recovery units in Arizona, New Mexico, and Mexico. Each recovery unit has one or more management areas (MAs) within it where the USFWS believes the potential for successful recovery actions is greatest (USFWS 2007).

The range of the Chiricahua leopard frog includes central and southeastern Arizona; west-central and southwestern New Mexico; and in Mexico, northeastern Sonora, the Sierra Madre Occidental of northwestern and west-central Chihuahua, and possibly as far south as northern Durango (USFWS 2007, 2012).Within its geographical range, the Chiricahua leopard frog historically inhabited a variety of aquatic habitats including montane and river valley cienegas, springs, pools, tanks, lakes, reservoirs, streams, and rivers. It is a habitat generalist that historically, but is now limited to the comparatively few aquatic systems that support few or no non-native predators (e.g. American bullfrogs, fishes, and crayfishes) including livestock tanks and some streams. The species also requires permanent or semi-permanent pools for breeding, water characterized by low levels of contaminants and moderate pH, and may be excluded or exhibit periodic die-offs where a pathogenic chytridiomycete fungus is present.

The project area falls within Recovery Unit 1 for the Chiricahua leopard frog, and includes portions of two of the three MAs identified in the recovery plan for this recovery unit: the Buenos Aires Central Tanks MA and Pajarito Wilderness MA. There are also other occupied sites within project area that fall within Recovery Unit 1 but are east of the Buenos Aires Central Tanks MA and north of the Pajarito Wilderness MA.

The Buenos Aires Central Tanks MA continues to support one of the strongest metapopulations known within the range of the species due to the removal of bullfrogs from Buenos Aires National Wildlife

Refuge (BANWR) (USFWS 2011, C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017). The number of breeding sites in this metapopulation has ranged from 4 to 8 annually since 2011, although the number of breeding sites on BANWR itself has decreased during this time period (C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017). Chango Tank is one of the seven sites in the MA where breeding was detected in 2016. Garcia Tank at the southern U.S. end of the MA is considered an isolated population and not part of a metapopulation (USFWS 2012). Breeding has not been verified at Garcia Tank since the mid-2000s but frogs were last seen at this site in 2015 (C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017). There are also 17 lentic sites on BANWR that do not hold water year round but have had records of Chiricahua leopard frogs during the monsoon season when they hold water (C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017).

The Pajarito Wilderness MA includes two metapopulations of Chiricahua leopard frogs, one of which is in the project vicinity. Bullfrog eradication efforts have occurred and continue to be monitored throughout this MA. The number of breeding sites in the Bonita, Upper Turner, and Mojonera metapopulation in the MA has ranged from 2 to 3 annually since 2011 (C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017). In 2016 and 2017, Chiricahua leopard frogs were discovered in 4 lentic sites at the northern end of the MA and an additional 3 lentic sites to the north of the MA that likely dispersed from known breeding sites of this metapopulation or from the Buenos Aires Central Tanks metapopulation described in the previous paragraph (C. Crawford, pers. comm. 2017).

Chiricahua leopard frogs routinely disperse during the monsoon season, and are known to move up to one mile overland, 3 miles along intermittent stream channels, and 5 miles along perennial streams from breeding sites they occupy (USFWS 2012). Recent studies of Chiricahua leopard frogs revealed that these frogs will move further than previously thought based on the 1-3-5 rule described above. For instance, Hinderer et al. (2017) found that radio-telemetered adult frogs moved an average of 97 m a day and up to 1,658 m in a day with a maximum total movement of a frog measured at 9,888 m over 36 days. Such movements are likely aided by permanent or ephemeral waters that serve as stepping stones within the landscape.

The primary constituent elements of the physical or biological features essential to the conservation of the Chiricahua leopard frog included in designated critical habitat for the species (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2012) are:

(i) Aquatic breeding habitat and immediately adjacent uplands exhibiting the following characteristics:

(A) Standing bodies of fresh water (with salinities less than 5 parts per thousand, pH greater than or equal to 5.6, and pollutants absent or minimally present), including natural and manmade (e.g., stock) ponds, slow-moving streams or pools within streams, off-channel pools, and other ephemeral or permanent water bodies that typically hold water or rarely dry for more than a month. During periods of drought, or less than average rainfall, these breeding sites may not hold water long enough for individuals to complete metamorphosis, but they would still be considered essential breeding habitat in non-drought years.

(B) Emergent and or submerged vegetation, root masses, undercut banks, fractured rock substrates, or some combination thereof, but emergent vegetation does not completely cover the surface of water bodies.

(C) Nonnative predators (e.g., crayfish (Orconectes virilis), bullfrogs (Lithobates catesbeianus), nonnative predatory fish) absent or occurring at levels that do not preclude presence of the Chiricahua leopard frog.

(D) Absence of chytridiomycosis, or if present, then environmental, physiological, and genetic conditions are such that allow persistence of Chiricahua leopard frogs.

(E) Upland habitats that provide opportunities for foraging and basking that are immediately adjacent to or surrounding breeding aquatic and riparian habitat.

(ii) Dispersal and nonbreeding habitat, consisting of areas with ephemeral (present for only a short time), intermittent, or perennial water that are generally not suitable for breeding, and associated upland or riparian habitat that provides corridors (overland movement or along wetted drainages) for frogs among breeding sites in a metapopulation with the following characteristics:

(A) Are not more than 1.0 mile (1.6 kilometers) overland, 3.0 miles (4.8 kilometers) along ephemeral or intermittent drainages, 5.0 miles (8.0 kilometers) along perennial drainages, or some combination thereof not to exceed 5.0 miles (8.0 kilometers).

(B) In overland and non-wetted corridors, provide some vegetation cover or structural features (e.g., boulders, rocks, organic debris such as downed trees or logs, small mammal burrows, or leaf litter) for shelter, forage, and protection from predators; in wetted corridors, provide some ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial aquatic habitat.

(C) Are free of barriers that block movement by Chiricahua leopard frogs, including, but not limited to: urban, industrial, or agricultural development; reservoirs that are 50 acres (20 hectares) or more in size and contain predatory nonnative fish, bullfrogs, or crayfish; highways that do not include frog fencing and culverts; and walls, major dams, or other structures that physically block movement.

Two critical habitat units within Recovery Unit 1 are located in the project vicinity (see Figure 3). These critical habitat units are: Garcia Tank and Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge Central Tanks. Together, these two units comprise 1,721 acres or 16 percent of the designated critical habitat. The Garcia Tank critical habitat unit is within the action area. The portions the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge Central Tanks critical habitat unit within the action area include Chango Tank (PCE1) and Las Moras Wash (PCE2).

Chiricahua leopard frogs are found in other sites within the project area outside of critical habitat. CBP has included a number of conservation measures and BMPs to address potential effects to Chiricahua leopard frogs and designated critical habitat in all areas of the proposed action.

Effects of the Proposed Action

The most likely direct impact to Chiricahua leopard frog would be injury or death from construction vehicle traffic along access roads and at tower sites during the monsoon season (July 1 to October 1) when juvenile and adult Chiricahua leopard frogs move out of perennial lentic sites to adjacent terrestrial habitat or disperse to other perennial or intermittent sites. Two of the nine tower sites and four roads

which will be used for access to tower sites during tower construction activities are located within one mile overland from known occupied sites or they cross intermittent drainages within three miles of occupied sites that are likely used for dispersal by Chiricahua leopard frogs (Cat Crawford, USFWS, personal communication, September 25, 2017). The two tower sites are Tower TCA-TUS-032 and TCA-TUS-299 and the four roads are: (1) Highway 286 from the intersection with Highway 289(Arivaca-Sasabe Road) and south for a distance of 8.5 miles, (2) Highway 289 from the junction with Highway 286 and east for a distance of 2.4 miles to the far side of Puertocito Wash, (3)Tres Boleros Road within one mile overland distance of Garcia Tank, and (4) Tres Bellotas Road beginning north of TCA-TUS-036 and continuing in a northeast direction to its intersection with Arivaca Road. CBP will implement conservation measures or BMPS as outlined in the proposed action above, that will effectively address the potential effect of injury or death from construction vehicle traffic.

Transmission of disease vectors and invasive non-native aquatic species can occur if vehicles cross infected or infested streams or other waters and water or mud remains on the vehicle. If these vehicles subsequently cross or enter uninfected or non-infested waters, the disease or invasive species may be introduced to the new area. Because chytridomycosis is known to occur in Chiricahua leopard frog populations in Recovery Unit 1, necessary precautions will be taken to minimize the likelihood of spreading the disease such as avoiding contact with wetted areas. However, if vehicles or other equipment use will occur in wetted areas (including ponds, impoundments, or ephemeral or permanent streams) that equipment will be a) cleaned of mud and debris and then sprayed with a 10% bleach, 70% ethanol, or 1% quaternary ammonium solution, or b) allowed to dry completely, before moving to another wetted area (see Appendix G of the Chiricahua Leopard Frog Recovery Plan for protocols) (USFWS 2007). Treatments as just described, will not be required for travel along paved routes or portions of Ruby Road that are in the action area, as these routes are heavily traveled by the public and cleaning/sterilization of project vehicles will do little to prevent movement of disease via vehicular travel.

There are two Chiricahua leopard frog critical habitat units within the action area. Chango Tank, Garcia Tank are designated critical habitat for the species and contain PCE1. Las Moras Wash downstream of Chango Tank is also included in critical habitat and contains PCE2. Las Moras Wash is a paved low water crossing on Highway 286. Chango Tank is less than 400 feet overland from Highway 286 and Garcia Tank is less than 1,600 feet from Tres Boleros Road.

Conclusion

We concur with your determination that the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect the Chiricahua leopard frog, nor designated critical habitat for the following reasons:

- CBP will implement conservation measures and BMPs as described above. These measures will reduce potential effects to the Chiricahua leopard frog to insignificant or discountable levels.
- Both Garcia Tank and Chango Tank are located upstream and uphill from project activities. For this reason, there is no pathway by which Block 1 Replacement Project construction activities could directly impact these tanks, and the project would not result in effects that would diminish the value of primary constituent elements within either of the critical habitat units. There are also

no potential effects from the proposed action to PCE 2 in Las Moras Wash where it crosses Highway 286.

Jaguar and Critical Habitat

Environmental Baseline

The jaguar is a large, heavy-bodied, big-headed cat. Yellowish to tawny, spotted with black rosettes or rings in horizontal rows along the back and sides; most rings are tan inside, with 1 or 2 black spots. Legs, head, and tail have smaller, solid spots, usually giving way to incomplete bands near the end of the tail (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2017).

The jaguar was listed as endangered throughout the species range in March 28, 1972 as a foreign species (37 CFR 6476). On July 27, 1997, the jaguar was listed as an endangered species in the United States (62 FR 39147). On March 5, 2014, the USFWS published a final rule to designate critical habitat for the jaguar in southeast Arizona and southwest New Mexico (79 FR 12571). The critical habitat totals approximately 764,207 acres in six units in Pima, Santa Cruz, and Cochise Counties, Arizona, and Hidalgo County, New Mexico.

Jaguars are known from a variety of vegetation communities in North and South America. Range-wide, jaguars are mostly found in tropical and subtropical zones. In the southwestern United States, the more open, dry habitat has been suggested as being marginal in terms of water, cover, and prey densities, although historically there was a presumably larger and naturally breeding population. Jaguar populations in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States occur in arid areas, especially thornscrub, mesquite grassland, Madrean oak woodland, and pineoak woodland communities. Based on 25 historical (from 1902 to 2001) reliable and spatially accurate jaguar sighting records in Arizona, the majority of jaguars were observed in scrub grasslands (56%) and
Madrean evergreen forests (20%), all were within 6.2 miles of a water source, and most occurred in moderately rugged to extremely rugged terrain. Additionally, river valleys and other drainage features likely “provide travel corridors for jaguars, along with higher prey densities, cooler air, and denser vegetation than surrounding habitats”. In the United States–Mexico borderlands, peccaries (javelina [*Tayassu tajacu*]) and deer (white-tailed [*Odocoileus virginianus*] and mule [*O. hemionus*]) are presumably dietary mainstays; range-wide, the list of prey taken by jaguars includes more than 85 species, including numerous species of turtles, birds, fish, and livestock. Other potential prey species in the southwestern United States include white nosed coatis (*Nasua nasua*), skunk (*Mephitis* spp., *Spilogale gracilis*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), and jackrabbit (*Lepus* spp.) (USGS 2016).

The southwestern United States lies at the extreme northern limit of the jaguar’s range. An estimated that 21% to 30% of Arizona (23,940–34,200 square miles) is potentially suitable jaguar habitat; however, the species currently occurs on an occasional basis in only a small portion of this area (USGS 2016).

The primary constituent elements of jaguar critical habitat are expansive open spaces in the southwestern United States of at least 38.6 square miles in size that:

1. Provide connectivity to Mexico;
2. Contain adequate levels of native prey species;
3. Include surface water sources available within 12.4 miles of each other;
4. Contain 1% to 50% canopy cover within Madrean evergreen woodland or semidesert grassland vegetation communities;
5. Are characterized by rugged terrain;
6. Are characterized by minimal to no human population density, no major roads, or no stable night time lighting over any 0.4-square-mile area; and
7. Are below 6,562 feet amsl in elevation.

With regard to jaguar critical habitat in the project area, the project is bounded on the west by the Baboquivari Critical Habitat Unit, and on the east by the Atascosa Critical Habitat Unit. There are two towers, TUS-085 and TUS-287, located within approximately 0.5 miles of the Baboquivari Critical Habitat Unit. There are also two towers, TUS-036 and TUS-041, located within approximately 0.5 miles of the Atascosa Critical Habitat Unit. In addition, approximately 4.4 miles of Tres Bellotas Road, which will be used by construction traffic, is located within the Atascosa Critical Habitat Unit. CBP is not constructing any additional roads with the Block 1 Replacement Project.

On December 20, 2016, USFWS released a draft recovery plan for the species. This $605 million recovery plan characterizes jaguar habitat within the US as secondary habitat which is not anticipated to support breeding jaguars. The recovery plan contains a discussion of the value of secondary habitat, in terms of species conservation.

Effects of the Proposed Action

Potential direct impacts on jaguar include the risk of direct injury and mortality from construction vehicles accessing towers, and changes in behavior resulting from noise and other disturbances associated with human presence during tower construction activities. Occurrences of jaguar in the project vicinity are extremely rare. Jaguars have not been located in the project vicinity in a number of years, but a male jaguar recently occupied the Santa Rita Mountains (approximately 25 miles to the northeast of the project area) for an extended period of time. In addition, new jaguars, both males, have been documented within the last year in the Huachuca and Chiricahua mountains. While these new detections are many miles east of the project area, they do provide evidence that habitat connectivity for movement of jaguars into the United States still occurs and that jaguars can occur in any areas of suitable habitat in Arizona, even if they have not been documented there previously. However, due to the rarity of jaguar in the project vicinity, the risk of injury or mortality arising from construction vehicles is unlikely.

Project activities would occur in previously disturbed areas, and would result in no degradation, modification, or habitat fragmentation of undisturbed areas where jaguars potentially occur. The presence of construction crews and equipment, and their associated noise, could cause jaguars to move away from an area or otherwise modify their behavior. Because construction activities would be short term in nature, any displacement or other associated adverse effects would be temporary and minor. As described above, jaguars currently occur at such low densities that the potential for individual jaguars to encounter project activities is extremely unlikely to occur.

There are no Block 1 project towers located within jaguar critical habitat. Construction traffic will use approximately 4.4 miles of existing Tres Bellotas Road to access tower sites. However, because Tres Bellotas and other roads proposed for use during this project are all existing roadways, there is a reduced likelihood that the proposed action will adversely affect the PCEs of jaguar critical habitat.

Conclusion

We have analyzed the effects of the proposed action and concur with the determination that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect jaguars or jaguar critical habitat for the following reasons:

- While jaguars are known to currently occupy areas of southern Arizona, there are no recent records of jaguars in the project vicinity. It is very unlikely that jaguars will be killed or injured by construction traffic associated with the proposed action. Therefore, these effects are discountable.
- All project activities will use existing roadways and stay within the previously disturbed footprint of the tower sites. Therefore, effects to jaguar habitat, including jaguar critical habitat will be insignificant.

Northern Mexican Gartersnake

Environmental Baseline

The northern Mexican gartersnake may occur with other native gartersnake species and can be difficult for people without herpetological expertise to identify. With a maximum known length of 44 inches, it ranges in background color from olive to olive-brown to olive-gray with three stripes that run the length of the body. The middle dorsal stripe is yellow and darkens toward the tail. The pale yellow to light-tan lateral stripes distinguish the Mexican gartersnake from other sympatric (co-occurring) gartersnake species because a portion of the lateral stripe is found on the fourth scale row, while it is confined to lower scale rows for other species. Throughout its range wide distribution, the northern Mexican gartersnake occurs at elevations from 130 to 8,497 feet (Rossman et al.1996, p. 172). The northern Mexican gartersnake is considered a riparian obligate (restricted to riparian areas when not engaged in dispersal behavior) (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2017).

On July 8, 2014, the USFWS issued a final rule listing the northern Mexican gartersnake as threatened throughout the species range (79 FR 38677). On July 10, 2013, critical habitat was proposed for 421,423 acres in Arizona and New Mexico (78 FR 41549).

The northern Mexican gartersnake generally occurs at elevations ranging from 3,000 to 5,000 feet within Arizona and New Mexico. Important components of northern Mexican gartersnake habitat include a stable supply of native prey, and dense vegetation when co-occurring with harmful non-native species. The northern Mexican gartersnake occurs chiefly in the following general habitat types: 1) source-area wetlands (e.g., cienegas), or stock tanks (small earthen impoundment); 2) large river riparian woodlands and forests; and 3) streamside gallery forests (as defined by well-developed broadleaf deciduous riparian

forests with limited, if any, herbaceous ground cover or dense grass) (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2017).

This species occurs in central, western, and southeastern Arizona and extreme southwestern New Mexico. Within Arizona, the most-viable populations occur in the middle and upper Verde River drainage (including Bubbling Ponds State Fish Hatchery along Oak Creek), lower Tonto Creek, the Bill Williams watershed, and within the San Rafael Valley.
Since 1970, there have only been two records of the species in the Action Area vicinity, the most recent being in 2001. However, surveys for northern Mexican gartersnakes have not occurred in this area since approximately the year 2000. The status of the population within the Action Area vicinity remains largely undetermined at this time (Jeff Servoss, USFWS, personal communication, September 29, 2017). If the species persists in the Action Area, it most likely occurs at a very low density and is most-closely associated with the Arivaca Cienega, in the location of a 2001 record.

The primary constituent elements of critical habitat for this species (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2013b) consist of the following:

1. Aquatic or riparian habitat that includes:

   a. Perennial or spatially intermittent streams of low to moderate gradient that possess appropriate amounts of in- channel pools, off-channel pools, or backwater habitat, and that possess a natural, unregulated flow regime that allows for periodic flooding or, if flows are modified or regulated, a flow regime that allows for adequate river functions, such as flows capable of processing sediment loads; or

   b. Lentic wetlands such as livestock tanks, springs, and cienegas; and

   c. Shoreline habitat with adequate organic and inorganic structural complexity to allow for thermoregulation, gestation, shelter, protection from predators, and foraging opportunities (e.g., boulders, rocks, organic debris such as downed trees or logs, debris jams, small mammal burrows, or leaf litter); and

   d. Aquatic habitat with characteristics that support a native amphibian prey base, such as salinities less than 5 parts per thousand, pH greater than or equal to 5.6, and pollutants absent or minimally present at levels that do not affect survival of any age class of the northern Mexican gartersnake or the maintenance of prey populations.

2. Adequate terrestrial space (600 feet [183 meters] lateral extent to either side of bankfull stage) adjacent to designated stream systems with sufficient structural characteristics to support life history functions such as gestation, immigration, emigration, and brumation (extended inactivity).

3. A prey base consisting of viable populations of native amphibian and native fish species.

4. An absence of nonnative fish species of the families Centrarchidae and Ictaluridae, bullfrogs, and/or

crayfish, or occurrence of these nonnative species at low enough levels such that recruitment of northern Mexican gartersnakes and maintenance of viable native fish or soft-rayed, nonnative fish populations (prey) is still occurring.

The only proposed critical habitat unit in the Action Area vicinity is Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge (see Figure 4). The entire 117,335-acre refuge has been proposed as critical habitat for the species (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2013b). There are 5 towers located within this critical habitat unit.

Effects of the Proposed Action

Northern Mexican gartersnakes are generally active from March through October in southern Arizona, although they may be active any day of the year when the daily low temperature is above freezing. The species may be active in upland areas (typically within about 600 feet of ephemeral or perennial water sources), but up to one mile or more from a given water body or in and along drainages and depressions during the monsoon season (Jeff Servoss, US Fish and Wildlife Service, personal communication, September 29, 2017). The Block 1 Replacement Project does not involve any actions within 600 feet of perennial water sources. Therefore, any potential direct effects to the species are likely confined to dispersal periods. The most likely direct effect to the species during dispersal periods would be injury or death from construction vehicle traffic along access roads and at tower sites.

The primary constituent elements for northern Mexican gartersnake critical habitat include: aquatic habitat, adequate terrestrial space adjacent to the aquatic habitat to support critical life history functions, an adequate prey base and an absence of invasive species. The Block 1 Replacement Project construction activities are located at least 0.25 miles from any of these primary constituent elements. The construction activities are confined to existing roads and previously disturbed sites. For these reasons, the Block 1 project is unlikely to have any significant effects on primary constituent elements for northern Mexican gartersnake proposed critical habitat.

Conclusion

We have analyzed the effects of the proposed action and concur with your determination that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the threatened northern Mexican gartersnake for the following reasons:

- The northern Mexican gartersnake occurs in the action area in very low densities. Potential effects to the gartersnake from road fatalities are discountable.
- CBP will implement conservation measures and BMPs as outlined above. This will reduce other potential effects to an insignificant level.

Yellow-Billed Cuckoo

Environmental Baseline

Yellow-billed cuckoos (or cuckoos) are fairly large, long, and slim birds. The mostly yellow bill is almost

as long as the head, thick and slightly down-curved. Wings appear pointed and swept back in flight. Yellow-billed cuckoos are warm brown above and clean whitish below. Their blackish face mask is accompanied by a yellow eye ring. In flight, the outer part of the wings flash rufous. From below, the tail has wide white bands and narrower black ones.

A western Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of the yellow-billed cuckoo was designated as threatened on October 3, 2014 (USFWS 2013c, 2014c; 78 FR 61622, 79 FR 59992). On August 15, 2014 (79 FR 48547) USFWS proposed 546,335 acres of critical habitat in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, Texas, Utah and Wyoming (USFWS 2014b; 79 FR 48548). Following publication of the draft proposed critical habitat rule, cuckoos have been found in previously unknown locations and habitats in Arizona. The largest remaining breeding areas are in southern and central California, Arizona, along the Rio Grande in New Mexico, and in northwestern Mexico (USFWS 2014c; 79 FR 59992).
In Arizona, the species was a common resident in the (chiefly lower) Sonoran zones of southern, central, and western Arizona (Phillips et al. 1964). The yellow-billed cuckoo now nests primarily in the central and southern parts of the state, as well as at revegetation sites along the lower Colorado River (Corman and Magill 2000, McFarland and Horst 2015, 2017; USFWS 2013c, 2014b, 2014c, McNeil et al. 2013).

The western yellow-billed cuckoo breeds in riparian (hydro- and xero- riparian) woodlands, and in Madrean evergreen woodland drainages and mesquite woodlands of arid areas. Habitat conditions are typically cooler and more humid than in the surrounding environment (USFWS 2014b,c). The vegetation making up the breeding habitat of the western yellow-billed cuckoo varies across the species' range and includes native and nonnative -riparian and upland nonriparian species including cottonwood (*Populus* spp.), willow (*Salix* spp.), mesquite (*Prosopis* spp.), box elder (*Acer negundo*), sycamore (*Platanus* spp.), ash (*Fraxinus* ssp.), walnut (*Juglans* spp.), alder (*Alnus* spp.), hackberry (*Celtis spp.*), soapberry (*Sapindus saponaria*), oak (*Quercus* spp.), acacia (*Acacia* spp.), desert willow (*Chilopsis linearis*), elderberry (*Sambuccus mexicanus*), juniper (*Juniperus* spp.), pine (*Pinus* spp.), Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*), and tamarisk (*Tamarix* spp.) (Gaines 1974, pp. 7–9; Gaines and Laymon 1984, pp. 59–66; Laymon and Halterman 1989, pp. 274–275; Laymon 1980; Corman and Magill 2000; Dettling and Howell 2011, p. 28; MacFarland and Horst 2015).

In most of the DPS, the western yellow-billed cuckoo primarily breeds in large riparian woodlands dominated by willow and cottonwood along low-gradient rivers and streams, and in open riverine valleys that provide wide floodplain conditions (USFWS 2014a,b). In the Southwest, however, cuckoos can also breed in higher gradient drainages, and narrower and drier reaches of riparian habitat (Corman and Magill 2000;WestLand Resources; Inc. 2013a, 2013b, 2013c, 2015a, 2015b, 2015c; Arizona Game and Fish Department 2016; MacFarland and Horst 2015, 2017; Tucson Audubon 2015; Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Large expanses of gallery riparian woodland habitat supports greater densities of cuckoos than less dense reaches of scattered riparian trees or more xero-riparian woodlands. However, these less dense reaches of scattered riparian trees and more xero-riparian woodlands are also important to yellow-billed cuckoos as nesting substrate, foraging habitat, and as a buffer between more hydric sites and the adjacent, xeric uplands (USFWS 2014b, 2014c; Griffin 2015; Groschupf 2015; McFarland and Horst 2015, 2017).
To distinguish between the western yellow-billed cuckoo breeding habitat in riparian areas throughout the range and breeding habitat found in more arid areas of the Southwest, we use the terms "Rangewide" and "Southwestern" breeding habitat, respectively. We describe both the Rangewide and Southwestern breeding habitat below:

Southwestern breeding habitat

Southwestern breeding habitat is located in the Southwestern United States (particularly in Arizona) and is comprised of riparian woodlands, mesquite woodlands, or Madrean evergreen woodlands with a variable overstory canopy and understory component within drainages at least 200 ac (81 ha) in size. In addition to cottonwood, willow, and mesquite, occupied riparian habitat in Arizona may also contain a greater proportion of xero-riparian species than in the rest of the DPS. Oak, hackberry, sycamore, walnut, ash, acacia, tamarisk, and juniper are among the most common xero-riparian species in Southwestern breeding habitat (Corman and Magill 2000, Corman and Wise-Gervais 2005, USFWS unpubl. data). Tamarisk may be a component of breeding habitat, but there is usually a native riparian tree component within the occupied habitat (Gaines and Laymon 1984, Johnson et al. 2008, McNeil et al. 2013, Sechrist et al. 2013, Carstensen et al. 2015). Habitat patches in the arid Southwest contain a greater proportion of xero-riparian and nonriparian tree species than elsewhere in the DPS. Habitat patches are often interspersed with large openings and include narrow stands of trees, small groves of trees, or sparsely scattered trees. As such, the canopy closure is variable, and where trees are sparsely scattered, canopy closure may be dense only at the nest tree. Southwestern breeding habitat types are as follows:

- Riparian woodland is more water-limited, contains a greater proportion of xero-riparian species, and is often narrower, patchier, and sparser than where water is more abundant. This more arid riparian woodland occurs in perennial and intermittent drainages and floodplains throughout the Southwest.
- Mesquite-dominated woodland habitat occurs in floodplains, adjacent terraces, and adjacent uplands in perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral drainages throughout the Southwest.

- Madrean evergreen woodland (usually oak-dominated) habitat occurs in intermittent and ephemeral drainages and adjacent hillsides in the foothills and mountains of southeastern Arizona, up to 7000 ft in elevation. The amount of oak varies and may be interspersed with mesquite and other species in Madrean evergreen woodland.

In addition to the dense nesting grove or tree, often referred to as the core area, western yellow-billed cuckoos need adequate foraging areas near the nest. Foraging areas can be less dense or patchy with lower levels of canopy cover and may be a mix of shrubs, ground cover, and scattered trees (Sechrist et al. 2009, 2013; Carstensen et al. 2015; Griffin 2015; USFWS, unpubl. data). Cuckoos often forage in open areas, woodlands, orchards, and adjacent streams (Hughes 1999), which include stands of smaller mesquite trees and even tamarisk (Rosenberg et al. 1991). In Arizona, adjacent habitat is usually more arid than occupied nesting habitat. This adjacent habitat can be used for foraging where large insects are produced.

Proposed Critical Habitat. There is one unit of proposed yellow-billed cuckoo critical habitat within the Action Area. This critical habitat unit is AZ-23, the Arivaca Wash/San Luis Wash Unit. This 5,765-acre

proposed critical habitat unit is made up of two washes that join to form a 17-mi long continuous segment that is comprised of 9 mi of Arivaca Wash and 8 mi of San Luis Wash. Approximately 1,014 ac, or 18 percent, of proposed unit AZ–23 are privately owned; 89 ac, or 2 percent, are in State ownership and managed by the Arizona State Lands Department; and 4,662 ac, or 81 percent, are in Federal ownership located on the Buenos Aires NWR managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This unit represents about one percent of the 546,335 acres of critical habitat which has been proposed for this species (US Fish and Wildlife Service 2014c).

Towers TCA-TUS-035 and TCA-TUS-290. Within the Arivaca Wash/San Luis Wash proposed critical habitat unit, numerous western yellow-billed cuckoo detections, including pairs, from previous years have been documented by Corman and Magill (2000, pp. 42, 43, 47), Griffin (2015, p. 22), and Cornell Lab of Ornithology (2017, eBird data).
Towers TCA-TUS-035 and TCA-TUS-290 are near occupied cuckoo habitat. Towers TCA-TUS-035 and TCA-TUS-290 are within approximately 0.75 miles from the eastern border of the proposed Arivaca Wash/San Luis Wash Critical Habitat Unit. Tower TCA-TUS-035 is also immediately adjacent to an unnamed drainage bordered by large dense mesquite. This ephemeral drainage flows into Arivaca Wash and may be suitable cuckoo breeding habitat. Habitat surrounding TCA-TUS-290 consists of short stature mesquite and ocotillo. Cuckoos may be foraging in the habitat adjacent to these towers. Within the proposed Arivaca Wash/San Luis Wash Critical Habitat Unit, nine western yellow-billed cuckoo use areas at three sites were identified in the 4.1 km (2.5 mi) surveyed in 2015, including eight pairs (Griffin 2015, p. 22). Breeding was confirmed at all three sites in 2015; Arivaca Cienega, Arivaca Creek–Honnas Pond, and Arivaca Creek (Griffin 2015, p. 19, 22).

Griffin (2015, p. 19) detected most western yellow-billed cuckoos in cottonwood and willow riparian forest and woodland vegetation, but sometimes with ash, hackberry, mesquite and a dense shrub understory. Despite the fact that the riparian vegetation changes from more mesic communities upstream to more xeric communities downstream, western yellow-billed cuckoos likely breed along the entire length of Arivaca Creek. Use areas seemed to include more upland woodland of mesquite than riparian forest vegetation. The three western yellow- billed cuckoo use areas within the Arivaca Cienega site differed in vegetative composition and structure (Griffin 2015, p. 23) and included: (1) a large, low-statured mesquite woodland or “bosque” that included open areas of native grassland and cienega marsh, and a patch of mature cottonwood-willow forest; (2) patches of mature Goodding’s willow, velvet ash, and hackberry-mesquite; and (3) a large patch of cottonwood-willow riparian forest with minor upland woodland components of mesquite, hackberry, and open areas. Other sites within the unit (Arivaca Creek–Honnas Pond, Arivaca Creek) had similar habitat and western yellow-billed cuckoo use.

Tower TCA-TUS-41. Cuckoos have been found during the breeding season along Arivaca Lake and tributaries, with suitable breeding habitat within 0.5 miles of TCA-TUS-41. Sparsely scattered mesquite surround this tower on an elevated site next to a paved and well-used road. The nearest cuckoo detections reported were approximately 0.7, 0.9, and 1.3 miles respectively from TCA-TUS-41 (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Tucson Audubon detected seven occupied territories with repeated detections, including three pairs, where they surveyed the tributaries and lake in 2015 (MacFarland and Horst 2015, pp. 17–18). The seven territories documented is an underestimate, as only a small portion of suitable habitat was surveyed. Western yellow-billed cuckoos were detected at the lake on every visit during 2015 and habitat surrounding the lake and side canyons is considered highly suitable 2015. Additional records

exist from previous years (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Habitat is composed of riparian and Madrean evergreen woodland. The overstory vegetation is composed of primarily mesquite, with willow, cottonwood, ash, hackberry, and oak (MacFarland and Horst 2015, p.121).

Cuckoo Detections along Tres Boleros Road and Tres Bellotas Road. Cuckoos have been detected from tower TCA-TUS-287 to TCA-TUS-299 and from TCA-TUS 298 on Tres Boleros Road and on Tres Bellotas Road to TCA-TUS-036 during the breeding season (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Four detections records exist along Fresnal Wash along the Tres Boleros Road (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Although the drainages that cross the Tres Boleros and Tres Bellotas Road have not been surveyed, they contain suitable cuckoo habitat.

Tower TCA-TUS-287. Foraging habitat consisting primarily of mesquite appears to be suitable surrounding tower TCA-TUS-287, only 0.2 mile from La Osa Wash. La Osa Wash contains large riparian trees, but no surveys have been conducted.

Tower TCA-TUS-299. This tower is near suitable breeding and foraging habitat. Washes with large riparian trees are within 0.25 miles of this tower. Large mesquite, wolfberry, and hackberry trees occupy these washes.

Towers TCA-TUS-298 and TCA-TUS-036. Tres Bellotas Road meanders within and adjacent to Fresnal Wash, with suitable cuckoo habitat and flowing water inthe drainage. Large ash, willow, mesquite, hackberry, wolfberry, acacia, and walnut trees border the drainage between towers TCA-TUS-0298 and TCA-TUS-036. On October 23, 2017 water was flowing in the wash in reaches where the wash becomes the road and where the wash crosses the road. A manmade pond surrounded by riparian trees within 0.25 miles of tower TCA-TUS-036 may also support breeding cuckoos. Towers TCA-TUS-298 and TCA-TUS-036 are far enough away from suitable breeding habitat in Fresnal Wash that construction is not likely to adversely affect cuckoos at these tower sites, as long as construction traffic avoids the Tres Bellotas Road between these towers from June 1 to September 30. Both of these towers are on elevated sites surrounded by sparse mesquite and oak trees; this habitat may be used as foraging habitat but construction activities are not likely to adversely affect cuckoos. Fresnal Wash has not been surveyed between these two towers and is not visited very often by birders due to its remote location and proximity to the border. However, some cuckoo information does exist for this area. Cuckoo were detected on August 26, 2000 and July 8, 2001 during the breeding season (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). Based on past detections, presence of water, and suitable riparian habitat, Fresnal Wash is considered to be occupied cuckoo breeding habitat.

Western yellow-billed cuckoos have been detected incidentally by birders and refuge staff in suitable breeding habitat in mesquite woodland and Madrean evergreen woodland, sometimes far from mesic drainages, in other parts of the refuge (Griffin 2015, pp. 25, 28; Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017 (eBird data)).

Effects of the Proposed Action

Yellow-billed cuckoo are reported within Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge and the adjacent Coronado National Forest, with recent breeding behavior and nests confirmed (Corman and Magill 2000;

Griffin 2015; MacFarland and Horst 2015, 2017; Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017). In recent years, cuckoos have been located near the following towers or associated roads: TCA-TUS-035, TCA-TUS-036, TCA-TUS-041, TCA-TUS 290, TCA-TUS 298, and TCA-TUS 299 during the breeding season from June 1 to September 30. In addition, suitable habitat exists near tower TCA-TUS 287.

It is possible that cuckoos could be exposed to noise from Block 1 Replacement Project construction activities. Noise will be generated by both vehicles accessing tower sites and by construction activities at tower sites. Available research indicates that medium and heavy trucks, such as cranes and cement trucks, will generate noise levels in the range of 80 to 85 dBA at speeds less than 35 miles per hour on tower access routes (Minister of Public Works and Government Services, Canada 2001).

As stated in the Section 2.0 of the biological assessment, an estimated 25 to 30 trips by medium to heavy trucks will be required to each tower site. Trips by these medium to heavy trucks will be scattered over the 40 to 60-day construction window at each tower site. The balance of trips along the access roads will be via pick-up truck, which has a noise footprint similar to a majority of the vehicles currently operating in the project vicinity. Cuckoos along these access routes could be exposed to elevated noise levels associated with these medium to heavy trucks for a duration of 30 seconds to 1 minute during each trip to a tower. Therefore, the total exposure of any cuckoos to elevated noise levels along access roads during construction at a tower is estimated to be 30 to 60 minutes. At the tower sites, the medium to heavy vehicles would be in operation for durations ranging from an hour, in the case of delivery of a load of concrete, to several days in the case of tower foundation excavation. Noise levels from operation of these medium to heavy vehicles would be similar to noise levels along access routes. Federal Highway Administration (2006) estimates noise generated by cement trucks at 79 dBA at a distance of 50 feet, and 81 dBA for cranes and excavators at a distance of 50 feet. Operation of these vehicles at tower sites would be scattered over the construction duration. Any cuckoos in the immediate vicinity of towers could be subject to up to several days of elevated noise levels during tower construction. Industrial Noise Control (2017) indicates that 70 decibels is used as a general base of comparison. This level is considered the baseline of normal, everyday activity such as a passenger car driving by or TV/radio music or a vacuum cleaner. Eighty decibels is two times as loud as 70 decibels and 90 decibels is four times as loud as 70 decibels.

The noise generated during the life of the project could result in short term noise exposure to cuckoos along the access roads or in the immediate vicinity of towers. The most commonly recorded response of birds to noise or other human disturbance is flushing. However, researchers have also reported no flushing response from Mexican spotted owls and bald eagles exposed to noise levels twice as loud (92 dBA) as noise levels predicted from the proposed action (Delaney et al. 1999 and Brown et al.1999). Significantly, even when flushing has occurred, researchers have reported no change in either reproductive success or number of young fledged in birds exposed to short term noise events (Delaney et al. 1999 and Delaney et al. 2002). Other authors have reported that exposure to short term noise events does not lead to chronic physiological stress in birds (Bisson et al. 2009 and Tempel 2003). In another study, researchers reported that infrequent and unpredictable vehicle operations in the immediate vicinity of nests was not correlated with the number of young fledged (Hayden et al. 2002).

Towers TCA-TUS-035 and TCA-TUS-290. These two towers are located near proposed yellow-billed cuckoo critical habitat and approximately 2 miles of roads partially located within the proposed yellow-

billed cuckoo critical habitat unit AZ31. Both towers are on elevated locations outside the riparian corridor. Tower TCA-TUS-035 is immediately adjacent to a drainage bordered by large dense mesquite and breeding cuckoos may be affected by construction activity during the breeding season. Construction activity during the breeding season (June 1 through September 30) will be avoided at tower TCA-TUS-035. Tower TCA-TUS-290 is on a hill on the opposite side of a well-used paved road from Aravaipa Creek. This tower is elevated and far enough away from breeding habitat so that construction activity at the tower will likely not adversely affect breeding and foraging cuckoos. However, the access road starts near occupied habitat along Aravaipa Creek and the hundreds of vehicle trips may cause disturbance to breeding and foraging cuckoos.

Tower TCA-TUS-41. Although the nearest cuckoo detections reported were approximately 0.7, 0.9, and 1.3 miles respectively from TCA-TUS-41 (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2017), this tower is on an elevated site along a paved road that already receives some traffic and construction is not likely to adversely affect cuckoos.

Tower TCA-TUS-287. This tower is only 0.2 mile from La Osa Wash, which contains large riparian trees that may be breeding habitat. Construction activity may adversely affect breeding and foraging cuckoos. Construction activity during the breeding season (June 1 through September 30) will be avoided at this tower.

Tower TCA-TUS-299. This tower is near suitable breeding and foraging habitat and construction activities may advserely affect breeding cuckoos. Construction activities will be avoided during part of the breeding season (July 1 through September 30) and protocol surveys will be conducted from June 1 through June 30 at this tower.

Towers TCA-TUS-298 and TCA-TUS-036. These towers are far enough away from suitable breeding habitat in Fresnal Wash that construction is not likely to affect cuckoos at these tower sites, but the Tres Bellotas Road between these towers is in and adjacent to suitable cuckoo habitat. The hundreds of additional vehicles traveling between these two towers during the breeding season would create additional noise and visual disturbance that would likely adversely affect cuckoos using habitat along the Tres Bellotas Road and in Fresnal Wash. CBP will avoid using Tres Bellotas Road along Fresnal Wash between TCA-TUS-298 and TCA-TUS-036 from June 1 to September 30 to avoid disturbance to cuckoos in suitable habitat.

Conclusion

We have analyzed the effects of the proposed action and concur with your determination that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the western yellow-billed cuckoo for the following reasons:

- The tower sites where construction of replacement towers will generally occur are in areas of raised topography and not within drainages where western yellow-billed cuckoos typically breed. In addition, although cuckoo upland foraging habitat is adjacent to some tower sites, the tower site footprints do not contain upland foraging habitat. In addition, as discussed above, CBP has proposed conservation measures and best management practices to avoid or reduce disturbance

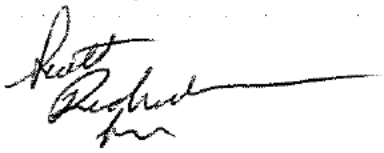
effects to cuckoos in suitable breeding habitat and adjacent foraging habitat within 0.25 miles of the tower sites. Therefore, effects to yellow billed cuckoos from disturbance associated with tower construction will be insignificant.

- A number of roadways proposed for use during this project do occur along drainages or in other areas that support suitable western yellow-billed cuckoo habitat. CBP has proposed conservation measures and BMPs to avoid and minimize disturbance of cuckoos in these areas. Therefore, these effects will be insignificant.

Thank you for your continued coordination related to this consultation. No further section 7 consultation is required for this project at this time. Should project plans change, or if additional information on the distribution or abundance of listed species or critical habitat becomes available, this determination may need to be reconsidered. Additionally, we encourage you to coordinate the review of this project with the Arizona Fish and Game Department and the appropriate land management agencies and private landowners.

For further information please contact Scott Richardson (520) 670-6150(x242). Please refer to the consultation number, 02EAAZ00-2018-I-0091 in future correspondence concerning this project.

Sincerely,



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From: Andrew, Jonathan
Subject: Southwest Border PA for Section 106 of the NHPA
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 2:33:02 PM
Attachments: SB PA Annual Report FINAL_2016 (1).pdf

CBP has provided their Annual Report (attached).

They will schedule a time to conference and go over the report and answer any questions you might have. I will get back in touch when the conf call is being scheduled.

--
Jon Andrew
Interagency Borderlands Coordinator
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Department of the Interior

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2016
Annual Report
Regarding Compliance with the Programmatic Agreement Regarding CBP Undertakings in States Located Along the Southwest Border of the United States

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

February 2017

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Cover Image: Border fence from above, near San Diego, California. Photographer: Josh Denmark, CBP

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Cover Image: Border fence from above, near San Diego, California. Photographer: Josh Denmark, CBP

Chapter 1. Introduction

This report has been prepared in accordance with Stipulation XII of the *Programmatic Agreement Among U. S. Customs And Border Protection, the Historic Preservation Officers of the States of Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas, General Services Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of The Interior, United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, New Mexico State Land Office, California Valley Miwok Tribe, Cocopah Indian Tribe, Delaware Nation, Fort Yuma-Quechan Tribe, Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, Rincon Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, Tohono O'odham Nation, Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma, Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe, and The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding CBP Undertakings in States Located Along the Southwest Border Of The United States* (Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement). In accordance with Stipulation XII.A, a copy of this report is being provided to all parties except the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation who has requested not to receive the annual report.

A teleconference with all parties to the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement will be held on a to be determined date and time in April or May to summarize and discuss the work carried out pursuant to the terms of the agreement.

2016 is the second year that the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement has been in place.

CBP Organizational Changes

In 2016, CBP underwent an agency-wide reorganization. As a result, many CBP offices were renamed and some duties were realigned to improve the agency's operations.

The Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement references the Environmental and Energy Division (EED). This department is now known as the Energy and Environmental Management Division (EEMD). Its historic preservation duties have not changed nor has its oversight role within the agency. CBP does not believe that this change is significant enough to require revisions to the document.

CBP has also named a new Federal Preservation Officer, Mr. Francis Dutch, Director of the Facilities Management and Engineering Division.

Barry M. Goldwater Range (BMGR) Damage to Archeological Sites

Though the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement does not apply at BMGR, CBP wishes to report on the current status of this situation as we are aware that the New Mexico SHPO is aware of the damage and other federal agencies in the region may be aware of it as well.

On January 3, 2017, CBP was notified by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) that they were in receipt of a letter from BMGR stating that two eligible archeological

sites had been disturbed by CBP operations. Multiple CBP offices including both Yuma Sector and Tucson Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol worked together to research the issue and determine what had occurred. It was determined that agents in the Wellton Station Area of Responsibility were moving trucks containing mobile technology and disturbed the sites. Yuma Sector has taken the lead on working with BMGR and as of January 18th the following actions have occurred: a meeting between the Yuma Sector Chief and BMGR leadership about the issue and improving communications between CBP and BMGR; a field visit with BMGR Range staff, the Wellton Station Chief, the Yuma Station Public Lands Liaison Agent (PLLA) to the sites to inspect the damage; drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding between BMGR and both sectors regarding information sharing and road designations to prevent such an occurrence from happening again; a meeting led by Yuma Sector's Public Lands Liaison Agent (PLLA) with tribes that have ties to the impacted sites to apologize for the damage caused by CBP; and discussions are occurring about how best to reeducate agents on Environmental issues, including archeological issues, in Wellton Station and both Sectors. CBP has spoken with the ACHP about the actions taken to date and will be sending them a formal letter regarding the situation and our response.

CBP takes this situation seriously and is committed to preventing a reoccurrence in the future.

1.1. 2017 Legislative Changes

CBP has one legislative item to report on this year.

Executive Order 13767: Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements

On January 25, 2017 President Trump signed Executive Order 13767 (EO 13767) focused on border security along the Southern Border. EO 13767 directs CBP to immediately plan, design, and construct a physical wall using the most appropriate materials and technology to effectively achieve complete operational control of the southern border. CBP is currently working on its comprehensive study which must be briefed to the President within 180 days of the order's signing. The comprehensive study is required to address the current state of southern border security; the geophysical and topographical conditions; the availability of both federal and state resource; and provide a strategy to obtain and maintain complete operational control.

EO 13767 also requires that the Department of Homeland Security uses all legally available resources to immediately construct, operate, control, or establish contracts to construct, operate, or control facilities to detain cross border violators at or near the land border with Mexico. The extent of CBP involvement is undetermined at this time, but programs developed in the past several months may be used or expanded. At the end of 2016, CBP developed a temporary housing model that is similar to the base camps used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Soft sided housing units and portable sanitation facilities can be installed on paved

areas at existing CBP facilities to provide safe and secure temporary housing until individuals are transferred to another agency.

EO 13767 also directs CBP to hire an additional 5,000 Border Patrol agents. CBP has been updating its Border Patrol facilities across southwest in the last decade and the newer facilities may be able to accommodate the hiring surge. Older facilities may require modifications, additions, or replacement. The nature and extent of this need is undetermined at this time and will likely evolve over time.

Chapter 2. 2016 Implementation of the PA

In 2016, CBP conducted 21,827 Undertakings in the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement area of potential effects. Fifty-three (53) Undertakings met Stipulation VI of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. 21,734 Undertakings met Stipulation VII of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. One (1) Undertakings resulted in an Adverse Effect determination.

The information is broken down by state below.

2.1. Arizona

In 2016, CBP conducted 10,697 Undertakings in the State of Arizona. Undertakings have consisted primarily of operations activities, facility and Tactical Infrastructure maintenance, technology programs, and lease renewals. A summary of Arizona Undertakings is provided in Appendix A (page 13), including a table with narrative description for non-operations Undertakings.

2.1.1. Use of Stipulation VI

Ten (10) Undertakings met Stipulation VI of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. These Undertakings used a total of 19 different stipulations: VI-A (2); VI.B (9); VI.C (1); VI.D (1); VI.E (1); VI.F (5). A breakdown of each stipulation used by CBP, followed by the number of times is was used, is provided below:

- VI.A
  - VI.A.1- 1
  - VI.A.5- 1
- VI.B
  - VI.B.1- 1
  - VI.B.1(c)- 2
  - VI.B.1(d)- 2
  - VI.B.2- 1
  - VI.B.3- 1
  - VI.B.3(d)- 1
  - VI.B.4- 1
  - VI.B.7- 1
  - VI.B.8- 1
- VI.C
  - VI.C.8- 2
- VI.D
  - VI.D.1- 1

- VI.E
  - VI.E.3- 1
- VI.F
  - VI.F.1- 1
  - VI.F.2- 1
  - VI.F.3- 1
  - VI.F.6- 1
  - VI.F.7- 1

2.1.2. Use of Stipulation VII

CBP had 10,677 Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement and no Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.B.

10,672 Undertakings involved Law Enforcement Activities and Operational Readiness, including the pursuit of cross-border violators and response to credible threats. These pursuits were reported to DOI and USDA. There were no inadvertent discoveries during pursuits.

CBP developed new technologies to locate potential cross-border tunnels in 2016 resulting in five (5) Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A.2. The technology was designed to be non-invasive and minimize ground disturbance. These investigations were focused on high probability areas in the various areas of interest for each Border Patrol Sector in Arizona. Not all investigations resulted in CBP tunnel remediation projects. In some cases, the technology did not locate tunnels, while in other cases CBP was part of an inter-agency team and other agencies handled the remediation activities.

No activities involved the closure of cross-border tunnels.

2.1.3. Adverse Effects

CBP had no Adverse Effect determinations in the State of Arizona.

2.1.4. Emergency Reviews

CBP had no emergency reviews in the State of Arizona.

2.1.5. Post-Review Discoveries

CBP had no post review discoveries in the State of Arizona.

2.2. California

In 2016, CBP conducted 5,210 Undertakings in the State of California. Undertakings have consisted of operations activities, facility maintenance, technology programs, and lease renewals.

A summary of California Undertakings is provided in Appendix B (page 18), including a table with narrative description for non-operations Undertakings.

2.2.1. Use of Stipulation VI

Eleven (11) Undertakings met Stipulation VI of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. These Undertakings used a total of seven (7) different stipulations: VI.A (1); VI.B (4); VI.C (1); and VI.F (1). A breakdown of each stipulation used by CBP, followed by the number of times is was used, is provided below:

- VI.A
  - VI.A.1- 4
- VI.B
  - VI.B.1(c)- 1
  - VI.B.1(d)- 3
  - VI.B.2- 2
  - VI.B.8- 1
- VI.C
  - VI.C.8- 5
- VI.F
  - VI.F.6- 1

2.2.2. Use of Stipulation VII

CBP had 5,191 Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement and two (2) Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.B.

5,183 Undertakings involved Law Enforcement Activities and Operational Readiness, including the pursuit of cross-border violators and response to credible threats. These pursuits were reported to DOI and USDA. There were no inadvertent discoveries during pursuits.

CBP developed new technologies to locate potential cross-border tunnels in 2016 resulting in eight (8) Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A.2. The technology was designed to be non-invasive and minimize ground disturbance. These investigations were focused on high probability areas in the various areas of interest for each Border Patrol Sector in California. Not all investigations resulted in CBP tunnel remediation projects. In some cases, the technology did not locate tunnels, while in other cases CBP was part of an inter-agency team and other agencies handled the remediation activities.

Two (2) Undertakings involved the closure of cross-border tunnels under Stipulation VII.B. These tunnels occurred in the vicinity of Calexico and Otay Mesa. Both tunnels were located within areas that had been previously disturbed by construction and were reported to the appropriate consulting parties in accordance with the terms of the Programmatic Agreement.

Monitoring reports were prepared for neither of these closures as CBP was able to establish that previous ground disturbance, other than the creation of the tunnel, had occurred within the APE. There were no inadvertent discoveries or impacts to historic properties from the closure of these tunnels.

2.2.3. Adverse Effects

CBP had no Adverse Effect determinations in the State of California.

2.2.4. Emergency Reviews

CBP had no emergency reviews in the State of California.

2.2.5. Post-Review Discoveries

CBP had no post review discoveries in the State of California.

2.3. New Mexico

In 2016, CBP conducted 2,101 Undertakings in the State of New Mexico. Undertakings have consisted of operations activities, facility and Tactical Infrastructure maintenance, and technology programs. A summary of New Mexico Undertakings is provided in Appendix C (page 23), including a table with narrative description for non-operations Undertakings.

2.3.1. Use of Stipulation VI

Seven (7) Undertakings met Stipulation VI of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. These Undertakings used a total of nine (9) different stipulations: VI.A (1); VI.B (6); VI.C (1); and VI.F (1). A breakdown of each stipulation used by CBP, followed by the number of times is was used, is provided below:

- VI.A
  - VI.A.1- 1
- VI.B
  - VI.B.1- 1
  - VI.B.1(c)- 1
  - VI.B.1(d)- 1
  - VI.B.2- 1
  - VI.B.3- 2
  - VI.B.3(d)- 1
- VI.C
  - VI.C.8- 1
- VI.F
  - VI.F.4- 1

2.3.2. Use of Stipulation VII

CBP had 2,091 Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement and no Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.B.

2,087 Undertakings involved Law Enforcement Activities and Operational Readiness, including the pursuit of cross-border violators and response to credible threats. These pursuits were reported to DOI and USDA. There were no inadvertent discoveries during pursuits.

CBP developed new technologies to locate potential cross-border tunnels in 2016 resulting in four (4) Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A.2. The technology was designed to be non-invasive and minimize ground disturbance. These investigations were focused on high probability areas in the various areas of interest for each Border Patrol Sector in New Mexico. Not all investigations resulted in CBP tunnel remediation projects. In some cases, the technology did not locate tunnels, while in other cases CBP was part of an inter-agency team and other agencies handled the remediation activities.

No activities involved the closure of cross-border tunnels.

2.3.3. Adverse Effects

CBP had one (1) Adverse Effect determinations in the State of New Mexico. Summary information on each Undertaking is provided below.

- Tactical Infrastructure Maintenance and Repair (TIMR) Project; Hidalgo and Luna Counties; New Mexico SHPO, New Mexico Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and New Mexico State Land Office (NMSLO)- Potential CBP maintenance activities along 51 miles of existing roads located on land managed by the BLM and 27.38 miles of existing roads located on land managed by the NMSLO. While CBP is consulting on the maintenance on approximately 88 miles of existing roads on BLM and NMSLO lands, it is not anticipated that work would occur on all roads, or even the entire length of a given road, in any one year. There are a number of factors that will determine if and when CBP will fund maintenance activities over time, including operational needs and funding availability. CBP expects maintenance to occur on an as needed basis in discrete areas within this road network subject to the availability of funding. Three surveys have identified 55 archeological sites within the Area of Potential Effect (APE), of which 20 are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), 23 are of undetermined eligibility, and 12 are not eligible for the NRHP. CBP has determined that the Undertaking does not meet Stipulation VI.C of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement due to the presence of undetermined and National Register eligible historic properties within the APE. The activities have the potential to affect historic properties, and in some cases those affects could be adverse due to their locations. However, the degree of potential effects to these sites varies greatly and cannot be fully determined

until final design decisions are made. In most cases sites will not be impacted or the impacts can be minimized or avoided through modification to project designs and managing project activities to avoid sites. A project-specific programmatic agreement has been proposed and is under development between the parties. It will include standard treatment measures that are appropriate to the potential level of impact and which would be implemented prior to conducting work within 1,000 feet of an eligible site. Consultation began October 2015.

2.3.4. Emergency Reviews

CBP had no emergency reviews in the State of New Mexico.

2.3.5. Post-Review Discoveries

CBP had no post review discoveries in the State of New Mexico.

2.4. Texas

In 2016, CBP conducted 3,821 Undertakings in the State of Texas. Undertakings have consisted of operations activities, facility and Tactical Infrastructure maintenance, technology programs, and lease renewals. A summary of Texas Undertakings is provided in Appendix D (page 26), including a table with narrative description for non-operations Undertakings.

2.4.1. Use of Stipulation VI

Twenty five (25) Undertakings met Stipulation VI of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement. These undertakings used a total of 16 different stipulations: VI.A (2); VI.B (8); VI.C (3); VI.D (1); VI.E (1); and VI.F (1). A breakdown of each stipulation used by CBP, followed by the number of times is was used, is provided below:

- VI.A
  - VI.A.1- 7
  - VI.A.4- 5
- VI.B
  - VI.B.1- 2
  - VI.B.1(c)- 1
  - VI.B.1(d)- 3
  - VI.B.2- 3
  - VI.B.3- 3
  - VI.B.3(d)- 2
  - VI.B.4- 1
  - VI.B.7- 3
- VI.C

    - VI.C.1- 5
    - VI.C.2- 5
    - VI.C.8- 10
- VI.D
    - VI.D.1- 3
- VI.E
    - VI.E.3- 1
- VI.F
    - VI.F.4- 2

2.4.2. Use of Stipulation VII

CBP had 3,773 Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement and no Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.B.

3,759 Undertakings involved Law Enforcement Activities and Operational Readiness, including the pursuit of cross-border violators and response to credible threats. These pursuits were reported to DOI and USDA. There were no inadvertent discoveries during pursuits.

CBP developed new technologies to locate potential cross-border tunnels in 2016 resulting in 14 Undertakings that met Stipulation VII.A.2. The technology was designed to be non-invasive and minimize ground disturbance. These investigations were focused on high probability e areas in the various areas of interest for each Border Patrol Sector in Texas. Not all investigations resulted in CBP tunnel remediation projects. In some cases, the technology did not locate tunnels, while in other cases CBP was part of an inter-agency team and other agencies handled the remediation activities.

No activities involved the closure of cross-border tunnels.

2.4.3. Adverse Effects

CBP had no Adverse Effect determinations in the State of Texas.

2.4.4. Emergency Reviews

CBP had no emergency reviews in the State of Texas.

2.4.5. Post-Review Discoveries

CBP had no post review discoveries in the State of Texas.

Chapter 3. Disputes and Objections

There have been no disputes between the consulting parties regarding the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement.

There have been no objections received by CBP regarding the execution of the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement.

Chapter 4. Recommendations

There are no proposed amendments or revisions to the Southwest Border Programmatic Agreement.

Appendix A: Arizona Undertaking Details

10,697 Total Undertakings

- 10- PA Used- Stipulation VI
- 10,672- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.1 (operations not included in summary table below)
- 5- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.2
- 0- PA Used- Stipulation VII.B
- 8- Consultation Done
- 2- No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
AVDL Childs Mountain **Consultation Done** Install, operate, and maintain an aircraft video downlink (AVDL) system on an existing U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) tower at Childs Mountain in Pima County, Arizona, which includes obtaining a special use permit from Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge. The Proposed Action will occur at an existing communication tower facility on Childs Mountain in the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, Pima County, Arizona at the following coordinates: 12N 316313.788, 3591507.128 (decimal degrees: 32.445577, -112.954036).
AZ0006 Naco LPOE VACIS Concrete Slab **PA Used- VI.D.1** Removing approx. 2300 sq ft of existing A/C pavement and replacing it with 9" thick 4000 psi concrete over 6" thick ABC over 8" thick compacted subgrade. Also, installing two 4" PVC conduits 24" below grade for future use.
AZ0017 Rio Rico Rail Inspection Facility Lease **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Lease of free space from Union Pacific for rail inspectors at 863 E. Frontage Rd. (UPRR Milepost 56.8) in Rio Rico, AZ. The 1250 square-foot facility in the Union Pacific Railyard was completed in 2016.
AZ0045/AZ14916 - Tucson Vault Maintenance Contract **PA Used- VI.B.1(c), VI.B.1(d), VI.B.2, VI.B.3(a), VI.B.3(d), VI.B.4, VI.B.7, and VI.B.8** Maintenance and repair of the 2012 facility, building, and mechanical systems.
AZ999AZ2027 TUS-036 LSTAR Deployment **PA Used- VI.C.8** Placement and operation of LSTAR equipment at the existing USBP facility located at TB/Fresnel Integrated Fixed Tower (IFT) (Latitude 31.48465, Longitude -111.37735) located in Pima County, Arizona within Coronado National Forest within the USBP Nogales Station, Tucson Sector Area of Responsibility (AOR). The new platform will not exceed 12' by 12' (length x width), the temporary platform will be a level surface elevated above the existing chain link fencing (approximately 8 ft.). Platforms will leave access to the earth's surface. No vegetation clearing or modification of ground resources is necessary for installation of the LSTAR equipment within the existing USBP complex. The Proposed Action does not include the installation, modification, or construction of any new or existing approach or access road.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
AZ999AZ2028 TUS-041 LSTAR Deployment **PA Used- VI.C.8** Placement and operation of LSTAR equipment at the existing USBP facility located at Arivaca Lake Integrated Fixed Tower (IFT) (Latitude 31.525325, Longitude -111.289237) located in Pima County, Arizona on Arizona state lands within the USBP Nogales Station, Tucson Sector Area of Responsibility (AOR). The new platform will not exceed 12' by 12' (length x width), the temporary platform will be a level surface elevated above the existing chain link fencing (approximately 8 ft.). Platforms will leave access to the earth's surface. No vegetation clearing or modification of ground resources is necessary for installation of the LSTAR equipment within the existing USBP complex. The Proposed Action does not include the installation, modification, or construction of any new or existing approach or access road.
CA TEX TCA Tucson Air Branch [AZ0045] Ramp Apron Expansion **Consultation Done** Expand the existing concrete aircraft ramp apron by 13,650.94 square feet (0.31 acre) in a previously disturbed area immediately adjacent to the existing apron located south of hangar 1144.
CATEX BBT DRT EPT LRT TCA BPFTI Firing Range Maintenance and Lead Reclamation **Consultation Done** Perform maintenance and lead reclamation on active outdoor firing ranges. Work will including excavating the soil from the existing berms, sifting out the lead bullets and drum for recycling, then returning the soil to the berms. Erosion control measures will be added as necessary to minimize surface water flow off and erosion. The range included in this project is: • Ajo White Hills Range, Ajo, AZ
CATEX TCA AJO CAG Maintenance and Repair of Tohono O'odham Nation Roads **Consultation Done** The proposed action is to maintain and repair approximately 220 miles of existing dirt and crushed rock roads located on the Tohono O'odham Nation (TON). The road segments are in the Baboquivari, Hickiwan, Gu Vo, Pisinimo, Sells, and Chukut Kuk Districts. CBP will receive permission from the TON to conduct the maintenance and repair in the form of a written instrument or Tribal Resolution. Maintenance and repair of the existing roads would consist of filling in potholes, regrading road surfaces, implementing water drainage measures (e.g., ensuring road crowns shed water and establishing drainage ditches, culverts, or other water-control features, as needed to control runoff and prevent deterioration to existing infrastructure or surrounding land), applying soil stabilization agents, controlling vegetation and debris, and adding lost road surface material to reestablish intended surface elevation needed for adequate drainage.
CATEX TCA Christmas Pass AZ TACCOM LMR Temporary Repeater Installation **Consultation Done** Install and operate the temporary and semi-portable TACCOM Land Mobile Radio (LMR) site at Christmas Pass and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment and structures. The proposed Christmas Pass LMR site is located 60 miles west of Yuma in the Cabeza Prieta Mountains within the Cabeza Prieta Wilderness and Sonoran Desert in Yuma County, AZ. The site is situated near Christmas Pass and the Drift Hills approximately 7 miles north of the U.S./Mexico border and is currently undeveloped.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX YUM Camp Grip AZ Tower Relocation TACCOM **PA Used- VI.F.6 and VI.F.7** Camp Grip is a remote U.S Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) site in Yuma County, Arizona, located 37 miles southwest of the Ajo Border Patrol Station (BPS) and within the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (CPNWR). CBP proposes to remove the existing cellular-on-wheels (COW) 106-foot tall guyed tower and equipment located northeast of the facility and install a self-support lattice tower/equipment on a modular foundation adjacent to the existing camp. The total height of the new tower, including lightning protection and other additions, will not exceed 199 feet. The proposed new tower and equipment will be installed within a 20 ft. by 20 ft. disturbed area with little to no existing vegetation. The foundation will consist of modular cell blocks (on top of the ground). A fiberglass shelter, generator, and 100 ft. tall self-support lattice tower equipped with several antennas and microwave dishes will be installed. The site will be contained within an area located east of the main modular building access road and just north of the existing El Camino del Diablo Trail. Equipment will be brought in by trailer and the adjacent existing right-of-way (road area) will be used for staging. A minimum number of vehicle trips to the site are planned.
CATEX YUM Camp Grip Well Installation **Consultation Done** The proposed action at forward operating base Camp Grip is to permit, drill, and install a domestic water supply well; design and install a water treatment system; and plumb the new well and system to the existing water holding tanks. The Camp Grip well design depth would be 400 feet below ground surface with drilling continuing depending on when groundwater is encountered up to 1400 feet below ground surface. The proposed location of the well is near the northeast corner of the helipad at Camp Grip in a previously disturbed area. Plumbing from the well would run underground along the south side of the east-west trending runway matting east of the helipad. The well plumbing would connect to a connex on the northeast corner of Camp Grip that currently houses the water storage tanks. A water treatment system would be installed inside the connex. Effluent would discharge to a dry well at least three feet deep. The dry well would be gravel filled with perforated pipe in a gravel lined trench plumbed from the water treatment system discharge component. Power would be brought to the well pump from an existing generator located west of the parking area via underground electrical conduit.
CATEX YUM WEL Temporary Deployment of Mobile Observation Platform **PA Used- VI.A.5** The proposed action involves the temporary deployment of a mobile observation platform on the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (CPNWR). The mobile observation platform does not require ground disturbance and will be deployed in a previously disturbed location adjacent to existing roads. The observation platform consists of a ladder and basic scaffolding— there are no lights, generators, or other mechanical or electrical components associated with the platform. No new roads will be required to deploy the platform, and operations will not change as a result of the temporary deployment. The platform is trailer mounted and will be driven to the sites utilizing existing roadways. The platform can be set-up and torn down in approximately one hour. The mobile observation platform will be temporarily deployed at the intersection of Eagle Tank Road and Old Papago Road—there is currently a rescue beacon at this location.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX YUM Yuma Border Lighting Retrofit and Utility Trenching **Consultation Done** CBP is proposing to retrofit the existing metal halide lamps utilized for border lighting located near the San Luis POE in the Border Patrol Yuma Sector with energy efficient LED lights. The existing lights along approximately 7.2 miles of border would be replaced. The light poles would be reduced in height from 60 to 40 feet, the fixtures would be replaced to accommodate the LED bulbs, and the fixtures would be oriented downward to eliminate light pollution. Existing access roads to and along the border would be used for the transport of personnel, vehicles, material, and equipment. An existing staging area would be used for the storage of material and equipment. The proposed action also includes extending electrical service across the Sanchez Canal along the border by trenching approximately 75 feet from the current terminus of electrical service to the corridor of the lighting project and installing electrical conduit. The trenching would begin approximately 75 feet northwest of the Sanchez Canal and proceed southwest until reaching the canal, at which point the electrical conduit would be bracket mounted to the bridge to cross the canal. The pre-manufactured bridge was installed by CBP in 2007. A new junction box would also be installed on the south side of the bridge within the corridor of the lighting project at the end of the trench route. The trench would be approximately three feet wide by two feet deep, and would be backfilled around the electrical conduit with native material.
Douglas Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Douglas Station.
Lukeville Single Family Housing Interior Repairs **PA Used- VI.B.1; VI.B.1(d)** Interior repair of three CBP-owned housing units in Lukeville, AZ. Proposed action work will include: • Repairs to the base concrete floor in order to allow for the installation of new laminate flooring throughout all areas of the house except the kitchen, bathroom, and laundry/furnace room flooring which will remain untouched. • Installing new residential master key lock system
Naco Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Naco Station.
REC LEXRIS Lukeville **PA Used- VI.A.1** Field and operate two LEXRIS portals at the Lukeville Port of Entry (POE) in Pima County, Arizona for the purpose of conducting non-intrusive inspections of vehicles for the presence of contraband, including weapons of mass destruction, explosives, and illicit drugs. The systems will be portal (stationary) configurations that will be installed along existing traffic lanes. Vehicles will be scanned as they are driven through the portal. The portal LEXRIS will be installed on previously disturbed, developed surfaces (pavement and asphalt) at the Lukeville Facility. Minor excavations and trenching will be required to install the systems which will affect approximately 280 square feet to a maximum depth of 4 feet. Soils at the POE have been subject to grading and possibly filling to establish traffic lanes and other surfaces, such as inspection areas. Excavated soil will be used to backfill the project site.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
San Luis POE Tunnels Team Deployment **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Study to characterize the geophysical properties of the U.S./Mexico international border region in Yuma County to determine the potential locations of illegal tunnels.
San Luis Region of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the San Luis Station.
Sasabe Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within Sasabe Station.
TCA-SON-0115 and TCA-SON-0117 Proposed Maintenance, Upgrade, and Repair **PA Used- VI.E.3, VI.F.1, VI.F.2, VI.F.3** Maintenance and repair of existing communications towers at Sonoita Station [TCA-SON-0117] and Red Mountain [TCA-SON-0115] to include structural reinforcement and addition of grounding and lightning protection for both towers.
Tucson OCC Break Room Renovation **PA Used- VI.B.1(c)** Interior office space renovation. Proposed action work will include: • Adding a new counter and sink.
UAC and FAMU Temporary Housing (Tent City) **PA Used- VII.A.2** Construct soft-sided housing units at existing CBP facilities to provide safe and secure temporary housing for UACs and FAMUs. The facility will be located at: • San Luis II, Arizona
Yuma Polygraph Room Interior Renovation **Consultation Done** Interior office space renovations to new CBP polygraph room standards. Proposed action work will include: • Renovating two existing polygraph rooms by increasing the Sound Transmission Class (STC) and adding electronic security measures. • Dividing one office into two polygraph rooms and add insulation and electronic security measures. • Convert an existing office into a Dedicated Observation Room with A/V feed from the four polygraph rooms.

Appendix B: California Undertaking Details

5,210 Total Undertakings

- 11- PA Used- Stipulation VI
- 5,183- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.1 (operations not included in summary table below)
- 8- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.2
- 2- PA Used- Stipulation VII.B
- 1- Consultation Done
- 5- No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Algodones Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
CA El Centro Superstition Mtn LSTAR **PA Used- VI.C.8** Placement and operation of LSTAR equipment at the existing USBP facility located at Superstition Mountain located in Imperial County, California. The new platform will not exceed 12' by 12' (length x width), the temporary platform will be a level surface elevated above the existing chain link fencing (approximately 8 ft.). Platforms will leave access to the earth's surface. No vegetation clearing or modification of ground resources is necessary for installation of the LSTAR equipment within the existing USBP complex. The Proposed Action does not include the installation, modification, or construction of any new or existing approach or access road.
CA0004 CATEX Calexico West Rail Inspection Facility Lease **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Lease of free space from Union Pacific for rail inspectors. The facility in the Union Pacific Railyard was completed in 2014.
CA0025 Oakland Seaport Lease Renewal **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Renewal of free space lease from Port of Oakland. The facility is located on the Port and was completed in the 1990s.
CA0144 - Service Processing Center (SPC) Re-Activation, Haitian Surge **PA Used- VI.B.1(c) and VI.B.1(d)** Re-activation of the Service Processing Center (SPC) in El Centro, California as a processing facility for inadmissible Haitian nationals. The facility has been in off-line for approximately 2 years; with minimal systems (HVAC, electric, water) being maintained during this period. It is anticipated not all systems may function when brought back to full operation. CBP will be responsible for the startup of essential systems to include: HVAC, electric, water, fire, and other building services required for public use. No changes to the existing facilities will be required. An additional 30 computer workstations will be installed into the existing space.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CA0175 Checkpoint 86 LSTAR Deployment **PA Used- VI.C.8** Placement and operation of LSTAR equipment at the existing USBP facility located at the Highway 86 Checkpoint located in Imperial County, California. The new platform will not exceed 12' by 12' (length x width), the temporary platform will be a level surface elevated above the existing chain link fencing (approximately 8 ft.). Platforms will leave access to the earth's surface. No vegetation clearing or modification of ground resources is necessary for installation of the LSTAR equipment within the existing USBP complex. The Proposed Action does not include the installation, modification, or construction of any new or existing approach or access road.
Calexico Region Of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Calexico Station.
Calexico West LPOE Rail Inspection Facility UP **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Lease of free space from Union Pacific for rail inspectors. The facility in the Union Pacific Railyard was completed in 2015.
CATEX Riverside Air Unit Security Access Points Repairs **PA Used- VI.B.1(d) and VI.B.2** Interior office space renovation at Riverside Air Unit building at 1355 Customs Way in Riverside. Proposed action work will include: • Replace existing locks with new PIV card readers on six (6) doors. • Install computer system in existing server room.
CATEX SDC Brown Field BPS Property Acquisition **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** The proposed action consists of acquiring two adjacent properties at the intersection of Highway 94 and Campbell Ranch Road in Dulzura, California. The larger of the two properties is 118 acres and is situated north of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) Dulzura Station. The smaller of the two properties is one acre and is situated east of the Cal Fire Dulzura Station. A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) as well as biological and cultural resource surveys are underway at the site. Elevation at the site ranges from 1,125 feet to 1,350 ft. Surrounding properties include cultivated fields of crops, grazing areas for livestock, private properties and homes. The portion of the property that is most suitable for potential construction consists of approximately 22 acres of relatively flat, previously cultivated fields and 96 acres of rolling hills, drainages and slopes. An intermittent stream is located at the extreme northwestern corner of the larger property. The primary rationale for the proposed acquisition is that the property is suitable for potential development and construction of a new US Border Patrol (USBP) Brown Field Border Patrol Station (BPS). However, if CBP is unable to eventually move forward with the BPS, CBP believes there are other potential uses for the property. CBP does not yet have sufficient funding to construct a new BPS. Thus, any actual development and construction of the site for a new BPS is contingent upon CBP obtaining sufficient funding.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX SDC IMB NOLF Tower and Surveillance Camera Installation **PA Used- VI.F.6** Installation of a surveillance tower at a maximum of 60' above ground level and mount a camera to provide visibility to the coast line. The proposed action consists of reinstalling a structure at this location adjacent to existing CBP equipment. The tower would be installed within a maximum 20'x20' area enclosed with a new 10' high chain link fence at the southwest corner of the existing repel tower area.
CATEX SDC Replacement of Highway Sign Systems at I-5 Checkpoint **PA Used- VI.B.8** The San Clemente Border Patrol Station and Checkpoint (BPS) is located on Interstate 5 (I-5) approximately five miles south of San Clemente, California. The proposed action includes the replacement of six existing solid state highway signs along I-5 at the San Clemente BPS with six LED dynamic message signs. The sizes of the new signs would match the existing. No alterations would be made to the supporting metal structures on which the signs are posted. The metal structures are owned by Caltrans. In addition, the power systems would be replaced to provide sufficient power to run the new signs. Future maintenance, as well as potential repairs of a minor nature, of the new sign systems would be expected. All work would be conducted within the footprint of the existing sign systems.

CATEX SDC UESC ECMs for San Diego, El Cajon, San Ysidro, and Otay Sites
Consultation Done
 	
The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has awarded the Utility Energy Savings Contract (UESC) to the San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) for implementation of energy conservation measures (ECMs) at several San Diego County, CA sites.
• San Diego (SD) Firing Range (BE CA0250) is located at 2301 McCain Road, San Diego, CA 92101. The facility was built in the 1980s. Lat/Long 32.7298 -117.2089.
• El Cajon BPS (BE CA0172) is located at 225 Kenney Street, El Cajon, CA 92020. The oldest building was built in 1983. Lat/Long 32.8297 -116.9645.
• The Chula Vista BPS and Beyer Complex are located on one contiguous property but have different building designations. The oldest building was constructed in the 1950s and renovations have occurred over the years. Lat/Long 32.5608 -117.0529.
  o Chula Vista BPS also known as "San Ysidro" (BE CA0122) is located at 311 Athey Avenue, San Ysidro, CA 92173.
  o Beyer Complex also known as the Beyer Campus (BE CA0141) is located 3752 Beyer Boulevard, San Ysidro, CA 92173.
• Pogo Row Sector Support Facility also known as "Pogo Row Complex" or Border Patrol Sector Headquarters (BPSHQ) Support Facility (BE CA0186) is located at 7682 Pogo Road, San Diego/Otay, CA 92154. This facility was built in the 2000s and was previously used as the Brown Field Air Unit. Lat/Long 32.5777 -116.9797.
 	
Construction activities will include installation of digital direct controls (DDCs), heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) retrofits, HVAC controls, interior lighting, exterior lighting, vending misers (vending machine device/sensor), photovoltaics (solar electric), roofing, and other energy savings implementations. Post construction activities (performance testing, training, and final documentation) occurs April 2016 through June 2017.

El Centinela Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
El Centro IA Temp Relocation **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Temporary relocation of 20 staff members to the existing CBP building at 1111 North Imperial Avenue, El Centro, CA. No renovations to the space are necessary.
FY 16 MEMXRIS Calexico **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Calexico Port of Entry, Calexico, Imperial County, California for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
FY 16 MEMXRIS Carson **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Container Examination Station (CES), Carson, Los Angeles County, California for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
FY 16 MEMXRIS Oakland **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Container Examination Station (CES), Oakland, Oakland County, California for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
Near Rancho Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
REC ELC Queen II Tunnel Remediation **PA Used- VII.B.1** Closure of the Queen II tunnel located on the eastside of Calexico, California along the U.S.-Mexico international border in Imperial County, California.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
REC LEXRIS CalexicoW **PA Used- VI.A.1** Field and operate LEXRIS portal at the Calexico West Port of Entry (POE) for the purpose of conducting non-intrusive inspections of vehicles for the presence of contraband, including weapons of mass destruction, explosives, and illicit drugs. The system will be portal (stationary) configurations that will be installed along existing traffic lanes. Vehicles will be scanned as they are driven through the portal. The portal LEXRIS will be installed on previously disturbed, developed surfaces (pavement and asphalt) at the facility. Minor excavations and trenching will be required to install the systems which will affect approximately 280 square feet to a maximum depth of 4 feet. Soils at the POE have been subject to grading and possibly filling to establish traffic lanes and other surfaces, such as inspection areas. Excavated soil will be used to backfill the project site.
REC SDC Customhouse Tunnel Remediation **PA Used- VII.B.1** Closure of the Customhouse tunnel located approximately 0.5 miles west of the Otay Mesa Port of Entry (POE) along the U.S.-Mexico international border in San Diego County, California.
Replacement of Door Locks with PIV Card Readers **PA Used- VI.B.1(d) and VI.B.2** Interior office space renovation at World Trade Center, Long Beach. Proposed action work will include: • Replace existing locks with new PIV card readers on six (6) doors. • Install computer system in existing server room.
San Diego and Tijuana Region of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the San Diego and Tijuana Stations.
Tecate Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Tecate Station.
Tierra Del Sol Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
UAC and FAMU Temporary Housing (Tent City) **PA Used- VII.A.2** Construct soft-sided housing units at existing CBP facilities to provide safe and secure temporary housing for UACs and FAMUs. The facility will be located at: • Otay Mesa, California

Appendix C: New Mexico Undertaking Details

2,101 Total Undertakings

- 7- PA Used- Stipulation VI
- 2,087- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.1 (operations not included in summary table below)
- 4- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.2
- 0- PA Used- Stipulation VII.B
- 1- Consultation Done
- 2- No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Antelope Wells AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Antelope Wells Station.
CATEX EPT Deming [BE: NM0150] Horse Stable Floor Repair **PA Used- VI.B.1** The proposed action is to resurface the floor of the existing horse stables at the Deming (DNM) Border Patrol Station (BPS). This involves the repair of the existing concrete floor by filing in chips and cracks and adding a new seal coat to the floor. The concrete slab will also be scarified to reduce the potential for animal slips when the concrete is wet.
CATEX EPT Lease Termination and Equipment Removal for Multiple TACCOM Sites in NM and TX **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Termination of leases for decommissioned legacy sites where equipment has already been removed at the following locations: • San Antone Mtn (remote location on USDA lands near Vallecitos, NM) • Taos (space on USFS Carson National Forest tower and in existing shelter near Taos, NM) • Turkey Mountain (space on NM IT tower and in existing shelter near Watrous, NM) • Wheatland (space on NM IT tower and in existing shelter near Tucumcari, NM) • Mount Taylor (space on NM IT tower and in existing shelter near Cubero, NM) • La Mosca (space on NM IT tower and in existing shelter near Cubero, NM) • Elida Kenna (space on NM IT tower and in existing shelter near Santa Fe, NM) • Cornudas TX Land Only (remote location on private lands near Sonora, NM)
CATEX EPT Roof Replacement at Four Existing Checkpoints **PA Used- VI.B.3** Replace in-kind the roofs at four existing checkpoints located in the El Paso Sector. The project may also include the in-kind replacement of the associated rain gutter system to ensure the new roofs function properly. The old roofing material will be hauled away by the contractor and disposed of at an approved landfill or recycling facility. The checkpoints that will receive roof replacements are located in Texas and New Mexico and listed below: • I-10 Checkpoint [NM11387] – 1941 Square Feet • I-25 Checkpoint [NM0039] – 1956 Square Feet • HWY 62/180 Checkpoint [TX0471] – 2191 Square Feet • HWY 185 Checkpoint [NM11388] – 751 Square Feet

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX EPT STN BPS [NM0023] Repair Firing Range Floor **Consultation Done** The current firing range floor layout consists of concrete walkways that run parallel to the firing lines. In between the concrete walkways are large areas of compacted earth that have a thin layer of crushed gravel acting as a surface cap. The health hazards with having a soil base walking surface is that over time it will collect and trap lead dust and other byproducts of gunfire. This potential hazard has recently increased as a result of partially enclosing the outdoor firing range by installing walls along the exterior of the range which has decreased natural ventilation. In order to address this potential occupational health problem the portion of the range floor that is currently compacted earth will be excavated and replaced with concrete. The undertaking includes excavation and disposal of five inches of soil from the range complex walking surface and the placement of concrete slabs in the areas of soil removal. The concrete will be a 4 inch thick slab. The STN BPS is a modern facility constructed in the mid-1990s that is located at 1005 HWY 9 in Santa Teresa, New Mexico.
CATEX EPT STN BPS [NM0023] Replace Lighting System at the Small Arms Firing Range **PA Used- VI.B.3(d)** The proposed action includes the replacement and maintenance of the existing lighting system located at the existing Santa Teresa (STN) Border Patrol Station (BPS) Small Arms Firing Range. The range is located under a canopy within the fenced in STN BPS compound. The Santa Teresa (STN) Border Patrol Station (BPS) is a modern facility constructed in the mid-1990s that is located at 1005 HWY 9 in Santa Teresa, New Mexico.
CATEX EPT Water Treatment Installation at Six Existing Facilities **PA Used- VI.B.1(c)** Design, labor, equipment, and materials to install water filtration and treatment systems that consist of a particulate filtration system, UV treatment, disinfection system, and appropriately sized storage tank (as necessary) to maintain capacity. Work will include evaluation of the existing water supply infrastructure system at each location, development of a recommended filtration system, treatment system, and water storage system suitable for each location that is reliable and requires minimal maintenance and is easy to maintain. All work will occur on the interior of the facilities. The facilities currently have water storage tanks, if new water storage tanks are required they will be in-kind replacements. Water treatment systems will be installed at the following facilities: • FOB Bounds (Antelope Valley, NM) – NM0005 • FOB Garza (Animas Valley, NM) – NM5397 • FOB Ramsey (20 miles east of Columbus, NM) – NM0152 • HWY I-10 Checkpoint – NM11387 • HWY I-25 Checkpoint – NM0039 • HWY 185 Checkpoint – NM11388
CATEX Lease Termination and Equipment Removal for the Mount Kenna NM TACCOM Site **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Termination of lease for decommissioned legacy site leased from the Transwestern Pipeline Company located near Kenna, Chaves County, NM where equipment has already been removed. CBP had space on an existing tower and shelter.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX NASOC-Albuquerque Security Systems and Measures Repairs **PA Used- VI.B.1(d), VI.B.2, VI.B.3, and VI.F.4** Replace or install surveillance and security equipment on an existing building at the NASOC-Albuquerque compound at 2701 Kirtland Drive SE, Albuquerque, NM. The proposed project consists of the following actions: • Remove and replace the facility access control and intrusion detection system; • Remove and replace the building's perimeter windows; • Replace four sets of aluminum framed doors; and • Add 5 additional security cameras. No trenching or ground disturbance is anticipated.
Columbus AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Columbus Station.
NM Playas Block 1 Transition to IFT Demonstration **PA Used- VI.C.8** Test project for up to two (2) months for a new surveillance technology program. Equipment will be mounted on an existing CBP tower. Support equipment consisting of 2 Conex boxes and a trailer, measuring 8'x 20' will be located at the base of the tower.
REC LEXRIS Santa Teresa **PA Used- VI.A.1** Field and operate LEXRIS portal at the Santa Teresa Port of Entry (POE) for the purpose of conducting non-intrusive inspections of vehicles for the presence of contraband, including weapons of mass destruction, explosives, and illicit drugs. The system will be portal (stationary) configurations that will be installed along existing traffic lanes. Vehicles will be scanned as they are driven through the portal. The portal LEXRIS will be installed on previously disturbed, developed surfaces (pavement and asphalt) at the facility. Minor excavations and trenching will be required to install the systems which will affect approximately 280 square feet to a maximum depth of 4 feet. Soils at the POE have been subject to grading and possibly filling to establish traffic lanes and other surfaces, such as inspection areas. Excavated soil will be used to backfill the project site.
Santa Teresa AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Santa Teresa Station.
Sunland Park AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity within the Sunland Park Station.

Appendix D: Texas Undertaking Details

3,819 Total Undertakings

- 25- PA Used- Stipulation VI
- 3,759- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.1 (operations not included in summary table below)
- 14- PA Used- Stipulation VII.A.2
- 0- PA Used- Stipulation VII.B
- 17- Consultation Done
- 4- No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Boldts Ranch Surveillance System, Webb County, Laredo West AoR, Laredo Sector, Texas **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property in Webb County. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Brownsville AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
CATEX BBT DRT EPT LRT TCA BPFTI Firing Range Maintenance and Lead Reclamation **Consultation Done** Perform maintenance and lead reclamation on active outdoor firing ranges. Work will including excavating the soil from the existing berms, sifting out the lead bullets and drum for recycling, then returning the soil to the berms. Erosion control measures will be added as necessary to minimize surface water flow off and erosion. The ranges included in this project are: • Fabens Range, Fabens, TX • Marfa Range, Marfa, TX • Amistad Range, Del Rio, TX • Carrizo Springs Range, Carrizo Springs, TX • Freer Range, Freer, TX

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX BBT SBT [TX11607] Disposal of Former Sierra Blanca BPS **Consultation Done** Excessing real property formally utilized as Former Sierra Blanca Border Patrol Station (BPS near Sierra Blanca, Texas. CBP will be working with the General Services Administration (GSA) under the standard process to excess real Federal property. GSA will evaluate the buildings and facilitate the process for arranging for new Federal, state, or local government use of the facilities.
CATEX DRT Abilene TX New Lease and MR TACCOM **Consultation Done** New antenna lease at 2720 Industrial Boulevard, Abilene, Taylor County, TX 79605. The site includes space for an antenna at 200 to 270 ft. on a 279 ft. tall tower owned by Texas Department of Public Safety [TXDPS], built in 2012 (FCC # 1282187), space in the shelter, and associated equipment. . The Proposed Action includes obtaining a new lease and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment at the site. M&R will take place within the existing site footprint and where disturbances have already occurred. M&R activities associated with the Proposed Action may include: • Repair, maintenance, installation and/or replacement of telecommunications equipment and cable systems. • Minor repairs to structures, buildings, security fences, and portable shelters. • M&R of ancillary equipment such as heating, air conditioning, power systems and associated equipment, backup power generators, fuel storage, solar power panels, security monitoring systems, and facility grounding and lightning protection systems, and other equipment as needed. • Repairs to interior and exterior electrical systems. The Proposed Action would not increase or change the footprint of the existing site and there would be no new ground disturbance. The activities would not significantly increase the height or width of the structure(s). All equipment required for the Proposed Action can be accommodated using the existing road and parking area. No new construction or major site improvements are associated with the Proposed Action. Any replaced or retired equipment or material would be recycled or otherwise properly disposed.
CATEX DRT COM Disposal of Former COM BPS [TX0157] and Associated Facilities **Consultation Done** Excessing real property formally utilized as the old Comstock (COM) Border Patrol Station (BPS), old Comstock Checkpoint, and old Comstock Lake Task Force near Comstock, Texas. For owned assets, CBP will be working with the General Services Administration (GSA) under the standard process to excess real Federal property. GSA will evaluate the buildings and facilitate the process for arranging for new Federal, state, or local government use of the facilities. CBP will be returning leased assets to the original lessors. The old Comstock BPS consists of four parcels of land located along the southern side of U.S. 90 within the Comstock city limits. The old Border Patrol Checkpoint is located approximately four miles east of Comstock, Texas on the northern side of U.S. 90. The old Comstock Lake Task Force consists of a modern modular trailer located adjacent to Lake Amistad on a parcel of land owned by the National Park Service.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX DRT/LRT Briscoe Ranch TX MOU, Antennas, and M&R TACCOM **Consultation Done** The Proposed Action includes adding an antenna similar to the existing antennas and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment. M&R will take place within the existing site footprint and where disturbances have already occurred. M&R activities associated with the Proposed Action may include: • Repair, maintenance, installation and/or replacement of telecommunications equipment and cable systems. • M&R of ancillary equipment such as heating, air conditioning, power systems and associated equipment, backup power generators, fuel storage, solar power panels, security monitoring systems, and facility grounding and lightning protection systems, and other equipment as needed. • Repairs to interior and exterior electrical systems.
CATEX EPT El Paso Air Branch Security System Repairs **PA Used- VI.B.1(d) and VI.B.2** Make repairs to the existing security systems at the El Paso Air Branch facilities, located at 1740 American Way, El Paso, TX 79925; 7301 Boeing Drive, El Paso, TX 79925; and 6812 Northrop Drive, El Paso, TX 79925. In order to meet security standards, CBP proposes to replace or install surveillance and security equipment at three existing facilities. The proposed project consists of the following actions: • Repair or replace the access control system, the video surveillance system, and the intrusion detection system at these three facilities; and • Replace the glazing in the windows of the Northrop facility. No trenching or ground disturbance is anticipated.
CATEX EPT EPS [BE: TX0241] Parking Lot Resurfacing **PA Used- VI.D.1** Resurface and restripe the 372,230 square foot parking lot for the El Paso Border Patrol Station. Included in the proposed action is an inspection of the existing parking lot condition, removal of surface debris (i.e. rocks, dirt, and trash) on the existing parking surface, repairing cracks, resurfacing the parking lot with a sealcoating, and restriping the parking lot.
CATEX EPT EPS Riverside Air Unit HVAC and Ceiling Upgrades **PA Used- VI.B.1, VI.B.1(c), VI.B.3, and VI.B.4** Replace an aging and ineffective heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system at the El Paso Air Unit Riverside facility at 6812 Northrop Drive, El Paso, TX.. The proposed project consists of the following actions: • Installation of a new split (indoor/outdoor) HVAC system with associated electrical interconnections, condensate pump and piping, and ceiling/roof repairs around replacement vents.
CATEX EPT Lease Termination and Equipment Removal for Multiple TACCOM Sites in NM and TX **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Termination of leases for decommissioned legacy sites where equipment has already been removed at the following locations: • FAA Mount Franklin (space on FAA tower and in existing shelter near El Paso, TX) • Ranger Peak II (space on Crown Castle tower and in existing shelter near El Paso, TX) • Comanche Peak I (space on Sinclair Broadcast tower and in existing shelter near El Paso, TX) • Comanche Peak II (space on rooftop near El Paso, TX)

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX EPT Sector HQ [BE: TX0180] Building A Parking Lot Resurfacing **PA Used- VI.D.1** Resurface and restripe the 21,318 square foot parking lot for Building A at the El Paso Sector (EPT) Headquarters Facility. Included in the proposed action is an inspection of the existing parking lot condition, removal of surface debris (i.e. rocks, dirt, and trash) on the existing parking surface, repairing cracks, resurfacing the parking lot with a sealcoating, and restriping the parking lot.
CATEX EPT Sector HQ [BE: TX0180] Upgrade Internal Duress Alarm **PA Used- VI.B.1(d)** Repair/upgrade the existing internal duress alarm located in the El Paso Sector (EPT) Headquarters facility. Upgrades will occur in the lobby and other key friction points within the HQ complex. The upgrades will bring the facility into compliance with current Internal Affairs standards.
CATEX EPT SOG HQ [BE: TX11610] Exterior Painting **PA Used- VI.B.3** Repair and repaint the exterior facades of two modern modular structures located at the El Paso Sector (EPT) Special Operations Group (SOG) Headquarters (HQ) on Fort Bliss. The SOG HQ is located at the corner of SSG Sims and Duncan Street on Biggs Army Airfield, Ft. Bliss, TX 79916. The modular facilities were installed in 2003. Proposed work includes preparing and painting the exterior of the existing facilities (i.e. Buildings 11163 and P1163).
CATEX EPT YST [BE: TX0183] Force Protection Upgrade **PA Used- VI.B.1(d), VI.B.2, and VI.B.3(d)** Upgrade the existing force protection in the lobby of the existing Ysleta (YST) Border Patrol Station (BPS). The proposed action includes the following; • Replacing current interior walls of the lobby with Class Level III ballistic resistant fiber glass paneling • The glass pane doors with ballistic rate teller window with two way audio and a drawer for hand to hand transaction • Installing a CCTV with view of the parking area & reception area • Adding under the counter duress for the receptionist to signal the station personnel of incoming threats • Install a level III ballistic rated door with the proper electronic control access entrance technology The building was constructed in 1993 and is located at 12245 Pine Springs Drive, El Paso, TX 79936.
CATEX EPT YST HWY 62-180 Checkpoint [TX0471] Install Water Well **Consultation Done** Provide a new water well and appropriately-sized pump with necessary filtering equipment to feed an existing 2600 gallon storage tank on site at the HWY 62-180 Checkpoint.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
CATEX LRT Fairfield SW150 TX Lease Renewal and MR TACCOM **Consultation Done** Fairfield SW150 is located at 127 State Highway 75 South, Fairfield, Freestone County, TX 75830. The site includes rented space for an antenna on a 500 ft. tall guyed commercial tower (Huffman Communications, FCC # 1053780, built in 1981), space in shelter for equipment, and associated equipment. The Proposed Action includes renewing the site lease and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment at the site. M&R will take place within the existing site footprint and where disturbances have already occurred. Road access and parking area is available and not maintained by CBP. M&R activities associated with the Proposed Action may include: • Repair, maintenance, installation and/or replacement of telecommunications equipment and cable systems. • Minor repairs to structures and/or buildings where equipment is located. • M&R of ancillary equipment such as heating, air conditioning, power systems and associated equipment, backup power generators, fuel storage, solar power panels, security monitoring systems, and facility grounding and lightning protection systems, and other equipment as needed. • Repairs to interior and exterior electrical systems. The Proposed Action would not increase or change the footprint of the existing site and there would be no new ground disturbance. The activities would not significantly increase the height or width of the structure. All equipment required for the Proposed Action can be accommodated using existing roads and parking area.
CATEX RGV RGC BPS TX TACCOM Tower Antenna Space Outlease **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Outleasing antenna space at the Rio Grande City (RGC) Border Patrol Station (BPS) at 730 Border Patrol Lane, Rio Grande City, Starr County, TX. The site consists of a CBP-owned 250 ft. tall self-support lattice tower, shelters, and associated equipment. CBP intends to grant an outlease to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Tick Riders for antenna space at 147 ft. height on the tower and equipment space within the existing shelter. A structural analysis has been performed for the tower and proposed additions. The USDA will install equipment on the tower and will place batteries, electrical wiring, and other equipment as needed within the existing shelter.
CATEX RGV TACCOM – Riviera #2 TX Site Lease and M&R **Consultation Done** Renew site leases and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment and structures at the Riviera #2 site, located at E. County Road (CR) 2335 (northeast of the intersection of E. CR 2335 and South CR 1070), Riviera, Kleberg County, TX
CATEX RGV TACCOM – Roma Repeater TX Site Lease and M&R **Consultation Done** Renew site leases and minor maintenance and repair (M&R) of communications equipment and structures at the Roma Repeater site located off N. Estrella Street, (approximately 200 feet northwest of the intersection of Woodland Circle and N. Estrella Street), Roma, Starr County, TX.
Cienegas Creek AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Ciudad Juarez Region of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
Cowboy Ranch Surveillance System, Zapata Station, Laredo Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property in Zapata County. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Del Rio Area of Interest Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
Eagle Pass AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
El Paso MEMXRIS **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the El Paso Port of Entry, El Paso, El Paso County, Texas for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Encinitos Aerostat to Valley View, USBP Weslaco AoR, RGV Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems from the existing Encinitos site to the existing Valley View site in Hidalgo County. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Ft. Brown Surveillance System Sites, Ft. Brown AoR, USBP RGV Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems at nine locations on private property in the Laredo West and Zapata Station areas of responsibility. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 7' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • three concrete barriers to be used as anchors; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; and • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius.
FY 16 MEMXRIS Eagle Pass **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Eagle Pass Port of Entry, Eagle Pass, Maverick County, Texas for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
FY 16 MEMXRIS El Paso **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the El Paso Port of Entry, El Paso, El Paso County, Texas for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
Hidalgo AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Houston Airport MEMXRIS **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Houston Airport, Houston, Harris County, Texas for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
La Casita Surveillance System, Rio Grande City Station, RGV Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property in Starr County. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Laredo AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
Laredo MEMXRIS **PA Used- VI.A.1 and VI.C.8** Field and operate a MEMXRIS at the Laredo Port of Entry, Laredo, Webb County, Texas for non-intrusive inspections (NIIs) of cargo containers. The MEMXRIS will be moved to any location within the landport suitable for conducting inspections, as required. In addition, the system will be operated on developed surfaces. This mobile system consists of a dual energy X-ray imaging platform mounted on a truck chassis and is optimized for roof-to-axle scanning of unoccupied vehicles in moving mode (system moves past stationary vehicles) or container-only scanning of trucks towing containers in stationary mode (trucks drive through the stationary system).
LEXRIS Portals for Hidalgo and Pharr **PA Used- VI.A.1** Field and operate two LEXRIS portals at the Hidalgo and Pharr Ports of Entry (POE) in Texas for the purpose of conducting non-intrusive inspections of vehicles for the presence of contraband, including weapons of mass destruction, explosives, and illicit drugs. The systems will be portal (stationary) configurations that will be installed along existing traffic lanes. Vehicles will be scanned as they are driven through the portal. The portal LEXRIS will be installed on previously disturbed, developed surfaces (pavement and asphalt) at the Hidalgo and Pharr Facilities. Minor excavations and trenching will be required to install the systems which will affect approximately 280 square feet to a maximum depth of 4 feet. Soils at the POE have been subject to grading and possibly filling to establish traffic lanes and other surfaces, such as inspection areas. Excavated soil will be used to backfill the project site.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Nine Surveillance Systems, Laredo West and Zapata Stations Area of Responsibility **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems at nine locations on private property in the Laredo West and Zapata Station areas of responsibility. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Pharr AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
Presidio AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
Presidio Housing Maintenance, Repair, and Site Improvement **PA Used- VI.B.1, VI.B.2, VI.B.3, VI.B.3(d), and VI.D.1** Maintenance, repair, and site improvement activities at the Presidio, Texas Housing Complex. Work will include: • Provide new exterior paint on mobile homes. Paint siding, soffits, trim window sills and doors. • Remove shutters from existing windows and replace with matching wood trim around all four sides of each window. This effort will extended life of the exterior siding • Install new exterior motion detector security lighting on mobile homes for security purposes. • Repair existing horizontal slide vehicle security gate located at entrance to the 700/800 housing for security purposes. • Install landscape island features throughout the front and back yard areas of housing. This effort will improve tenant security and promote a sense of family community. The work shall be performed at the CBP housing units located on Bunton Street. • Replace the existing deteriorating carpet with new vinyl flooring at the mobile housing units in the McKeel housing area. • Installation of new barrier fencing and landscaping to limited areas in the CBP 700/800 housing area to improve security and enhance the appearance of the area. • Repair and restore walk paths. Under this task, the Contractor shall replace any missing aggregate to establish a uniform depth of aggregate throughout entire walk path. Install new concrete sidewalks and steps where deteriorated beyond repair. • Install exterior window screens on 700/800 series homes to replace ones with holes and are falling apart. • Replace existing lighting fixtures past their useful life span with new ones in housing units. • Install new appliances.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
REC LEXRIS Del Rio **PA Used- VI.A.1** Field and operate two LEXRIS portals at the Del Rio Port of Entry (POE) in Val Verde County, Texas for the purpose of conducting non-intrusive inspections of vehicles for the presence of contraband, including weapons of mass destruction, explosives, and illicit drugs. The systems will be portal (stationary) configurations that will be installed along existing traffic lanes. Vehicles will be scanned as they are driven through the portal. The portal LEXRIS will be installed on previously disturbed, developed surfaces (pavement and asphalt) at the Del Rio Facility. Minor excavations and trenching will be required to install the systems which will affect approximately 280 square feet to a maximum depth of 4 feet. Soils at the POE have been subject to grading and possibly filling to establish traffic lanes and other surfaces, such as inspection areas. Excavated soil will be used to backfill the project site.
Relampago Surveillance System, Weslaco Station, Rio Grande Valley Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property near Mercedes, Texas. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Relocatable Surveillance System Alternate Sites USBP Laredo West Station Laredo Sector **PA Used- VI.A.4, VI.C.1, VI.C.2, VI.C.8** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair; dismantlement, removal, and relocation of supporting infrastructure for Surveillance System deployment (RAID towers) to four previously established sites located in Webb County. • Boldt RAID Tower Site (28.050363 -99.560192) • Trevino RAID Tower Site (27.86115 -99.89055) • LRW Station (27.7068 -99.7283) • TXDOT Site (27.7084 -99.7283)
Relocation and Redeployment of RAID Aerostat from Valley View to Refugio, USBP, Rio Grande City Station, Rio Grande Valley Sector **PA Used- VI.A.4, VI.C.1, VI.C.2, VI.C.8** Dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property in Valley View Texas to and relocation to an existing site in the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge managed by USFWS. Maintenance of existing access road to Refugio site on USFWS lands. Work includes grading the existing road, reestablishing the road crown for proper drainage where required, and the addition and compaction of caliche or other flexible road base as needed. Areas adjacent to the road may also have vegetation control to establish a 3' buffer and 15' canopy height clearance to ensure visibility and maintain safe conditions.
Rio Grande City AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
Roma AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
San Isidro AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
San Pedro Surveillance System, USBP Weslaco Station, Rio Grande Valley Sector **Consultation Done** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on private property in Hidalgo County. Each system is comprised of the following: • a 40' by 40' level pad for the mooring station; • a 20' by 7' gravel pad for the storage container; • a 20' by 7' pad for the helium trailer; • a 14' by 7' gravel pad for the operations trailer; • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
Santa Cruz Surveillance System RAID Tower, Rio Grande City Station, Rio Grande Valley Sector **PA Used- VI.A.4, VI.C.1, VI.C.2, VI.C.8** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of surveillance systems on an existing site in the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge managed by USFWS. Maintenance of existing access road to Santa Cruz site on USFWS lands. Work includes grading the existing road, reestablishing the road crown for proper drainage where required, and the addition and compaction of caliche or other flexible road base as needed. Areas adjacent to the road may also have vegetation control to establish a 3' buffer and 15' canopy height clearance to ensure visibility and maintain safe conditions.
Sauzal AoI Tunnel Interdiction Activities **PA Used- VII.A.2** Exploratory investigation for potential tunnel locations within an area of interest (AoI) that tends to have a high potential for tunneling activity.
TX RVSS Relocatable Towers McAllen Sector **PA Used- VI.A.4, VI.C.1, VI.C.2, VI.C.8** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of mobile RVSS towers on 6 sites, 5 alternate sites, and 3 relay sites in McAllen vSector. Equipment is rotated between sites based on operational needs. Each system is comprised of the following: • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
TX RVSS Relocatable Towers, Laredo Sector **PA Used- VI.A.4, VI.C.1, VI.C.2, VI.C.8** Installation, operation, maintenance, repair, and eventual dismantlement and removal of mobile RVSS towers on 6 sites, 5 alternate sites, and 3 relay sites in Laredo Sector. Equipment is rotated between sites based on operational needs. Each system is comprised of the following: • a portable tower that extends up to 107'; • a cleared footprint free from tress and vegetation with a 100' radius; • three 8' by 8' gravel pads for generators; • a 258' by 258', 3 strand barb wire fence with posts every 10'; and • a 12' wide standard cattle gate at the access point.
TX0029 Paso Del Norte Ready Lanes **PA Used- VI.B.7** Installation of vehicle pipe gates, lane delineators, flexible bollards, and directional signage to segregate Ready Lanes from regular travel lanes.
TX0030 Bridge of the Americas El Paso Ready Lanes **PA Used- VI.B.7** Installation of vehicle pipe gates, lane delineators, flexible bollards, and directional signage to segregate Ready Lanes from regular travel lanes.
TX0031 Ysleta Ready Lanes **PA Used- VI.B.7** Installation of vehicle pipe gates, lane delineators, flexible bollards, and directional signage to segregate Ready Lanes from regular travel lanes.
TX0040 Freeport Port Lease Renewal **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Renewal of free space lease from Port of Freeport. The facility is located on the Port and was completed in the 2013.
TX0087TX15339 LPOE Ft Hancock Canopy LSTAR Deployment **PA Used- VI.F.4** Test project for a new surveillance program. Equipment will be mounted on an existing CBP building at the Ft. Hancock LPOE.
TX0401 CatEx El Paso Rail Inspection Facility Lease **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Free space lease of a 1,664 sq ft building located within the Union Pacific railyard. No renovations to the space are necessary.
TX0457 CatEx Brownsville Seaport Office Lease **No potential to cause effects per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)** Renewal of a free space lease of 681 sq ft of office space located within the Harbor Master's Building. The building was constructed in 1996. No renovations to the space are necessary.
TX0531TX0729 LPOE Tornillo K-9 LSTAR Deployment **PA Used- VI.F.4** Test project for a new surveillance program. Equipment will be mounted on an existing CBP building at the Tornillo LPOE.

CBP Project Title Consultation Information Project Description
UAC and FAMU Temporary Housing (Tent City) **PA Used- VII.A.2** Construct soft-sided housing units at existing CBP facilities to provide safe and secure temporary housing for UACs and FAMUs. The facilities will be located at: • Tornillo, Texas; and • Donna, Texas

From:	Cynthia Martinez
To:	Jim Kurth
Subject:	Fwd: Official CBP communication- Border Fence
Date:	Thursday, September 7, 2017 5:24:38 AM
Attachments:	mime-attachment.html ATT00001.htm attachment 1.pdf ATT00002.htm

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Hi Jim

Wanted to talk with you about this incoming letter and our response. As we understand it now, the Department ([redacted]) also received it. So likely a Departmental response.

Let me know when we can discuss.

Thanks

Cynthia

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Keenan Adams <keenan_adams@fws.gov>
> **Date:** August 31, 2017 at 9:14:48 PM EDT
> **To:** Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Cynthia Martinez <Cynthia_Martinez@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Official CBP communication- Border Fence**

Attachment this time

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Monica Kimbrough <monica_kimbrough@fws.gov>
Date: August 31, 2017 at 4:26:53 PM MDT
To: "Jess, Robert" <robert_jess@fws.gov>
Cc: "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas_harvey@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell <kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan_adams@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris_tincher@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny_perez@fws.gov>, justin.tade@sol.doi.gov
Subject: Re: Official CBP communication- Border Fence

Thanks, Rob. Hold off for now. Getting forwarded up to HQ and will work with solicitor on response. We will get a discussion/call set up.

Monica

Monica Kimbrough
Assistant Refuge Supervisor
USFWS, National Wildlife Refuge System
Southwest Region
office: 505-248-7419
cell: 505-366-4628

Please excuse errors, sent from my iPhone

On Aug 30, 2017, at 11:17 AM, Jess, Robert <robert_jess@fws.gov> wrote:

> Just received the following from CBP which requires a response within 60 days from August 25, 2017. I will draft a response based on our suggestions and guidance, as mentioned to BP and CBP and run up for review.
> Please see attached...
>
> --
> robert jess
> project leader
> south texas refuge complex
> alamo, texas
>
> <CBP planning request.pdf>

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

AUG 25 2017

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Mr. Robert Jess
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3325 Green Jay Road
Alamo, TX 78516

Dear Mr. Jess:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is in the initial stages of planning for proposed levee wall along 28 miles of existing levee located in Hidalgo County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's McAllen and Weslaco stations area of responsibility (AOR) and 32 miles of bollard wall in Starr County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande City station AOR. In addition, CBP is in the planning stages of its second phase of gate installation to close 35 gaps in existing border fence in Hidalgo and Cameron counties. The 35 gates were funded in CBP's fiscal year (FY) 2017 appropriation, while the proposed 28 miles of levee wall and 32 miles of bollard wall are included in the President's FY18 budget request to Congress.

In Hidalgo County, CBP is proposing 28 miles of levee wall. The proposed levee wall alignment will be on the south face of the northern U.S. International Boundary Water Commission (IBWC) levee. The proposed design includes construction of a reinforced concrete levee wall to the height of the existing levee with 18-foot tall steel bollards installed on the top of the levee wall, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the levee wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, automated vehicle gates, pedestrian gates, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the levee wall. In addition, CBP will install gates within 20 gaps in existing border levee wall within Hidalgo County and in 15 existing gaps within Cameron County.

In Starr County, CBP is proposing 32 miles of bollard wall. The proposed design includes construction of 20 to 30-foot tall steel bollards, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the bollard wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the bollard wall.

Additional details of the possible components of the proposed action are as follows:

- **Levee Wall** -The levee wall will be a concrete wall to the height of the levee crest with 18 foot tall bollards installed in the top of the levee wall.
- **Bollard Wall** – The bollard wall will be 20 to 30 feet high utilizing 8-inch diameter, concrete filled steel bollards.
- **150 Foot Enforcement Zone** – The enforcement zone will be an area extending from the south/river side of the levee wall or bollard wall approximately 150 feet. All vegetation within the 150-foot enforcement zone will be cleared.
- **Gates** - Automated vehicle gates will be installed with a minimum height of 18 feet and minimum width of 20 feet. In addition, gates designed to allow for farming equipment will be installed where appropriate and range in width from 40 to 50 feet. All gates will be motorized overhead sliding gates with an enclosed drive and operator system.

- **Lighting** - LED lighting will be installed as part of this project. CBP will work with the appropriate stakeholders to develop solutions to avoid excess lighting beyond the enforcement zone.
- **All Weather Road** - An all-weather aggregate patrol road (type FC-2) will be constructed on the south side and parallel to the levee or bollard wall and within the 150-foot enforcement zone. The specific location of the road within the enforcement zone will be determined during the design phase of the project.
- **Cameras** - A camera surveillance system will be installed to ensure visibility of the enforcement zone and southern approach.

The purpose of the proposed action is to increase CBP's ability to impede or deny illegal border crossings, and to provide improved surveillance and detection capabilities to the areas of greatest risk of illegal cross-border activity located within the US. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will be similar to other levee and border wall systems located within the Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will also support CBPs action under Executive Order (EO) 13767, where CBP is directed to "...secure the southern border of the United States through the immediate construction of a physical wall on the southern border, monitored and supported by adequate personnel so as to prevent illegal immigration, drug and human trafficking, and acts of terrorism."

CBP will evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. CBP is gathering data and input from state and local government agencies, federal agencies, and Native American Tribes that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in the proposed actions. Since your agency or organization may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding the potential environmental impacts from CBP's proposed action, your input is sought regarding the likely or anticipated effects to biological, cultural, and natural resources from the implementation of the proposed actions. Your response should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which CBP should consider during project siting, construction, and operation.

This letter is intended to provide initial information for CBP's proposed projects in the Rio Grande Valley and seek comments and concerns from potentially affected parties and interested groups. CBP intends similar outreach in other border regions as projects are identified and defined. Your prompt attention to this request is appreciated. Comments and information will be accepted up to 30 days following the date of this letter. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include "RGV Wall and Gates Construction" in the title of your email. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Border Patrol & Air and Marine
Program Management Office

Nolin, Chris <chris_nolin@fws.gov>

Re: [EXTERNAL] Baseline Survey Scope of Work for Las Ruinas and Arroyo Ramirez Tracts

1 message

Nolin, Chris <chris_nolin@fws.gov> Fri, May 4, 2018 at 1:12 PM
To: "Winton, Bryan" <bryan_winton@fws.gov>

thanks!

On Fri, May 4, 2018 at 1:05 PM, Winton, Bryan <bryan_winton@fws.gov> wrote:

> CBP requesting status of 3-mile border fence segment in Starr Co. on refuge lands. Two properties, Las Ruinas Tract and Arroyo Ramirez Tract were evaluated through an EA to perform Geotechnical borings to determine the soil stability in an area where CBP would like to install fence on refuge tracts. No other information at this time on priority fence/wall segments elsewhere in Hidalgo or Starr Counties in Texas.
> bryan
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Winton, Bryan** <bryan_winton@fws.gov>
> Date: Fri, May 4, 2018 at 10:13 AM
> Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Baseline Survey Scope of Work for Las Ruinas and Arroyo Ramirez Tracts
> To: "McDowell, Kelly" <kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov>
> Cc: Monica Kimbrough <monica_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>, Rob Jess <robert_jess@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny_perez@fws.gov>, Chris Perez <chris_perez@fws.gov>, Scot Edler <scot_edler@fws.gov>
>
> Monica and Chris have collectively finalized the EA, Chris has already met with ES (Ernesto) to complete the Intra-Service Section 7, so all that remains is preparation and issuance of the SUP. We have not prepared a Draft SUP since we were uncertain whether this project would move forward in light of reduced funding in the FY18 budget for CBP wall/fence. Now, that it appears they are still interested in moving forward with this project, we can prepare the SUP and have it ready for forwarding to you by COB Monday (May 7). Will that work?
>
> bryan
>
> On Fri, May 4, 2018 at 8:07 AM, McDowell, Kelly <kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > All,

Need to get an update n where we are on EA, Section 7 and Draft Permit. Look like CBP is about ready. Monica do we have to have 106 based on correspondence with David Siegel? I need to get back with(b) (6) on attached scope of work?

Thanks

Kelly

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Date: Thu, May 3, 2018 at 11:10 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Baseline Survey Scope of Work for Las Ruinas and Arroyo Ramirez Tracts
To: "McDowell, Kelly" <kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov>

Hi Kelly – I am ready to execute the attached scope for the two above referenced tracts but wanted to run it by you to see if you had any additions or questions. Please review and let me know.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Phone: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

--
Kelly McDowell
Refuge Supervisor Texas Gulf Coast
956-566-3664

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell
bryan_winton@fws.gov

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell
bryan_winton@fws.gov

--

Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

From: Matthew Huggler
To: Greg Sheehan
Cc: Fleming, Jeffrey; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ; Barbara Wainman; Charisa Morris; Jim Kurth
Subject: Re: OP-ED REQUEST: Talking points on the border
Date: Monday, May 7, 2018 9:06:32 AM

I will take care of it.

Jeff - If there is anything additional I need to know about this assignment give me a call.

Thanks,

- Matt

On May 7, 2018, at 12:01 PM, Greg Sheehan <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov> wrote:

> Please quickly perform whatever reviews are necessary and get to Eli. I didn't think that ASFWP reviewed speaking points for talks/articles that we send up to Eli.
>
> Thanks
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
> On May 7, 2018, at 8:02 AM, Fleming, Jeffrey <jeffrey_m_fleming@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > I was told to get it over to Maureen and I now see what happened. There is a Mauren Foster in DoI and I didn't catch that it wasn't the correct Maureen. Here is the email message pasted below:
> >
> > ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> > From: **Fleming, Jeffrey** <jeffrey_m_fleming@fws.gov>
> > Date: Fri, May 4, 2018 at 12:28 PM
> > Subject: FWS - Border message and policy points...
> > To: mauren_foster@ios.doi.gov
> > Cc: Barbara Wainman <Barbara_Wainman@fws.gov>, Linda Walker <linda_d_walker@fws.gov>
> >
> > Maureen,
> >
> > The quote in bold was shared with us by Russell Newell in OCO after we talked earlier this week about communications and our interests in

being prepared to talk about this effort. I am copying Barbara here as well as my colleague Linda Walker, who is acting Chief of the National Wildlife Refuge System for Cynthia today.

Here is some material from FWS that I think will be helpful to the effort:

- There are 164 miles of U.S Fish & Wildlife Service lands and 10 National Wildlife Refuges directly on the Southwest border.
- Currently 19 Federal Wildlife Officers (FWOs) patrol over 1.9 million acres of National Wildlife Refuges on the Southwest border.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, for example, operates a sub-station at Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona, and the Service's law enforcement officers have a seamless relationship built over several decades of partnership and working together.

Here's a note we received yesterday from OCO.

From: "(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Date: May 2, 2018 at 5:05:02 PM EDT
To: "Range, Brent" <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>, "Bosak, Dennis" <dennis_bosak@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "(b) (6)(b) (6) " <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >, "(b) (6)(b) (6) " <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Facing Statement - DOI support of Border Security Efforts

Good afternoon Brent and Dennis-

This is the public statement that was approved by USBP. We can still work on it if DOI public affairs feels edits are necessary.

Thank you,

(b) (6)
(b) (6)
USBP HQ
LEOD/Ops Central
(b) (6) Desk
(b) (6) Cell

"As the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Border Patrol, and the Department of Interior's Office of Law Enforcement and Security, continue to foster an already strong relationship, both agencies have initiated an effort to coordinate field deployment operations, which will increase situational awareness in a shared capacity within Department of Interior public lands that abut the

international border with Mexico. As Directed by Department of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, additional DOI Law Enforcement Officers will be deployed to southwest border public lands in an enhanced posture to support the President's directive for increased enforcement operations along the southwest border, while the border wall is being constructed. These Department of Interior Law Enforcement Officers will be performing their routine missions aimed at protecting public lands, gaining situational awareness on threats entering illegally and traversing national parks, wildlife areas, and wilderness areas while coordinating with the U.S. Border Patrol."

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks much.
jeff

Jeff Fleming
Acting Assistant Director - External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

for Barbara Wainman

404-274-6693 m

Jeff Fleming
Office of External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southeast Region, Atlanta, Georgia

404-679-7287 d
404-274-6693 m

On Mon, May 7, 2018 at 10:45 AM, Greg Sheehan <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov> wrote:

> Eli indicated that he never received this information. Jeff did you send that over to him?
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
> On May 4, 2018, at 9:11 AM, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) <(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Just spoke with Jeff and we are sending him the material he needs.

Rich.

On Fri, May 4, 2018 at 10:57 AM, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov> wrote:

> Maureen sent it to me Jeff is on it.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On May 4, 2018, at 10:53 AM, Greg Sheehan <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > All
> > Can you please get some points to Eli. Probably along the lines of how we have worked well with CBP in the past and our shared resources on staffing and refuge lands have been a good collaboration to protect people and resources etc.
> > Due later today thanks.
> >
> > Greg Sheehan
> > Principal Deputy Director
> > US Fish and Wildlife Service
> > 202-208-4545 office
> > 202-676-7675 cell
> >
> > Begin forwarded message:
> >
> > **From:** "Nachmany, Eli" <eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov>
> > **Date:** May 3, 2018 at 4:26:01 PM PDT
> > **To:** Downey Magallanes <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>, Todd Willens <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>, Scott Cameron <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>, Michael Argo <michael_argo@ios.doi.gov>, Harry Humbert <harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C),
Susan Combs
<susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>,
"Paul (Dan) Smith"
<paul_smith@nps.gov>,
Greg Sheehan
<greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
Subject: OP-ED REQUEST: Talking points on the border

Hi all,

I am writing an op-ed from the Secretary on the deployment of DOI law enforcement to the border. Please send me any policy talking points or messaging about this by **COB tomorrow, Friday, May 4**, so that I may draft.

--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285

--

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Chief of Law Enforcement
National Wildlife Refuge System
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Protecting America's Wildlife and Those Who Enjoy It Since 1903

From: Wainman, Barbara
To: Greg Sheehan
Cc: Fleming, Jeffrey; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ; Charisa Morris; Matthew Huggler; Jim Kurth
Subject: Re: OP-ED REQUEST: Talking points on the border
Date: Monday, May 7, 2018 9:40:21 AM

This one originally came to us through Maureen and she asked us to get it back to her which is why Jeff sent it through her. Very sorry for the mix up Greg we will get it cleared up asap

Barbara W. Wainman
Assistant Director, External Affairs
US Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-5256 (office)
(571) 471-4159 (cell)

On Mon, May 7, 2018 at 12:01 PM, Greg Sheehan <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov> wrote:

> Please quickly perform whatever reviews are necessary and get to Eli. I didn't think that ASFWP reviewed speaking points for talks/articles that we send up to Eli.
>
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>
> Greg Sheehan
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> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
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> > ---------- Forwarded message ----------
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> > Subject: FWS - Border message and policy points...
> > To: mauren_foster@ios.doi.gov
> > Cc: Barbara Wainman <Barbara_Wainman@fws.gov>, Linda Walker <linda_d_walker@fws.gov>
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To: "Range, Brent" <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>, "Bosak, Dennis" <dennis_bosak@ios.doi.gov>
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(b) (6)
(b) (6)
USBP HQ
LEOD/Ops Central
(b) (6) Desk
(b) (6) Cell

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Directed by Department of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, additional DOI Law Enforcement Officers will be deployed to southwest border public lands in an enhanced posture to support the President's directive for increased enforcement operations along the southwest border, while the border wall is being constructed. These Department of Interior Law Enforcement Officers will be performing their routine missions aimed at protecting public lands, gaining situational awareness on threats entering illegally and traversing national parks, wildlife areas, and wilderness areas while coordinating with the U.S. Border Patrol."

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Jeff Fleming
Acting Assistant Director - External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

for Barbara Wainman

404-274-6693 m

Jeff Fleming
Office of External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southeast Region, Atlanta, Georgia

404-679-7287 d
404-274-6693 m

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> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
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<paul_smith@nps.gov>, Greg Sheehan <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
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Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285

--

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Chief of Law Enforcement
National Wildlife Refuge System
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Protecting America's Wildlife and Those Who Enjoy It Since 1903

Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 5: CBP MOUCBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:46 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Date: Fri, Jun 8, 2018 at 3:00 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: CBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation
To: Brown, Michael <michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov>, Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>, Doster, Rob <rob_doster@fws.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>

As a follow-up to (b) (6) email last week that contained the documentation for review/approval, please find attached the signed permit application form. Please let us know if you have any additional questions or additional information.

V/r,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch

Energy and Environmental Management Division

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)(b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 2:40 PM
To: 'Brown, Michael' <michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov>; Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>; Doster, Rob <rob_doster@fws.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; 'Kordella, Lesley' <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Subject: CBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation

All,

I have attached the documentation and appendices for CBP's Programmatic Permit request.

We are currently working on getting the first page of the Special Purpose – Miscellaneous Permit Application Form signed and should have it to you next week.

Please let me know if there is any additional information or documentation that you require.

Thank you very much for the coordination throughout this effort.

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

LMI Government Consulting

Energy and Environment Managment Division

US Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)(b) (6)

--

****

Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

****

MBTA Special Use Permit App_CBP_060818.pdf
1748K

Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

OMB Control No. 1018 - 0022
Expires 5/31/2017

Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Application Form

Click here for addresses.

Return to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Type of Activity: | **Special Purpose – Miscellaneous**

☑ **New Application**
☐ **Requesting Renewal or Amendment of Permit #** _____

Complete Sections A or B, and C, D, and E of this application. U.S. address may be required in Section C, see instructions for details.
See attached instruction pages for information on how to make your application complete and help avoid unnecessary delays.

A. Complete if applying as an individual			
1.a. Last name	1.b. First name	1.c. Middle name or initial	1.d. Suffix
2. Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	3. Social Security No.	4. Occupation	5. Affiliation/ Doing business as (see instructions)
6.a. Telephone number	6.b. Alternate telephone number	6.c. Fax number	6.d. E-mail address

B. Complete if applying on behalf of a business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution			
1.a. Name of business, agency, Tribe, or institution		1.b. Doing business as (dba)	
Customs and Border Protection		N/A	
2. Tax identification no.	3. Description of business, agency, or institution		
N/A	Border security law enforcement agency		
4.a. Principal officer Last name	4.b. Principal officer First name	4.c. Principal officer Middle name/ initial	4.d. Suffix
(b) (6)	(b) (6)	(b) (6) (b) (6)	
5. Principal officer title		6. Primary contact name	
Director, Facilities Management and Engineering		(b) (6)(b) (6)	
7.a. Business telephone number	7.b. Alternate telephone number	7.c. Business fax number	7.d. Business e-mail address
(b) (6)	(b) (6)	(b) (6)(b) (6)	(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

C. All applicants complete address information				
1.a. Physical address (Street address; Apartment #, Suite #, or Room #; no P.O. Boxes)				
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)				
1.b. City	1.c. State	1.d. Zip code/Postal code:	1.e. County/Province	1.f. Country
Washington	DC	20004	NA	USA
2.a. Mailing Address (include if different than physical address; include name of contact person if applicable)				
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)				
2.b. City	2.c. State	2.d. Zip code/Postal code:	2.e. County/Province	2.f. Country
Washington	DC	(b) (6)	NA	USA

D. All applicants MUST complete

1. Attach check or money order payable to the U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE **in the amount** | **$100.00** |. Federal, Tribal, State, and local government agencies, and those acting on behalf of such agencies, are exempt from the processing fee – ***attach documentation of fee exempt status as outlined in instructions.*** (50 CFR 13.11(d))

2. Do you currently have or have you ever had any Federal Fish and Wildlife permits?
Yes ☑ If "yes," list the number of the most current permit you have held or that you are applying to renew/re-issue: MB37271C-0 No ☐

3. Certification: I hereby certify that I have read and am familiar with the regulations contained in ***Title 50, Part 13 of the Code of Federal Regulations*** and the other ***applicable parts in subchapter B of Chapter I of Title 50***, and I certify that the information submitted in this application for a permit is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement herein may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Signature (**in blue ink**) of applicant/person responsible for permit (No photocopied or stamped signatures) — Date of signature (mm/dd/yyyy): 6/8/18

Please continue to next page

SECTION E. SPECIAL PURPOSE - MISCELLANEOUS
(Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 50 CFR 21.27)

Note: A Federal Special Purpose - Miscellaneous permit is required to address migratory bird activities that are not covered by other existing permit types. Activities must benefit the migratory bird resource, address important research, address human concerns for individual birds, or show other compelling justification. You must be at least 18 years of age to apply for a permit. Special Purpose Permits may be valid up to 3 years.

Please provide the following information. You may use the space provided as well as a separate sheet of paper with your responses numbered according to the application questions below. You should be as thorough and specific as possible in your responses. Incomplete applications will be returned, delayed or abandoned.

1. The species (scientific and common name) and quantity of migratory birds, parts, nests, and eggs to be covered by the permit.

2. A detailed description of the project or activity, including the purpose. Include copies of supporting documentation, research proposals, and any other information that may be useful for evaluating your request.

3. The exact location (physical – address and/or GPS coordinates in decimal degree; or geographic, as appropriate) where the activity would be conducted.

4. A full description of your background and expertise in conducting the proposed activities.

5. If live birds will be maintained in captivity, describe the facilities. Attach photographs and diagrams of your enclosures. Diagrams must include dimensions (length, width, and height) and a description of interior and exterior construction materials, such as flooring and netting materials.

6. Indicate the intended disposition of the specimens, including, if applicable, the name and address of the public, scientific, or educational institution to which all specimens ultimately will be donated upon completion of activity.

7. Anyone who will be assisting you with the permitted activities or acting as your agent must either have their own Federal migratory bird permit for the activity or be identified by you, in writing, as a subpermittee under your permit. They may also require a State permit. Subpermittees must be at least 18 years old. As the primary permittee, you will be responsible for ensuring that your subpermittees are properly trained and adhere to the terms of your permit. Provide the name of anyone besides yourself who will be conducting activities under your permit. For anyone handling or caring for live birds, briefly describe what they will be doing and their qualifications.

8. You must retain records relating to the activities conducted under your permit for at least 5 years from the date of expiration of your permit. Is the physical address you provided in Section C on page 1 of this application the address where your records will be kept? Indicate "yes" or "no." If "no," provide the physical address.

9. **Any permit issued as a result of this application is not valid unless you also have any required State or tribal permits or approvals associated with the activity.** Have you obtained all required State or tribal permits or approvals to conduct this activity? **If "yes," attach a copy of the approval(s).** If "no," indicate whether your "have applied" or whether "none is required." **If you "have applied," send a copy when it is issued.**

10. **Disqualification factor.** A conviction, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, for a felony violation of the Lacey Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act disqualifies any such person from receiving or exercising the privileges of a permit, unless such disqualification has been expressly waived by the Service Director in response to a written petition. (50 CFR 13.21(c))

    Have you or any of the owners of the business, if applying as a business, been convicted, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, forfeited collateral, or are currently under charges for any violations of the laws mentioned above? If not, indicate "no." If you have, indicate "yes," and provide the following: a) the individual's name, b) date of charge, c) charge(s), d) location of incident, e) court, and f) action taken for each violation.

PERMIT APPLICATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

The following instructions pertain to an application for a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or CITES permit. The General Permit Procedures in 50 CFR 13 address the permitting process. For simplicity, all licenses, permits, registrations, and certificates are referred to as a permit.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- Complete all blocks/lines/questions in Sections A or B, and in C, D, and E.
- **An incomplete application may cause delays in processing or may be returned to the applicant. Be sure you are filling in the appropriate application form for the proposed activity.**
- Print clearly or type in the information. Illegible applications may cause delays.
- Sign the application in blue ink. Faxes or copies of the original signature will not be accepted.
- Mail the original application to the address at the top of page one of the application or if applicable on the attached address list.
- **Keep a copy of your completed application.**
- **Please plan ahead. Allow at least 60 days for your application to be processed. Some applications may take longer than 90 days to process. (50 CFR 13.11)**
- Applications are processed in the order they are received.
- Additional forms and instructions are available from http://permits.fws.gov.

COMPLETE EITHER SECTION A OR SECTION B:

Section A. **Complete if applying as an individual:**

- Enter the complete name of the responsible individual who will be the permittee if a permit is issued. Enter personal information that identifies the applicant. ***Fax and e-mail are not required if not available.***
- If you are applying on behalf of a client, the personal information must pertain to the client, and a document evidencing power of attorney must be included with the application.
- **Affiliation/ Doing business as (dba)**: business, agency, organizational, or institutional affiliation *directly* related to the activity requested in the application (e.g., a taxidermist is an individual whose business can *directly* relate to the requested activity). The Division of Management Authority (DMA) will **not** accept *doing business as* affiliations for individuals.

Section B. **Complete if applying as a business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution:**

- Enter the complete name of the business, agency, Tribe, or institution that will be the permittee if a permit is issued. Give a brief description of the type of business the applicant is engaged in. Provide contact phone number(s) of the business.
- **Principal Officer** is the person in charge of the listed business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution. The principal officer is the person responsible for the application and any permitted activities. Often the principal officer is a Director or President. **Primary Contact** is the person at the business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution who will be available to answer questions about the application or permitted activities. Often this is the preparer of the application.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION C:

- For all applications submitted to the Division of Management Authority (DMA) a physical U.S. address is **required**. Province and Country blocks are provided for those USFWS programs which use foreign addresses and are not required by DMA.
- **Mailing address** is address where communications from USFWS should be mailed if different than applicant's physical address.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION D:

Section D.1 **Application processing fee:**

- An application processing fee is required at the time of application; unless exempted under 50 CFR13.11(d)(3). The application processing fee is assessed to partially cover the cost of processing a request. **The fee does not guarantee the issuance of a permit. Fees will not be refunded for applications that are approved, abandoned, or denied.** We may return fees for withdrawn applications prior to any significant processing occurring.
- **Documentation of fee exempt status is not required for Federal, Tribal, State, or local government agencies; but must be supplied by those applicants acting on behalf of such agencies**. Those applicants acting on behalf of such agencies must submit a letter on agency letterhead and signed by the head of the unit of government for which the applicant is acting on behalf, confirming that the applicant will be carrying out the permitted activity for the agency.

Section D.2 **Federal Fish and Wildlife permits:**

- List the number(s) of your most current FWS or CITES permit or the number of the most recent permit if none are currently valid. If applying for re-issuance of a CITES permit, the original permit must be returned with this application.

Section D.3 **CERTIFICATION:**

- **The individual identified in Section A, the principal officer named in Section B, or person with a valid power of attorney (documentation must be included in the application) must sign and date the application in blue ink.** This signature binds the applicant to the statement of certification. This means that you certify that you have read and understand the regulations that apply to the permit. You also certify that everything included in the application is true to the best of your knowledge. Be sure to read the statement and re-read the application and your answers before signing.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION E.

Please continue to next page

APPLICATION FOR A FEDERAL FISH AND WILDLIFE PERMIT
Paperwork Reduction Act, Privacy Act, and Freedom of Information Act – Notices

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) and the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), please be advised:

1. The gathering of information on fish and wildlife is authorized by:
(Authorizing statutes can be found at: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html and http://www.fws.gov/permits/ltr/ltr.html.)

   a. Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668), 50 CFR 22;
   b. Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544), 50CFR 17;
   c. Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712), 50 CFR 21;
   d. Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361, *et. seq.*), 50 CFR 18;
   e. Wild Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4901-4916), 50 CFR 15;
   f. Lacey Act: Injurious Wildlife (18 U.S.C. 42), 50 CFR 16;
   g. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (TIAS 8249), http://www.cites.org , 50 CFR 23;
   h. General Provisions, 50 CFR 10;
   i. General Permit Procedures, 50 CFR 13; and
   j. Wildlife Provisions (Import/export/transport), 50 CFR 14.

2. Information requested in this form is purely voluntary. However, submission of requested information is required in order to process applications for permits authorized under the above laws. Failure to provide all requested information may be sufficient cause for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deny the request. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

3. Certain applications for permits authorized under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1539) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1374) will be published in the **Federal Register** as required by the two laws.

4. Disclosures outside the Department of the Interior may be made without the consent of an individual under the routine uses listed below, if the disclosure is compatible with the purposes for which the record was collected. (Ref. 68 FR 52611, September 4, 2003)

   a. Routine disclosure to subject matter experts, and Federal, Tribal, State, local, and foreign agencies, for the purpose of obtaining advice relevant to making a decision on an application for a permit or when necessary to accomplish an FWS function related to this system of records.
   b. Routine disclosure to the public as a result of publishing **Federal Register** notices announcing the receipt of permit applications for public comment or notice of the decision on a permit application.
   c. Routine disclosure to Federal, Tribal, State, local, or foreign wildlife and plant agencies for the exchange of information on permits granted or denied to assure compliance with all applicable permitting requirements.
   d. Routine disclosure to Captive-bred Wildlife registrants under the Endangered Species Act for the exchange of authorized species, and to share information on the captive breeding of these species.
   e. Routine disclosure to Federal, Tribal, State, and local authorities who need to know who is permitted to receive and rehabilitate sick, orphaned, and injured birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act; federally permitted rehabilitators; individuals seeking a permitted rehabilitator with whom to place a bird in need of care; and licensed veterinarians who receive, treat, or diagnose sick, orphaned, and injured birds.
   f. Routine disclosure to the Department of Justice, or a court, adjudicative, or other administrative body or to a party in litigation before a court or adjudicative or administrative body, under certain circumstances.
   g. Routine disclosure to the appropriate Federal, Tribal, State, local, or foreign governmental agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or implementing statutes, rules, or licenses, when we become aware of a violation or potential violation of such statutes, rules, or licenses, or when we need to monitor activities associated with a permit or regulated use.
   h. Routine disclosure to a congressional office in response to an inquiry to the office by the individual to whom the record pertains.
   i. Routine disclosure to the Government Accountability Office or Congress when the information is required for the evaluation of the permit programs.
   j. Routine disclosure to provide addresses obtained from the Internal Revenue Service to debt collection agencies for purposes of locating a debtor to collect or compromise a Federal claim against the debtor or to consumer reporting agencies to prepare a commercial credit report for use by the FWS.

5. For individuals, personal information such as home address and telephone number, financial data, and personal identifiers (social security number, birth date, etc.) will be removed prior to any release of the application.

6. The public reporting burden on the applicant for information collection varies depending on the activity for which a permit is requested. The relevant burden for a Special Purpose – Miscellaneous permit application is 2 hours and 30 minutes for recordkeeping. This burden estimate includes time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data and completing and reviewing the form. You may direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the form to the Service Information Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mail Stop 222, Arlington Square, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington D.C. 20240.

Freedom of Information Act – Notice

For organizations, businesses, or individuals operating as a business (i.e., permittees not covered by the Privacy Act), we request that you identify any information that should be considered privileged and confidential business information to allow the Service to meet its responsibilities under FOIA. Confidential business information must be clearly marked "Business Confidential" at the top of the letter or page and each succeeding page and must be accompanied by a non-confidential summary of the confidential information. The non-confidential summary and remaining documents may be made available to the public under FOIA [43 CFR 2.26 – 2.33].

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Migratory Bird Regional Permit Offices

FWS REGION	AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY	MAILING ADDRESS	CONTACT INFORMATION
Region 1	**Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Washington**	911 N.E. 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232-4181	Tel. (503) 872-2715 Fax (503) 231-2019 Email *permitsR1MB@fws.gov*
Region 2	**Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas**	P.O. Box 709 Albuquerque, NM 87103	Tel. (505) 248-7882 Fax (505) 248-7885 Email *permitsR2MB@fws.gov*
Region 3	**Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin**	5600 American Blvd. West Suite 990 Bloomington, MN 55437-1458 (Effective 5/31/2011)	Tel. (612) 713-5436 Fax (612) 713-5393 Email *permitsR3MB@fws.gov*
Region 4	**Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico**	P.O. Box 49208 Atlanta, GA 30359	Tel. (404) 679-7070 Fax (404) 679-4180 Email *permitsR4MB@fws.gov*
Region 5	**Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, West Virginia**	P.O. Box 779 Hadley, MA 01035-0779	Tel. (413) 253-8643 Fax (413) 253-8424 Email *permitsR5MB@fws.gov*
Region 6	**Colorado, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming**	P.O. Box 25486 DFC(60154) Denver, CO 80225-0486	Tel. (303) 236-8171 Fax (303) 236-8017 Email *permitsR6MB@fws.gov*
Region 7	**Alaska**	1011 E. Tudor Road (MS-201) Anchorage, AK 99503	Tel. (907) 786-3693 Fax (907) 786-3641 Email *permitsR7MB@fws.gov*
Region 8	**California, Nevada**	2800 Cottage Way Room W-2606 Sacramento, CA 95825	Tel. (916) 978-6183 Fax (916) 414-6486 Email*permitsR8MB@fws.gov*

Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 4: CBP MOUCBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation Part 3 of 5 emails

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:45 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Date: Mon, Jun 11, 2018 at 3:02 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation Part 3 of 5 emails
To: Brown, Michael <michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov>, (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Cc: Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>, Doster, Rob <rob_doster@fws.gov>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >, Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>

This email includes the third part of CBP's MBTA Handbook and PowerPoints for CBP trainings describing MBTA Laws and Regulations.

Email 1: Part 1 of 5; CBP Permit application package and Appendix 1to Appendix 2A

Email 2: Part 2 of 5; Appendix 2B

Email 3: Part 3 of 5; Appendix 2C to Appendix 3 (This email)

Email 4: Part 4 of 5; Appendix 4 (Law Enforcement Sensitive)

Email 5: Part 5 of 5; Appendix 5 to 9

(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)

LMI Government Consulting contract support to

Energy and Environmental Management Division

US Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)

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(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This information is the property of the Department of Homeland Security and may contain sensitive data that is confidential or proprietary. If you have received his email in error, please notify the originator immediately. Your assistance is appreciated.

From: Brown, Michael [mailto:michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 11, 2018 9:37 AM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>; Doster, Rob <rob_doster@fws.gov>; (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; (b) (6) (b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: CBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation

(b) (6),

I did not receive documentation referenced in email from (b) (6). Could you please send again.

Eldon

On Fri, Jun 8, 2018 at 12:58 PM, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)> wrote:

> As a follow-up to (b) (6) email last week that contained the documentation for review/approval, please find attached the signed permit application form. Please let us know if you have any additional questions or additional information.
>
> V/r,
>
> (b) (6)
>
> (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
>
> Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch
>
> Energy and Environmental Management Division
>
> U.S. Customs and Border Protection
>
> (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

From (b) (6)(b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 2:40 PM
To: 'Brown, Michael' <michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov>; Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>; Doster, Rob <rob_doster@fws.gov>
Cc (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) ;(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) ; (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >; 'Kordella, Lesley' <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Subject: CBP Migratory Bird Programmatic Permit Application Documentation

All,

I have attached the documentation and appendices for CBP's Programmatic Permit request.

We are currently working on getting the first page of the Special Purpose – Miscellaneous Permit Application Form signed and should have it to you next week.

Please let me know if there is any additional information or documentation that you require.

Thank you very much for the coordination throughout this effort.

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

LMI Government Consulting

Energy and Environment Managment Division

US Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)(b) (6)

Eldon Brown

Permit Chief

Migratory Birds Office-Permits

Southwest Region 2

USFWS-Migratory Birds Permits Office

(505) 248-6406

michael_eldon_brown@fws.gov

--

****
Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

****

CBP Migratory Bird Permit Appendix 2Cto3.pdf
7534K

BISON CONNECT

Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FYSA

Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws gov>
To: fwhq_cnwr_division_chiefs_and_deputies@fws.gov, noah_matson@fws gov

Thought you all would get a kick out of this.

Shaun

> Shaun M. Sanchez
> Deputy Chief
> National Wildlife Refuge System
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> Office Phone: 703-358-2304
> Cell: 702-533-9629
> E-Mail: shaun_sanchez@fws.gov

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws gov>
> **Date:** June 26, 2018 at 3:14:18 PM CDT
> **To:** shaun_sanchez@fws.gov, Cynthia Martinez <Cynthia_Martinez@fws gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FYSA**
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> > **From:** "Fernandez, Juliette" <juliette_fernandez@fws.gov>
> > **Date:** June 26, 2018 at 1:17:11 PM MDT
> > **To:** Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell <kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Thomas Harvey <thomas_harvey@fws.gov>
> > **Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FYSA**
> >
> > **Juliette Fernandez**
> > Refuge Supervisor AZ/NM
> >
> > 505-248-6650 Office
> > 505-933-3501 Cell
> > 505-248-6460 Fax
> >
> > U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> > P.O. Box 1306, Room 4112
> > Albuquerque, NM 87103-1306
> >
> > ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> > From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
> > Date: Tue, Jun 26, 2018 at 12:21 PM
> > Subject: [EXTERNAL] FYSA
> > To: "/o=DHS/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=SAMUEL.P.LUCIO" < MCEAEX-_O=DHS_OU=EXCHANGE+20ADMINISTRATIVE+2
> > 2ELUCIO@dsa.dhs>, [redacted] <[redacted]>, Alesia Ash <alesia.ash@mail.house gov>, "Alford, James - FS" <jalford@fs.ed.u
> > westernregionalpartnership.org>, areyes@pascuayaqui-nsn gov <areyes@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov>, [redacted] >, "Bill Radke (bill_
> > <Brad_Traver@nps.gov>, [redacted] >, Celeste \ Daisy\ Kinsey <ckinsey@fs.fed.us>, Chas Buchanan <chas.buchanan@luke.af.mil>, Cheri Bowen <cbowen@fs.fed.us>, C
> > <Coral_Conway@nps.gov>, Darla Sidles <Darla_Sidles@nps.gov>, Del Maslen <del.maslen@usmc.mil>, [redacted] >, D
> > <ekender@blm.gov>, [redacted] <[redacted]>, Edna Mendoza <mendoza.edna@azdeq.gov>, English CIV Randy J <randy.e
> > Fernandez <erin_fernandez@fws.gov>, "Etheridge, Allen" <allen_s_etheridge@nps gov>, Gary Cantley <Garry.Cantley@bia gov>, Gary Olson <Gary.Olson@tonation-nsn gov
> > [redacted] >, Glenn Miller <glenn.miller@mail house.gov>, Grady Cook <Grady_Cook@blm gov>, "Harden, Tasha" <tasha_harden@fws.g
> > [redacted] >, ira blitzblau <ira_blitzblau@nps gov>, James Callegary <jcallega@usgs.gov>, James Mayer <james.a.mayer@u
> > <jef rey.palmer@sheriff.pima gov>, Jennifer Cox <jennifer.cox@mail.house.gov>, Jennifer Lynch <jennifer lynch@pima.gov>, Jennifer Ruyle <jruyle@fs.fed.us>, "'Jim Copeland
> > <jlatimer@land az.gov>, Joe Winfield <josephwinfield@fs.fed.us>, John Hoffmann <jphoffma@usgs.gov>, John Light <john light@ibwc.gov>, John MacDonald <jmacdona@bln
> > <[redacted]>, Julie Katsel <julie_katsel@flake senate.gov>, Juliette Gu ierrez <juliette_gutierrez@fws.gov>, June Lowery <jlowery@blm.gov>, "jvalen ine@blm.g
> > <karl_pierce@nps gov>, Kenneth Mahoney <kmahoney@blm.gov>, "Kyle Todd (Kyle_Todd@FWS gov)" <Kyle_Todd@fws.gov>, Larry Ramirez <lramirez@blm.gov>, "Leenhou
> > <L70Thomas@blm.gov>, Lesilie Uhr <luhr@blm.gov>, Lorinda Sam <lorinda.sam@tonation-nsn.gov>, Maggie Hartney <mhartney@blm gov>, [redacted] <JC
> > Margie Guzman <mguzman@blm.gov>, "mark hart (mhart@azgfd.gov)" <mhart@azgfd.gov>, Markian Rekshynskyj <mrekshyn@blm.gov>, Mary D'Aversa <mdaversa@blm go
> > "Matthew G Walton (mwalton@azgfd.gov)" <mwalton@azgfd.gov>, Melissa Hayes <hayes.melissa@azdeq.gov>, Melissa Matty <mmatty@blm gov>, "Mike Sumner (msumner(
> > "miranda_cook@nps.gov" <miranda_cook@nps.gov>, "Molina, Sayanna" <Sayanna.Molina@mail.house.gov>, "Monger, Wayne" <dmonger@blm.gov>, Nick Matiella <nick_ma
> > M CIV USAF AETC 56 RMO/BEC (kevin.oberry@us.af mil)" <kevin.oberry@us af.mil>, "O'Neil, Ray" <ray_o'neil@nps.gov>, Pamela Ma his <pmathis@blm.gov>, Patrick Putna
> > <ralph.ware@az.usda gov>, Randy Parker <randall.parker@oig.usda.gov>, Ray Suazo <rmsuazo@blm gov>, '[redacted] Ron Pierce <ror
> > <scooke@blm.gov>, Scott Feldhausen <afeldhausen@blm.gov>, Scott Porter <scott.porter@deq.pima.gov>, Scott Richardson <scott_richardson@fws.gov>, Shanna Tautolo <
> > Slone (Sid_Slone@fws gov)" <Sid_Slone@fws.gov>, "slyman@fs.fed.us" <slyman@fs.fed.us>, "sommer@uapd arizona edu" <sommer@uapd.arizona.edu>, "Soto, Celena R -
> > [redacted] >, "Susan Sferra (susan_sferra@fws.gov)" <susan_sferra@fws.gov>, Suzanne Hernandez <suzanne_hernandez@mccain senate.gov>, "Tho
> > "tjregennitter@oig.usda.gov" <tjregennitter@oig.usda.gov>, '[redacted] " <[redacted] >, Warren Templeton <wtemplet@blm.gov>, Wesley J
> > <[redacted] >
> >
> > Good Day All,

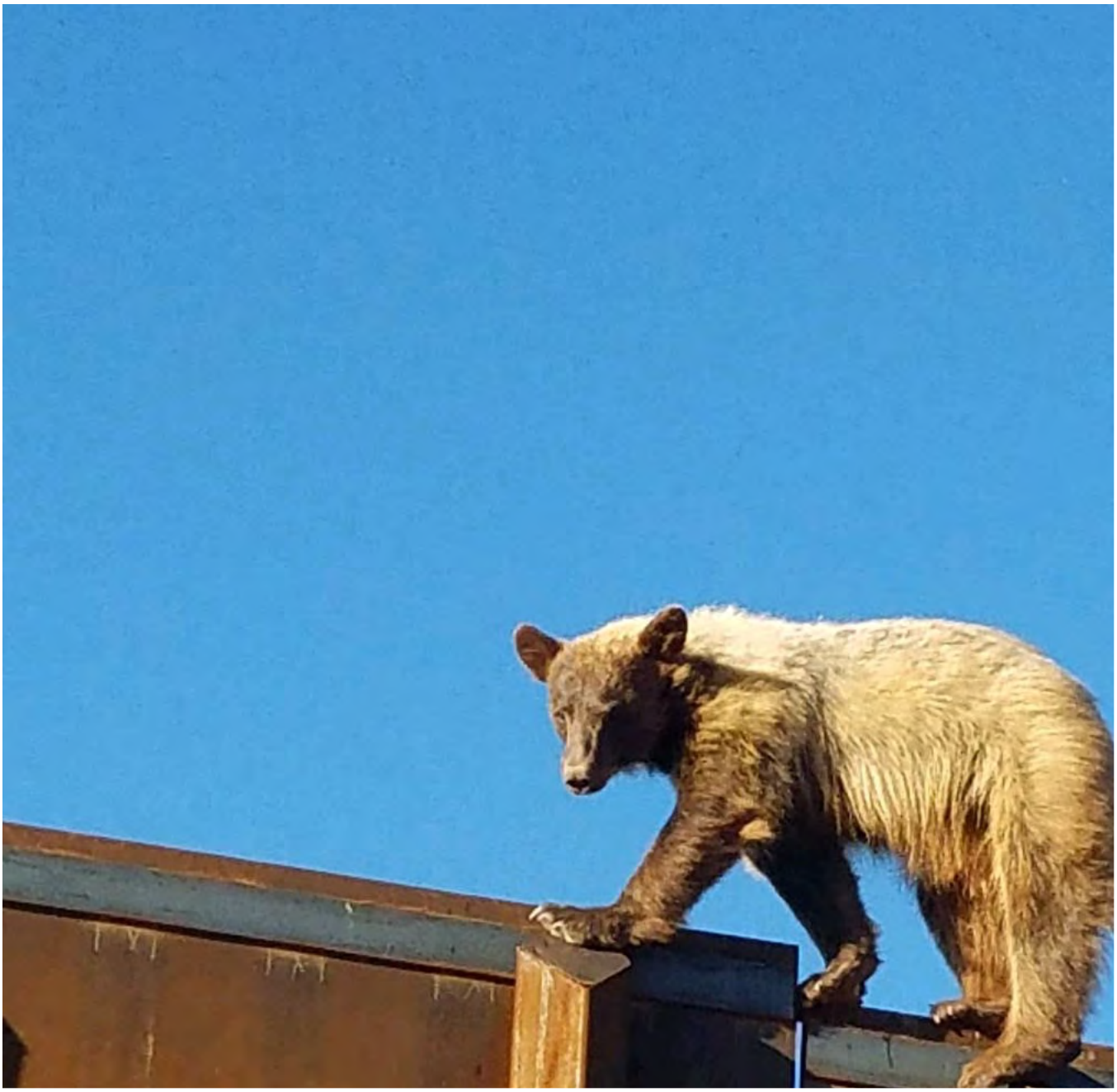
As you may have heard, I have been on vacation for the past week and am just getting back to he office. I will be responding to emails over the next few days. I just came acrc down in Naco, AZ last week A yearling bear was seen climbing the fence and walking along the top for a few minutes It then climbed down and walked away

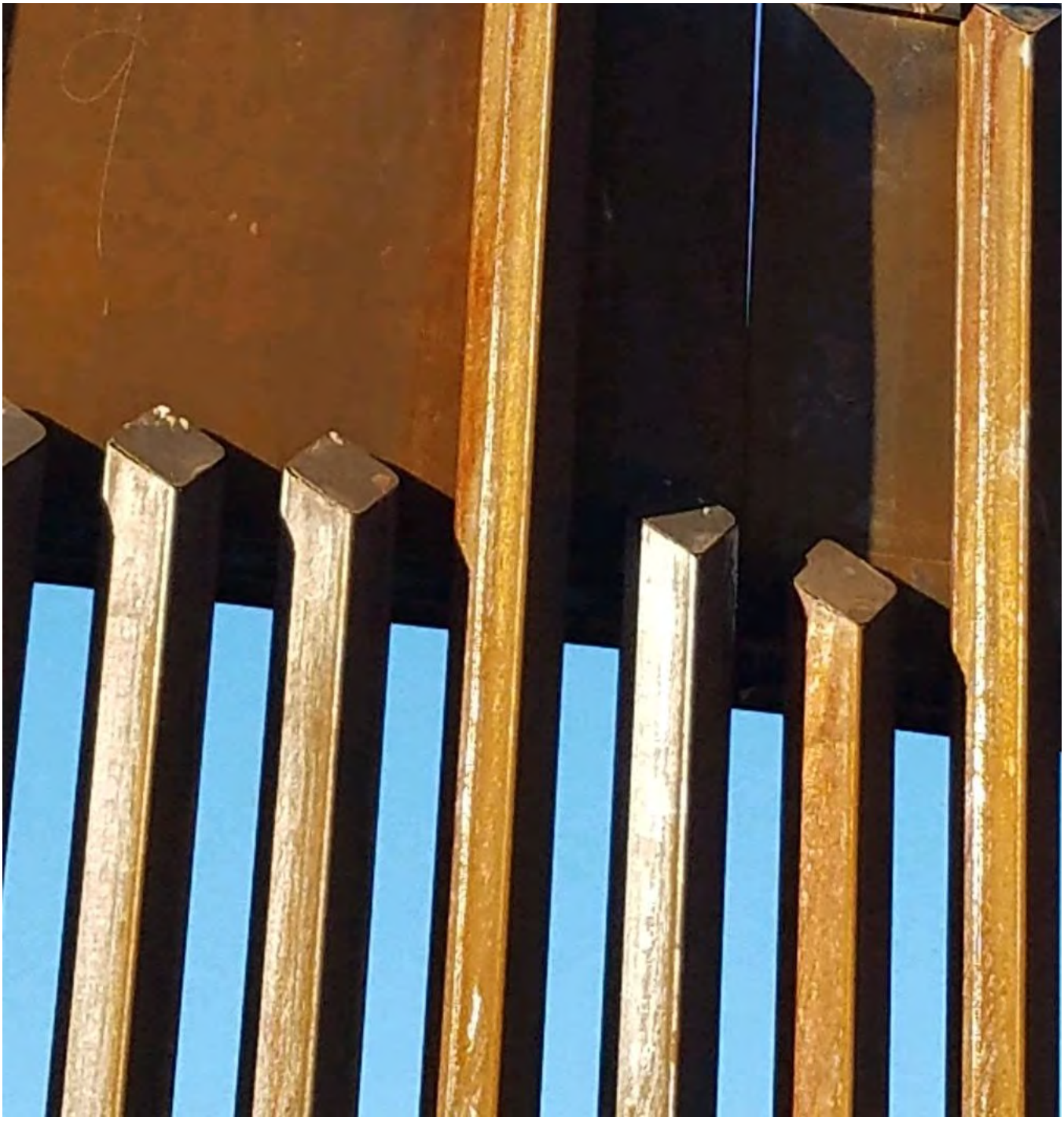
This picture was release to the media and has circulated, but I wanted to make sure y'all saw it too Have a great day!

Respectfully,

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
U.S. Border Patrol - Tucson Sector
Office (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)

TEAM WORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK.





Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 1: Burrowing Owl rescue at border fence

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:37 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

Email response 1

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Brown, Jennifer** <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 11:33 AM
Subject: Fwd: Burrowing Owl rescue at border fence
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Lesley Kordella <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Michael Eldon Brown <Michael_Eldon_Brown@fws.gov>, Rob Doster <rob_doster@fws.gov>, Thomas Dietsch <Thomas_Dietsch@fws.gov>

Good morning everyone,

This is just an FYI, I didn't know if you already knew of the Burrowing Owl colony along the border where fence construction is taking place. We are working with the San Diego Zoo to try to save the remaining owls. They have a permit that allows burrowing owl relocation research, so I am planning to increase the authorization on that permit to cover all of the remaining owls at the border.

I'm available today, tomorrow, and Thursday this week if you have any questions.

Best,
Jen

Jennifer C. Brown
Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Migratory Bird Permit Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Dietsch, Thomas** <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Jun 29, 2018 at 5:16 PM
Subject: Burrowing Owl rescue at border fence
To: Amedee Brickey <amedee_brickey@fws.gov>, Thomas Leeman <thomas_leeman@fws.gov>, Jennifer Brown <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>, Rob Doster <rob_doster@fws.gov>

Hi Amedee and Thomas,

Susan Wynn went down to an area of the border fence in San Diego that is being replaced and discovered that the work was proceeding in an area that has a high density of Burrowing Owls nesting. The work had already bulldozed one area with many Burrowing Owls. She surveyed the next segment where work is slotted to begin and observed 30 or so Owls. Susan is going to coordinate with the San Diego Zoo which holds a permit to capture and relocate Owls to rescue as many of the Burrowing Owls as they can next week. They are going to put out cameras to try to identify which burrows are active. Susan said that the Zoo would send us a summary of what they found and what they planned to do on Monday. The Zoo had identified a relocation site that will be protected in the Otay Mesa area. On the positive side, the border patrol has granted access for the relocation effort, though it doesn't sound like the work will be slowed at all. I told Karen Goebel that this would probably be covered by the recent Nest Destruction Memo, but please let me know if we

should try to issue an additional permit or extension for the Zoo permits. I cc'd Jen and Rob in case she has any recommendations about permits.

In any case, I just got this news and thought I would share it even if my quick second-hand summary is not completely accurate. I'll keep you posted as I get more information.

Sorry for the bad news late on a Friday!

Tom

--
****

Thomas Dietsch, PhD
Migratory Bird Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214
****

Commemorating 100 Years of Bird Conservation ~ 1916-2016

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Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

****

Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 2: San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Follow-up from 6/29

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:38 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Brown, Jennifer** <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 1:28 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Follow-up from 6/29
To: Lesley Kordella <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Cc: [redacted] Michael Brown <Michael_Eldon_Brown@fws.gov>, Thomas Dietsch <Thomas_Dietsch@fws.gov>

You're welcome. We'll definitely keep all of you posted as soon as we get new information.

Jennifer C. Brown
Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Migratory Bird Permit Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825

On Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 10:19 AM, Lesley Kordella <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> wrote:
> Thank you for the updates- this is something I think many of us want to follow.
>
> Lesley
>
> On Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 12:12 PM Brown, Jennifer <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov> wrote:
> > Hello again, here is an update on the Burrowing Owl situation at the border fence...
> >
> > Jennifer C. Brown
> > Wildlife Biologist
> > U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> > Migratory Bird Permit Office
> > 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
> > Sacramento, CA 95825
> >
> > ---------- Forwarded message ---------
> > From: **Dietsch, Thomas** <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>
> > Date: Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 9:44 AM
> > Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Follow-up from 6/29
> > To: Amedee Brickey <amedee_brickey@fws.gov>, Thomas Leeman <thomas_leeman@fws.gov>, Jennifer Brown <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>, Rob Doster <rob_doster@fws.gov>
> >
> > Hi all,
> >
> > Here's the latest update from Sunday on the situation at the border along with a tentative schedule for the relocations. I'll let you know if I get any further information.
> >
> > Tom

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Wynn, Susan** <susan_wynn@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Jul 2, 2018 at 8:21 AM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Follow-up from 6/29
To: Jane Hendron <jane_hendron@fws.gov>, Karen Goebel <karen_goebel@fws.gov>, Thomas Dietsch <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>

fyi
Susan Wynn
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 ext 216

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Colleen Wisinski** <cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org>
Date: Sun, Jul 1, 2018 at 11:08 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Follow-up from 6/29
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) "Wynn, Susan" <susan_wynn@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: "Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US)" <juan.m.martinez@usace.army.mil>, "Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil" <Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>, "Range, Brent" <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>, David Mayer <David.Mayer@wildlife.ca.gov>, Lisa Nordstrom <LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Patrick Gower <patrick_gower@fws.gov>, Susanne Marczak <smarczak@sandiegozoo.org>

Hello everyone,
Here is an update from our site visit on Friday. We plan to return Monday afternoon (around 1 pm) to place cameras for additional observations of the owls to better understand which owls have young juveniles, etc.

I've attached a spreadsheet with all of the details, but here is a summary of how many owls were observed (between 6/25 visit and 6/29 visit):

10 pairs/families
2 single adults
1+ dispersing fledglings
Total of 47 BUOW observed so far (22 adults, 25 juveniles)

We used light pole numbers or fence panel numbers to identify where the owls are (Location column is spreadsheet).

In the field, we discussed a couple of different activities that will be occurring that may/will impact the owls. In order to plan appropriately, we need a better understanding of the timeline of these activities and how much disturbance they will cause. We identified these activities as:

1. Breaking up of concrete along primary fence
2. Work on Low Water Crossings
3. Staging of materials for fence
4. Removal/replacement of primary fence

We have put together the schedule below (per the field meeting with Susan, Pat, (b)(6) and (b)(6)), but the specifics of our trapping efforts will depend on the timelines for the activities above. It would be helpful to know if the breaking up of the concrete will continue immediately and how fast it will occur.

This acvity is lik ely to cause disturbance in the immediate area where it's occurring, and will destroy the 2 burrows that are at the base of the primary fence (panel 858, panel 936/937), so we would want to prioriz e burrows in the order they will be disturbed. This is also the case for the repairs on the low water crossings and it would be helpful to know the size of the areas of impact, the ming , and types of acvies (hea vy equipment work, etc.). If we can map all of this out in space and me, w e can come up with a strategy for geng the o wls out of harm's way in the most effecv e and safe manner

Schedule for Zoo and Agencies
7/2 (Monday): prep receiver sites/burrows--USFWS, CDFW?
7/5 & 7/6 (Thursday/Friday): install release cages (up to 5) at receiver sites--Zoo, USFWS?, CDFW?
7/9 (Monday): begin trapping of owls for translocation (actives) or transmitter application (passives)--Zoo
7/10 and beyond: Trapping will continue as long as necessary--Zoo
TBD: exclusion of burrows--who is responsible for this?
TBD: scoping and collapse of burrows--who is responsible for this?
TBD: Further planning/strategies to discourage recolonization of squirrels and owls ahead of the planned replacement of the secondary fence in early 2019

Our trapping efforts can happen both during the day and night depending on which birds we are targeng.

Thank you for working with us to try to get the owls out of the way ahead of the work that's occurring Please let me know if you have any quesons about our schedule or s trategy for removing the owls.

Thank you,
Colleen

Colleen Wisinski, M.S.
Conservation Program Specialist
Burrowing Owl Program, Recovery Ecology
San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research
15600 San Pasqual Valley Road
Escondido, CA 92027-7000

Office: 760-747-8702 ext. 5727
Cell: 406-925-0346
cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org

www.institute.sandiegozoo.org

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 1:59 PM
To: Wynn, Susan; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Colleen Wisinski; Marne z, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c); David Mayer; Lisa Nordstrom; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) ; Patrick Gower
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Address is technically 3100 monument drive but it might not show up on Google maps. The trailer is located next to the IBWC water treatment facility and should be visible from road. The USACE trailer is the far left facing the gate as you enter into the facility

---

From: Wynn, Susan
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 9:55:35 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Colleen Wisinski; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Lisa Nordstrom; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Patrick Gower
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

great - we will meet you there - can you send me an address
thanks
susan

Susan Wynn
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 ext 216

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 1:28 PM, (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) wrote:
Yes, we will likely be there between 10 and 10:30. We can meet at the project staging area near the IBWC treatment plant.

From: Wynn, Susan
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 12:59:13 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Colleen Wisinski; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Lisa Nordstrom; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Patrick Gower
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Hi (b)(6), et al - I'm thinking it might be helpful to meet in person to talk things through rather then trying to play phone tag - Pat and I could come down tomorrow am and meet with you all - Do you have an estimate of when you might be there? If not - the phone is always an option.
thanks
Susan

Susan Wynn
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250<https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g>
Carlsbad, CA <https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g> 92008<https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g>
(760<https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g>) 431-9440 ext 216

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 12:06 PM, (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) rote:
Hi Colleen, (b)(6), (b)(7) and I will be onsite late morning tomorrow. We can all you when we get there.

What is a good number to reach you on?

From: Colleen Wisinski
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:49:31 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Karen Goebel; Lisa Nordstrom
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Thank you, (b)(6). We plan to be in the Otay area all day Friday, so let me know what times would work best for us to get access.

Thanks,

Colleen

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2018 7:30:11 PM
To: Colleen Wisinski; Wynn, Susan; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Karen Goebel; Lisa Nordstrom; Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Karen Goebel; Lisa Nordstrom
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Yes, we'll arrange. (b)(6) and (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) will also be down.

thanks

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

BPAM Project Manager

LMI Contractor

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

From: Colleen Wisinski [mailto:cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org<mailto:cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2018 10:12 PM
To: Wynn, Susan <susan_wynn@fws.gov<mailto:susan_wynn@fws.gov>>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Wynn, Susan <susan_wynn@fws.gov<mailto:susan_wynn@fws.gov>>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)
Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US) <juan.m.martinez@usace.army.mil<mailto:juan.m.martinez@usace.army.mil>>; shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent <brent_range@ios.doi.gov<mailto:brent_range@ios.doi.gov>>; David Mayer <david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov<mailto:david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov>>; Karen Goebel <karen_goebel@fws.gov<mailto:karen_goebel@fws.gov>>; Lisa Nordstrom <LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org<

mailto:LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org>>; Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US) <juan.m.martinez@usace.army.mil<mailto:juan.m.martinez@usace.army.mil>>; shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:shaun.r.frost2@usace.army.mil>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ; David Mayer <david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov<mailto:david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov>>; Karen Goebel <karen_goebel@fws.gov<mailto:karen_goebel@fws.gov>>; Lisa Nordstrom <LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org<mailto:LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org>>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks for giving us access to the area. After discussing the owls east of the Otay border crossing with Susan and Dave Mayer (CDFW), the next step for the zoo team is to do more observations to determine the numbers and ages of the juveniles to determine further next steps. Would it be possible for us to get access to the area on Friday to conduct observations of the owls?

Thanks,

Colleen

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 1:58:10 AM

To: Colleen Wisinski; Wynn, Susan; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ; David Mayer; Karen Goebel; Lisa Nordstrom

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Colleen and Susan: thanks for the support today. Please keep (b)(6) in the loop on your next steps. We have some work in one of the low water crossings east of Otay Mesa in mid-July (will be near but not where some owls are currently). We will be moving into full construction in the area in early August.

Thanks

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

BPAM Project Manager

LMI Contractor

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

From: Colleen Wisinski [mailto:cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org]

Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2018 7:19 PM

To: Wynn, Susan <susan_wynn@fws.gov<mailto:susan_wynn@fws.gov>>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US) <Juan.M.martinez@usace.army.mil<mailto:Juan.M.martinez@usace.army.mil>>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>>; (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) David Mayer <david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov<mailto:david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov>>; Karen Goebel <karen_goebel@fws.gov<mailto:karen_goebel@fws.gov>>; Lisa Nordstrom <LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org<mailto:LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org>>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Hi All,

I can be available as early as necessary on Monday. Please let me know when we can get there and where we should go. My cell number is 406-925-0346, if needed.

Thanks,

Colleen

Colleen Wisinski, M.S.

Conservation Program Specialist

Burrowing Owl Program, Recovery Ecology

San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research

15600 San Pasqual Valley Road

Escondido, CA 92027-7000

Office<https://maps.google.com/?q=15600+San+Pasqual+Valley+Road%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Escondido,+CA+92027-7000%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Office&entry=gmail&source=g>: 760-747-8702 ext. 5727

Cell: 406-925-0346

cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org<mailto:cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org>

www.institute.sandiegozoo.org<http://www.institute.sandiegozoo.org>

From: Wynn, Susan < susan_wynn@fws.gov<mailto:susan_wynn@fws.gov>>

Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2018 3:45 PM

To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) ; Colleen Wisinski

Cc: Martinez, Juan M CIV USARMY CESPL (US); (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil<mailto:Shaun.R.Frost2@usace.army.mil>; Range, Brent; David Mayer; Karen Goebel

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Fence Replacement Project - Call with FWS

Hello all - I was able to get a hold of the folks from the zoo - they can survey the area on monday - Colleen Wisinski (included on this email) is your point of contact - please let her know how to access the area.

thank you everyone for the quick response and coordination.

Susan

Susan Wynn

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250

Carlsbad, CA <https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g> 92008<https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g>

(760<https://maps.google.com/?q=2177+Salk+Avenue,+Suite+250%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+Carlsbad,+CA++92008+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+%0D%0A+(760&entry=gmail&source=g>) 431-9440 ext 216

On Thu, Jun 21, 2018 at 2:35 PM, (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) wrote:

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****
Thomas Dietsch, PhD
Migratory Bird Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214

> **********
> Commemorating 100 Years of Bird Conservation ~ 1916-2016

--
***** Acting Chief, R3 Migratory Bird Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bloomington, MN - June 22, 2018 through July 20, 2018/ Acting Deputy Chief June 11-21 & July 23-37*****

****
Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(612) 713-5470 (June 11 through July 27, 2018)
(703) 358-1963 (office in Headquarters)

Looking to help save birds at home and in the office every day from window collisions and other threats? Check out this **flyer** to find out some easy ways you can help!

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Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
(703) 358-1963

****

Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 6: CBP MOU Otay Border Fence BUOW

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:50 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

see attachments as well

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Brown, Jennifer** <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Jul 5, 2018 at 6:15 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Otay Border Fence BUOW
To: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, Lesley Kordella <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>, Michael Eldon Brown <Michael_Eldon_Brown@fws.gov>, Thomas Dietsch <Thomas_Dietsch@fws.gov>, Rob Doster <rob_doster@fws.gov>

Hello everyone,

I hope all of you had a wonderful 4th! Here is a BUOW update at the Otay border fence project in S. CA.

I will be doing a detail in another program for the next 3 weeks, but I will do my best to stay on top of this and continue passing along the info that comes in.

I hope everyone has a good weekend!
Jen

Jennifer C. Brown
Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Migratory Bird Permit Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Colleen Wisinski** <cwisinski@sandiegozoo.org>
Date: Thu, Jul 5, 2018 at 3:00 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Otay Border Fence BUOW
To: Jennifer Brown <jennifer_c_brown@fws.gov>, "Burkett, Esther" <esther.burkett@wildlife.ca.gov>
Cc: Lisa Nordstrom <LNordstrom@sandiegozoo.org>, "Wynn, Susan" <susan_wynn@fws.gov>, David Mayer <david.mayer@wildlife.ca.gov>

Hi Jen and Esther,
I've been working on putting the translocation document for the border fence replacement project together but it's going a little slower than I anticipated with all of the work we're doing in the field right now. I'll send the whole thing to you once it's complete, but I wanted to make sure you had the info you need.

We are planning to move 2 family groups from the fence area (see yellow lines in table) starting tonight and the others will be passively relocated. We got 3 transmitters out last night on some of those birds and will continue to try to get transmitters on a few more so we can better understand where they go in response to the work on the fence. We are working closely with USFWS and

CDFW to do the best we can in terms of getting birds out of harm's way and collapsing burrow to the extent possible.

Below is a table with the maximum numbers of adults and juveniles we've observed since our observations began on June 25 and I've attached maps of the impact area and release area.

Please let us know if there's any other info you need immediately.
Thanks,
Colleen

P.S. Jen, thank you for amending our MBTA permit!

Locaon	Max Adults Seen	Max Juveniles Seen	Notes		Translocaon T ype
Light 16-19	2	4 fledglings	Concrete removal work occurred in this area on 7/2/18 and the owls seem to have le.		Passive
Panel 500A	1	1 fledgling	burrow near grade stake; fledgling may be from 16-19 family		Passive
Light 27/28	2		freshly molted, may be past breeding, camera installaon not possible		Probable Passive
Light 30	2 (male=A/41)	unknown	owls molng , may be past breeding		Possible Passive
Light 35	2 (female=81/Y)	3 fledglings			Passive
Light 38/39	2	3 fledglings			Passive
Light 41	2	unknown			TBD
Light 42	2	unknown	owls molng , may be past breeding; adults prey vocal		Possible Passive
Panel 858	2	5 juveniles	burrow at primary fence		Acv e
Light 47	2	5-6 juveniles			Acv e
Light 48	2			These seem to be 2 families that have merged	TBD
Panel 936/937	2	4 fledglings	burrow at primary fence		Passive
Panel 950 rock pile		1 fledgling, 1 unknown age			Passive

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Lesley Kordella
Wildlife Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov

(703) 358-1963

****

4 attachments

Figure1_OtayBorderFenceBUOW.jpg
1805K

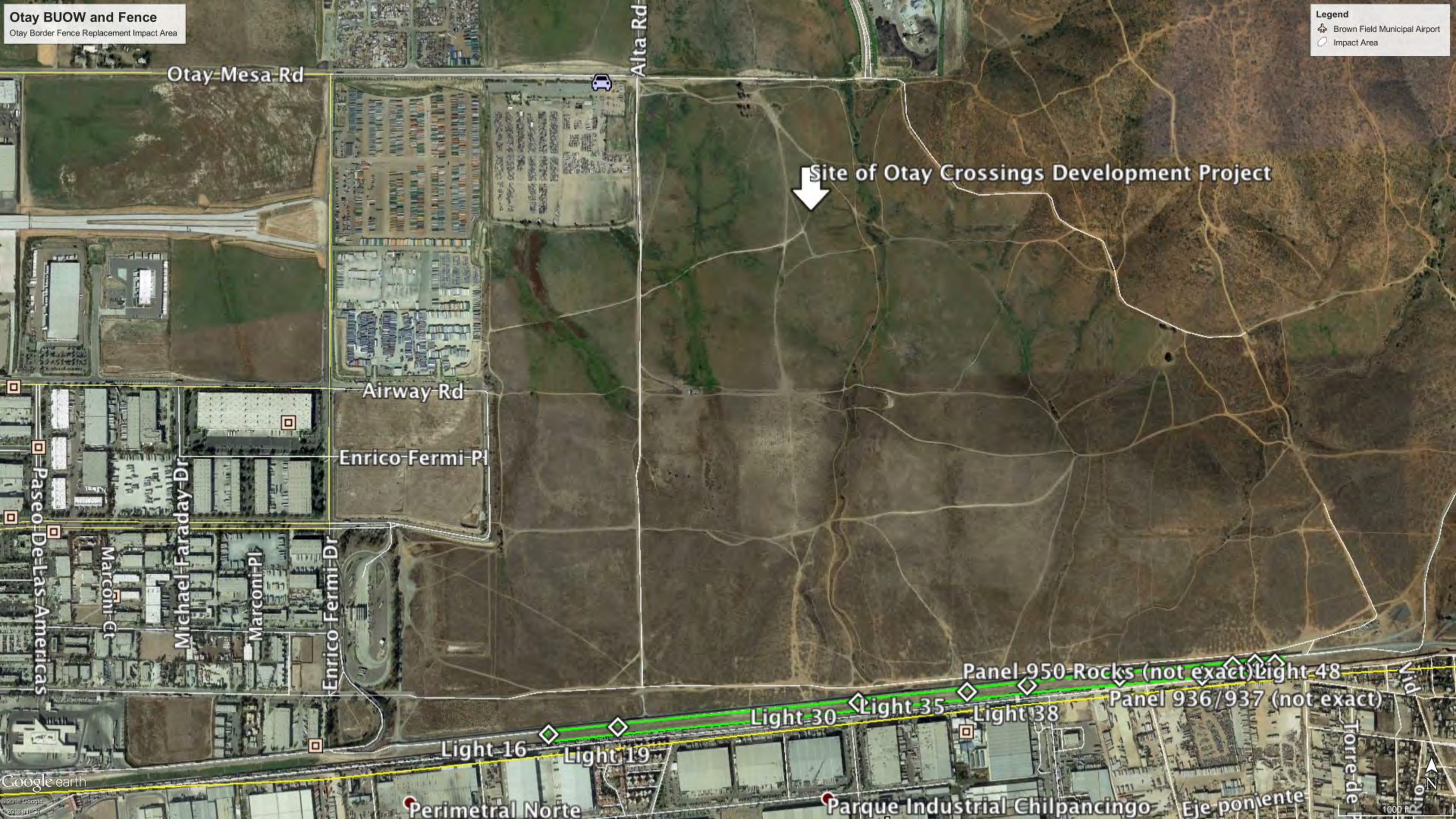
Figure2_OtayBorderFenceBUOW_ImpactArea.jpg
1558K

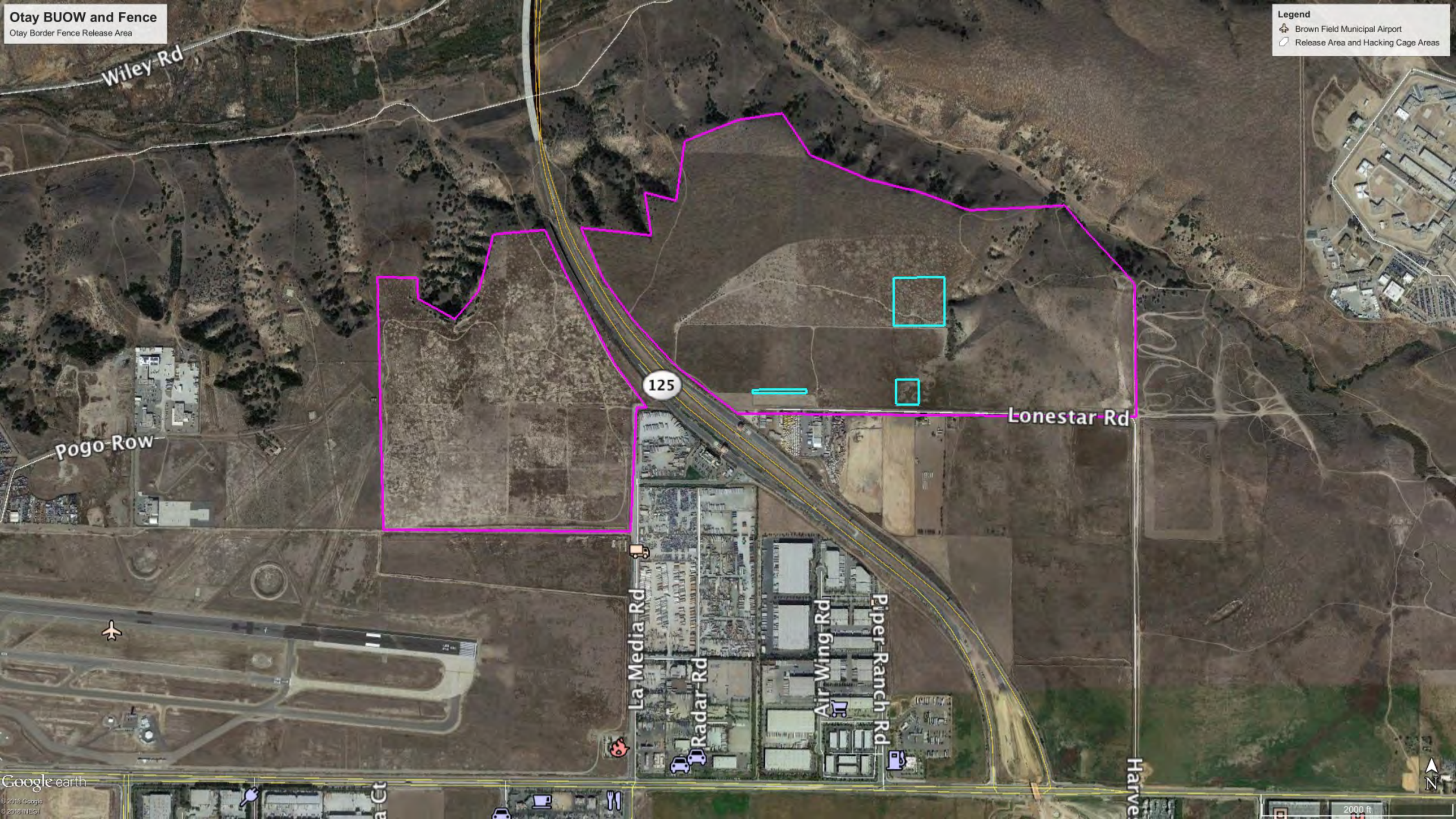
OtayBorderFenceBUOW_ImpactArea_ZoomOut.jpg
1569K

OtayBorderFenceBUOW_ReleaseArea.jpg
1586K

Otay BUOW and Fence
Otay Border Fence Replacement Impact Area and Release Area
Legend
Brown Field Airport
Impacted Burrows
Release Area & Hacking Cage Areas
125
Otay Mesa Rd
905
Airway Rd
Britannia Blvd
La Media Rd
Enrico Fermi Dr
Siempre Viva Rd
MEXICO
2
Panel 950 Rocks (not exact)
Panel 936/937 (not exact)
Light 16
Light 19
Light 30
Google earth
N
4000 ft

Otay BUOW and Fence
Otay Border Fence Replacement Impact Area
Legend
Brown Field Municipal Airport
Impact Area
Airway Rd
Enrico Fermi Pl
Siempre Viva Rd
Panel 950 Rocks (not exact)
Light 48
Panel 858 (not exact)
Light 35
Light 38
Light 30
Light 16
Light 19
Tercera
Perimetral Norte
Parque Industrial Chilpancingo
12 Norte
Paseo Norte
De los charros
Eje poniente
Latinoamericana
Sexta
Google earth
N
1000 ft


Otay BUOW and Fence
Otay Border Fence Replacement Impact Area
Legend
Brown Field Municipal Airport
Impact Area
Otay Mesa Rd
Alta Rd
Site of Otay Crossings Development Project
Airway Rd
Enrico Fermi Pl
Paseo De Las Americas
Michael Faraday Dr
Marconi Ct
Marconi Pl
Enrico Fermi Dr
Panel 950 Rocks (not exact)
Light 48
Panel 936/937 (not exact)
Light 30
Light 35
Light 38
Light 16
Light 19
Perimetral Norte
Parque Industrial Chilpancingo
Eje poniente
Torre de
Google earth
N
1000 ft


Otay BUOW and Fence
Otay Border Fence Release Area
Legend
Brown Field Municipal Airport
Release Area and Hacking Cage Areas
Wiley Rd
125
Lonestar Rd
Pogo Row
La Media Rd
Radar Rd
Air Wing Rd
Piper Ranch Rd
Harve
Google earth
2000 ft
N

From:	Wainman, Barbara
To:	Margaret Everson; Jim Kurth
Subject:	Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
Date:	Friday, December 7, 2018 10:44:21 AM
Attachments:	Doc 1.pdf Doc 2.pdf Doc 3.pdf

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another one you should know about

Barbara W. Wainman
Assistant Director, External Affairs
US Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-5256 (office)
(571) 471-4159 (cell)

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Shire, Gavin** <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 12:15 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
To: Faith VanderVoort <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>, Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>, Bockmier, John <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>, Russell Newell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Laury Parramore <laury_parramore@fws.gov>, Darin Schroeder <darin_schroeder@fws.gov>, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <matthew_huggler@fws.gov>

Looks like it's our day for big media inquiries. I'm checking with our regional folks and also with our FOIA lead to see whether a draft of a letter should have been released to begin with. Nevertheless, we are left with needing to respond to this inquiry. Usually, we bump border wall stuff to CBP, but we aren't going to be able to do this here. Thoughts?

G

Gavin Shire
Chief of Public Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MS: EA
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2649 (o)
703-346-9123 (c)
gavin_shire@fws.gov

---------- Forwarded message ---------

From: **Grandoni, Dino** <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:33 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
To: Gavin_Shire@fws.gov <Gavin_Shire@fws.gov>, Laury_Parramore@fws.gov <Laury_Parramore@fws.gov>, Vanessa_Kauffman@fws.gov <Vanessa_Kauffman@fws.gov>

Hi all,

Hope you're all well today. I'm writing in to ask about a pair of letters — one draft and the other final — related to a proposed border wall in southern Texas.

On Aug. 25, 2017, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol sent a letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service seeking the agency's input on the environmental impacts of constructing 28 miles of levee wall in Hidalgo County and 32 miles of bollard wall in Starr County (Doc 1 attached).

According to a draft letter released under the Freedom of Information Act to Defenders of Wildlife and other litigants, USFWS staffers drafted a letter in Sept. 2017 outlining their concerns, which included reduction of habitat connectivity, flood and fire risk and direct mortality for animals in the area (Doc 2).

However, the final letter sent to CBP dated Oct. 13 did not included those risks listed above (Doc 3).

My questions: Why did the USFWS decide to edit those risks out of the final letter? And who made that decision?

Feel free to give me a call at 716-818-0825 if you have any questions for me.

All the best,
Dino

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

AUG 25 2017

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Mr. Robert Jess
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3325 Green Jay Road
Alamo, TX 78516

Dear Mr. Jess:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is in the initial stages of planning for proposed levee wall along 28 miles of existing levee located in Hidalgo County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's McAllen and Weslaco stations area of responsibility (AOR) and 32 miles of bollard wall in Starr County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande City station AOR. In addition, CBP is in the planning stages of its second phase of gate installation to close 35 gaps in existing border fence in Hidalgo and Cameron counties. The 35 gates were funded in CBP's fiscal year (FY) 2017 appropriation, while the proposed 28 miles of levee wall and 32 miles of bollard wall are included in the President's FY18 budget request to Congress.

In Hidalgo County, CBP is proposing 28 miles of levee wall. The proposed levee wall alignment will be on the south face of the northern U.S. International Boundary Water Commission (IBWC) levee. The proposed design includes construction of a reinforced concrete levee wall to the height of the existing levee with 18-foot tall steel bollards installed on the top of the levee wall, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the levee wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, automated vehicle gates, pedestrian gates, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the levee wall. In addition, CBP will install gates within 20 gaps in existing border levee wall within Hidalgo County and in 15 existing gaps within Cameron County.

In Starr County, CBP is proposing 32 miles of bollard wall. The proposed design includes construction of 20 to 30-foot tall steel bollards, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the bollard wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the bollard wall.

Additional details of the possible components of the proposed action are as follows:

- **Levee Wall** -The levee wall will be a concrete wall to the height of the levee crest with 18 foot tall bollards installed in the top of the levee wall.
- **Bollard Wall** – The bollard wall will be 20 to 30 feet high utilizing 8-inch diameter, concrete filled steel bollards.
- **150 Foot Enforcement Zone** – The enforcement zone will be an area extending from the south/river side of the levee wall or bollard wall approximately 150 feet. All vegetation within the 150-foot enforcement zone will be cleared.
- **Gates** - Automated vehicle gates will be installed with a minimum height of 18 feet and minimum width of 20 feet. In addition, gates designed to allow for farming equipment will be installed where appropriate and range in width from 40 to 50 feet. All gates will be motorized overhead sliding gates with an enclosed drive and operator system.

- **Lighting** - LED lighting will be installed as part of this project. CBP will work with the appropriate stakeholders to develop solutions to avoid excess lighting beyond the enforcement zone.
- **All Weather Road** - An all-weather aggregate patrol road (type FC-2) will be constructed on the south side and parallel to the levee or bollard wall and within the 150-foot enforcement zone. The specific location of the road within the enforcement zone will be determined during the design phase of the project.
- **Cameras** - A camera surveillance system will be installed to ensure visibility of the enforcement zone and southern approach.

The purpose of the proposed action is to increase CBP's ability to impede or deny illegal border crossings, and to provide improved surveillance and detection capabilities to the areas of greatest risk of illegal cross-border activity located within the US. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will be similar to other levee and border wall systems located within the Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will also support CBPs action under Executive Order (EO) 13767, where CBP is directed to "...secure the southern border of the United States through the immediate construction of a physical wall on the southern border, monitored and supported by adequate personnel so as to prevent illegal immigration, drug and human trafficking, and acts of terrorism."

CBP will evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. CBP is gathering data and input from state and local government agencies, federal agencies, and Native American Tribes that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in the proposed actions. Since your agency or organization may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding the potential environmental impacts from CBP's proposed action, your input is sought regarding the likely or anticipated effects to biological, cultural, and natural resources from the implementation of the proposed actions. Your response should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which CBP should consider during project siting, construction, and operation.

This letter is intended to provide initial information for CBP's proposed projects in the Rio Grande Valley and seek comments and concerns from potentially affected parties and interested groups. CBP intends similar outreach in other border regions as projects are identified and defined. Your prompt attention to this request is appreciated. Comments and information will be accepted up to 30 days following the date of this letter. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include "RGV Wall and Gates Construction" in the title of your email. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Border Patrol & Air and Marine
Program Management Office

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Post Office Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R2/NWRS/Coastal TX/066633

(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6) :

Thank you for your letter dated August 25, 2017, regarding U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) proposed border infrastructure in South Texas which includes the installation of 35 gates in existing border fence gaps, 32 miles of bollard wall, and 28 miles of levee wall. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) reviewed your letter and is providing our initial concerns related to Federally listed species, other Federal trust resources, and Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuges (NWR). Once there is a proposed action, that is spatially explicit, we can provide a formal response and coordination under the National Environmental Policy Act, National Wildlife Refuge System (Refuge System) Improvement Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Endangered Species Act.

Over the past several years, there has been a substantial increase in coordination between the Service, CBP, and the U.S. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector along the Texas border. The Service appreciates the excellent communication and information sharing that has occurred and looks forward to maintaining this relationship into the future.

The Refuge System lands in the Lower Rio Grande Valley are considered to be one of the most biodiverse in the continental United States. The Service supports CBP addressing direct and indirect impacts of the proposed border activities on Federally listed species and other Federal trust resources in the project area. In general, concerns are similar to those discussed during initial border wall/fence construction in 2008. The Service will continue to work with CBP on the proposed activities, with a focus on ensuring impacts to Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs and its ecotourism-based economy are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible.

In response to the possible components of the proposed action identified in your letter, the Service's informal comments are as follows:

<u>Levee and bollard walls</u>
In general, the Service recommends considering technology, additional border patrol agents and other mechanisms, when possible, instead of installation of levee or bollard walls.

Connectivity
The Service understands that 10.2 miles of border wall will be constructed on Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs in Hidalgo County, Texas. The Service does not currently have information on specific alignments on Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR in Starr County. Currently, there are 34 miles of existing levee wall in Hidalgo County; the proposed 28 mile addition would result in 62 miles of impermeable barrier, precluding access to habitats by the Federally listed endangered ocelot and jaguarundi, along with other terrestrial species. Reduction of habitat connectivity in portions of the existing wildlife corridor will affect ocelot and jaguarundi movement, impact access to traditional water sources, and reduce potential for gene flow. The Service recommends wildlife openings to allow ocelots, jaguarundis and other wildlife to move through the wall to maintain habitat connectivity.

In Hidalgo County, Santa Ana NWR will be bisected, with substantial acreage south of the proposed wall and less acreage north of the wall. Any acres north of the wall that do not have habitat corridors will represent a direct loss of habitat particularly for ocelots and jaguarundis on refuge land in Texas. The Service requests CBP document and assess these impacts for Starr County when the border wall alignments are determined.

Flooding
The Lower Rio Grande Valley is a flood-prone area. The Service is concerned the levee wall in Hidalgo County could be subject to catastrophic natural flood events, leaving terrestrial wildlife trapped behind the levee wall to drown or starve. This project will likely cause widespread mortality for terrestrial organisms during catastrophic flood events. The Service recommends an assessment of escape routes and consideration of constructing elevated berms south of the levee to allow terrestrial animals to retreat from rising waters during flooding events, as well as leaving the gates open during those events.

Fire
The Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs experience numerous wildfires each year. Fighting wildfire is dangerous, particularly if escape routes are limited due to a border wall. Natural resource protection may be impacted due to public safety and challenges of fighting wildfires south of a border wall.

Direct Mortality
The Service requests best management practices, such as capping hollow bollard/posts, during construction to prevent entrapment of wildlife species during placement of vertical posts/bollards.

Socio-economic & Visitor Impacts
The Service is specifically concerned with potential tourism and visitor impacts. Ongoing efforts by the Service, the state of Texas, private landowners, and non-profit organizations have helped create a wildlife corridor linking numerous isolated habitat fragments in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. These efforts have helped produce habitats that are harboring unique species of plants and animals, making the area a destination for ecotourists.

The economics of Lower Rio Grande Valley wildlife and habitat diversity are important to the international border region, as over 150,000 tourists contribute approximately $10.8 million annually to the regional economy. The Santa Ana NWR is the most accessible public land for residents of Hidalgo County and approximately 70 percent of visitors come from outside of the local area. Visitors participating in outdoor recreational activities economically benefit the local community. The Service recommends a socio-economic analysis of the proposed wall.

Construction of the border wall, as proposed, will likely affect visitation and the quality of visitor experience. Construction of the border wall along the levee will separate the Santa Ana NWR visitor

center and all administrative facilities (equipment storage, residences, parking lots, etc.) from the rest of the refuge (99 percent of refuge lands). The proposal could result in visitors entering and exiting Santa Ana NWR through a large gate, similar to going through a security checkpoint. This could result in a reduction in visitation due to a perceived unsafe and unwelcoming atmosphere.

Enforcement Zones

Construction of a 150-foot enforcement zone will directly remove habitat. The enforcement zone will also create barriers and restrict wildlife movement, especially for species such as ocelots, which require dense brush to travel through. The Service recommends minimizing this zone, as operations allow, especially in and near thick thornscrub and walking trails. We also recommend calculating the direct habitat loss of the 150-foot enforcement zone based on a vegetation and endangered species survey. The proposed cleared enforcement zone in Hidalgo County will directly remove approximately 170 acres of habitat from Lower Rio Grande Valley and Santa Ana NWRs reducing the ability to meet refuge purposes. In Hidalgo County, Refuge System lands will have approximately 7,800 acres south of the proposed wall and 2,400 acres north of the wall. The 2,400 acres represent a direct loss of habitat for ocelots and jaguarundis on Refuge System lands in Texas.

Lighting

Increased lighting at night, along the wall, will likely have negative impacts on ocelot, jaguarundi and other nocturnal species by making them more susceptible to predation. The Service recommends down shielding lights to focus away from thornscrub habitat and shining lights only within the enforcement zone. The Service recommends CBP continue to analyze the effects of lighting to nocturnal wildlife and work with the Service to minimize impacts.

All Weather Roads

The Service recommends the width of all roads created or maintained by CBP be measured and recorded using Geographic Information System (GPS) coordinates and integrated into the CBP GPS database. The Service suggests maintenance actions not increase the width of the roadbed or the amount of disturbed area beyond the roadbed. The all-weather road within the enforcement zone is capable of high speed use, causing concern for public safety and increased wildlife mortality. The Service requests coordination to address speeding issues.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide informal comments and look forward to future opportunities to discuss the proposed project. Please feel free to contact me at 505-248-6282 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Regional Director

cc: Field Supervisor, Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office, Houston, Texas
Refuge Manager, South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Alamo, Texas
Inter-agency Borderlands Coordinator, Department of Interior Washington, D.C.
EA-ARD

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Post Office Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R2/NWRS/Coastal TX/066633

OCT 13 2017

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U.S. Customs and Border Protection
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Dear (b) (6)(b) (6)

Thank you for your letter dated August 25, 2017, regarding U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) proposed border infrastructure in South Texas which includes the installation of 35 gates in existing border fence gaps, 32 miles of bollard wall, and 28 miles of levee wall. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) reviewed your letter and is providing our initial concerns related to Federally listed species, other Federal trust resources, and Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuges (NWR). Once there is a spatially explicit proposed action, assuming no waiver is issued by Department of Homeland Security, we can provide a formal response and coordination under applicable Federal laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act, National Wildlife Refuge System (Refuge System) Improvement Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Endangered Species Act.

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The Refuge System lands in the Lower Rio Grande Valley are considered to be one of the most biodiverse in the continental United States. In general, our concerns are similar to those discussed during initial border wall/fence construction in 2008. The Service will continue to work with CBP on the proposed activities, with a focus on ensuring impacts to Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible.

Socio-economic & Visitor Impacts
The Service is specifically concerned with potential tourism and visitor impacts on the affected NWRs. Ongoing efforts by the Service, the state of Texas, private landowners, and non-profit organizations have helped create a wildlife corridor linking numerous isolated habitat fragments in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. These efforts have helped produce habitats that are harboring unique species of plants and animals, making the area a destination for ecotourists.

The economics of Lower Rio Grande Valley wildlife and habitat diversity are important to the international border region, as over 150,000 tourists contribute approximately $10.8 million annually to the regional economy. The Santa Ana NWR is the most accessible public land for residents of Hidalgo County and approximately 70 percent of visitors come from outside of the local area. Visitors participating in outdoor recreational activities economically benefit the local community.

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Sincerely,

Regional Director

cc: Field Supervisor, Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office, Houston, Texas
Refuge Manager, South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Alamo, Texas
Inter-agency Borderlands Coordinator, Department of Interior Washington, D.C.
EA-ARD

From:	Hyde-Michaels, Carrie
To:	Melissa Beaumont
Subject:	Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
Date:	Wednesday, December 12, 2018 6:59:39 AM
Attachments:	Doc 1.pdf Doc 2.pdf Doc 3.pdf

Carrie Hyde-Michaels
FWS FOIA Officer
Chief, Branch of FOIA, Records, Privacy
US Fish & Wildlife Service Headquarters
703-358-2291 (direct)

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Shire, Gavin** <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 12:09 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
To: Carrie Hyde-Michaels <carrie_hyde-michaels@fws.gov>

Here's the incoming inquiry.

G

Gavin Shire
Chief of Public Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MS: EA
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2649 (o)
703-346-9123 (c)
gavin_shire@fws.gov

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Grandoni, Dino** <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:33 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Question from WaPo reporter about letter sent to CBP about south Texas border wall
To: Gavin_Shire@fws.gov <Gavin_Shire@fws.gov>, Laury_Parramore@fws.gov <Laury_Parramore@fws.gov>, Vanessa_Kauffman@fws.gov <Vanessa_Kauffman@fws.gov>

Hi all,

Hope you're all well today. I'm writing in to ask about a pair of letters — one draft and the

other final — related to a proposed border wall in southern Texas.

On Aug. 25, 2017, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol sent a letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service seeking the agency's input on the environmental impacts of constructing 28 miles of levee wall in Hidalgo County and 32 miles of bollard wall in Starr County (Doc 1 attached).

According to a draft letter released under the Freedom of Information Act to Defenders of Wildlife and other litigants, USFWS staffers drafted a letter in Sept. 2017 outlining their concerns, which included reduction of habitat connectivity, flood and fire risk and direct mortality for animals in the area (Doc 2).

However, the final letter sent to CBP dated Oct. 13 did not included those risks listed above (Doc 3).

My questions: Why did the USFWS decide to edit those risks out of the final letter? And who made that decision?

Feel free to give me a call at 716-818-0825 if you have any questions for me.

All the best,
Dino

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AUG 25 2017

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Mr. Robert Jess
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3325 Green Jay Road
Alamo, TX 78516

Dear Mr. Jess:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is in the initial stages of planning for proposed levee wall along 28 miles of existing levee located in Hidalgo County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's McAllen and Weslaco stations area of responsibility (AOR) and 32 miles of bollard wall in Starr County, Texas within the U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande City station AOR. In addition, CBP is in the planning stages of its second phase of gate installation to close 35 gaps in existing border fence in Hidalgo and Cameron counties. The 35 gates were funded in CBP's fiscal year (FY) 2017 appropriation, while the proposed 28 miles of levee wall and 32 miles of bollard wall are included in the President's FY18 budget request to Congress.

In Hidalgo County, CBP is proposing 28 miles of levee wall. The proposed levee wall alignment will be on the south face of the northern U.S. International Boundary Water Commission (IBWC) levee. The proposed design includes construction of a reinforced concrete levee wall to the height of the existing levee with 18-foot tall steel bollards installed on the top of the levee wall, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the levee wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, automated vehicle gates, pedestrian gates, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the levee wall. In addition, CBP will install gates within 20 gaps in existing border levee wall within Hidalgo County and in 15 existing gaps within Cameron County.

In Starr County, CBP is proposing 32 miles of bollard wall. The proposed design includes construction of 20 to 30-foot tall steel bollards, a possible 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the bollard wall, detection technology, enforcement zone lighting, video surveillance, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the bollard wall.

Additional details of the possible components of the proposed action are as follows:

- **Levee Wall** -The levee wall will be a concrete wall to the height of the levee crest with 18 foot tall bollards installed in the top of the levee wall.
- **Bollard Wall** – The bollard wall will be 20 to 30 feet high utilizing 8-inch diameter, concrete filled steel bollards.
- **150 Foot Enforcement Zone** – The enforcement zone will be an area extending from the south/river side of the levee wall or bollard wall approximately 150 feet. All vegetation within the 150-foot enforcement zone will be cleared.
- **Gates** - Automated vehicle gates will be installed with a minimum height of 18 feet and minimum width of 20 feet. In addition, gates designed to allow for farming equipment will be installed where appropriate and range in width from 40 to 50 feet. All gates will be motorized overhead sliding gates with an enclosed drive and operator system.

- **Lighting** - LED lighting will be installed as part of this project. CBP will work with the appropriate stakeholders to develop solutions to avoid excess lighting beyond the enforcement zone.
- **All Weather Road** - An all-weather aggregate patrol road (type FC-2) will be constructed on the south side and parallel to the levee or bollard wall and within the 150-foot enforcement zone. The specific location of the road within the enforcement zone will be determined during the design phase of the project.
- **Cameras** - A camera surveillance system will be installed to ensure visibility of the enforcement zone and southern approach.

The purpose of the proposed action is to increase CBP's ability to impede or deny illegal border crossings, and to provide improved surveillance and detection capabilities to the areas of greatest risk of illegal cross-border activity located within the US. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will be similar to other levee and border wall systems located within the Rio Grande Valley Sector. The proposed action will also support CBPs action under Executive Order (EO) 13767, where CBP is directed to "...secure the southern border of the United States through the immediate construction of a physical wall on the southern border, monitored and supported by adequate personnel so as to prevent illegal immigration, drug and human trafficking, and acts of terrorism."

CBP will evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. CBP is gathering data and input from state and local government agencies, federal agencies, and Native American Tribes that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in the proposed actions. Since your agency or organization may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding the potential environmental impacts from CBP's proposed action, your input is sought regarding the likely or anticipated effects to biological, cultural, and natural resources from the implementation of the proposed actions. Your response should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which CBP should consider during project siting, construction, and operation.

This letter is intended to provide initial information for CBP's proposed projects in the Rio Grande Valley and seek comments and concerns from potentially affected parties and interested groups. CBP intends similar outreach in other border regions as projects are identified and defined. Your prompt attention to this request is appreciated. Comments and information will be accepted up to 30 days following the date of this letter. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include "RGV Wall and Gates Construction" in the title of your email. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Border Patrol & Air and Marine
Program Management Office

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Post Office Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

In Reply Refer To:
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U.S. Customs and Border Protection
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Dear (b) (6) :

Thank you for your letter dated August 25, 2017, regarding U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) proposed border infrastructure in South Texas which includes the installation of 35 gates in existing border fence gaps, 32 miles of bollard wall, and 28 miles of levee wall. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) reviewed your letter and is providing our initial concerns related to Federally listed species, other Federal trust resources, and Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuges (NWR). Once there is a proposed action, that is spatially explicit, we can provide a formal response and coordination under the National Environmental Policy Act, National Wildlife Refuge System (Refuge System) Improvement Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Endangered Species Act.

Over the past several years, there has been a substantial increase in coordination between the Service, CBP, and the U.S. Border Patrol Rio Grande Valley Sector along the Texas border. The Service appreciates the excellent communication and information sharing that has occurred and looks forward to maintaining this relationship into the future.

The Refuge System lands in the Lower Rio Grande Valley are considered to be one of the most biodiverse in the continental United States. The Service supports CBP addressing direct and indirect impacts of the proposed border activities on Federally listed species and other Federal trust resources in the project area. In general, concerns are similar to those discussed during initial border wall/fence construction in 2008. The Service will continue to work with CBP on the proposed activities, with a focus on ensuring impacts to Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs and its ecotourism-based economy are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible.

In response to the possible components of the proposed action identified in your letter, the Service's informal comments are as follows:

<u>Levee and bollard walls</u>
In general, the Service recommends considering technology, additional border patrol agents and other mechanisms, when possible, instead of installation of levee or bollard walls.

Connectivity
The Service understands that 10.2 miles of border wall will be constructed on Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs in Hidalgo County, Texas. The Service does not currently have information on specific alignments on Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR in Starr County. Currently, there are 34 miles of existing levee wall in Hidalgo County; the proposed 28 mile addition would result in 62 miles of impermeable barrier, precluding access to habitats by the Federally listed endangered ocelot and jaguarundi, along with other terrestrial species. Reduction of habitat connectivity in portions of the existing wildlife corridor will affect ocelot and jaguarundi movement, impact access to traditional water sources, and reduce potential for gene flow. The Service recommends wildlife openings to allow ocelots, jaguarundis and other wildlife to move through the wall to maintain habitat connectivity.

In Hidalgo County, Santa Ana NWR will be bisected, with substantial acreage south of the proposed wall and less acreage north of the wall. Any acres north of the wall that do not have habitat corridors will represent a direct loss of habitat particularly for ocelots and jaguarundis on refuge land in Texas. The Service requests CBP document and assess these impacts for Starr County when the border wall alignments are determined.

Flooding
The Lower Rio Grande Valley is a flood-prone area. The Service is concerned the levee wall in Hidalgo County could be subject to catastrophic natural flood events, leaving terrestrial wildlife trapped behind the levee wall to drown or starve. This project will likely cause widespread mortality for terrestrial organisms during catastrophic flood events. The Service recommends an assessment of escape routes and consideration of constructing elevated berms south of the levee to allow terrestrial animals to retreat from rising waters during flooding events, as well as leaving the gates open during those events.

Fire
The Santa Ana and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWRs experience numerous wildfires each year. Fighting wildfire is dangerous, particularly if escape routes are limited due to a border wall. Natural resource protection may be impacted due to public safety and challenges of fighting wildfires south of a border wall.

Direct Mortality
The Service requests best management practices, such as capping hollow bollard/posts, during construction to prevent entrapment of wildlife species during placement of vertical posts/bollards.

Socio-economic & Visitor Impacts
The Service is specifically concerned with potential tourism and visitor impacts. Ongoing efforts by the Service, the state of Texas, private landowners, and non-profit organizations have helped create a wildlife corridor linking numerous isolated habitat fragments in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. These efforts have helped produce habitats that are harboring unique species of plants and animals, making the area a destination for ecotourists.

The economics of Lower Rio Grande Valley wildlife and habitat diversity are important to the international border region, as over 150,000 tourists contribute approximately $10.8 million annually to the regional economy. The Santa Ana NWR is the most accessible public land for residents of Hidalgo County and approximately 70 percent of visitors come from outside of the local area. Visitors participating in outdoor recreational activities economically benefit the local community. The Service recommends a socio-economic analysis of the proposed wall.

Construction of the border wall, as proposed, will likely affect visitation and the quality of visitor experience. Construction of the border wall along the levee will separate the Santa Ana NWR visitor

center and all administrative facilities (equipment storage, residences, parking lots, etc.) from the rest of the refuge (99 percent of refuge lands). The proposal could result in visitors entering and exiting Santa Ana NWR through a large gate, similar to going through a security checkpoint. This could result in a reduction in visitation due to a perceived unsafe and unwelcoming atmosphere.

Enforcement Zones

Construction of a 150-foot enforcement zone will directly remove habitat. The enforcement zone will also create barriers and restrict wildlife movement, especially for species such as ocelots, which require dense brush to travel through. The Service recommends minimizing this zone, as operations allow, especially in and near thick thornscrub and walking trails. We also recommend calculating the direct habitat loss of the 150-foot enforcement zone based on a vegetation and endangered species survey. The proposed cleared enforcement zone in Hidalgo County will directly remove approximately 170 acres of habitat from Lower Rio Grande Valley and Santa Ana NWRs reducing the ability to meet refuge purposes. In Hidalgo County, Refuge System lands will have approximately 7,800 acres south of the proposed wall and 2,400 acres north of the wall. The 2,400 acres represent a direct loss of habitat for ocelots and jaguarundis on Refuge System lands in Texas.

Lighting

Increased lighting at night, along the wall, will likely have negative impacts on ocelot, jaguarundi and other nocturnal species by making them more susceptible to predation. The Service recommends down shielding lights to focus away from thornscrub habitat and shining lights only within the enforcement zone. The Service recommends CBP continue to analyze the effects of lighting to nocturnal wildlife and work with the Service to minimize impacts.

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We appreciate the opportunity to provide informal comments and look forward to future opportunities to discuss the proposed project. Please feel free to contact me at 505-248-6282 if I can be of further assistance.

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Refuge Manager, South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Alamo, Texas
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Sincerely,

Regional Director

cc: Field Supervisor, Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office, Houston, Texas
Refuge Manager, South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Alamo, Texas
Inter-agency Borderlands Coordinator, Department of Interior Washington, D.C.
EA-ARD

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail

Fischer, Tate <tate_fischer@fws.gov>

Border Wall POC

6 messages

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 8:48 AM
To: "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Tate Fischer <tate_fischer@fws.gov>

Hi Jeff and Craig,

On 1/29/19 I provided the FWS information (treasury account symbol, DUN's number, tax ID #,etc...) required to establish an interagency agreement to:

(b) (6)(b) (6)
Border Wall Program Management Office
United States Border Patrol
Program Management Office Directorate
office: (b) (6)
cell: (b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

There hasn't been any contact since then (1/29/19) regarding the inter-agency agreement they will prepare and send to me for signature. Once all the signatures are in place I will get a copy of the agreement and forward to FWS finance in Denver and they will post the reimbursable agreement in FBMS. I've already created the needed WBS tracking numbers in FBMS, and I'll be able to target the funds out to the regions for the specific border wall projects as soon as it posts in FBMS. All border project activity will be reported at the national level.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
gill

****
Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

Fischer, Tate <tate_fischer@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:00 AM
To: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>
Cc: "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>

As per discussion with Brent Range yesterday, he is also involved in the the inter-agency agreement. I'd suggest touching bases with him as well in this regard.

Tate Fischer
National Fuels Mgmt. Specialist
USFWS Branch of Fire Mgmt.
3833 South Development Ave.
Boise, ID 83705
(208) 387-5941 (Desk)
(208) 859-1806 (Cell)

[Quoted text hidden]

Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:33 AM
To: "Fischer, Tate" <tate_fischer@fws.gov>
Cc: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>

Gill, can you share the actual information/documents you shared with BP? Thanks

Jeff Rupert
Office: 202-208-2719
Cell: 571-451-6525
[Quoted text hidden]

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:37 AM
To: Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Fischer, Tate" <tate_fischer@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>

Jeff
Just to clarify, do you want only the interagency information I provided or the project documentation that Tate would have provided for the projects.
Thanks

****
Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

[Quoted text hidden]

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:42 AM
To: Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Fischer, Tate" <tate_fischer@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>

Please see the email below where I provided the FWS information for the interagency agreement.

Thx
gill

From: **Fay, Gillian** <gillian_fay@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 29, 2019 at 11:09 AM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: IAA for Southern Border Initiative
To: <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>, Craig Leff <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >, Thao Tran <thao_tran@ios.doi.gov>, Reah Reedy <reah_reedy@fws.gov>, Tate Fischer <tate_fischer@fws.gov>

Good Morning (b) (6)

I've entered the information you requested below. Please note that myself or Reah Reedy (copied on this email) will be the points of contact for administration of this agreement, and Tate Fischer (also copied on this email) is the National Fuels Lead for the FWS Fire Program and our subject matter expert.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Thank you,
Gillian

Specific Agency information is as follows:

Full Agency Name: Department of the Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Full Agency Address: 3833 S. Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705-5354

Telephone Number: 208-387-5536 (gillian) and 208-387-5736 (reah)

Fax Number: 208-387-5668

Tax Identification Number: 84-1024566

DUNS Number: 151157950

Agency Locator Code: 14-16-0006

Treasury Account Symbol: 14.14X1125.16

****

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

****

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

[Quoted text hidden]

Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:48 AM
To: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>
Cc: "Fischer, Tate" <tate_fischer@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov> (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

No, disregard looking at the draft IAA now, we'd be better off to talk on the phone ASAP and work through some of the numbers and project timeline. Do you have time to talk at 1:30 eastern?

Jeff Rupert
Office: 202-208-2719
Cell: 571-451-6525

[Quoted text hidden]

Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

Border Wall POC

Jeffery Rupert <jeffery_rupert@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9:48 AM
To: "Fay, Gillian" <gillian_fay@fws.gov>
Cc: "Fischer, Tate" <tate_fischer@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <craig_leff@ios.doi.gov>, Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

No, disregard looking at the draft IAA now, we'd be better off to talk on the phone ASAP and work through some of the numbers and project timeline. Do you have time to talk at 1:30 eastern?

Jeff Rupert
Office: 202-208-2719
Cell: 571-451-6525

On Feb 12, 2019, at 11:37 AM, Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> wrote:

> Jeff
> Just to clarify, do you want only the interagency information I provided or the project documentation that Tate would have provided for the projects.
> Thank
>
> **********
> Gillian Fay
> National Fire Budget Officer
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 3833 S. Development Avenue
> Boise, ID 83705-5354
> 208 387 5536 work
> 208-559-1124 cell
>
> On Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 9 33 AM Jeffery Rupert jeffery rupert@io doi gov wrote
> > Gill, can you share the actual information/documents you shared with BP? Thanks
> >
> > Jeff Rupert
> > Office 202 208 2719
> > Cell: 571-451-6525
> >
> > On Feb 12, 2019, at 11:00 AM, Fischer, Tate <tate_fischer@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > A per di cu ion with (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ye terday, he i al o involved in the the inter agency agreement. I'd suggest touching bases with him as well in this regard.
> > >
> > > **Tate Fischer**
> > > National Fuel Mgmt Speciali t
> > > USFWS Branch of Fire Mgmt.
> > > 3833 South Development Ave
> > > Boi e, ID 83705
> > > (208) 387 5941 (Desk)
> > > (208) 859 1806 (Cell)
> > >
> > > On Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 8:49 AM Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > > Hi Jeff and Craig,
> > > >
> > > > On 1/29/19 I provided the FWS information (treasury account symbol, DUN's number, tax ID #,etc...) required to establish an interagency agreement to:

(b) (6)(b) (6)
Border Wall Program Management Office
United States Border Patrol
Program Management Office Directorate
office: (b) (6)
cell: (b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

There hasn't been any contact since then (1/29/19) regarding the inter-agency agreement they will prepare and send to me for signature. Once all the signatures are in place I will get a copy of the agreement and forward to FWS finance in Denver and they will post the reimbursable agreement in FBMS. I've already created the needed WBS tracking numbers in FBMS, and I'll be able to target the funds out to the regions for the specific border wall projects as soon as it posts in FBMS. All border project activity will be reported at the national level.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
gill

****

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

FWS Statement of Work for Sourthern Border Projects

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 4:31 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cc: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>, Tate Fischer <tate_fischer@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Jeff Rupert <jeff_rupert@fws.gov>, "Leff, Craig" <cleff@blm.gov>

Hi Irma,

It was great talking with you this afternoon to coordinate the SOW and IAA for the $1M in funding Border Patrol will transfer to the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

I've revised the amounts in the SOW to reflect the distribution of the $1M to the Sweetwater River and Tijuana River Border Projects. I understand that this interagency agreement will be initiated with FY2019 as the base year and option years to accommodate additional funding transfers if funds become available to complete the projects previously identified.

I'll be ready on this end once your procurement shop has an agreement ready for me to route through my leadership for approval/signatures.

I'll be sure to include you on all correspondence regarding the SOW and IAA so we all stay on the same page. I appreciate that we speak the same budget/agreement language, and look forward to working together on this effort.

Thank you,
Gillian

****

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208-387-5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

2 attachments

BASE.2010XXXX SOW DOI FWS IAA Veg Controlled Burn 020619 (1).doc
85K

BASE.2010XXXX SOW DOI FWS IAA Veg Controlled Burn 020619 (1).doc
85K

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
STATEMENT OF WORK
BETWEEN
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR (DOI), U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES (FWS)

I. AUTHORITY

The authority of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) which is acting as the servicing agency (collectively the "Parties") to enter into this Interagency Agreement (IAA) is the Economy Act of 1932 (31 U.S.C. 1535), resulting in an assisted acquisition.

II. OBJECTIVE/PURPOSE

This Interagency Agreement (IAA) is between the Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (FWS) and the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Border Wall (BW) Program Management Office (PMO). In accordance with this agreement, FWS (servicing agency), will, on behalf of CBP (requesting agency), use its experience, background, and expertise to chemically and mechanically control non-native invasive plant species that exploit openings in the riparian forest canopy in the Tijuana River Valley and the Sweetwater River Valley which are located in the San Diego Border Patrol Sector.

The overall goals of the project are to: reduce the risk of wildfire; improve habitat for riparian nesting bird species including the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo and Southwestern willow flycatcher; mitigate safety risks to FWS staff and Border Patrol personnel; and improve access and visibility for Border Patrol operations. The San Diego Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol is one of the busiest in the country in terms of illegal entries and smuggling activity from Mexico.

III. SCOPE

This Statement of Work describes the comprehensive scope of support services for CBP's requirements. During the Base Period, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will use its best efforts to provide the following services either by contract or by in-house efforts:

a. **Sweetwater River Valley** (using either in-house or contractor resources), including but not limited to:

    1) The primary actions are to chemically and mechanically control non-native invasive plant species that exploit openings in the riparian forest canopy. Chemical treatments would include application of herbicide at the appropriate point of the growth cycle for the chemical to be transported to the roots and kill the plant. Mechanical treatments would include cutting, removal, and chipping. Non-native species that contribute to hazardous fuel loading and are targeted for

removal include giant reed (*Arundo donax*), saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.), Peruvian peppertree (*Schinus molle*), eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.), Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*), and castor bean (*Ricinus communis*). Planning activities include project plan development, mapping of target species, environmental compliance, contract development and administration, treatment effectiveness monitoring, and reporting. Two units of the Sweetwater River totaling 242 acres would be treated – Unit 1 (upstream of SR 94 to the Refuge boundary with private land) is 124 acres; Unit 2 (downstream of SR 94 to boundary with Sweetwater Authority) is 118 acres.

Follow-up chemical and mechanical treatments will likely be necessary for 3 years to achieve 100% control of invasive plant species and to remove live or dead biomass.

The project area is designated critical habitat for the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) and Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*).

b. **Tijuana River Valley** (using either in-house or contractor resources), including but not limited to:

1) The primary actions are to mechanically remove woody debris from the riparian zone and to chemically and mechanically control invasive plant species that exploit openings in the forest canopy created by the beetle infestation. Mechanical treatment of large woody debris would include cutting, removal, and chipping. Invasive plant species would be controlled with herbicides followed by mechanical removal of the dead material. The main species to be targeted include giant reed (*Arundo donax*), saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.), and castor bean (*Ricinus communis*). Planning activities include project plan development, mapping of target species, environmental compliance, contract development and administration, treatment effectiveness monitoring, and reporting. The total footprint of the project area is approximately 200 acres.

Follow-up mechanical and chemical treatments will likely be necessary for 3-5 years to achieve 100% control of invasive plant species or to remove additional woody debris generated by beetle activity.

Portions of the project area include designated critical habitat for the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*).

IV. REQUIREMENTS/TASKS:

a. **Sweetwater River Valley:** The total footprint is 242 acres; and 242 acres would be counted for accomplishments.
   1) Treatment #1: CATNR-FY19-CX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   2) Treatment #2: CATNR-FY19-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP

b. **Tijuana River Valley:** The total footprint is approximately 200 acres; however, approximately 1,120 acres will be counted for accomplishments (each treatment type is counted once; follow-up treatments will occur for 3-5 years on each unit).
   1) Treatment #1: CATJR-FY19-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   2) Treatment #2: CATJR-FY19-CX-SCA-Units 3,4-BP
   3) Treatment #3: CATJR-FY20-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   4) Treatment #4: CATJR-FY20-CX-SCA-Units 3,4-BP
   5) Treatment #5: CATJR-FY20-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   6) Treatment #6: CATJR-FY20-CX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP

V. ESTIMATED COST BREAKOUT (INCLUDING APPLICABLE FEES):

Project Title	TOTAL COST ESTIMATE
Sweetwater River Valley	
FY19	350,000.00
Sub-Total	**350,000.00**
Tijuana River Valley	
FY19	330,000.00
FY20	320,000.00
Subtotal	**650,000.00**
Grand Total	**1,000,000.00**

Table 1: Project Cost Estimate

The Base Period amount includes all costs for all work included in the scope of this IAA plus the project management costs charged by FWS for the Base Period. Actual costs are dependent on the work performed. This budgetary estimate is based on a summation of all the labor, contract and other direct and indirect costs assumed to be required to fund the mechanical / chemical treatments executed during the Base Period through contract closeout.

VI. DELIVERABLES:

The servicing agency must provide an electronic version of the following:

- Monthly expense burn rate report
- Monthly Project Delivery Schedule

VII. PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

The place of performance for this requirement shall include San Diego Border Patrol Sector.

VIII. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

This Agreement is effective from _____ through four years from date of award, which is estimated to be from XXX 2019 – XXX, 2024.

IX. FUNDING

The initial value of the IAA base year is **$1,000,000.00**
Any modifications resulting from a CBP approved change request will be funded from the change management reserve contract line item number (CLIN) 10. Use of the change management reserve funding CLIN 10 is only authorized after receipt of a CBP approved change request. Funding will be provided by CBP BW PMO to the Department of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Specific funding information is as follows:

[Information found in the PRR in FMB Section or under Account Section of PR]

Cost Center:
Order:
Fund:
Functional Area:
Fund Center:
PR:

X. POINTS OF CONTACT

CBP:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Program Official
Border Wall Program Management Office
Program Management Office Directorate
Phone: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
E-mail: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Contracting Officer Representative
Acquisition, Real Estate, and Environmental
Border Wall Program Management Office
Phone: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
E-mail: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Financial Analyst
Border Wall Program Management Office
Phone: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
E-mail: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

CBP Acquisitions:

TBD
Contracting Specialist
US Customs and Border Protection/DHS
Phone: TBD
Email: TBD

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Contracting Officer
US Customs and Border Protection/DHS
Phone: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Email: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Department Of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service:

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Phone: 208-387-5536
Cell Phone: 208-559-1124
Email: gillian_fay@fws.gov

XI. PARTICIPATING AGENCY INFORMATION

Specific Agency information is as follows:
Full Agency Name: Department of the Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Full Agency Address: 3383 S Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705-5354
Telephone Number: 208- 387-5536
Fax Number: 208-387-5668
Tax Identification Number: 84-1024566
DUNS Number: 151157950
Agency Locator Code: 14-16-006
Treasury Account Symbol: 14.14X1125.16

From:	Kodis, Martin
To:	Margaret Everson
Cc:	Wainman, Barbara; Matthew Huggler; Melissa Beaumont
Subject:	For your review -- DRAFT email to respond to Hill inquiry on Border Maps
Date:	Monday, February 25, 2019 10:29:56 AM

Hi Margaret,

Per our conversation late Friday, we have carefully crafted the following draft message to be sent to House Natural Resources Committee majority staff. We are hoping to get your approval, then Andrea's if necessary, and then run it by Taylor Playforth before sending to HNRC.

The maps we would send are FWS maps and have been reviewed by you and other officials through Cynthia's briefings.

Can you please let me know if this looks good and then I'll figure out if and how best to run it by Andrea?

Thank you!

Marty

The full final proposed response text to be sent in an email is below, and the four maps to attach to the email can be found here:

"Thank you for your inquiry and we apologize for the delay.

Per your request, attached are maps of the La Parida Banco Tract and the El Morillo Banco Tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge located on the Texas-Mexico border. Please note that there is a preexisting levee easement held by the International Boundary and Water Commission, indicated in red on the attached maps. Where it crosses National Wildlife Refuge System administered lands, such easement existed prior to these tracts being acquired and added to the Refuge System.

Questions regarding type of barrier construction and timing are not determined by or within the authorities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and we suggest contacting U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to address these types of questions. Here is the congressional affairs contact at CBP: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) *. This public CBP press release may also be helpful to your inquiry.*

We would like to suggest an in-person briefing to further explain these maps and the land jurisdictional arrangement; please let me know and we can set something up. If so, we propose 2:00

pm Friday, March 1st.

Attachments:

- *Map 1 – Overview map of US-Mexico border*
- *Map 2 – Zoomed-in map of refuge tracts in Southeastern Texas*
- *Map 3 – Satellite image with basic overlay of **La Parida Banco tract**, levee, and the Rio Grande.*
- *Map 4 – Satellite image with basic overlay of **El Morillo Banco tract**, levee, and the Rio Grande.*

--
Martin Kodis
Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041

703-358-2241 ph
703-358-2245 fax

From:	Margaret Everson
To:	Kodis, Martin
Cc:	Wainman, Barbara; Matthew Huggler; Melissa Beaumont
Subject:	Re: For your review -- DRAFT email to respond to Hill inquiry on Border Maps
Date:	Wednesday, February 27, 2019 5:01:13 AM

The language looks good to me. We will need to get it down to Andrea for a quick review. I will forward it to her and copy you.
Best
Margaret

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 25, 2019, at 1:29 PM, Kodis, Martin <martin_kodis@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hi Margaret,
>
> Per our conversation late Friday, we have carefully crafted the following draft message to be sent to House Natural Resources Committee majority staff. We are hoping to get your approval, then Andrea's if necessary, and then run it by Taylor Playforth before sending to HNRC.
>
> The maps we would send are FWS maps and have been reviewed by you and other officials through Cynthia's briefings.
>
> Can you please let me know if this looks good and then I'll figure out if and how best to run it by Andrea?
>
> Thank you!
>
> Marty
>
> The full final proposed response text to be sent in an email is below, and the four maps to attach to the email can be found here:
>
> *"Thank you for your inquiry and we apologize for the delay.*
>
> *Per your request, attached are maps of the La Parida Banco Tract and the El Morillo Banco Tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge located on the Texas-Mexico border. Please note that there is a preexisting levee easement held by the International Boundary and Water Commission, indicated in red on the attached maps. Where it crosses National Wildlife Refuge System administered lands, such easement existed prior to these tracts being acquired and added to the Refuge System.*

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--
Martin Kodis
Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041

703-358-2241 ph
703-358-2245 fax

From:	Margaret Everson
To:	andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov
Cc:	maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov; barbara_wainman@fws.gov; charisa_morris@fws.gov; melissa_beaumont@fws.gov; matthew_huggler@fws.gov
Subject:	Fwd: For your review -- DRAFT email to respond to Hill inquiry on Border Maps
Date:	Wednesday, February 27, 2019 5:03:09 AM

Andrea,
Please take a look at the language below and let me know if you have any comments or questions. We will also be running this through Taylor in 0CL.
Thank you
Margaret

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Kodis, Martin" <martin_kodis@fws.gov>
> **Date:** February 25, 2019 at 1:29:12 PM EST
> **To:** Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>
> **Cc:** "Wainman, Barbara" <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <matthew_huggler@fws.gov>, Melissa Beaumont <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>
> **Subject: For your review -- DRAFT email to respond to Hill inquiry on Border Maps**
>
> Hi Margaret,
>
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> Can you please let me know if this looks good and then I'll figure out if and how best to run it by Andrea?
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> Thank you!
>
> Marty
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> The full final proposed response text to be sent in an email is below, and the four maps to attach to the email

can be found here:

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--
Martin Kodis
Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041

703-358-2241 ph
703-358-2245 fax

From: Kodis, Martin
To: Margaret Everson
Cc: Wainman, Barbara; Matthew Huggler; Melissa Beaumont
Subject: Re: For your review -- DRAFT email to respond to Hill inquiry on Border Maps
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 5:08:46 AM

Thank you.

On Wed, Feb 27, 2019 at 8:01 AM Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov> wrote:

> The language looks good to me. We will need to get it down to Andrea for a quick review. I will forward it to her and copy you.
> Best
> Margaret
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Feb 25, 2019, at 1:29 PM, Kodis, Martin <martin_kodis@fws.gov> wrote:
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- *Map 3 – Satellite image with basic overlay of **La Parida Banco tract**, levee, and the Rio Grande.*
- *Map 4 – Satellite image with basic overlay of **El Morillo Banco tract**, levee, and the Rio Grande.*

--
Martin Kodis
Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041

703-358-2241 ph
703-358-2245 fax

--
Martin Kodis
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Johnson, January <january_johnson@fws.gov>

FOIA Litigation FWS-2017-01049 Border Wall Response 3: CBP MOU

1 message

Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> Thu, May 23, 2019 at 10:42 AM
To: January Myers <january_johnson@fws.gov>

See attachment as well.

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Date: Fri, Mar 8, 2019 at 12:32 PM
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU
To: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>

Lesley,

I have attached the MOU. I left the comments in so you could see the responses but cleared out many of the track changes. Let me know if you have any questions and I will start working with my team to figure out next steps on this side.

Thank you.

(b) (6)

From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 1:23 PM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

Thank you, both of you!

Lesley

On Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 12:46 PM (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)> wrote:

> Great, I will get the changes made and sent it over to Lesley by tomorrow.

From: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 12:45 PM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>; Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

I'm good with making the changes. No real need for a call if we are all in agreement.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Energy and Environmental Management Division

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 12:34 PM
To: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>; (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

I am ok making the changes and then I can send it to you. I don't think we need a call if we agree on everything else.

(b) (6), what do you think?

-(b) (6)

From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 12:12 PM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

I'm A-OK with that change. And I understand the issue- it's not the first time I've heard this.

Would you like to chat more about it? Or perhaps we should just make the changes and I can upload a new document into the system for our Director's office?

On Wed, Mar 6, 2019 at 3:08 PM (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) > wrote:

Hi Lesley,

We got the comments back from our counsel. The only issue is that we want to keep negative effects over adverse effects as his response is below.

(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client
(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client
(b) (5) attorney-client (b) (5) attorney-client (b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client
(b) (5) attorney-client (b) (5) attorney-client (b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client
(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client
(b) (5) attorney-client(b) (5) attorney-client

Let me know if you are free in the next few days to discuss and we can try to move the MOU forward.

Thanks

(b) (6)

From: Kordella, Lesley le ley kordella@fw gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 11:53 AM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: Re [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

Sounds good!

On Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 9:12 AM (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) > wrote:

Hi Lesley!

I just pinged our office of chief counsel yesterday to get his take on the comments. Once we have his comments back then I was going to schedule a meeting with you to go through the solicitors comments. Thanks for checking in!

(b) (6)

From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 9:05 AM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

Hi there (b) (6) and (b) (6),

I am digging through my emails to track the status of various MOUs. This was the last conversation I could find on our MOU, and I thought I'd check in to find out if your team was able to review the changes to the MOU.

I hope things are well!

Lesley

On Wed, Nov 28, 2018 at 10:55 AM Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> wrote:

> Sounds good, (b) (6) I encourage your legal team to take another look, too. It's important that you all feel comfortable with the changes.
>
> Have a wonderful vacation!!
>
> Lesley
>
> On Wed, Nov 28, 2018 at 10:53 AM (b) (6)(b) (6) . (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) > wrote:
>
> > Lesley,
> >
> > Thank you. I will review and discuss with our team. I may need to have our legal person review it again as well.
> >
> > I will let you know next week as I am headed on vacation tomorrow afternoon.
> >
> > (b) (6)
> >
> > **From:** Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
> > **Sent:** Wednesday, November 28, 2018 10:38 AM
> > **To:** (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
> > **Cc:** (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
> > **Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

(b) (6) and (b) (6),

Good morning! I've attached the MOU draft with tracked changes and comments from me and our solicitor Philip. Many changes were recommended due to the M Opinion, and the proposed rule that was on the Unified Agenda I shared with you last month. Language now reflects what you might find in NEPA, such as 'reduction of negative impacts'. This is happening to all new and updated MOUs, by the way.

I'll make myself available for a walk-through on the phone or in person if that's helpful to you. Most of the comments are pretty easy to follow, though.

Please let me know your thoughts and if you have any questions or concerns with these changes. I do not believe they are significant enough to warrant any backtracking of FWS review with the regions or Ecological Services. If you are happy with these changes, I will re-initiate the formal review and briefing process here at the Service and within DOI. This will likely need to be reviewed by the Secretary's office now as well, due to any political discussions or perceptions that may or may not be going on presently. But I'm prepared to handle that, so leave that to me.

Have a great Wednesday!

Lesley

On Tue, Nov 27, 2018 at 2:06 PM Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> wrote:

> Good afternoon (b) (6) and (b) (6),
>
> I wanted to let you know that I have feedback on the draft MOU from our solicitor. I'm going through it and will get it to you in the next day or two (not all the comments were in tracked changes, so I need to incorporate them).
>
> Just wanted you to know that I'm about to send it back your way.
>
> Lesley
>
> On Wed, Oct 17, 2018 at 12:13 PM Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > I haven't heard anything yet. I'll prompt my solicitor again. He said he'd have it reviewed by last week. Given what's on the unified agenda today, though, I imagine he's a little behind. See below.
> >
> > **DOI/FWS** **RIN:** 1018-BD76 **Publication ID:** Fall 2018

Title: ●Migratory Bird Permits; Regulations Governing Take of Migratory Birds

Abstract:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to establish regulations that define the scope of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA or Act) as it applies to conduct resulting in the injury or death of migratory birds protected by the Act. This rule would codify the legal opinion in the Department of the Interior Solicitor's Opinion M 37050 that incidental take re ulting from an otherwi e lawful activity i not prohibited under the MBTA. These regulations would reduce regulatory burdens and uncertainty on the public with regards to complying with bird take prohibitions.

Agency: Department of the Interior(DOI)

Priority: Other Significant

RIN Statu Fir t time publi hed in the Unified Agenda

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking Propo ed Rule Stage

Major No

Unfunded Mandate No

EO 13771 Designation: Deregulatory

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 10

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 703 to 712

Legal Deadline: None

Timetable

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/2018	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Federal, Local, State, Tribal

Federalism: No

Included in the Regulatory Plan: No

RIN Data Printed in the FR: No

Agency Contact:
Dr. Eric L. Kershner

On Fri, Oct 12, 2018 at 9:39 AM (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)> wrote:

> Lesley
>
> Just checking in on the status of the MOU on your end. I am updating our briefing slides to prepare for when we need to get it signed. Let me know if you have an update.
>
> (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)(b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2018 1:50 PM
To: 'Kordella, Lesley' <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

Thank you!

From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2018 12:01 PM
To (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) >
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

Thank you! That's great news!

I'll let our solicitor know, and I'll ensure (b) (6) is on the distribution list.

Lesley

On Thu, Sep 27, 2018 at 11:40 AM (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) > wrote:

> Lesley,
> I want to let you know that we got the green light from our legal department, so the document is good on our end.
>
> Also could you please add (b) (6) (cc'd here) to the list for the CCMB staff meeting.
>
> Thanks!
>
> (b) (6)(b) (6)

-----Original Message-----
From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2018 2:23 PM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU

(b) (6) and(b) (6),
Thank you for the call today. Here is a newer version of the MOU, with the adjusted wording we discussed.

Please read it over to ensure you're comfortable with my recommended changes. Where intentional take was mentioned, I did not see a reason to make changes. I'll send this now to our solicitors, as I mentioned, to help keep the ball rolling!

Lesley
On Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 3:06 PM Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> Here you go- I went ahead and changed two names since our former Chief
> Brad Bortner, and our former Acting Director Greg Sheehan, both left
> the Service. The appropriate contacts and signature blocks are in
> there for us right now. I did not yet review anything else in the
> MOU.
>
> Would you like to set up a time to chat about any possible changes? I
> am more than happy to get this up to date as quickly as you'd like so
> we can try to move it again. I can't thank you enough for all of your
> patience.
>
> Lesley
> On Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 10:58 AM (b) (6)(b) (6)
> <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)> wrote:
> >
> > Lesley,
> >
> > There weren't any concerns with the way it was the last we saw it. Could you send me over the version you have though. I want to make sure. Also we have a new Natural Resources POC (b) (6)(b) (6) and I would love to have her look at it.
> >
> > But I would love to move it forward again if possible.
> >
> > Thank you
> > (b) (6)
> >
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: Kordella, Lesley <lesley_kordella@fws.gov>
> > Sent: Monday, September 10, 2018 10:53 AM
> > To: (b) (6)(b) (6) . <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
> > Cc: (b) (6)(b) (6) <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)>
> > Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CBP MOU
> >
> > Hi Rebekah,
> > I'd love to move this forward again. Thank you for contacting me about it. I think we can do so- I'd like to take one more look at it with fresh eyes. But I won't let that hold up the final parts of the review.
> >
> > Before I do so- were there any last concerns or questions you had before I make the push for this? Since so much has changed in the past year, I thought I should ask for your agency's perspective, first. If you're comfortable with me trying to get this over the finish line as is, then I think it's a good time to try.
> >
> > Lesley
> > On Fri, Sep 7, 2018 at 10:30 AM (b) (6)(b) (6)
> > <(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)> wrote:

> > >
> > > Hi Lesley
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > I know that this is probably a no, but I was wondering if there was any idea if movement would be made to move forward with the MOU. Just curious if it was still on indefinite hold or if maybe things might start moving again.
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > Thanks.
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
> > >
> > > LMI Government Consulting
> > >
> > > Energy and Environment Managment Division
> > >
> > > US Customs and Border Protection
> > >
> > > (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
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> > >
> > > Cell (b) (6)(b) (6)
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> >
> > --
> >
> > **********
> > Lesley Kordella
> > Wildlife Biologist
> > US Fish & Wildlife Service
> > Division of Migratory Bird Management
> > 5275 Leesburg Pike
> > Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> > Lesley_Kordella@fws.gov
> > (703) 358-1963
> >
> > Looking to help save birds at home and in the office every day from window collisions and other threats? Check out this flyer to find out some easy ways you can help!
> >
> > **********
>
>
>
> --
>
> **********
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(703) 358-1963

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CBP-FWS MOU_MigBirds_March_2019.docx
70K

Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>

Re: Incoming request for info from HNRC on border refuges

1 message

Playforth, Taylor <taylor_playforth@ios.doi.gov> Wed, Mar 20, 2019 at 10:46 AM
To: "Wainman, Barbara" <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>
Cc: "Helfrich, Devin" <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>, "Kodis, Martin" <martin_kodis@fws.gov>, Angela Gustavson <angela_gustavson@fws.gov>

I understand the slide deck used at yesterday's EPW budget briefing was not cleared with FWP leadership before presenting externally, so please forgive me if I'm particularly cautious on what information we provide externally.

Thanks,

On Wed, Mar 20, 2019 at 10:40 AM Wainman, Barbara <barbara_wainman@fws.gov> wrote:
> no we just cut through all the red tape and went to the top
>
> Barbara W. Wainman
> Assistant Director, External Affairs
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> (202) 208-5256 (office)
> (571) 471-4159 (cell)
>
> On Wed, Mar 20, 2019 at 10:32 AM Playforth, Taylor <taylor_playforth@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> > If the Acting Secretary is satisfied then I assume Andrea and Margaret are satisfied and so am I.
> >
> > Thank you for the awareness.
> >
> > On Wed, Mar 20, 2019 at 10:21 AM Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > Hi Taylor,
> > >
> > > We wanted to be sure to keep you apprised of the latest on this issue: I understand that David Bernhardt had a chance to review this request and our proposed response yesterday, and has approved for sharing with the committee. We plan to send the below email and attached maps to the committee today.
> > >
> > > Thank you for your patience
> > >
> > > **Devin Helfrich**
> > > Congressional Legislative Affairs
> > > U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> > > Office Direct: (703) 358-2130
> > > Mobile: (202) 365-5971
> > >
> > > *"Thank you for your inquiry and we apologize for the delay.*
> > >
> > > *Per your request, a ached are maps of the La Parida Banco Tract and the El Morillo Banco Tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Naonal Wildlif e Refuge located on the Texas-Mexico border. Please note that there is a*

preexisng le vee easement held by the Internaonal Boundar y and Water Commission, indicated in red on the a ached maps. Where it crosses Naonal Wildlif e Refuge System administered lands, such easement existed prior to these tracts being acquired and added to the Refuge System.

Quesons regarding the type of c onstrucon and ming are not de termined by or within the authories of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and we suggest contacng U .S. Customs and Border Protecon (CBP) t o address these types of quesons. Here is a c ongressional affairs contact at CBP: (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) *.This public CBP press release may also be helpful to your inquiry.*

A achments:

- *Map 1 – Overview map of US-Mexico border*
- *Map 2 – Zoomed-in map of refuge tracts in Southeastern Texas*
- *Map 3 – Satellite image with basic overlay of **La Parida Banco tract**, levee, and the Rio Grande.*
- *Map 4 – Satellite image with basic overlay of **El Morillo Banco tract**, levee, and the Rio Grande.*

On Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 3:01 PM Playforth, Taylor <taylor_playforth@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> Thanks, please keep me in the loop as we progress with the scheduling.
>
> On Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 11:50 AM Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov> wrote:
> > Hi Taylor,
> >
> > I just spoke with Cynthia (Refuge Chief) and confirmed that we are all good re: that the previous briefings (w Everson, Travnicek, Cason, Willens, MacGregor, DOI comms) went well and FWS indicated in these meetings that there was a Congressional inquiry that we were getting ready to respond to with this information.
> >
> > Cynthia is unavailable almost the entirety of the next two weeks, but it looks like we may have a window to do the briefing next Friday afternoon, March 1 that I will try to work on securing.
> >
> > Devin
> >
> > On Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 9:47 AM Playforth, Taylor <taylor_playforth@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> > > Yes, If we're certain DOI leadership is comfortable then we should proceed and I would like to attend. The last I understood there was mixed information whether DOI leadership was comfortable but my info could be outdated.
> > >
> > > On Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 9:44 AM Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > > Hi Taylor,
> > > >
> > > > I wanted to finally follow-up on this one - now that the briefings of FWP and DOI leadership are under our belt (and I've also had the chance to touch-base with CBP), we are ready to go ahead and offer a response email and/or briefing to HNRC Majority on the border barrier and South Texas refuges.
> > > >
> > > > I was going to try to set something up for a briefing time ASAP with the committee and I assume that you would like to attend?
> > > >
> > > > Best,
> > > > Devin
> > > >
> > > > On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 12:06 PM Playforth, Taylor <taylor_playforth@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> > > > > Acknowledging receipt of your email, let me get back to you shortly.
> > > > >
> > > > > On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 11:18 AM Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > > > > Hi all,
> > > > > >
> > > > > > We have good parcel maps of the refuge, showing the ROW that is being reviewed for barrier construction, and which we have already provided to Congress.
> > > > > > However, for answers to Lora's other questions, I don't believe that we are the correct Agency to have the info and develop the answers (most likely CBP).

Devin Helfrich
Congre ional Legi lative Affair
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Direct: (703) 358-2130
Mobile: (202) 365-5971

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 11:10 AM Kodis, Martin <martin_kodis@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hi Devin and Taylor.
>
> Lora Snyder from HNRC majority contacted u with reque t for ome information regarding FWS refuges in TX on the border. See her questions below.
>
> Devin, I know you provided maps and some info to Senator Heinrich last year (in coordination with Micah) and o you may have ome of thi information at the ready Some of the other que tion may be answered through a quick call to the region.
>
> Taylor we will wait for your ok before sending anything to Lora, but hopefully the maps at least could be omething we end very oon
>
> Devin, can you please work to gather the responsive information that we are able to develop, and let this group know what the answers to those questions are?
>
> Barbara will inform Margaret and Andrea of this incoming.
>
> Finally, Taylor, we will input this request into the OCL google form.
>
> Thanks all.
>
> Marty
>
> From Lora Snyder this morning:
>
> "Can you plea e end me an actual map howing federal parcel in the two refuge in South Texas, where bulldozers may be lining up, and what impacts any of that may have on non-federal land? And is it new construction or building a levee higher?
>
> They are tarting thi now, correct? Or i the admini tration waiting for an emergency declaration?
>
> Can you please send me something ASAP?"
>
> Martin Kodis
> Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
>
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041
>
> 703 358 2241 ph
> 703-358-2245 fax

Taylor Playforth

> > > > > > Senior Advisor
> > > > > > US Department of Interior
> > > > > > Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs
> > > > > > (202) 795-0977
>
> > > > > --
> > > > > Taylor Playforth
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Senior Advisor
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(202) 795-0977

Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>

[EXTERNAL] RE: Maps of refuges on the Texas-Mexico border

1 message

Snyder, Lora <Lora.Snyder@mail.house.gov> Thu, Mar 21, 2019 at 5:01 PM
To: "Helfrich, Devin" <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>
Cc: "Martin Kodis (Marty)" <martin_kodis@fws.gov>, Angela Gustavson <angela_gustavson@fws.gov>

Thank you, Devein. Very much appreciate it.

From: Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:49 PM
To: Snyder, Lora <Lora.Snyder@mail.house.gov>
Cc: Martin Kodis (Marty) <martin_kodis@fws.gov>; Angela Gustavson <angela_gustavson@fws.gov>
Subject: Maps of refuges on the Texas-Mexico border

Hi Lora,

Here is the response to your earlier inquiry received on February 5 and we apologize for the delay.

Per your request, attached are maps of the La Parida Banco Tract and the El Morillo Banco Tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge located on the Texas-Mexico border. Please note that there is a preexisting levee easement held by the International Boundary and Water Commission, indicated in red on the attached maps. Where it crosses National Wildlife Refuge System administered lands, such easement existed prior to these tracts being acquired and added to the Refuge System.

Questions regarding the type of construction and timing are not determined by or within the authorities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and we suggest contacting U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to address these types of questions. Here is a congressional affairs contact at CBP: (b) (6)(b) (6) - (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) . This public CBP press release may also be helpful to your inquiry.

Attachments:

- Map 1 – Overview map of US-Mexico border
- Map 2 – Zoomed-in map of refuge tracts in Southeastern Texas
- Map 3 – Satellite image with basic overlay of La Parida Banco tract, levee, and the Rio Grande
- Map 4 – Satellite image with basic overlay of El Morillo Banco tract, levee, and the Rio Grande

Please let me know if you have any further questions

Best,

Devin Helfrich

Congressional Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Direct: (703) 358-2130
Mobile: (202) 365-5971

Wilcox, Chris <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>

IAA with Border Protection for SBI $1M

Fay, Gillian <gillian_fay@fws.gov> Fri, Apr 5, 2019 at 2:03 PM
To: "Mcdonald, Shane" <shane_mcdonald@fws.gov>
Cc: Chris Wilcox <chris_wilcox@fws.gov>, Tate Fischer <tate_fischer@fws.gov>

Shane,
I have the IAA between FWS and CBP attached. I've had Ketti sign for Cynthia, and I signed electronically. Could you please sign as acting for Chris, and I'll get it to CBP so they can go through their signature process.

Hopefully we get word that the 0% was approved by the Director next week and I can get the WBS set up by the time CBP is finished with the IAA.

Thanks,
Gill

****

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705-5354
208 387 5536 work
208-559-1124 cell

70B01C19K00000062 236r2 pdf
166K

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
(IAA)

1. Agreement No.	2. Modification No.	3. Order No.	4. Requisition No.
70B01C19K00000062			0020111384

5. Period of Performance	6. Statutory Authority	7. Date IAA Prepared
From 04/08/2019 To 04/07/2024	Economy Act, 1932, as amended	

8. Requesting Agency

Agency Name: DHS - Customs & Border Protection
Office/Division: Customs and Border Protection
POC: (b) (6)(b) (6)
Address: (b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6)
POC Phone No.: (b) (6)

9. Servicing Agency

Agency Name: DOI - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office/Division: National Wildlife Refuge System-Branch of Fire Mgmt
POC: Tate Fischer
Address: 3383 S. Development Ave
Boise ID 83705-5354
POC Phone No.: 208-387-5941

10. Scope of Work

This Interagency Agreement (IAA) between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Office of Administration, Facilities Management and Engineering (FM&E) Border Wall (BW) Program Management Office (PMO) is for the purpose of obtaining services to chemically and mechanically control non-native invasive plant species that exploit openings in the riparian forest canopy in the Tijuana River Valley and the Sweetwater River Valley, in accordance with the attached Statement of Work. The period of performance includes a one (1) year base period, plus four (4) 1-year option periods, at $1,000,000.00 each. Funding is hereby provided in the amount of $1,000,000.00.

11. Delivery/Shipping Schedule

See Attached Delivery Schedule

12. IAA Amount

Base Price of IAA	$1,000,000.00
Modification Amount	$0.00
Assisted Acquisition Servicing Fee	$0.00
Total IAA Price	$1,000,000.00

13. Billing and Payment

Requesting Agency

Locator Code: 70050800
DUNS #: DUNS# 879824324
Address: DHS - Customs & Border Protection
Commercial Accounts Sect.
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6) (b) (6)
POC: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
POC Phone #: (b) (6)
POC Fax #: (b) (6)
POC Email: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Servicing Agency

Locator Code: 14-16-0006
DUNS #: 151157950
Address: US Fish and Wildlife Service
3383 S Development Avenue
Boise ID 83705-5354
POC: Gillian Fay
POC Phone #: (208) 387-5536
POC Fax #: 208-387-5668
POC Email: gillian_fay@fws.gov

14. Requesting Agency TAS No.	15. Servicing Agency TAS No.
10 ____070____X0533000__	10 ____14X1125.16____
20 ____070____X0533000__	20 ____14X1125.16____

16. Invoice/Payment Method

- [ ] Requesting Agency Initiate IPAC
- [ ] Servicing Agency Initiate IPAC
- [ ] Credit Card
- [ ] Other (explain below)

17. Billing Frequency

- [X] Monthly
- [ ] Quarterly
- [ ] Semi-annually
- [ ] Annual
- [ ] Advanced Payment (explain below)
- [ ] Other (explain below)

18. Requesting Agency Accounting and Appropriation Data

10	6100.2525USCSGLCS093520611OZ00009173SB0201002900 BPE752525 TAS# 070 X0533000
20	6100.2525USCSGLCS093520611OZ00009173SB0201002900 BPE752525 TAS# 070 X0533000

19. Approvals				
Program Officials	**Requesting Agency**		**Servicing Agency**	
Name	(b) (6)		Chris Wilcox	
Title	COR		Chief, Fire Management Branch, NWRS	
Telephone No.	(b) (6)		208-387-5599	
Fax No.			208-387-5668	
Email	(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)		chris_wilcox@fws.gov	
Signature		Date:		Date:
Funding Officials				
Name	(b) (6)(b) (6)		Cynthia T. Martinez	
Title	Budget Official		Chief, National Wildlife Refuge Sys	
Telephone No.	(b) (6)		202-208-5333	
Fax No.			703-358-2248	
Email	(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)		cynthia_martinez@fws.gov	
Signature		Date:		Date:
Contracting Officials				
Name	(b) (6)(b) (6)		Gillian Fay	
Title	Contracting Officer		National Fire Budget Officer	
Telephone No.	(b) (6)		208-387-5536	
Fax No.	(b) (6)		208-387-5668	
Email	(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)		gillian_fay@fws.gov	
Signature		Date:		Date:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT (IAA)

INSTRUCTIONS

Block 1: Insert IAA number (automatic system populated).

Block 2: Insert modification number of the IAA (automatic system populated).

Block 3: Insert IAA order number (automatic system populated).

Block 4: Insert IAA requisition number (automatic system populated).

Block 5: Insert period of performance for the IAA.

Block 6: Insert statutory authority for the IAA.

Block 7: Insert date the IAA was prepared (automatic system populated).

Block 8: Insert requesting agency information.

Block 9: Insert servicing agency information.

Block 10: Insert a brief description of the IAA requirements (scope of work) and list the applicable attachments in this block. At a minimum, the attachments should include the IAA terms and conditions, statement of work, and analysis of alternative, if applicable.

Block 11: Insert the delivery and/or shipping schedule for the IAA or indicate where the delivery/shipping schedule may be found.

Block 12: Insert the base price of the IAA, modification amount, assisted acquisition servicing fee, and total IAA price--automatic system populated.

Block 13: Insert the billing and payment information for the requesting and servicing agency (requesting agency information automatic system populated).

Block 14: Insert the requesting agency TAS number for each line item (automatic system populated).

Block 15: Insert the servicing agency TAS number for each line item (automatic system populated).

Block 16: Check the invoice/payment method for the IAA and explain if “other” is selected.

Block 17: Check the billing frequency for the IAA and explain if “advanced payment” or “other” is selected.

Block 18: Insert the requesting agency accounting and appropriation data per line item (automatic system populated).

Block 19: Insert IAA approval information for the requesting and servicing agency pertaining to program officials, funding officials, and contracting officers. Include the date for each signature.

From: Hires, Brian
To: Morris, Charisa
Cc: Foster, Maureen; Hancock, Donnise
Subject: Re: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach
Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 8:56:26 AM
Attachments: Note to Reviewers - Jaguar Recovery Plan FINAL.docx
Jaguar Recovery Plan News Release FINAL.doc
Jaguar_Recovery_PlanQ_A FINAL.doc
Jaguar Recovery Plan Comms Strategy FINAL.docx
Final Jaguar Plan Cover.pdf

Hi Charisa,

Please see attached requested items, for announcing the final jaguar recovery plan. Let me know you think they'd also like to see the actual final recovery plan as a PDF (it's a fairly large file). Thanks,

Brian

On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:49 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:
> I think that would definitely be helpful for context, if those items are available!
>
> On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:23 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:
> > Thanks Charisa! That's correct, this is just a comms package. Happy to share a copy of the final recovery plan if helpful, as well as the outreach as attachments.
> >
> > Brian
> >
> > On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:21 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > + Maureen
> > >
> > > Good morning, Brian-
> > >
> > > Unfortunately, yesterday was Andrea Travnicek's last day in the office this week, and we got all of this week's priority packages in front of her before COB Monday, as a result. The chances of us getting her to clear this while she's on the road is slim, but we can try! It sounds like it is just a coms package - is this correct?
> > >
> > > I've cc'd her Chief of Staff, Maureen Foster, who may have intel on whether this package was set to move this week or if they need more information.
> > >
> > > Thanks!
> > > Charisa
> > >
> > > On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 9:59 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:
> > > > Good morning Charisa,
> > > >
> > > > Donnise suggested I reach out to you regarding clearance of the jaguar final recovery plan, that our regional office would like to announce this Thursday 4/11 or as soon as possible after that date.
> > > >
> > > > As an FYI, It looks like this outreach has been with the Assistant Secretary's office

since 4/4 in DTS. As a final recovery plan, this does not have a FR notice associated with it and we don't normally bring final recovery plans into HQ for review but this one is a high-profile species that touches on border wall issues.

Thanks in advance for helping us get this one over the finish line. Don't hesitate to write or call if you have any questions or follow up on anything.

--
Brian Hires
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Office of Public Affairs | Falls Church, VA
(Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

--
Brian Hires
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Office of Public Affairs | Falls Church, VA
(Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

--
Brian Hires
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Office of Public Affairs | Falls Church, VA
(Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

DTS NOTE TO REVIEWERS

DCN: 068832

Subject: Outreach Package for Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

Background: The Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar. Although the vast majority of the jaguar's population in the Americas is from Mexico to Argentina, this recovery plan focuses on its range in the American Southwest and Mexico, where the United States has the most jurisdiction.

Deadline for completing surname: The Notice of Availability announcing the posting of this final recovery plan to a FWS Region 2 website is targeted for being sent to the *Federal Register* on April 11, 2019. This date is flexible.

Materials: *Outreach plan, news release, FAQs*

Special considerations:

While recovery plans are non-regulatory guidance documents, this action will likely generate significant national and international attention, stakeholder interest and controversy. The jaguar is a charismatic megafauna and its northernmost range extends across the US-Mexico border to the US Southwest. **As such, this issue involves border wall issues.** (The recovery plan for the US includes two 'border dispersal corridors' in rugged, remote areas of Arizona).

Careful messaging has been crafted and prioritized in this outreach to detail political sensitivities and how the US portion of the jaguar's historic range represents just 1/10th of 1 percent of its 19-country range. Outreach to DOI, Congress, stakeholders and media should account for the potential for controversy and misconceptions around this issue.

Contact: *Brian Hires, brian_hires@fws.gov, 703-358-2191*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

News Release

Arizona Ecological Services
Field Office
9828 N. 31st Ave, #C3
Phoenix, Arizona 85051-2518
602/242-0210

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [insert date here] [DRAFT]
Contact: Jeff Humphrey, (602) 889-5946, jeff_humphrey@fws.gov

Service and Binational Team Complete ESA Recovery Plan for America's Largest Wild Cat

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery plan for the jaguar, currently listed under the act at endangered. The plan provides a recovery framework and goals for improving the species' status throughout its entire 19-country range while focusing on the jaguar populations in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States.

The final recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. More than 99 percent of the jaguar's range is in Central and South America, so the plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery. The Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar, including continued funding support.

The Service has established strong working relationships with state and local partners, conservation groups and the Mexican government. The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but calls for focusing efforts on sustaining potential habitat. In addition, the plan calls for establishing at least two borderland dispersal corridors for jaguars' continued movement through remote, rugged habitat between the countries, eliminating poaching, and improving social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate their return to the United States.

"The binational recovery team's scientific expertise in protecting the jaguar has been invaluable," said Amy Lueders, the Service's Southwest Regional Director. "We recognize the challenges involved in conserving and recovering a species with such an expansive international range, and the team has laid out a comprehensive plan with goals that are achievable and realistic. We look forward to continuing to work with our diverse partners on this effort within and outside the United States."

Loss of habitat, direct killing of the cats, and depletion of prey are the primary factors contributing to the jaguar's current status and decreasing population trend. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. However, conservation of key jaguar populations and habitat -- including core breeding and connective areas -- will be critical to jaguar recovery. We anticipate it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States, all in southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. These jaguars are believed to have come from the nearest core area and breeding population, approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora.

Across the jaguar's primary range in Latin America, the Service is actively working with countries and local partners to protect and recover the cat. Conservation efforts include providing incentives for protecting jaguar habitat and prey, education campaigns addressing misinformation and fears, and providing landowners with strategies for co-existing with jaguars.

Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations must be secured throughout their range. This will require protecting jaguar habitat quality and connectivity; providing incentives to protect jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico. These protections must remain in place after delisting to ensure the long-term viability of the species.

The binational Jaguar Recovery Team includes representatives of CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico), CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora), U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS Wildlife Services and U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Border Patrol, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Tohono O'odham Nation, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance, Malpai Borderlands Group, Naturalia, Panthera and several ranchers, landowners, stakeholders and universities in Mexico and the United States. Additionally, the Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the recovery plan.

The Jaguar Recovery Plan is available at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm or by request from Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Ecological Services Office, 9828 North 31st Avenue, #C3, Phoenix, AZ 85051–2517; phone 602/242-0210.

*The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit **www.fws.gov**, or connect with us through any of these social media channels: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube.*

Photos available at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/
Video at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guuhu_-G-Pw&feature=youtu.be

Questions and Answers: Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [Enter date here]
Contacts: Jeff Humphrey 602-242-0210

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar, America's largest wild cat. The plan sets goals for improving the species' status through its entire 19-country range and provides a framework for achieving recovery. The recovery plan focuses on the cat's population in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States and recommends site-specific conservation actions that contribute to jaguar recovery across its range.

Q: What does the jaguar recovery plan tell us?

A: Reversing the decline of the jaguar is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework for aligning stakeholder efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core areas and connective corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

Q: What are the primary threats to the jaguar?

A: Loss of habitat, killing of individuals and depletion of prey throughout its range are the primary reasons for decreasing populations of jaguars. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing each of these threats. It establishes goals for minimizing threats and for establishing viable populations throughout the jaguar's expansive range.

Q: What is a recovery plan?

A: Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

Q: What are the strategies for conserving and recovering the jaguar in the final recovery plan?

A: The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units: the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. The plan

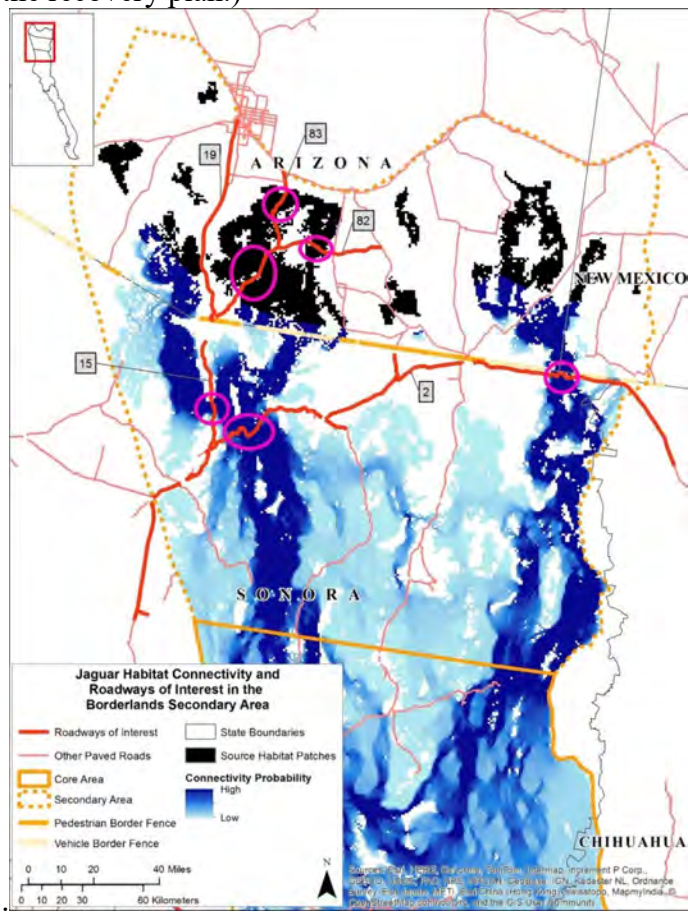
recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery. As it has in the past, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar.

The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction and has an established working relationship with Mexico. The NRU includes the jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors (see Figure 4 in the final recovery plan), and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

Q: What are the borderland dispersal corridors referred to in the recovery plan and how critical are they to the recovery of jaguars in the United States?

A: Dispersal corridors are rugged, remote areas that presently male jaguars, presumably from the Sonora Core breeding area in Mexico, use to access secondary area habitat, a portion of which is in southern Arizona and New Mexico. These areas have been identified from habitat characteristics, historical records, recent sightings and photo monitoring in the United States and Mexico. (See Jaguar Habitat Connectivity and Identification of Potential Road Mitigation Locations in the NRU for the Jaguar report, as well as Figure 4 of the recovery plan.)



Continued jaguar access to habitat through transborder linkages is the sole mechanism identified in the recovery plan for continued jaguar occupation in the U.S. portion of the species' range. Maintaining this habitat connectivity is one of the recovery criteria for the Northwestern Recovery Unit. Research documents the importance of animal populations at the extremities of their ranges for the expansion and contraction of species' ranges and, ultimately, the long-term recovery of species.

These jaguar dispersal corridors are rugged and remote areas. Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors. Continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allowing ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Q: How important is the recovery of jaguars in the United States to their overall recovery across their range?

A: The U.S. range of the jaguar represents the very northernmost edge of its 19-country range that extends all the way to South America. The U.S. range represents just one-tenth of 1 percent of its historic range.

Given that the jaguar is an international species with the vast majority of its range outside of the United States, primary actions to recover the jaguar will occur in other countries. Because more than 95 percent of the jaguar's habitat in the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) is in Mexico, Mexico will be the primary contributor to the jaguar's recovery in the NRU. In the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU), countries within the jaguar's range will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery.

The Service's limited resources are better applied to planning and on-the-ground implementation of conservation actions within the United States boundaries and in partnership with Mexico. Therefore, the Service and the Jaguar Recovery Team have established objective and measurable criteria for recovery and site-specific actions that, if implemented, will conserve viable jaguar populations in the northwestern portion of its range (e.g., the NRU). Priority is given to this unit because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction, and we have an established working relationship with Mexico on issues of mutual concern.

Q: Was Customs and Border Patrol included in the developing of this plan?

A: Yes. U.S. Border Patrol (Tucson Sector) is represented on the Implementation Subgroup of the Jaguar Recovery Team. Other U.S. border area groups on the subgroup include ranchers, Malpais Borderlands Group, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance (ranching group), and state and federal land and wildlife managers.

Q: What are the actions and partnerships the Service is taking to support recovery of the jaguar in its primary range in 19 Central and South American countries?

A: In recent years, the Service's International Affairs Program has been at the forefront of supporting the conservation of jaguars throughout their range in Mexico, Central America and South America. During the past four years alone, we have supported 23 jaguar-related projects in 10 countries with more than $1 million in conservation funding. When jaguar habitat is conserved, many other species directly benefit.

In addition to providing incentives to protect habitat, many of the projects we support, seek to alleviate fears about jaguars in human communities through education. They also frequently provide

landowners with concrete strategies and methods that reduce conflict in such a way that humans and jaguars can co-exist. As a result, landowners are better able to protect their livelihoods and economic interests while helping protect jaguars. They achieve these goals by discouraging jaguars from coming into contact with their livestock, by reforesting areas of their land, and by helping maintain the species' natural prey populations. Based on project reporting to date, most landowners who employ jaguar-friendly ranching techniques see a dramatic reduction in attacks and subsequent livestock mortality. A project in Paraguay has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by 80-100 percent at 12 sites that cover an area more than 770 square miles. Another project in the Maya Biosphere of Guatemala has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by approximately 70 percent at 283 properties, covering about 11,603 hectares of land now under improved management.

Q: What are the requirements for a full recovery of the jaguar?

A: The approach in this Recovery Plan is as follows:

- Two recovery units are included, the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) and the larger Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU). The NRU extends from south-central Arizona and extreme southwestern New Mexico, United States, south to Colima, Mexico. The PARU encompasses 18 countries from Mexico to Argentina. These units are further divided into core, secondary, and peripheral areas.
- The status of and threats to jaguars in the PARU are summarized and general actions and criteria for addressing these threats and evaluating rangewide recovery are recommended.
- Detailed criteria and actions necessary to recover jaguar populations in the NRU are provided.

The Service will consider removing the jaguar from the ESA list due to recovery when <u>all</u> of the following conditions are met:

<u>A. PARU</u>

i. The status of the jaguar changes to Least Concern (LC) and is maintained under the IUCN Red List criteria (as defined by the World Conservation Union, http://www.iucnredlist.org) for at least 20 more years after first qualifying for LC, which would mean threats have been reduced so the jaguar population is no longer at risk of a $\geq$ 30 percent decline because its area of occupancy, extent of occurrence, and/or habitat quality, as well as actual or potential levels of exploitation, have been stable for at least 40 years.

<u>B. NRU</u>

i. Maintain approximately 60 percent occupancy (proportion of cells) in each of the Core Areas over 40 years (inclusive of the 20 years required to downlist).

ii. Over 40 years, genetic distance (e.g., F_{ST} or G_{ST}) between the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas does not significantly increase, and inbreeding coefficients (F_{IS} or G_{IS}) within each of the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas do not significantly increase.

iii. During a period of 40 years, the average of at least 30 percent of the adult population within the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas are female (based on data gathered through surveying, monitoring, genetic analysis, etc.).

iv. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation siting and design), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure the network of ≥ 100-km^2 blocks (the minimum area capable of supporting at least three breeding females) of high-quality habitat and habitat connections between blocks within each Core Area (Sonora and Jalisco) will support genetically and demographically viable jaguar populations for the foreseeable future.

v. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability will be maintained for jaguars within the Sinaloa Secondary Area.

vi. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in the United States and Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability, including at least two trans-border linkages, will be maintained for jaguars throughout the Borderlands Secondary Area.

vii. The threat of direct human killing of jaguars is decreased or maintained at sustainable levels as measured by acceptable evidence or an index.

viii. Effective federal, state, tribal, and/or local laws are in place in the NRU that ensure killing of jaguars is prohibited or regulated so viable populations of the species can be maintained.

BASIC COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

FOR ROUTINE NON-CONTROVERSIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Title:** Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

2. **DTS number** 068832

3. **What is the action triggering this communications plan?** *(Please explain in no more than three sentences)*

The Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar.

4. **What is the proposed date for this action? Why has it been selected? Is it flexible?**

Proposed date for the announcement is April 11, 2019. The plan was signed by the Southwest Regional Director in July 2018; however, the announcement was delayed to accommodate extensive review and inter-agency coordination. The April 11 date allows for a final review by headquarters, notification of DOI, and facilitation of a coordinated rollout by the Jaguar Recovery Team (state, NGO, tribal and international partners.)

5. **Which office is leading this communications effort and which other programs, regions or groups are involved?**

Region 2 External Affairs and Arizona Ecological Services Office. (The Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the plan and will be available to contribute technical expertise.)

SECTION II: GOALS AND MESSAGES

6. **What story do we want to tell?**

Reversing the decline of the jaguar (America's largest cat) is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan

sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework whereby all stakeholders can align their efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core habitat areas and corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

7. What are our key messages? *(These should be top concepts that readers should take away, including an understanding of why this action matters and why they should care, not a list of facts, which should be placed in the appendix. List no more than four!)*

Primary messages:

- Reversing the decline of the jaguar -- America's largest wild cat -- is possible. It will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States to Argentina.
- Through the Endangered Species Act recovery planning process, nineteen nations and diverse conservation organizations are working together to protect this important and charismatic species.
- Primary threats to the jaguar throughout its range are loss of habitat, direct killing and depletion of its prey. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing threats and sets goals for minimizing threats and establishing viable jaguar populations throughout their expansive range.
- The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in remote and rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States/Mexico border.
- Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors, and continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Secondary messages:

- The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. *The plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery.* Through the NRU, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout its range, as it has in the past.
- The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has legal jurisdiction. We also have close working relationships with Mexico on

behalf of the jaguar's recovery. The NRU includes jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

If-Asked Only Statements:

- The Service is working closely with federal and other partners to promote border security while protecting the jaguar and its habitat. The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in particularly rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States – Mexico border.
- The Service is not aware of any proposals to build new border fence on the Arizona border. Some existing fence is being replaced, but it is a direct replacement, not an upgrade from vehicle to pedestrian fence.]

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States. The recovery plan focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors, and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

For additional background and approved messaging on role of CBP and the U.S. Border Patrol in the Jaguar Recovery Plan, see Appendix II below.

SECTION III: IMPLEMENTATION

8. Implementation timeline *(If not known, put TBD or the number of days/hours before/after the announcement*

Target Date	Tactic	Responsible
All times are in the Mountain (ET -2) time zone		
All dates and times are predicated on date determined for release of Final Recovery Plan		

At least 7 days prior to public announcement	Wildlife Conservation Society notification	Humphrey
2-3 days before announcement	Embargoed pitch to AP and/or national reporter(s)? Susan Montoya (AP)	Humphrey/Hires
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify New Mexico and Arizona fish and wildlife agency directors	Lueders or Millsap/Humphrey/McIntyre
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify AZ and NM congressional members, and congressional committees of anticipated availability	R2 Lesli Gray/CLA Alyssa Hausman
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify southern Arizona and New Mexico tribes of anticipated availability	Nystedt/Humphrey
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Confirm plan availability with recovery team member organizations	Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (8 am MT)	Post final recovery plan and news release to Arizona ES, ECOS, and R2 homepage	Kaplan/Crouse/ Campbell
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Distribute news release to AZ, NM, Mexico, and international environmental news outlets	Humphrey
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	SMEs available for media response	Humphrey/Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Social media (Facebook) post	Barrus
Week after signature	[*Optional*] Provide written notification to affected parties, agencies	AESO

9. **Which communications tools are needed to support these strategies and tactics?** *(Be as specific as possible about the products identified and who will produce them)*

Tool	Responsible	Due Date
News Release	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Photos (www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/)	Humphrey	3/15/2019
"If-asked" border talking points	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Video support: www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Jaguar population maps	Alanen	3/15/2019
FAQs (FAQs presently in Item 7 (above) as if-asked only) can be converted into FAQs)	Humphrey	3/15/2019

10. **Social media plan** *(Provide a list of accounts to be used as well as sample hashtags, messages, multimedia and other links, etc. as appropriate)*

https://www.facebook.com/USFWSSouthwest?ref=mf

The Service and its partners in the binational Jaguar Recovery Team can recover the jaguar, but it will take time, effort and collaboration with partners across species' 19-country range. A recently released recovery plan sets goals for improving the species status across its range and provides a framework for achieving recovery.

Here in the Southwest, male jaguars from a core breeding population in Mexico occasionally occupy mountain ranges along our southern border with the country.

See more at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm

11. **Stakeholder contact grids** *(For each, paste in a table that provides organization name, contact person, how the person will be contacted, phone or email address as appropriate and a name of the person who will be making contact)*

Internal

DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator	Brent Range (DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator) (202) 208-7431 brent_range@ios.doi.gov	Pro	McIntyre/ Maestas

FWS International Affairs	Amanda Gonzales 703-358-2110 amanda_gonzales@fws.gov	Pro	Fernandez/ Alanen

External

Stakeholder Name	Contact Info	Pro/Anti / Neutral	Contact By
Binational Recovery Team Members • CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico) • CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora) • USDA's Wildlife Services • U.S. Forest Service-Coronado National Forest • Bureau of Land Management-Tucson • U.S. Border Patrol • Arizona Game and Fish Department • New Mexico Department of Game and Fish • Tohono O'odham Nation • Altar Valley Conservation Alliance • Malpai Borderlands Group • Naturalia • Panthera • Conservation Planning Specialist Group • Wildlife Conservation Society	(List Serve)	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Sky Island Alliance	Louise Misxtal (Exec Director) 520-624-7080 x 19, louise@skyislandalliance.org	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre
Arizona Cattle Grazers Association	Exec VP Patrick Bray,	Neutral	Humphrey/

	602-267-1129, pbray@arizonabeef.org		McIntyre
Borderlands Restoration	Executive Director: David Seibert, 520-882-8202 or dseibert@email.arizona.edu Caleb Weaver, (860) 237-0381 **weaver.caleb**@gmail.com	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre
University of Arizona	Kirk Emerson (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-3315 kemerson@email.arizona.edu Susan Malusa (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-2161 smalusa@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Alanen/ Fernandez
USGS-Univ Arizona	Melanie Culver (USGS-Univ Arizona (520) 626-3775 mculver@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen
University of Ariz -Rancher Incentive Program	Scott Bonar (University of Ariz -- Rancher Incentive Program) sbonar@ag.arizona.edu Laura Lopez Hoffman lauralh@email.arizona.edu Aaron Lien alien@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen
Wildlife Conservation Society	John Delaney (WCS Communications) 347-675-2294	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen

	jdelaney@wcs.org Eric Sanderson (WCS Senior Conservation Ecologist) (718) 220-6825 esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (WCS Senior Researcher) (718) 741-8206 kfisher@wcs.org Scott Smith (WCS) (718) 220-3698 ssmith@wcs.org		
New Mexico Department of Game & Fish	Alexandra Sandoval, Dir., alexandra.sandoval@state.nm.us Jim Stuart (Biologist) 505-476-8107 james.stuart@state.nm.us Karl Moffatt Public Affairs (505) 476-8007 karl.moffatt@state.nm.us Dan Williams, Communications dan.williams@state.nm.us	Neutral	Lueders/Millsap Millsap Humphrey Humphrey
Arizona Game & Fish Department	Ty Gray (Director) 623-236-7278 tgray@azgfd.gov Josh Avey, (AD Wildlife Management) 623-236-7385 javey@azgfd.gov Tim Snow (Biologist) tsnow@azgfd.gov Bill Andres (Communications) 623-236-7223 bandres@azgfd.gov Mark Hart (Tucson	Neutral	Lueders/ McIntyre McIntyre Alanen Humphrey Humphrey

	Comms) (520) 388-4445MHart@azgfd.gov		
US Forest Service	Bobbi Barrera 505-842-3194, blbarrera@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre
US Forest Service – Coronado National Forest	Kerwin Dewberry (Forest Supervisor) kdewberry@fs.fed.us Heidi Schewel (Communications Coronado) (520) 388-8343 hschewel@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre Humphrey
DHS CBP Tucson Sector	(b) (6)(b) (6) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)	Neutral	McIntyre/ Humphrey
National Park Service - Intermountain Region	Endangered Species Coordinator Mike_Wrigley@nps.gov 303/969-2929	Pro	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Tohono O'odham Nation	Assistant Director Marlakay Henry (520-383-1511) Marlakay.henry@tonation-nsn.gov	Pro	Scott Richardson/John Nystedt
San Carlos Apache Tribe		Pro	John Nystedt

Wildlife Conservation Society	Eric Sanderson (Wildlife Conservation Society) esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (Wildlife Conservation Society) kfisher@wcs.org	Pro	Humphrey/Alanen
Conservation Planning Specialist Group	Phil Miller (Conservation Planning Specialist Group) pmiller@cbsg.org	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Harris Environmental Group	Lisa Harris (Harris Environmental Group) harris@heg-inc.com	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen
Defenders of Wildlife	Bryan Bird (Southwest Program Director)(505) 395-7332 BBird@defenders.org	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Malpai Borderlands Group	Bill McDonald (Exec Director) 520-558-2475 malpaigroup@gmail.com	Pro	McIntyre/ Alanen
Center For Biological Diversity	Kieran Suckling or Michael Robinson (575-313-7017) michaelr@biologicaldiversity.org Robin Silver: rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org 602-246-4170	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Cochise County	Board of Supervisors: board@cochise.az.gov	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Hereford NRCD	Board Clerk, Kathy Morris nrcdhereford@gmail.com	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Fort Huachuca	Director of Public Affairs Angela Moncur	Pro	McIntyre/

	(520) 533-1850 angela.moncur@us.army.mil		Humphrey
BLM - Arizona	BLM T&E Species Arizona State Office Philip Cooley (602) 417-9423 pcooley@blm.gov	Pro	McIntyre/ Humphrey
BLM- New Mexico	BLM New Mexico Acting State Director Aiden Seidlitz, aseidlitz@blm.gov 505-954-2222 NM T&E Lead for BLM Marikay Ramsey (marikayr@blm.gov) Lisa Rivera Morrison (Deputy Chief Office of Communications) lmorriso@blm.gov (505) 954-2023 work; (505) 920-6532 cell	Pro	Millsap/ Humphrey
Arizona State Lands Commissioner	Lisa Atkins 602-542-4621 latkins@land.az.gov	Neutral	McIntyre/ Humphrey
New Mexico State Lands Commissioner	Aubrey Dunn 505-827-5760	Neutral	Millsap/ Humphrey

Organization:	**Name:**	**Email:**	**Pro/Neut/ Anti**	**Contacted by:**
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies	Jen Mock-Schaeffer Patricia Allen	jenmock@fishwildlife.org pallen@fishwildlife.org	Neutral	DPIA
Backcountry Hunter & Anglers	Katie McKalip	mckalip@backcountryhunters.org	Pro	DPIA
Center for Biological	Brett Hartl	bhartl@biologicaldiversity.org	Pro	DPIA

Diversity				
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation	Sara Leonard Gary Kania	Sleonard@congressionalsportsmen.org garyk@sportsmenslink.org	Neut	DPIA
Conservation International	Justin Ward	jward@conservation.org	Pro	DPIA
Defenders of Wildlife	Robert Dewey Jared Saylor	rdewey@defenders.org jsaylor@defenders.org	Pro	DPIA
Endangered Species Coalition	Leda Huta	lhuta@stopextinction.org	Pro	DPIA
Environmental Defense Fund	Mark Rupp Chandler Clay	mrupp@edf.org cclay@edf.org	Pro	DPIA
Izaak Walton League	Scott Kovarovics Dawn Merritt	skovarovics@iwla.org dmerritt@iwla.org	Pro	DPIA
International Fund for Animal Welfare	Jeff Flocken Danielle Kessler	jflocken@ifaw.org dkessler@ifaw.org	Pro	DPIA
National Association of Counties	Deborah Cox Jonathan Shuffield Fred Wong	dcox@naco.org jshuffield@naco.org fwong@naco.org	Neut	DPIA
National Association of Home Builders	Michael Mittelholzer	mmittelholzer@nahb.org	Anti	DPIA
National Rifle Association	Susan Recce	srecce@nrahq.org	Neut	DPIA
National Wildlife Federation	Mike Leahy Judith Kohler Casey Skeens	leahym@nwf.org kohlerj@nwf.org skeens@nwf.org	Pro	DPIA
Natural Resources Defense Council	Andrew Wetzler	awetzler@nrdc.org	Pro	DPIA
Outdoor Writers Association of	Kelsey Dayton	kdayton@owaa.org	Neut	DPIA

America				
Public Lands Alliance	Marci Schlup	mschlup@beef.org	Anti	DPIA
Safari Club International	Steve Comus	scomus@safariclub.org		DPIA
The Nature Conservancy	Brent Keith LR Clawson	brent.keith@tnc.org lroseclawson@tnc.org	Pro	DPIA
The Wilderness Society	Jamie Williams Kitty Thomas	jamie_williams@tws.org kitty_thomas@tws.org	Pro	DPIA
The Wildlife Society	Keith Norris Chuck Shively	keith.norris@wildlife.org chuck.shively@wildlife.org	Pro	DPIA
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership	Steve Kline Geoff Mullins Kristyn Brady	skline@trcp.org gmullins@trcp.org kbrady@trcp.org	Pro	DPIA
Western Governors' Association	Zach Bodhane Joe Rassenfoss	zbodhane@westgov.org joe@westgov.org		DPIA
Wildlife Management Institute	Steve Williams	swilliams@wildlifemgt.org	Neut	DPIA
World Wildlife Fund	Will Gartshore	Will.gartshore@wwfus.org	Pro	DPIA

12. Congressional member email list

Title	Last	Seat ID	DC Staff	District Staff
Sen.	Sinema	AZ	michael_brawnlie@sinema.senate.gov	michelle_davidson@sinema.senate.gov haleigh_williams@sinema.senate.gov
Sen.	McSally	AZ	pace_mcmullan@mcsally.senate.gov	tanya_wheeless@mcsally.senate.gov
Rep.	O'Halleran	AZ1	paul.babbitt@mail.house.gov	chip.davis@mail.house.gov blanca.varela@mail.house

				.gov
Rep.	Kirkpatrick	AZ2	lisa.walker@mail.house.gov	ron.barber@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Grijalva	AZ3	glenn.miller@mail.house.gov	Ruben.Reyes@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Gosar	AZ4	rory.burke@mail.house.gov, jeff.small@mail.house.gov	Penny.Pew@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Stanton	AZ9	tracee.sutton@mail.house.gov	eric.chalmers@mail.house.gov
Sen.	Heinrich	NM	maya_hermann@heinrich.senate.gov	alex_eubanks@heinrich.senate.gov
Sen.	Udall	NM	jonathan_black@tomudall.senate.gov Caitlin_Keating-Bitonti@tomudall.senate.gov, Lisa_VanTheemsche@tomudall.senate.gov	David_williams@tomudall.senate.gov greg_bloom@tomudall.senate.gov
Rep.	Haaland	NM1	eric.werwa@mail.house.gov	scott.forrester@mail.house.gov sofia.sanchez@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Torres Small	NM2	brooke.stuedell@mail.house.gov	nayomi.valdez@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Lujan	NM3	levi.patterson@mail.house.gov	jennifer.catechis@mail.house.gov

13. Congressional committee email list

CLA will contact authorizing committee staff; Division of Budget will contact appropriations committee staff

Senate Appropriations Interior S/C – Majority	emy_lesofski@appro.senate.gov	(202) 224-7233
Senate Appropriations Interior S/C – Minority	ryan_hunt@appro.senate.gov	(202) 228-0774
Senate EPW – Majority	matt_leggett@epw.senate.gov andrew_harding@epw.senate.gov james_willson@epw.senate.gov	(202) 224-6176
Senate EPW – Minority	christophe_tulou@epw.senate.gov elizabeth_mabry@epw.senate.gov	(202) 224-8832

Senate ENR – Majority	chuck_kleeschulte@energy.senate.gov lucy_murfitt@energy.senate.gov colin_hayes@energy.senate.gov	(202) 224-4971
Senate ENR – Minority	david_brooks@energy.senate.gov	(202) 224-4971
House Appropriations Interior S/C – Majority	rita.culp@mail.house.gov jocelyn.hunn@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3481
House Appropriations Interior S/C – Minority	darren.benjamin@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3081
House Natural Resources – Majority	lora.snyder@mail.house.gov brandon.bragato@mail.house.gov sarah.lim@mail.house.gov rachel.gentile@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-6065
House Natural Resources – Minority	william.ball@mail.house.gov parish.braden@mail.house.gov christopher.santini@mail.house.gov brandon.miller@mail.house.gov syi@mail.house.gov steve.petersen@mail.house.gov will.layden@mail.house.gov john.sullivan1@mail.house.gov steven.parr@mail.house.gov chris.esparza@mail.house.gov john.strom@mail.house.gov marc.alberts@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2761
Leadership – House Majority Leader Hoyer	trent.bauserman@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4131
Leadership – House Minority Leader McCarthy	Jennifer.Loraine@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2915
Congressional Research Service	PSHEIKH@crs.loc.gov RCRAFTON@crs.loc.gov LTSANG@crs.loc.gov EWARD@crs.loc.gov	

SECTION IV: PRIMARY POINTS OF CONTACT

14. Media coordinators *(For national-level plans, list at least one person from HQ Public Affairs and others from region/program if appropriate. For regional-level plans, only regional coordinators are required. Enter name, email and phone)*

Jeff Humphrey (Southwest Region) jeff_humphrey@fws.gov, 602-242-0210

Brian Hires (Headquarters) Brian_Hires@fws.gov, 703-358-2191

15. **Congressional coordinators** (*For national-level plans, list at least one person from HQ Public Affairs and others from region/program if appropriate. For regional-level plans, only regional coordinators are required. Enter name, email and phone)*

CLA Alyssa Hausman (CLA) alyssa_hausman@fws.gov 703-358-2275 Lisa Jones (CLA) lisa_m_jones@fws.gov 703-358-2536 Lesli Gray (Southwest Region) lesli_gray@fws.gov 817-277-9057

16. **Subject matter experts available for interview** *(Must be approved by HQ Public Affairs for an HQ-led announcement or by Regional Public Affairs for region-led announcement. Enter name, email and phone)*

Marit Alanen (Biologist) marit_alanen@fws.gov 520-670-6150 x234 Julie McIntyre (Assistant Field Supervisor) Julie_McIntyre@fws.gov 520-670-6150 x223 Jeff Humphrey (Field Supervisor) 602-242-0210

17. **Additional technical experts for reference** *(Enter name, email and phone)*

18. **Are there any non-FWS points of contact for this action?** *(Enter name, organization, role, email and phone)*

John Delaney (Wildlife Conservation Society - Comms Director) jdelaney@wcs.org 718-220-3275 (Regarding mapping/modelling)

SECTION V: DOCUMENT INFO

19. **Date Created** **Created By**

7/13/2018	Jeff Humphrey

20. **Date last edited** **Edited By**

7/24/2018	Laurel Barnhill, Julie McIntyre and

	Marit Alanen
7/27/2018	Brian Hires
8/3/2018	Humphrey
8/20/2018	Alanen
8/23/2018	McIntyre
8/26/2018	Humphrey
8/29/2018	Brian Hires
9/8/2018	Laury Parramore
9/12/2018	Alyssa Hausman
9/28/2018	Humphrey
3/22/2019	Humphrey
3/26/2019	Mary Elder
3/28/2019	Brian Hires
3/29/2019	Matt Huggler
3/29/2019	Alyssa Hausman

APPENDIX: ADDITIONAL BACKROUND INFORMATION AND MATERIALS

DO NOT PUT OTHER MATERIALS SUCH AS FAQs, NEWS RELEASE OR TALKING POINTS IN THIS SECTION. KEEP THOSE AS SEPARATE DOCUMENTS.

(Consider the following: What is the historical context? Does this relate to other issues that may not immediately be apparent (consider other programs and regions)? Is there a scientific basis to this issue? If so what is it?)

APPENDIX 1

Historical Context:

Following a 2009, Arizona District Court decision, FWS determined that developing a recovery plan for jaguars will contribute to their conservation (in recognition that most of the species' habitat and almost all individuals occur outside if the United States).

FWS reconfigured and expanded a binational Jaguar Recovery Team and charged them with developing a recovery outline, which they completed in April 2012. The FWS drew heavily from the data compiled in the recovery outline for the development of jaguar critical habitat designation (in the U.S.), which was finalized in March 2014.

Summary:

In 2010, a binational Jaguar Recovery Team was convened with experts and stakeholders from both the U.S. and Mexico to develop a jaguar recovery plan. The Recovery Plan considers the jaguar throughout its range, but primarily focuses on the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU), which extends from the southwestern U.S. to western Mexico. To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations should be secured by protecting jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting, and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey, and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico.

Regarding the role of the U.S. in recovering the jaguar, recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity. Actions to implement this involve identifying and mapping corridors and potential impediments to these linkages, along with developing and implementing strategies to maintain connectivity. Recovery actions to maintain connectivity and overall ecosystem/watershed health are ongoing in many areas in the U.S. by the U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management, where much of the linkage habitat into the U.S. occurs.

We received over 13,000 public comments on the draft Recovery Plan. We requested five peer reviews and received comments from two, both from Mexico. We also received comments from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Game and Fish Department, and the San Carlos Apache Tribe. We incorporated all substantive comments into the final Recovery Plan. If we did not incorporate substantive comments, we responded to them in our response to comments documents. Review of the Recovery Plan was also coordinated with the New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, and Buenos Aires and San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuges.

MAIN DECISION OR MESSAGE: Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their historical range; however, conservation of key jaguar habitat and populations in their current range will be critical to the recovery of jaguars. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar. The estimated cost to recovery is $605,648,000 (among 19 countries over 50 years).

APPENDIX II

Jaguar Recovery Plan - Customs and Border Protection/U.S. Border Patrol Involvement
August 31, 2018

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) via U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) has been involved through all phases of jaguar draft and final recovery plan planning processes. In 2010, at the inception of the binational Jaguar Recovery Team (JRT), USBP was invited to serve as a member of the Implementation Subgroup of the JRT, as an official representative of USBP. Since 2010, USBP has had a member on the JRT through the present (Charles Trost).

CBP also has significantly financially supported several projects, described in Table 3 of the Jaguar Recovery Plan (JRP), that were conducted to inform important content for the Plan and implement recovery actions identified in the JRP. These projects include genetics studies, habitat modeling, jaguar surveying and monitoring, citizen science education and outreach, rancher incentives, road crossing designs, citizen attitude surveys, and portions of Population Viability Analyses (PVA and PHVA) (see Table 3 below).

USBP participated in many meetings to discuss and prepare the JRP, and did not express significant concerns about border issues. In the spirit of cooperation, CBP permitted FWS and Jaguar Recovery Team to use their GIS layers of the border to develop a map that illustrates degrees of border permeability (no fences, including a vehicle or pedestrian fence), and this information is illustrated on Figure 4 of the JRP. Both this figure and the JRP indicate that portions of the border are currently permeable to jaguar movement and that continued work between FWS and CBP will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border jaguar movement.

As part of outreach on the JRP, CBP was informed of the option to comment during the public comment period, and did not provide any comments. Throughout the development of the JRP, CBP has had opportunities to address border issues and through these and related actions CBP's and BP's concerns have been fully incorporated into the Jaguar Recovery Plan.

Table 3. Summary of U.S. Customs and Border Protection-funded projects and their conservation benefit to jaguars. NRU = Northwestern Recovery Unit for the jaguar. USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Final reports of these projects can be found at https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm.

Project	Final Deliverable(s)	Purpose/Conservation Benefit
Genetics	*Jaguar taxonomy and genetic diversity for southern Arizona, U.S., and Sonora, Mexico*	Investigates unique genetic diversity of jaguars at the northern edge of the range and answers taxonomic question of whether or not northern jaguars are a distinct subspecies
PVAs	*Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes demographic viability of the jaguar metapopulation defined as the NRU
PVAs (cont.)	*Addendum: Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes the structure, implementation, and interpretation of a new set of demographic simulations of jaguar population viability in core areas of the NRU
Habitat Modeling	*Digital Mapping in Support of Recovery Planning for the Northern Jaguar*	Assisted USFWS in digital mapping aspects of recovery planning for the northern jaguar (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, and Recovery Outline for the Jaguar)
	Jaguar Habitat Modeling and Database Update	Updates jaguar database with additional observations, conducts analyses of different selections of jaguar observations, produces five revised versions of the habitat model (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, as well as this Recovery Plan)
	jaguardata.info	Converts jaguar observations database to web-based platform allowing stakeholders, general public, and scientific community to search and access jaguar data; provides an interface for administrators to add, edit, and delete jaguar observations in the NRU
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (U.S. portion of NRU)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring in the United States: Final Report*	Culver (2016) provides results and analyses of the two-year investigation of jaguars, prey base, and habitat in the U.S. portion of the NRU to inform recovery planning; multiple photos of one jaguar (and three ocelots) provided to USFWS and posted on USFWS Flickr site
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (Tohono O'odham Nation; TON)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring on the Tohono O'odham Nation*	Provides results and analyses of surveys for jaguars and ocelots on the TON to inform recovery planning

Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing	*Citizen Science Teams*	Developed and implementing a citizen science program to survey and monitor for jaguars within the U.S. portion of the NRU
	K-12 Jaguar Educational Curricula	Developed and implementing formal educational curricula on jaguar and ocelot conservation for different educational levels to promote an understanding of feline conservation
Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing (cont.)	*Jaguar Conservation Outreach*	Developed and presented a PowerPoint presentation on jaguar and ocelot biology and conservation for the general public to promote an understanding of feline conservation
	Education and Outreach Materials	Developed posters, stickers, etc. to promote jaguar conservation within the NRU
	Grant Writing	Applied for funding opportunities to continue aspects of jaguar survey and monitoring effort currently being conducted, to continue and/or expand the volunteer citizen science program, and to continue and/or expand public outreach and school education programs
Rancher Incentive Program	*Complete Project Overview*	See http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/jaguarproject/ for project summary, additional information, and reports
	Assessment of Rancher Knowledge	Pilot assessment of nine ranch owner/manager's knowledge of jaguar conservation issues
	Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Survey of ranch owner/manager knowledge about and attitudes toward jaguar conservation issues
	Results of Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Summary of survey results included in Results of Rancher Workshops report (below); comprehensive analysis of data still to be published
	Report on PES sources	Conducted research policy analysis of payment for ecosystem services (PES) program and analysis of jaguar-friendly ranch management options for distribution; available at http://extension.arizona.edu/pubs/payments-ecosystem-services-southern-arizona-ranchers
	Rancher Workshops	Developed workshops to enhance rancher knowledge of jaguar conservation, jaguar friendly ranch management practices, and conservation incentive programs; as well as receive feedback from ranchers regarding incentive programs that may generate participation

	Brochures	Provides a simple program of actions for landowners to implement for promoting jaguar conservation on their lands
Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation	*Results of Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation*	Provides insights into attitudes, mores, and level of knowledge of stakeholders in the U.S. portion of the NRU regarding jaguars to understand what is needed from a social perspective to create an environment that is conducive to jaguar conservation
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol	*Review of Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Techniques and Methodologies* (English and Spanish)	Provides a review of literature on jaguar and, as appropriate, other large felid survey and monitoring techniques and methodologies
	Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol (English and Spanish)	Provides a jaguar survey and monitoring protocol applicable in measuring occupancy recovery criteria (3.3.1.B.i. and 3.3.2.B.i.) in the NRU, as well as other areas rangewide
Review and Develop Recommendations for Road Crossing Designs	*Review of Road Passage Designs for Jaguars*	Conducts a review of enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of large carnivores, particularly jaguars, across road corridors
	Road Passage Design Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Develops recommendations for enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of jaguars across road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types in the NRU
	Road Passage Location Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Identifies potential areas in the NRU where enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) would improve the passage of jaguars across different types of road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types

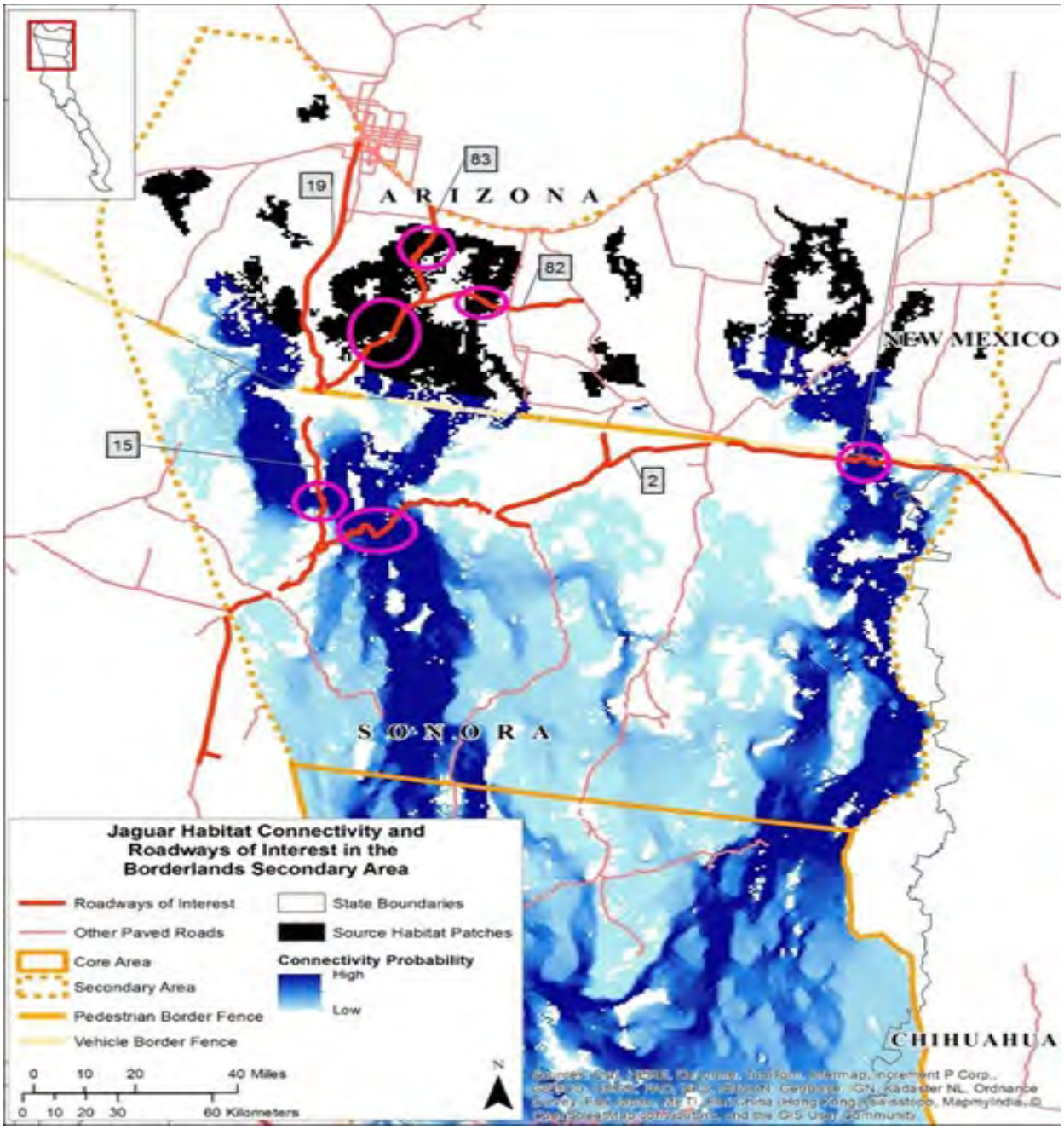


Figure 4. Map of habitat connectivity and roadways of interest in the Borderlands Secondary Area as modeled by Stoner et al. (2015) (some road segments in densely populated areas omitted). A visual examination of this connectivity model, which extends across the entirety of the Northwestern Recovery Unit, reveals three corridors that extend across the U.S.-Mexico border. These corridors are intersected by Mexico Federal Highways 2 and 15. U.S. State Routes 82 and 83 also intersect with "source" habitat patches (used for modeling purposes), which may impact jaguar habitat connectivity. These areas are good candidates for further assessment to determine the potential for road crossing mitigation structures.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Jaguar Recovery Plan

Final

July 2018

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arizona Ecological Services Field Office
Southern Arizona
201 N Bonita Ave, Suite 141
Tucson, AZ 85745
520/670-6144

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southwest Regional Office
500 Gold Avenue, SW
Albuquerque NM 87102
505/248-6920

Male jaguar (front cover) followed by female jaguar on the Northern Jaguar Reserve, Sonora, Mexico. © Northern Jaguar Project

July 2018

From: Morris, Charisa
To: Aurelia Skipwith
Subject: Fwd: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach
Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 12:50:07 PM
Attachments: Note to Reviewers - Jaguar Recovery Plan FINAL.docx
Jaguar Recovery Plan News Release FINAL.doc
Jaguar_Recovery_PlanQ_A FINAL.doc
Jaguar Recovery Plan Comms Strategy FINAL.docx
Final Jaguar Plan Cover.pdf

FYI

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Hires, Brian** <brian_hires@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:56 AM
Subject: Re: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach
To: Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
Cc: Foster, Maureen <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>, Hancock, Donnise <donnise_hancock@fws.gov>

Hi Charisa,

Please see attached requested items, for announcing the final jaguar recovery plan. Let me know you think they'd also like to see the actual final recovery plan as a PDF (it's a fairly large file). Thanks,

Brian

On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:49 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> I think that would definitely be helpful for context, if those items are available!
>
> On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:23 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Thanks Charisa! That's correct, this is just a comms package. Happy to share a copy of the final recovery plan if helpful, as well as the outreach as attachments.
> >
> > Brian
> >
> > On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:21 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > + Maureen
> > >
> > > Good morning, Brian-
> > >
> > > Unfortunately, yesterday was Andrea Travnicek's last day in the office this week, and we got all of this week's priority packages in front of her before COB Monday, as a result. The chances of us getting her to clear this while she's on the road is slim, but we can try! It sounds like it is just a coms package - is this correct?
> > >
> > > I've cc'd her Chief of Staff, Maureen Foster, who may have intel on whether this package was set to move this week or if they need more information.

Thanks!
Charisa

On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 9:59 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:

> Good morning Charisa,
>
> Donnise suggested I reach out to you regarding clearance of the jaguar final recovery plan, that our regional office would like to announce this Thursday 4/11 or as soon as possible after that date.
>
> As an FYI, It looks like this outreach has been with the Assistant Secretary's office since 4/4 in DTS. As a final recovery plan, this does not have a FR notice associated with it and we don't normally bring final recovery plans into HQ for review but this one is a high-profile species that touches on border wall issues.
>
> Thanks in advance for helping us get this one over the finish line. Don't hesitate to write or call if you have any questions or follow up on anything.
>
> --
> Brian Hires
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Office of Public Affairs | Falls Church, VA
> (Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

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DTS NOTE TO REVIEWERS

DCN: 068832

Subject: Outreach Package for Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

Background: The Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar. Although the vast majority of the jaguar's population in the Americas is from Mexico to Argentina, this recovery plan focuses on its range in the American Southwest and Mexico, where the United States has the most jurisdiction.

Deadline for completing surname: The Notice of Availability announcing the posting of this final recovery plan to a FWS Region 2 website is targeted for being sent to the *Federal Register* on April 11, 2019. This date is flexible.

Materials: *Outreach plan, news release, FAQs*

Special considerations:

While recovery plans are non-regulatory guidance documents, this action will likely generate significant national and international attention, stakeholder interest and controversy. The jaguar is a charismatic megafauna and its northernmost range extends across the US-Mexico border to the US Southwest. **As such, this issue involves border wall issues.** (The recovery plan for the US includes two 'border dispersal corridors' in rugged, remote areas of Arizona).

Careful messaging has been crafted and prioritized in this outreach to detail political sensitivities and how the US portion of the jaguar's historic range represents just 1/10th of 1 percent of its 19-country range. Outreach to DOI, Congress, stakeholders and media should account for the potential for controversy and misconceptions around this issue.

Contact: *Brian Hires, brian_hires@fws.gov, 703-358-2191*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

News Release

Arizona Ecological Services
Field Office
9828 N. 31st Ave, #C3
Phoenix, Arizona 85051-2518
602/242-0210

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [insert date here] [DRAFT]
Contact: Jeff Humphrey, (602) 889-5946, jeff_humphrey@fws.gov

Service and Binational Team Complete ESA Recovery Plan for America's Largest Wild Cat

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery plan for the jaguar, currently listed under the act at endangered. The plan provides a recovery framework and goals for improving the species' status throughout its entire 19-country range while focusing on the jaguar populations in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States.

The final recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. More than 99 percent of the jaguar's range is in Central and South America, so the plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery. The Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar, including continued funding support.

The Service has established strong working relationships with state and local partners, conservation groups and the Mexican government. The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but calls for focusing efforts on sustaining potential habitat. In addition, the plan calls for establishing at least two borderland dispersal corridors for jaguars' continued movement through remote, rugged habitat between the countries, eliminating poaching, and improving social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate their return to the United States.

"The binational recovery team's scientific expertise in protecting the jaguar has been invaluable," said Amy Lueders, the Service's Southwest Regional Director. "We recognize the challenges involved in conserving and recovering a species with such an expansive international range, and the team has laid out a comprehensive plan with goals that are achievable and realistic. We look forward to continuing to work with our diverse partners on this effort within and outside the United States."

Loss of habitat, direct killing of the cats, and depletion of prey are the primary factors contributing to the jaguar's current status and decreasing population trend. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. However, conservation of key jaguar populations and habitat -- including core breeding and connective areas -- will be critical to jaguar recovery. We anticipate it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States, all in southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. These jaguars are believed to have come from the nearest core area and breeding population, approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora.

Across the jaguar's primary range in Latin America, the Service is actively working with countries and local partners to protect and recover the cat. Conservation efforts include providing incentives for protecting jaguar habitat and prey, education campaigns addressing misinformation and fears, and providing landowners with strategies for co-existing with jaguars.

Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations must be secured throughout their range. This will require protecting jaguar habitat quality and connectivity; providing incentives to protect jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico. These protections must remain in place after delisting to ensure the long-term viability of the species.

The binational Jaguar Recovery Team includes representatives of CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico), CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora), U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS Wildlife Services and U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Border Patrol, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Tohono O'odham Nation, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance, Malpai Borderlands Group, Naturalia, Panthera and several ranchers, landowners, stakeholders and universities in Mexico and the United States. Additionally, the Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the recovery plan.

The Jaguar Recovery Plan is available at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm or by request from Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Ecological Services Office, 9828 North 31st Avenue, #C3, Phoenix, AZ 85051–2517; phone 602/242-0210.

*The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit **www.fws.gov**, or connect with us through any of these social media channels: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube.*

Photos available at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/
Video at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guuhu_-G-Pw&feature=youtu.be

Questions and Answers: Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [Enter date here]
Contacts: Jeff Humphrey 602-242-0210

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar, America's largest wild cat. The plan sets goals for improving the species' status through its entire 19-country range and provides a framework for achieving recovery. The recovery plan focuses on the cat's population in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States and recommends site-specific conservation actions that contribute to jaguar recovery across its range.

Q: What does the jaguar recovery plan tell us?

A: Reversing the decline of the jaguar is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework for aligning stakeholder efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core areas and connective corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

Q: What are the primary threats to the jaguar?

A: Loss of habitat, killing of individuals and depletion of prey throughout its range are the primary reasons for decreasing populations of jaguars. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing each of these threats. It establishes goals for minimizing threats and for establishing viable populations throughout the jaguar's expansive range.

Q: What is a recovery plan?

A: Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

Q: What are the strategies for conserving and recovering the jaguar in the final recovery plan?

A: The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units: the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. The plan

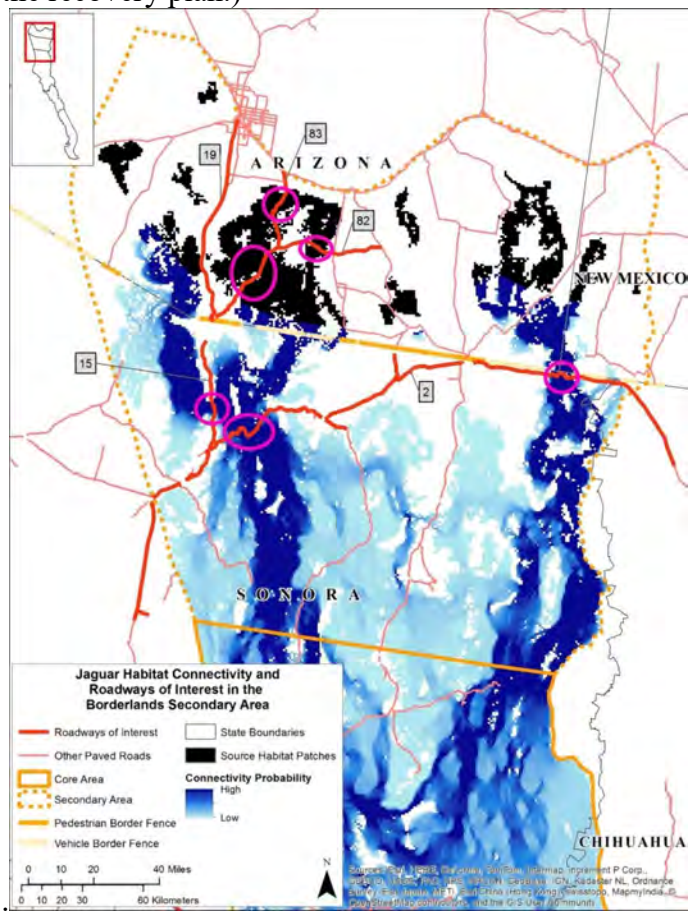
recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery. As it has in the past, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar.

The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction and has an established working relationship with Mexico. The NRU includes the jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors (see Figure 4 in the final recovery plan), and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

Q: What are the borderland dispersal corridors referred to in the recovery plan and how critical are they to the recovery of jaguars in the United States?

A: Dispersal corridors are rugged, remote areas that presently male jaguars, presumably from the Sonora Core breeding area in Mexico, use to access secondary area habitat, a portion of which is in southern Arizona and New Mexico. These areas have been identified from habitat characteristics, historical records, recent sightings and photo monitoring in the United States and Mexico. (See Jaguar Habitat Connectivity and Identification of Potential Road Mitigation Locations in the NRU for the Jaguar report, as well as Figure 4 of the recovery plan.)



Continued jaguar access to habitat through transborder linkages is the sole mechanism identified in the recovery plan for continued jaguar occupation in the U.S. portion of the species' range. Maintaining this habitat connectivity is one of the recovery criteria for the Northwestern Recovery Unit. Research documents the importance of animal populations at the extremities of their ranges for the expansion and contraction of species' ranges and, ultimately, the long-term recovery of species.

These jaguar dispersal corridors are rugged and remote areas. Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors. Continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allowing ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Q: How important is the recovery of jaguars in the United States to their overall recovery across their range?

A: The U.S. range of the jaguar represents the very northernmost edge of its 19-country range that extends all the way to South America. The U.S. range represents just one-tenth of 1 percent of its historic range.

Given that the jaguar is an international species with the vast majority of its range outside of the United States, primary actions to recover the jaguar will occur in other countries. Because more than 95 percent of the jaguar's habitat in the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) is in Mexico, Mexico will be the primary contributor to the jaguar's recovery in the NRU. In the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU), countries within the jaguar's range will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery.

The Service's limited resources are better applied to planning and on-the-ground implementation of conservation actions within the United States boundaries and in partnership with Mexico. Therefore, the Service and the Jaguar Recovery Team have established objective and measurable criteria for recovery and site-specific actions that, if implemented, will conserve viable jaguar populations in the northwestern portion of its range (e.g., the NRU). Priority is given to this unit because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction, and we have an established working relationship with Mexico on issues of mutual concern.

Q: Was Customs and Border Patrol included in the developing of this plan?

A: Yes. U.S. Border Patrol (Tucson Sector) is represented on the Implementation Subgroup of the Jaguar Recovery Team. Other U.S. border area groups on the subgroup include ranchers, Malpais Borderlands Group, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance (ranching group), and state and federal land and wildlife managers.

Q: What are the actions and partnerships the Service is taking to support recovery of the jaguar in its primary range in 19 Central and South American countries?

A: In recent years, the Service's International Affairs Program has been at the forefront of supporting the conservation of jaguars throughout their range in Mexico, Central America and South America. During the past four years alone, we have supported 23 jaguar-related projects in 10 countries with more than $1 million in conservation funding. When jaguar habitat is conserved, many other species directly benefit.

In addition to providing incentives to protect habitat, many of the projects we support, seek to alleviate fears about jaguars in human communities through education. They also frequently provide

landowners with concrete strategies and methods that reduce conflict in such a way that humans and jaguars can co-exist. As a result, landowners are better able to protect their livelihoods and economic interests while helping protect jaguars. They achieve these goals by discouraging jaguars from coming into contact with their livestock, by reforesting areas of their land, and by helping maintain the species' natural prey populations. Based on project reporting to date, most landowners who employ jaguar-friendly ranching techniques see a dramatic reduction in attacks and subsequent livestock mortality. A project in Paraguay has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by 80-100 percent at 12 sites that cover an area more than 770 square miles. Another project in the Maya Biosphere of Guatemala has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by approximately 70 percent at 283 properties, covering about 11,603 hectares of land now under improved management.

Q: What are the requirements for a full recovery of the jaguar?

A: The approach in this Recovery Plan is as follows:

- Two recovery units are included, the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) and the larger Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU). The NRU extends from south-central Arizona and extreme southwestern New Mexico, United States, south to Colima, Mexico. The PARU encompasses 18 countries from Mexico to Argentina. These units are further divided into core, secondary, and peripheral areas.
- The status of and threats to jaguars in the PARU are summarized and general actions and criteria for addressing these threats and evaluating rangewide recovery are recommended.
- Detailed criteria and actions necessary to recover jaguar populations in the NRU are provided.

The Service will consider removing the jaguar from the ESA list due to recovery when <u>all</u> of the following conditions are met:

<u>A. PARU</u>

i. The status of the jaguar changes to Least Concern (LC) and is maintained under the IUCN Red List criteria (as defined by the World Conservation Union, http://www.iucnredlist.org) for at least 20 more years after first qualifying for LC, which would mean threats have been reduced so the jaguar population is no longer at risk of a $\geq$ 30 percent decline because its area of occupancy, extent of occurrence, and/or habitat quality, as well as actual or potential levels of exploitation, have been stable for at least 40 years.

<u>B. NRU</u>

i. Maintain approximately 60 percent occupancy (proportion of cells) in each of the Core Areas over 40 years (inclusive of the 20 years required to downlist).

ii. Over 40 years, genetic distance (e.g., F_{ST} or G_{ST}) between the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas does not significantly increase, and inbreeding coefficients (F_{IS} or G_{IS}) within each of the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas do not significantly increase.

iii. During a period of 40 years, the average of at least 30 percent of the adult population within the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas are female (based on data gathered through surveying, monitoring, genetic analysis, etc.).

iv. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation siting and design), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure the network of ≥ 100-km^2 blocks (the minimum area capable of supporting at least three breeding females) of high-quality habitat and habitat connections between blocks within each Core Area (Sonora and Jalisco) will support genetically and demographically viable jaguar populations for the foreseeable future.

v. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability will be maintained for jaguars within the Sinaloa Secondary Area.

vi. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in the United States and Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability, including at least two trans-border linkages, will be maintained for jaguars throughout the Borderlands Secondary Area.

vii. The threat of direct human killing of jaguars is decreased or maintained at sustainable levels as measured by acceptable evidence or an index.

viii. Effective federal, state, tribal, and/or local laws are in place in the NRU that ensure killing of jaguars is prohibited or regulated so viable populations of the species can be maintained.

BASIC COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

FOR ROUTINE NON-CONTROVERSIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Title:** Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

2. **DTS number** 068832

3. **What is the action triggering this communications plan?** *(Please explain in no more than three sentences)*

The Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar.

4. **What is the proposed date for this action? Why has it been selected? Is it flexible?**

Proposed date for the announcement is April 11, 2019. The plan was signed by the Southwest Regional Director in July 2018; however, the announcement was delayed to accommodate extensive review and inter-agency coordination. The April 11 date allows for a final review by headquarters, notification of DOI, and facilitation of a coordinated rollout by the Jaguar Recovery Team (state, NGO, tribal and international partners.)

5. **Which office is leading this communications effort and which other programs, regions or groups are involved?**

Region 2 External Affairs and Arizona Ecological Services Office. (The Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the plan and will be available to contribute technical expertise.)

SECTION II: GOALS AND MESSAGES

6. **What story do we want to tell?**

Reversing the decline of the jaguar (America's largest cat) is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan

sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework whereby all stakeholders can align their efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core habitat areas and corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.

7. What are our key messages? *(These should be top concepts that readers should take away, including an understanding of why this action matters and why they should care, not a list of facts, which should be placed in the appendix. List no more than four!)*

Primary messages:

- Reversing the decline of the jaguar -- America's largest wild cat -- is possible. It will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States to Argentina.
- Through the Endangered Species Act recovery planning process, nineteen nations and diverse conservation organizations are working together to protect this important and charismatic species.
- Primary threats to the jaguar throughout its range are loss of habitat, direct killing and depletion of its prey. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing threats and sets goals for minimizing threats and establishing viable jaguar populations throughout their expansive range.
- The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in remote and rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States/Mexico border.
- Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors, and continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Secondary messages:

- The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. *The plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery.* Through the NRU, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout its range, as it has in the past.
- The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has legal jurisdiction. We also have close working relationships with Mexico on

behalf of the jaguar's recovery. The NRU includes jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

If-Asked Only Statements:

- The Service is working closely with federal and other partners to promote border security while protecting the jaguar and its habitat. The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in particularly rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States – Mexico border.
- The Service is not aware of any proposals to build new border fence on the Arizona border. Some existing fence is being replaced, but it is a direct replacement, not an upgrade from vehicle to pedestrian fence.]

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States. The recovery plan focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors, and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

For additional background and approved messaging on role of CBP and the U.S. Border Patrol in the Jaguar Recovery Plan, see Appendix II below.

SECTION III: IMPLEMENTATION

8. Implementation timeline *(If not known, put TBD or the number of days/hours before/after the announcement*

Target Date	Tactic	Responsible
All times are in the Mountain (ET -2) time zone		
All dates and times are predicated on date determined for release of Final Recovery Plan		

At least 7 days prior to public announcement	Wildlife Conservation Society notification	Humphrey
2-3 days before announcement	Embargoed pitch to AP and/or national reporter(s)? Susan Montoya (AP)	Humphrey/Hires
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify New Mexico and Arizona fish and wildlife agency directors	Lueders or Millsap/Humphrey/McIntyre
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify AZ and NM congressional members, and congressional committees of anticipated availability	R2 Lesli Gray/CLA Alyssa Hausman
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify southern Arizona and New Mexico tribes of anticipated availability	Nystedt/Humphrey
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Confirm plan availability with recovery team member organizations	Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (8 am MT)	Post final recovery plan and news release to Arizona ES, ECOS, and R2 homepage	Kaplan/Crouse/ Campbell
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Distribute news release to AZ, NM, Mexico, and international environmental news outlets	Humphrey
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	SMEs available for media response	Humphrey/Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Social media (Facebook) post	Barrus
Week after signature	[*Optional*] Provide written notification to affected parties, agencies	AESO

9. **Which communications tools are needed to support these strategies and tactics?** *(Be as specific as possible about the products identified and who will produce them)*

Tool	Responsible	Due Date
News Release	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Photos (www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/)	Humphrey	3/15/2019
"If-asked" border talking points	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Video support: www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Jaguar population maps	Alanen	3/15/2019
FAQs (FAQs presently in Item 7 (above) as if-asked only) can be converted into FAQs)	Humphrey	3/15/2019

10. **Social media plan** *(Provide a list of accounts to be used as well as sample hashtags, messages, multimedia and other links, etc. as appropriate)*

https://www.facebook.com/USFWSSouthwest?ref=mf

The Service and its partners in the binational Jaguar Recovery Team can recover the jaguar, but it will take time, effort and collaboration with partners across species' 19-country range. A recently released recovery plan sets goals for improving the species status across its range and provides a framework for achieving recovery.

Here in the Southwest, male jaguars from a core breeding population in Mexico occasionally occupy mountain ranges along our southern border with the country.

See more at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm

11. **Stakeholder contact grids** *(For each, paste in a table that provides organization name, contact person, how the person will be contacted, phone or email address as appropriate and a name of the person who will be making contact)*

Internal

DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator	Brent Range (DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator) (202) 208-7431 brent_range@ios.doi.gov	Pro	McIntyre/ Maestas

FWS International Affairs	Amanda Gonzales 703-358-2110 amanda_gonzales@fws.gov	Pro	Fernandez/ Alanen

External

Stakeholder Name	Contact Info	Pro/Anti / Neutral	Contact By
Binational Recovery Team Members • CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico) • CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora) • USDA's Wildlife Services • U.S. Forest Service-Coronado National Forest • Bureau of Land Management-Tucson • U.S. Border Patrol • Arizona Game and Fish Department • New Mexico Department of Game and Fish • Tohono O'odham Nation • Altar Valley Conservation Alliance • Malpai Borderlands Group • Naturalia • Panthera • Conservation Planning Specialist Group • Wildlife Conservation Society	(List Serve)	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Sky Island Alliance	Louise Misxtal (Exec Director) 520-624-7080 x 19, louise@skyislandalliance.org	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre
Arizona Cattle Grazers Association	Exec VP Patrick Bray,	Neutral	Humphrey/

	602-267-1129, pbray@arizonabeef.org		McIntyre
Borderlands Restoration	Executive Director: David Seibert, 520-882-8202 or dseibert@email.arizona.edu Caleb Weaver, (860) 237-0381 (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b)	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre
University of Arizona	Kirk Emerson (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-3315 kemerson@email.arizona.edu Susan Malusa (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-2161 smalusa@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Alanen/ Fernandez
USGS-Univ Arizona	Melanie Culver (USGS-Univ Arizona (520) 626-3775 mculver@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen
University of Ariz -Rancher Incentive Program	Scott Bonar (University of Ariz -- Rancher Incentive Program) sbonar@ag.arizona.edu Laura Lopez Hoffman lauralh@email.arizona.edu Aaron Lien alien@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen
Wildlife Conservation Society	John Delaney (WCS Communications) 347-675-2294	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen

	jdelaney@wcs.org Eric Sanderson (WCS Senior Conservation Ecologist) (718) 220-6825 esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (WCS Senior Researcher) (718) 741-8206 kfisher@wcs.org Scott Smith (WCS) (718) 220-3698 ssmith@wcs.org		
New Mexico Department of Game & Fish	Alexandra Sandoval, Dir., alexandra.sandoval@state.nm.us Jim Stuart (Biologist) 505-476-8107 james.stuart@state.nm.us Karl Moffatt Public Affairs (505) 476-8007 karl.moffatt@state.nm.us Dan Williams, Communications dan.williams@state.nm.us	Neutral	Lueders/Millsap Millsap Humphrey Humphrey
Arizona Game & Fish Department	Ty Gray (Director) 623-236-7278 tgray@azgfd.gov Josh Avey, (AD Wildlife Management) 623-236-7385 javey@azgfd.gov Tim Snow (Biologist) tsnow@azgfd.gov Bill Andres (Communications) 623-236-7223 bandres@azgfd.gov Mark Hart (Tucson	Neutral	Lueders/ McIntyre McIntyre Alanen Humphrey Humphrey

	Comms) (520) 388-4445MHart@azgfd.gov		
US Forest Service	Bobbi Barrera 505-842-3194, blbarrera@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre
US Forest Service – Coronado National Forest	Kerwin Dewberry (Forest Supervisor) kdewberry@fs.fed.us Heidi Schewel (Communications Coronado) (520) 388-8343 hschewel@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre Humphrey
DHS CBP Tucson Sector	(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)	Neutral	McIntyre/ Humphrey
National Park Service - Intermountain Region	Endangered Species Coordinator Mike_Wrigley@nps.gov 303/969-2929	Pro	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Tohono O'odham Nation	Assistant Director Marlakay Henry (520-383-1511) Marlakay.henry@tonation-nsn.gov	Pro	Scott Richardson/John Nystedt
San Carlos Apache Tribe		Pro	John Nystedt

Wildlife Conservation Society	Eric Sanderson (Wildlife Conservation Society) esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (Wildlife Conservation Society) kfisher@wcs.org	Pro	Humphrey/Alanen
Conservation Planning Specialist Group	Phil Miller (Conservation Planning Specialist Group) pmiller@cbsg.org	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Harris Environmental Group	Lisa Harris (Harris Environmental Group) harris@heg-inc.com	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen
Defenders of Wildlife	Bryan Bird (Southwest Program Director)(505) 395-7332 BBird@defenders.org	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Malpai Borderlands Group	Bill McDonald (Exec Director) 520-558-2475 malpaigroup@gmail.com	Pro	McIntyre/ Alanen
Center For Biological Diversity	Kieran Suckling or Michael Robinson (575-313-7017) michaelr@biologicaldiversity.org Robin Silver: rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org 602-246-4170	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Cochise County	Board of Supervisors: board@cochise.az.gov	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Hereford NRCD	Board Clerk, Kathy Morris nrcdhereford@gmail.com	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Fort Huachuca	Director of Public Affairs Angela Moncur	Pro	McIntyre/

	(520) 533-1850 angela.moncur@us.army.mil		Humphrey
BLM - Arizona	BLM T&E Species Arizona State Office Philip Cooley (602) 417-9423 pcooley@blm.gov	Pro	McIntyre/ Humphrey
BLM- New Mexico	BLM New Mexico Acting State Director Aiden Seidlitz, aseidlitz@blm.gov 505-954-2222 NM T&E Lead for BLM Marikay Ramsey (marikayr@blm.gov) Lisa Rivera Morrison (Deputy Chief Office of Communications) lmorriso@blm.gov (505) 954-2023 work; (505) 920-6532 cell	Pro	Millsap/ Humphrey
Arizona State Lands Commissioner	Lisa Atkins 602-542-4621 latkins@land.az.gov	Neutral	McIntyre/ Humphrey
New Mexico State Lands Commissioner	Aubrey Dunn 505-827-5760	Neutral	Millsap/ Humphrey

Organization:	**Name:**	**Email:**	**Pro/Neut/ Anti**	**Contacted by:**
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies	Jen Mock-Schaeffer Patricia Allen	jenmock@fishwildlife.org pallen@fishwildlife.org	Neutral	DPIA
Backcountry Hunter & Anglers	Katie McKalip	mckalip@backcountryhunters.org	Pro	DPIA
Center for Biological	Brett Hartl	bhartl@biologicaldiversity.org	Pro	DPIA

Diversity				
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation	Sara Leonard Gary Kania	Sleonard@congressionalsportsmen.org garyk@sportsmenslink.org	Neut	DPIA
Conservation International	Justin Ward	jward@conservation.org	Pro	DPIA
Defenders of Wildlife	Robert Dewey Jared Saylor	rdewey@defenders.org jsaylor@defenders.org	Pro	DPIA
Endangered Species Coalition	Leda Huta	lhuta@stopextinction.org	Pro	DPIA
Environmental Defense Fund	Mark Rupp Chandler Clay	mrupp@edf.org cclay@edf.org	Pro	DPIA
Izaak Walton League	Scott Kovarovics Dawn Merritt	skovarovics@iwla.org dmerritt@iwla.org	Pro	DPIA
International Fund for Animal Welfare	Jeff Flocken Danielle Kessler	jflocken@ifaw.org dkessler@ifaw.org	Pro	DPIA
National Association of Counties	Deborah Cox Jonathan Shuffield Fred Wong	dcox@naco.org jshuffield@naco.org fwong@naco.org	Neut	DPIA
National Association of Home Builders	Michael Mittelholzer	mmittelholzer@nahb.org	Anti	DPIA
National Rifle Association	Susan Recce	srecce@nrahq.org	Neut	DPIA
National Wildlife Federation	Mike Leahy Judith Kohler Casey Skeens	leahym@nwf.org kohlerj@nwf.org skeens@nwf.org	Pro	DPIA
Natural Resources Defense Council	Andrew Wetzler	awetzler@nrdc.org	Pro	DPIA
Outdoor Writers Association of	Kelsey Dayton	kdayton@owaa.org	Neut	DPIA

America				
Public Lands Alliance	Marci Schlup	mschlup@beef.org	Anti	DPIA
Safari Club International	Steve Comus	scomus@safariclub.org		DPIA
The Nature Conservancy	Brent Keith LR Clawson	brent.keith@tnc.org lroseclawson@tnc.org	Pro	DPIA
The Wilderness Society	Jamie Williams Kitty Thomas	jamie_williams@tws.org kitty_thomas@tws.org	Pro	DPIA
The Wildlife Society	Keith Norris Chuck Shively	keith.norris@wildlife.org chuck.shively@wildlife.org	Pro	DPIA
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership	Steve Kline Geoff Mullins Kristyn Brady	skline@trcp.org gmullins@trcp.org kbrady@trcp.org	Pro	DPIA
Western Governors' Association	Zach Bodhane Joe Rassenfoss	zbodhane@westgov.org joe@westgov.org		DPIA
Wildlife Management Institute	Steve Williams	swilliams@wildlifemgt.org	Neut	DPIA
World Wildlife Fund	Will Gartshore	Will.gartshore@wwfus.org	Pro	DPIA

12. Congressional member email list

Title	Last	Seat ID	DC Staff	District Staff
Sen.	Sinema	AZ	michael_brawnlie@sinema.senate.gov	michelle_davidson@sinema.senate.gov haleigh_williams@sinema.senate.gov
Sen.	McSally	AZ	pace_mcmullan@mcsally.senate.gov	tanya_wheeless@mcsally.senate.gov
Rep.	O'Halleran	AZ1	paul.babbitt@mail.house.gov	chip.davis@mail.house.gov blanca.varela@mail.house

				.gov
Rep.	Kirkpatrick	AZ2	lisa.walker@mail.house.gov	ron.barber@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Grijalva	AZ3	glenn.miller@mail.house.gov	Ruben.Reyes@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Gosar	AZ4	rory.burke@mail.house.gov, jeff.small@mail.house.gov	Penny.Pew@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Stanton	AZ9	tracee.sutton@mail.house.gov	eric.chalmers@mail.house.gov
Sen.	Heinrich	NM	maya_hermann@heinrich.senate.gov	alex_eubanks@heinrich.senate.gov
Sen.	Udall	NM	jonathan_black@tomudall.senate.gov Caitlin_Keating-Bitonti@tomudall.senate.gov, Lisa_VanTheemsche@tomudall.senate.gov	David_williams@tomudall.senate.gov greg_bloom@tomudall.senate.gov
Rep.	Haaland	NM1	eric.werwa@mail.house.gov	scott.forrester@mail.house.gov sofia.sanchez@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Torres Small	NM2	brooke.stuedell@mail.house.gov	nayomi.valdez@mail.house.gov
Rep.	Lujan	NM3	levi.patterson@mail.house.gov	jennifer.catechis@mail.house.gov

13. Congressional committee email list

CLA will contact authorizing committee staff; Division of Budget will contact appropriations committee staff

Senate Appropriations Interior S/C – Majority	emy_lesofski@appro.senate.gov	(202) 224-7233
Senate Appropriations Interior S/C – Minority	ryan_hunt@appro.senate.gov	(202) 228-0774
Senate EPW – Majority	matt_leggett@epw.senate.gov andrew_harding@epw.senate.gov james_willson@epw.senate.gov	(202) 224-6176
Senate EPW – Minority	christophe_tulou@epw.senate.gov elizabeth_mabry@epw.senate.gov	(202) 224-8832

Senate ENR – Majority	chuck_kleeschulte@energy.senate.gov lucy_murfitt@energy.senate.gov colin_hayes@energy.senate.gov	(202) 224-4971
Senate ENR – Minority	david_brooks@energy.senate.gov	(202) 224-4971
House Appropriations Interior S/C – Majority	rita.culp@mail.house.gov jocelyn.hunn@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3481
House Appropriations Interior S/C – Minority	darren.benjamin@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-3081
House Natural Resources – Majority	lora.snyder@mail.house.gov brandon.bragato@mail.house.gov sarah.lim@mail.house.gov rachel.gentile@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-6065
House Natural Resources – Minority	william.ball@mail.house.gov parish.braden@mail.house.gov christopher.santini@mail.house.gov brandon.miller@mail.house.gov syi@mail.house.gov steve.petersen@mail.house.gov will.layden@mail.house.gov john.sullivan1@mail.house.gov steven.parr@mail.house.gov chris.esparza@mail.house.gov john.strom@mail.house.gov marc.alberts@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2761
Leadership – House Majority Leader Hoyer	trent.bauserman@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4131
Leadership – House Minority Leader McCarthy	Jennifer.Loraine@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-2915
Congressional Research Service	PSHEIKH@crs.loc.gov RCRAFTON@crs.loc.gov LTSANG@crs.loc.gov EWARD@crs.loc.gov	

SECTION IV: PRIMARY POINTS OF CONTACT

14. Media coordinators *(For national-level plans, list at least one person from HQ Public Affairs and others from region/program if appropriate. For regional-level plans, only regional coordinators are required. Enter name, email and phone)*

Jeff Humphrey (Southwest Region) jeff_humphrey@fws.gov, 602-242-0210

Brian Hires (Headquarters) Brian_Hires@fws.gov, 703-358-2191

15. **Congressional coordinators** (*For national-level plans, list at least one person from HQ Public Affairs and others from region/program if appropriate. For regional-level plans, only regional coordinators are required. Enter name, email and phone)*

CLA Alyssa Hausman (CLA) alyssa_hausman@fws.gov 703-358-2275 Lisa Jones (CLA) lisa_m_jones@fws.gov 703-358-2536 Lesli Gray (Southwest Region) lesli_gray@fws.gov 817-277-9057

16. **Subject matter experts available for interview** *(Must be approved by HQ Public Affairs for an HQ-led announcement or by Regional Public Affairs for region-led announcement. Enter name, email and phone)*

Marit Alanen (Biologist) marit_alanen@fws.gov 520-670-6150 x234 Julie McIntyre (Assistant Field Supervisor) Julie_McIntyre@fws.gov 520-670-6150 x223 Jeff Humphrey (Field Supervisor) 602-242-0210

17. **Additional technical experts for reference** *(Enter name, email and phone)*

18. **Are there any non-FWS points of contact for this action?** *(Enter name, organization, role, email and phone)*

John Delaney (Wildlife Conservation Society - Comms Director) jdelaney@wcs.org 718-220-3275 (Regarding mapping/modelling)

SECTION V: DOCUMENT INFO

19. **Date Created** **Created By**

7/13/2018	Jeff Humphrey

20. **Date last edited** **Edited By**

7/24/2018	Laurel Barnhill, Julie McIntyre and

	Marit Alanen
7/27/2018	Brian Hires
8/3/2018	Humphrey
8/20/2018	Alanen
8/23/2018	McIntyre
8/26/2018	Humphrey
8/29/2018	Brian Hires
9/8/2018	Laury Parramore
9/12/2018	Alyssa Hausman
9/28/2018	Humphrey
3/22/2019	Humphrey
3/26/2019	Mary Elder
3/28/2019	Brian Hires
3/29/2019	Matt Huggler
3/29/2019	Alyssa Hausman

APPENDIX: ADDITIONAL BACKROUND INFORMATION AND MATERIALS

DO NOT PUT OTHER MATERIALS SUCH AS FAQs, NEWS RELEASE OR TALKING POINTS IN THIS SECTION. KEEP THOSE AS SEPARATE DOCUMENTS.

(Consider the following: What is the historical context? Does this relate to other issues that may not immediately be apparent (consider other programs and regions)? Is there a scientific basis to this issue? If so what is it?)

APPENDIX 1

Historical Context:

Following a 2009, Arizona District Court decision, FWS determined that developing a recovery plan for jaguars will contribute to their conservation (in recognition that most of the species' habitat and almost all individuals occur outside if the United States).

FWS reconfigured and expanded a binational Jaguar Recovery Team and charged them with developing a recovery outline, which they completed in April 2012. The FWS drew heavily from the data compiled in the recovery outline for the development of jaguar critical habitat designation (in the U.S.), which was finalized in March 2014.

Summary:

In 2010, a binational Jaguar Recovery Team was convened with experts and stakeholders from both the U.S. and Mexico to develop a jaguar recovery plan. The Recovery Plan considers the jaguar throughout its range, but primarily focuses on the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU), which extends from the southwestern U.S. to western Mexico. To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations should be secured by protecting jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting, and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey, and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico.

Regarding the role of the U.S. in recovering the jaguar, recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity. Actions to implement this involve identifying and mapping corridors and potential impediments to these linkages, along with developing and implementing strategies to maintain connectivity. Recovery actions to maintain connectivity and overall ecosystem/watershed health are ongoing in many areas in the U.S. by the U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management, where much of the linkage habitat into the U.S. occurs.

We received over 13,000 public comments on the draft Recovery Plan. We requested five peer reviews and received comments from two, both from Mexico. We also received comments from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Game and Fish Department, and the San Carlos Apache Tribe. We incorporated all substantive comments into the final Recovery Plan. If we did not incorporate substantive comments, we responded to them in our response to comments documents. Review of the Recovery Plan was also coordinated with the New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, and Buenos Aires and San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuges.

MAIN DECISION OR MESSAGE: Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their historical range; however, conservation of key jaguar habitat and populations in their current range will be critical to the recovery of jaguars. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar. The estimated cost to recovery is $605,648,000 (among 19 countries over 50 years).

APPENDIX II

Jaguar Recovery Plan - Customs and Border Protection/U.S. Border Patrol Involvement
August 31, 2018

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) via U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) has been involved through all phases of jaguar draft and final recovery plan planning processes. In 2010, at the inception of the binational Jaguar Recovery Team (JRT), USBP was invited to serve as a member of the Implementation Subgroup of the JRT, as an official representative of USBP. Since 2010, USBP has had a member on the JRT through the present (Charles Trost).

CBP also has significantly financially supported several projects, described in Table 3 of the Jaguar Recovery Plan (JRP), that were conducted to inform important content for the Plan and implement recovery actions identified in the JRP. These projects include genetics studies, habitat modeling, jaguar surveying and monitoring, citizen science education and outreach, rancher incentives, road crossing designs, citizen attitude surveys, and portions of Population Viability Analyses (PVA and PHVA) (see Table 3 below).

USBP participated in many meetings to discuss and prepare the JRP, and did not express significant concerns about border issues. In the spirit of cooperation, CBP permitted FWS and Jaguar Recovery Team to use their GIS layers of the border to develop a map that illustrates degrees of border permeability (no fences, including a vehicle or pedestrian fence), and this information is illustrated on Figure 4 of the JRP. Both this figure and the JRP indicate that portions of the border are currently permeable to jaguar movement and that continued work between FWS and CBP will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border jaguar movement.

As part of outreach on the JRP, CBP was informed of the option to comment during the public comment period, and did not provide any comments. Throughout the development of the JRP, CBP has had opportunities to address border issues and through these and related actions CBP's and BP's concerns have been fully incorporated into the Jaguar Recovery Plan.

Table 3. Summary of U.S. Customs and Border Protection-funded projects and their conservation benefit to jaguars. NRU = Northwestern Recovery Unit for the jaguar. USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Final reports of these projects can be found at https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm.

Project	Final Deliverable(s)	Purpose/Conservation Benefit
Genetics	*Jaguar taxonomy and genetic diversity for southern Arizona, U.S., and Sonora, Mexico*	Investigates unique genetic diversity of jaguars at the northern edge of the range and answers taxonomic question of whether or not northern jaguars are a distinct subspecies
PVAs	*Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes demographic viability of the jaguar metapopulation defined as the NRU
PVAs (cont.)	*Addendum: Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes the structure, implementation, and interpretation of a new set of demographic simulations of jaguar population viability in core areas of the NRU
Habitat Modeling	*Digital Mapping in Support of Recovery Planning for the Northern Jaguar*	Assisted USFWS in digital mapping aspects of recovery planning for the northern jaguar (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, and Recovery Outline for the Jaguar)
	Jaguar Habitat Modeling and Database Update	Updates jaguar database with additional observations, conducts analyses of different selections of jaguar observations, produces five revised versions of the habitat model (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, as well as this Recovery Plan)
	jaguardata.info	Converts jaguar observations database to web-based platform allowing stakeholders, general public, and scientific community to search and access jaguar data; provides an interface for administrators to add, edit, and delete jaguar observations in the NRU
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (U.S. portion of NRU)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring in the United States: Final Report*	Culver (2016) provides results and analyses of the two-year investigation of jaguars, prey base, and habitat in the U.S. portion of the NRU to inform recovery planning; multiple photos of one jaguar (and three ocelots) provided to USFWS and posted on USFWS Flickr site
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (Tohono O'odham Nation; TON)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring on the Tohono O'odham Nation*	Provides results and analyses of surveys for jaguars and ocelots on the TON to inform recovery planning

Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing	*Citizen Science Teams*	Developed and implementing a citizen science program to survey and monitor for jaguars within the U.S. portion of the NRU
	K-12 Jaguar Educational Curricula	Developed and implementing formal educational curricula on jaguar and ocelot conservation for different educational levels to promote an understanding of feline conservation
Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing (cont.)	*Jaguar Conservation Outreach*	Developed and presented a PowerPoint presentation on jaguar and ocelot biology and conservation for the general public to promote an understanding of feline conservation
	Education and Outreach Materials	Developed posters, stickers, etc. to promote jaguar conservation within the NRU
	Grant Writing	Applied for funding opportunities to continue aspects of jaguar survey and monitoring effort currently being conducted, to continue and/or expand the volunteer citizen science program, and to continue and/or expand public outreach and school education programs
Rancher Incentive Program	*Complete Project Overview*	See http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/jaguarproject/ for project summary, additional information, and reports
	Assessment of Rancher Knowledge	Pilot assessment of nine ranch owner/manager's knowledge of jaguar conservation issues
	Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Survey of ranch owner/manager knowledge about and attitudes toward jaguar conservation issues
	Results of Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Summary of survey results included in Results of Rancher Workshops report (below); comprehensive analysis of data still to be published
	Report on PES sources	Conducted research policy analysis of payment for ecosystem services (PES) program and analysis of jaguar-friendly ranch management options for distribution; available at http://extension.arizona.edu/pubs/payments-ecosystem-services-southern-arizona-ranchers
	Rancher Workshops	Developed workshops to enhance rancher knowledge of jaguar conservation, jaguar friendly ranch management practices, and conservation incentive programs; as well as receive feedback from ranchers regarding incentive programs that may generate participation

	Brochures	Provides a simple program of actions for landowners to implement for promoting jaguar conservation on their lands
Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation	*Results of Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation*	Provides insights into attitudes, mores, and level of knowledge of stakeholders in the U.S. portion of the NRU regarding jaguars to understand what is needed from a social perspective to create an environment that is conducive to jaguar conservation
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol	*Review of Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Techniques and Methodologies* (English and Spanish)	Provides a review of literature on jaguar and, as appropriate, other large felid survey and monitoring techniques and methodologies
	Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol (English and Spanish)	Provides a jaguar survey and monitoring protocol applicable in measuring occupancy recovery criteria (3.3.1.B.i. and 3.3.2.B.i.) in the NRU, as well as other areas rangewide
Review and Develop Recommendations for Road Crossing Designs	*Review of Road Passage Designs for Jaguars*	Conducts a review of enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of large carnivores, particularly jaguars, across road corridors
	Road Passage Design Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Develops recommendations for enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of jaguars across road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types in the NRU
	Road Passage Location Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Identifies potential areas in the NRU where enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) would improve the passage of jaguars across different types of road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types

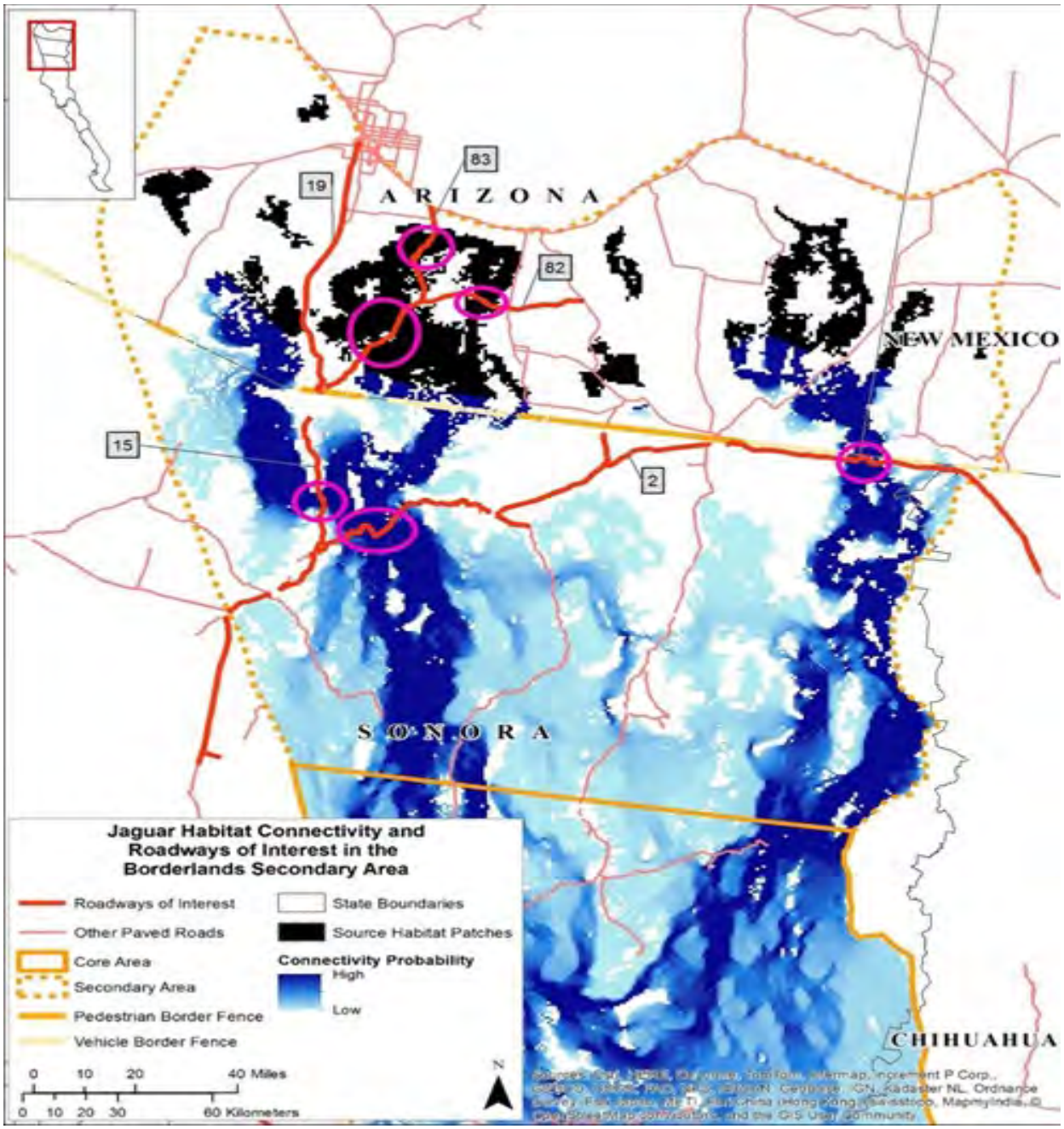


Figure 4. Map of habitat connectivity and roadways of interest in the Borderlands Secondary Area as modeled by Stoner et al. (2015) (some road segments in densely populated areas omitted). A visual examination of this connectivity model, which extends across the entirety of the Northwestern Recovery Unit, reveals three corridors that extend across the U.S.-Mexico border. These corridors are intersected by Mexico Federal Highways 2 and 15. U.S. State Routes 82 and 83 also intersect with "source" habitat patches (used for modeling purposes), which may impact jaguar habitat connectivity. These areas are good candidates for further assessment to determine the potential for road crossing mitigation structures.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Jaguar Recovery Plan

Final

July 2018

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arizona Ecological Services Field Office
Southern Arizona
201 N Bonita Ave, Suite 141
Tucson, AZ 85745
520/670-6144

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southwest Regional Office
500 Gold Avenue, SW
Albuquerque NM 87102
505/248-6920

Male jaguar (front cover) followed by female jaguar on the Northern Jaguar Reserve, Sonora, Mexico. © Northern Jaguar Project

July 2018

From:	Charisa Morris
To:	Matthew Huggler; Brian Hires; barbara_wainman@fws.gov
Subject:	Fwd: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach
Date:	Thursday, April 11, 2019 1:05:10 PM
Attachments:	ATT00001.htm Jaguar Recovery Plan Comms Strategy FINAL_11April2019.pdf Jaguar_Recovery_PlanQ_A FINAL_11April2019.pdf ATT00002.htm Jaguar Recovery Plan News Release FINAL_11April2019.pdf ATT00003.htm

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Skipwith, Aurelia" <aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov>
Date: April 11, 2019 at 4:01:41 PM EDT
To: "Morris, Charisa" <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach

Comments from FWP.

Aurelia Skipwith
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3148
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-5837

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 3:50 PM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> FYI
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ---------
> From: **Hires, Brian** <brian_hires@fws.gov>
> Date: Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:56 AM
> Subject: Re: Clearance for Jaguar Final Recovery Plan Outreach

To: Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
Cc: Foster, Maureen <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>, Hancock, Donnise <donnise_hancock@fws.gov>

Hi Charisa,

Please see attached requested items, for announcing the final jaguar recovery plan. Let me know you think they'd also like to see the actual final recovery plan as a PDF (it's a fairly large file). Thanks,

Brian

On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:49 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> I think that would definitely be helpful for context, if those items are available!
>
> On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:23 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Thanks Charisa! That's correct, this is just a comms package. Happy to share a copy of the final recovery plan if helpful, as well as the outreach as attachments.
> >
> > Brian
> >
> > On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 11:21 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > + Maureen
> > >
> > > Good morning, Brian-
> > >
> > > Unfortunately, yesterday was Andrea Travnicek's last day in the office this week, and we got all of this week's priority packages in front of her before COB Monday, as a result. The chances of us getting her to clear this while she's on the road is slim, but we can try! It sounds like it is just a coms package - is this correct?
> > >
> > > I've cc'd her Chief of Staff, Maureen Foster, who may have intel on whether this package was set to move this week or if they need more information.
> > >
> > > Thanks!
> > > Charisa
> > >
> > > On Tue, Apr 9, 2019 at 9:59 AM Hires, Brian <brian_hires@fws.gov> wrote:
> > >
> > > > Good morning Charisa,
> > > >
> > > > Donnise suggested I reach out to you regarding clearance of the jaguar

final recovery plan, that our regional office would like to announce this Thursday 4/11 or as soon as possible after that date.

As an FYI, It looks like this outreach has been with the Assistant Secretary's office since 4/4 in DTS. As a final recovery plan, this does not have a FR notice associated with it and we don't normally bring final recovery plans into HQ for review but this one is a high-profile species that touches on border wall issues.

Thanks in advance for helping us get this one over the finish line. Don't hesitate to write or call if you have any questions or follow up on anything.

--
Brian Hires
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Office of Public Affairs | Falls Church, VA
(Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

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Brian Hires
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Office of Public Affairs | Falls Church, VA
(Office) 703.358.2191 | (Cell) 703.346.9941

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

--
Brian Hires
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--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

BASIC COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

FOR ROUTINE NON-CONTROVERSIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Title:** Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

2. **DTS number** 068832

3. **What is the action triggering this communications plan?** *(Please explain in no more than three sentences)*

   The Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar.

4. **What is the proposed date for this action? Why has it been selected? Is it flexible?**

   Proposed date for the announcement is April 11, 2019. The plan was signed by the Southwest Regional Director in July 2018; however, the announcement was delayed to accommodate extensive review and inter-agency coordination. The April 11 date allows for a final review by headquarters, notification of DOI, and facilitation of a coordinated rollout by the Jaguar Recovery Team (state, NGO, tribal and international partners.)

5. **Which office is leading this communications effort and which other programs, regions or groups are involved?**

   Region 2 External Affairs and Arizona Ecological Services Office. (The Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the plan and will be available to contribute technical expertise.)

SECTION II: GOALS AND MESSAGES

6. **What story do we want to tell?**

   Reversing the decline of the jaguar (America's largest cat) is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan

sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework whereby all stakeholders can align their efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core habitat areas and corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. ~~We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.~~

7. **What are our key messages?** *(These should be top concepts that readers should take away, including an understanding of why this action matters and why they should care, not a list of facts, which should be placed in the appendix. List no more than four!)*

Primary messages:

- Reversing the decline of the jaguar -- America's largest wild cat -- is possible. It will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States to Argentina.
- Through the Endangered Species Act recovery planning process, nineteen nations and diverse conservation organizations are working together to protect this important and charismatic species.
- Primary threats to the jaguar throughout its range are loss of habitat, direct killing and depletion of its prey. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing threats and sets goals for minimizing threats and establishing viable jaguar populations throughout their expansive range.
- The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in remote and rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States/Mexico border.
- Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors, and continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Secondary messages:

- The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. *The plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery.* Through the NRU, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout its range, as it has in the past.
- The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has legal jurisdiction. We also have close working relationships with Mexico on

behalf of the jaguar's recovery. The NRU includes jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

If-Asked Only Statements:

- The Service is working closely with federal and other partners to promote border security while protecting the jaguar and its habitat. The recovery plan proposes two corridors that are in particularly rugged countryside that can accommodate jaguar movements across the United States – Mexico border.
- The Service is not aware of any proposals to build new border fence on the Arizona border. Some existing fence is being replaced, but it is a direct replacement, not an upgrade from vehicle to pedestrian fence.]

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States. The recovery plan focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors, and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

For additional background and approved messaging on role of CBP and the U.S. Border Patrol in the Jaguar Recovery Plan, see Appendix II below.

SECTION III: IMPLEMENTATION

8. Implementation timeline *(If not known, put TBD or the number of days/hours before/after the announcement*

Target Date	Tactic	Responsible
All times are in the Mountain (ET -2) time zone		
All dates and times are predicated on date determined for release of Final Recovery Plan		

At least 7 days prior to public announcement	Wildlife Conservation Society notification	Humphrey
2-3 days before announcement	Embargoed pitch to AP and/or national reporter(s)? Susan Montoya (AP)	Humphrey/Hires
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify New Mexico and Arizona fish and wildlife agency directors	Lueders or Millsap/Humphrey/McIntyre
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify AZ and NM congressional members, and congressional committees of anticipated availability	R2 Lesli Gray/CLA Alyssa Hausman
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Notify southern Arizona and New Mexico tribes of anticipated availability	Nystedt/Humphrey
Afternoon of signature (2 pm MT)	Confirm plan availability with recovery team member organizations	Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (8 am MT)	Post final recovery plan and news release to Arizona ES, ECOS, and R2 homepage	Kaplan/Crouse/ Campbell
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Distribute news release to AZ, NM, Mexico, and international environmental news outlets	Humphrey
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	SMEs available for media response	Humphrey/Alanen/Stanford
Morning after signature (10 am MT)	Social media (Facebook) post	Barrus
Week after signature	[*Optional*] Provide written notification to affected parties, agencies	AESO

9. **Which communications tools are needed to support these strategies and tactics?** *(Be as specific as possible about the products identified and who will produce them)*

Tool	Responsible	Due Date
News Release	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Photos (www flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/)	Humphrey	3/15/2019
"If-asked" border talking points	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Video support: www fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar htm	Humphrey	3/15/2019
Jaguar population maps	Alanen	3/15/2019
FAQs (FAQs presently in Item 7 (above) as if-asked only) can be converted into FAQs)	Humphrey	3/15/2019

10. **Social media plan** *(Provide a list of accounts to be used as well as sample hashtags, messages, multimedia and other links, etc. as appropriate)*

https://www facebook.com/USFWSSouthwest?ref=mf

The Service and its partners in the binational Jaguar Recovery Team can recover the jaguar, but it will take time, effort and collaboration with partners across species' 19-country range. A recently released recovery plan sets goals for improving the species status across its range and provides a framework for achieving recovery.

Here in the Southwest, male jaguars from a core breeding population in Mexico occasionally occupy mountain ranges along our southern border with the country.

See more at: https://www fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar htm

11. **Stakeholder contact grids** *(For each, paste in a table that provides organization name, contact person, how the person will be contacted, phone or email address as appropriate and a name of the person who will be making contact)*

Internal

DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator	Brent Range (DOI Interagency Borderlands Coordinator) (202) 208-7431 brent_range@ios.doi.gov	Pro	McIntyre/ Maestas

FWS International Affairs	Amanda Gonzales 703-358-2110 amanda_gonzales@fws.gov	Pro	Fernandez/ Alanen

External

Stakeholder Name	Contact Info	Pro/Anti / Neutral	Contact By
Binational Recovery Team Members • CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico) • CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora) • USDA's Wildlife Services • U.S. Forest Service-Coronado National Forest • Bureau of Land Management-Tucson • U.S. Border Patrol • Arizona Game and Fish Department • New Mexico Department of Game and Fish • Tohono O'odham Nation • Altar Valley Conservation Alliance • Malpai Borderlands Group • Naturalia • Panthera • Conservation Planning Specialist Group • Wildlife Conservation Society	(List Serve)	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Sky Island Alliance	Louise Misxtal (Exec Director) 520-624-7080 x 19, louise@skyislandalliance.org	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre

Arizona Cattle Grazers Association	Exec VP Patrick Bray, 602-267-1129, pbray@arizonabeef.org	Neutral	Humphrey/ McIntyre
Borderlands Restoration	Executive Director: David Seibert, 520-882-8202 or dseibert@email.arizona.edu Caleb Weaver, (860) 237-0381 (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) (b) (6)	Pro	Humphrey/ McIntyre
University of Arizona	Kirk Emerson (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-3315 kemerson@email.arizona.edu Susan Malusa (Univ Arizona) (520) 621-2161 smalusa@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Alanen/ Fernandez
USGS-Univ Arizona	Melanie Culver (USGS-Univ Arizona (520) 626-3775 mculver@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen
University of Ariz -Rancher Incentive Program	Scott Bonar (University of Ariz -- Rancher Incentive Program) sbonar@ag.arizona.edu Laura Lopez Hoffman lauralh@email.arizona.edu Aaron Lien alien@email.arizona.edu	Neutral	Humphrey/ Alanen

Wildlife Conservation Society	John Delaney (WCS Communications) 347-675-2294 jdelaney@wcs.org Eric Sanderson (WCS Senior Conservation Ecologist) (718) 220-6825 esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (WCS Senior Researcher) (718) 741-8206 kfisher@wcs.org Scott Smith (WCS) (718) 220-3698 ssmith@wcs.org	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen
New Mexico Department of Game & Fish	Alexandra Sandoval, Dir., alexandra.sandoval@state.nm.us Jim Stuart (Biologist) 505-476-8107 james.stuart@state.nm.us Karl Moffatt Public Affairs (505) 476-8007 karl.moffatt@state.nm.us Dan Williams, Communications dan.williams@state.nm.us	Neutral	Lueders/Millsap Millsap Humphrey Humphrey
Arizona Game & Fish Department	Ty Gray (Director) 623-236-7278 tgray@azgfd.gov Josh Avey, (AD Wildlife Management) 623-236-7385 javey@azgfd.gov Tim Snow (Biologist) tsnow@azgfd.gov Bill Andres (Communications) 623-	Neutral	Lueders/ McIntyre McIntyre Alanen Humphrey Humphrey

	236-7223 bandres@azgfd.gov Mark Hart (Tucson Comms) (520) 388-4445MHart@azgfd.gov		
US Forest Service	Bobbi Barrera 505-842-3194, blbarrera@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre
US Forest Service – Coronado National Forest	Kerwin Dewberry (Forest Supervisor) kdewberry@fs.fed.us Heidi Schewel (Communications Coronado) (520) 388-8343 hschewel@fs.fed.us	Pro	McIntyre Humphrey
DHS CBP Tucson Sector	(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (DHS CBP Tucson Sector) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)	Neutral	McIntyre/ Humphrey
National Park Service - Intermountain Region	Endangered Species Coordinator Mike_Wrigley@nps.gov 303/969-2929	Pro	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Tohono O'odham Nation	Assistant Director Marlakay Henry (520-383-1511)	Pro	Scott Richardson/John Nystedt

	Marlakay.henry@tonation-nsn.gov		
San Carlos Apache Tribe		Pro	John Nystedt
Wildlife Conservation Society	Eric Sanderson (Wildlife Conservation Society) esanderson@wcs.org Kim Fisher (Wildlife Conservation Society) kfisher@wcs.org	Pro	Humphrey/Alanen
Conservation Planning Specialist Group	Phil Miller (Conservation Planning Specialist Group) pmiller@cbsg.org	Pro	Alanen/ Fernandez
Harris Environmental Group	Lisa Harris (Harris Environmental Group) harris@heg-inc.com	Pro	Humphrey/ Alanen
Defenders of Wildlife	Bryan Bird (Southwest Program Director)(505) 395-7332 BBird@defenders.org	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Malpai Borderlands Group	Bill McDonald (Exec Director) 520-558-2475 malpaigroup@gmail.com	Pro	McIntyre/ Alanen
Center For Biological Diversity	Kieran Suckling or Michael Robinson (575-313-7017) michaelr@biologicaldiversity.org Robin Silver: rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org 602-246-4170	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Cochise County	Board of Supervisors: board@cochise.az.gov	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey
Hereford NRCD	Board Clerk, Kathy Morris	Anti	McIntyre/ Humphrey

	nrcdhereford@gmail.com		
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SECTION V: DOCUMENT INFO

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3/28/2019	Brian Hires
3/29/2019	Matt Huggler
3/29/2019	Alyssa Hausman

APPENDIX: ADDITIONAL BACKROUND INFORMATION AND MATERIALS

DO NOT PUT OTHER MATERIALS SUCH AS FAQs, NEWS RELEASE OR TALKING POINTS IN THIS SECTION. KEEP THOSE AS SEPARATE DOCUMENTS.

(Consider the following What is the historical context? Does this relate to other issues that may not immediately be apparent (consider other programs and regions)? Is there a scientific basis to this issue? If so what is it?)

APPENDIX 1

Historical Context:

Following a 2009, Arizona District Court decision, FWS determined that developing a recovery plan for jaguars will contribute to their conservation (in recognition that most of the species' habitat and almost all individuals occur outside if the United States).

FWS reconfigured and expanded a binational Jaguar Recovery Team and charged them with developing a recovery outline, which they completed in April 2012. The FWS drew heavily from the data compiled in the recovery outline for the development of jaguar critical habitat designation (in the U.S.), which was finalized in March 2014.

Summary:

In 2010, a binational Jaguar Recovery Team was convened with experts and stakeholders from both the U.S. and Mexico to develop a jaguar recovery plan. The Recovery Plan considers the jaguar throughout its range, but primarily focuses on the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU), which extends from the southwestern U.S. to western Mexico. To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations should be secured by protecting jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing

due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting, and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey, and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico.

Regarding the role of the U.S. in recovering the jaguar, recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity. Actions to implement this involve identifying and mapping corridors and potential impediments to these linkages, along with developing and implementing strategies to maintain connectivity. Recovery actions to maintain connectivity and overall ecosystem/watershed health are ongoing in many areas in the U.S. by the U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management, where much of the linkage habitat into the U.S. occurs.

We received over 13,000 public comments on the draft Recovery Plan. We requested five peer reviews and received comments from two, both from Mexico. We also received comments from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Game and Fish Department, and the San Carlos Apache Tribe. We incorporated all substantive comments into the final Recovery Plan. If we did not incorporate substantive comments, we responded to them in our response to comments documents. Review of the Recovery Plan was also coordinated with the New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, and Buenos Aires and San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuges.

MAIN DECISION OR MESSAGE: Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their historical range; however, conservation of key jaguar habitat and populations in their current range will be critical to the recovery of jaguars. We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar. The estimated cost to recovery is $605,648,000 (among 19 countries over 50 years).

APPENDIX II

Jaguar Recovery Plan - Customs and Border Protection/U.S. Border Patrol Involvement
August 31, 2018

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) via U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) has been involved through all phases of jaguar draft and final recovery plan planning processes. In 2010, at the inception of the binational Jaguar Recovery Team (JRT), USBP was invited to serve as a member of the Implementation Subgroup of the JRT, as an official representative of

USBP. Since 2010, USBP has had a member on the JRT through the present (Charles Trost).

CBP also has significantly financially supported several projects, described in Table 3 of the Jaguar Recovery Plan (JRP), that were conducted to inform important content for the Plan and implement recovery actions identified in the JRP. These projects include genetics studies, habitat modeling, jaguar surveying and monitoring, citizen science education and outreach, rancher incentives, road crossing designs, citizen attitude surveys, and portions of Population Viability Analyses (PVA and PHVA) (see Table 3 below).

USBP participated in many meetings to discuss and prepare the JRP, and did not express significant concerns about border issues. In the spirit of cooperation, CBP permitted FWS and Jaguar Recovery Team to use their GIS layers of the border to develop a map that illustrates degrees of border permeability (no fences, including a vehicle or pedestrian fence), and this information is illustrated on Figure 4 of the JRP. Both this figure and the JRP indicate that portions of the border are currently permeable to jaguar movement and that continued work between FWS and CBP will remain important to allow for ongoing opportunities for cross-border jaguar movement.

As part of outreach on the JRP, CBP was informed of the option to comment during the public comment period, and did not provide any comments. Throughout the development of the JRP, CBP has had opportunities to address border issues and through these and related actions CBP's and BP's concerns have been fully incorporated into the Jaguar Recovery Plan.

Table 3. Summary of U.S. Customs and Border Protection-funded projects and their conservation benefit to jaguars. NRU = Northwestern Recovery Unit for the jaguar. USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Final reports of these projects can be found at https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm.

Project	Final Deliverable(s)	Purpose/Conservation Benefit
Genetics	*Jaguar taxonomy and genetic diversity for southern Arizona, U.S., and Sonora, Mexico*	Investigates unique genetic diversity of jaguars at the northern edge of the range and answers taxonomic question of whether or not northern jaguars are a distinct subspecies
PVAs	*Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes demographic viability of the jaguar metapopulation defined as the NRU

PVAs (cont.)	*Addendum Population Viability Analysis for the Jaguar (Panthera onca) in the Northwestern Range*	Describes the structure, implementation, and interpretation of a new set of demographic simulations of jaguar population viability in core areas of the NRU
Habitat Modeling	*Digital Mapping in Support of Recovery Planning for the Northern Jaguar*	Assisted USFWS in digital mapping aspects of recovery planning for the northern jaguar (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, and Recovery Outline for the Jaguar)
	Jaguar Habitat Modeling and Database Update	Updates jaguar database with additional observations, conducts analyses of different selections of jaguar observations, produces five revised versions of the habitat model (habitat models used in population viability analyses, above, as well as this Recovery Plan)
	jaguardata.info	Converts jaguar observations database to web-based platform allowing stakeholders, general public, and scientific community to search and access jaguar data; provides an interface for administrators to add, edit, and delete jaguar observations in the NRU
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (U.S. portion of NRU)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring in the United States Final Report*	Culver (2016) provides results and analyses of the two-year investigation of jaguars, prey base, and habitat in the U.S. portion of the NRU to inform recovery planning; multiple photos of one jaguar (and three ocelots) provided to USFWS and posted on USFWS Flickr site
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring (Tohono O'odham Nation; TON)	*Jaguar Surveying and Monitoring on the Tohono O'odham Nation*	Provides results and analyses of surveys for jaguars and ocelots on the TON to inform recovery planning
Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing	*Citizen Science Teams*	Developed and implementing a citizen science program to survey and monitor for jaguars within the U.S. portion of the NRU
	K-12 Jaguar Educational Curricula	Developed and implementing formal educational curricula on jaguar and ocelot conservation for different educational levels to promote an understanding of feline conservation
Citizen Science, Education, Outreach, and Grant Writing (cont.)	*Jaguar Conservation Outreach*	Developed and presented a PowerPoint presentation on jaguar and ocelot biology and conservation for the general public to promote an understanding of feline conservation

	Education and Outreach Materials	Developed posters, stickers, etc. to promote jaguar conservation within the NRU
	Grant Writing	Applied for funding opportunities to continue aspects of jaguar survey and monitoring effort currently being conducted, to continue and/or expand the volunteer citizen science program, and to continue and/or expand public outreach and school education programs
Rancher Incentive Program	*Complete Project Overview*	See http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/jaguarproject/ for project summary, additional information, and reports
	Assessment of Rancher Knowledge	Pilot assessment of nine ranch owner/manager's knowledge of jaguar conservation issues
	Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Survey of ranch owner/manager knowledge about and attitudes toward jaguar conservation issues
	Results of Ranch Owner/Manager Survey Questionnaire	Summary of survey results included in Results of Rancher Workshops report (below); comprehensive analysis of data still to be published
	Report on PES sources	Conducted research policy analysis of payment for ecosystem services (PES) program and analysis of jaguar-friendly ranch management options for distribution; available at http://extension.arizona.edu/pubs/payments-ecosystem-services-southern-arizona-ranchers
	Rancher Workshops	Developed workshops to enhance rancher knowledge of jaguar conservation, jaguar friendly ranch management practices, and conservation incentive programs; as well as receive feedback from ranchers regarding incentive programs that may generate participation
	Brochures	Provides a simple program of actions for landowners to implement for promoting jaguar conservation on their lands
Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation	*Results of Survey of Residents' Attitudes on Jaguar Conservation*	Provides insights into attitudes, mores, and level of knowledge of stakeholders in the U.S. portion of the NRU regarding jaguars to understand what is needed from a social perspective to create an environment that is conducive to jaguar conservation
Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol	*Review of Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Techniques and Methodologies* (English and Spanish)	Provides a review of literature on jaguar and, as appropriate, other large felid survey and monitoring techniques and methodologies

	Jaguar Survey and Monitoring Protocol (English and Spanish)	Provides a jaguar survey and monitoring protocol applicable in measuring occupancy recovery criteria (3.3.1.B.i. and 3.3.2.B.i.) in the NRU, as well as other areas rangewide
Review and Develop Recommendations for Road Crossing Designs	*Review of Road Passage Designs for Jaguars*	Conducts a review of enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of large carnivores, particularly jaguars, across road corridors
	Road Passage Design Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Develops recommendations for enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) that allow for passage of jaguars across road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types in the NRU
	Road Passage Location Recommendations (English and Spanish)	Identifies potential areas in the NRU where enhancements (e.g., underpasses, overpasses, guiding fences, etc.) would improve the passage of jaguars across different types of road corridors that would be effective in a variety of different habitat types

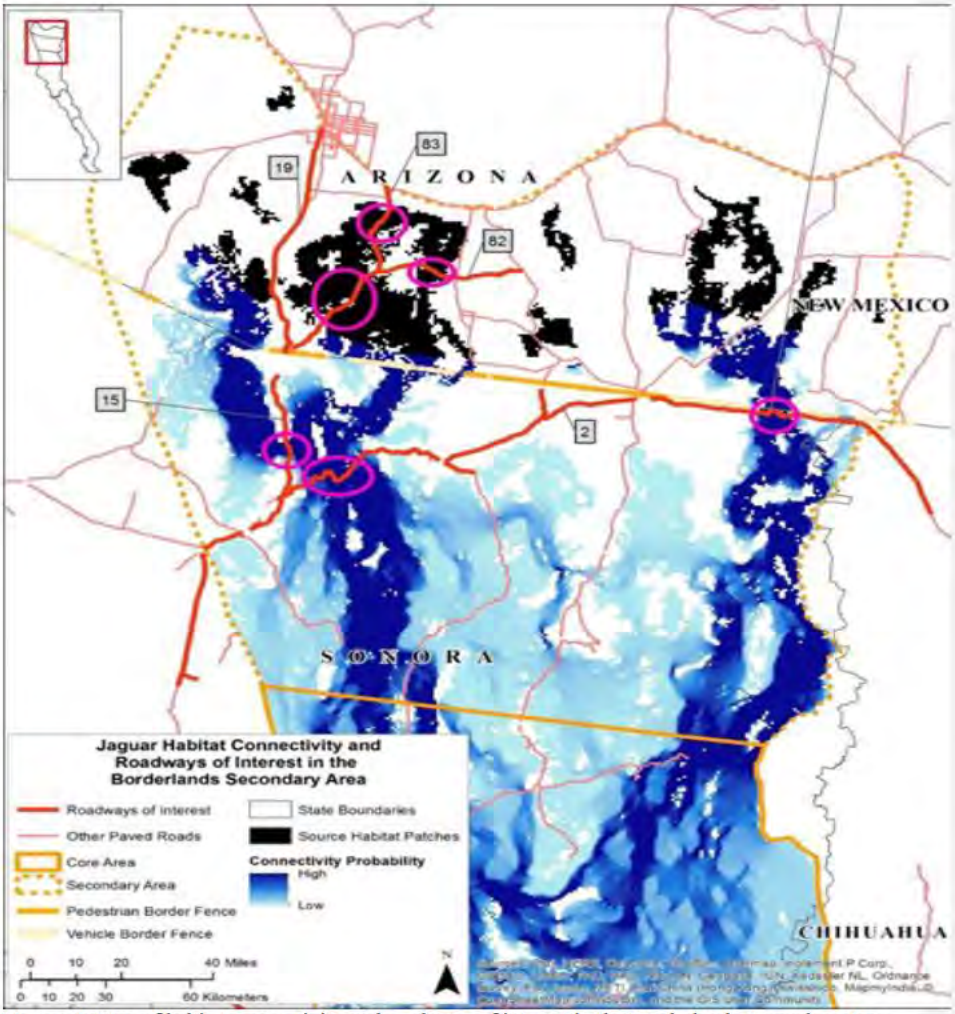


Figure 4. Map of habitat connectivity and roadways of interest in the Borderlands Secondary Area as modeled by Stoner et al. (2015) (some road segments in densely populated areas omitted). A visual examination of this connectivity model, which extends across the entirety of the Northwestern Recovery Unit, reveals three corridors that extend across the U.S.-Mexico border. These corridors are intersected by Mexico Federal Highways 2 and 15. U.S. State Routes 82 and 83 also intersect with "source" habitat patches (used for modeling purposes), which may impact jaguar habitat connectivity. These areas are good candidates for further assessment to determine the potential for road crossing mitigation structures.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Questions and Answers: Final Recovery Plan for the Jaguar

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [Enter date here]
Contacts: Jeff Humphrey 602-242-0210

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar, America's largest wild cat. The plan sets goals for improving the species' status through its entire 19-country range and provides a framework for achieving recovery. The recovery plan focuses on the cat's population in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States and recommends site-specific conservation actions that contribute to jaguar recovery across its range.

Q: What does the jaguar recovery plan tell us?

A: Reversing the decline of the jaguar is possible, but it will require the long-term, coordinated efforts of agencies and conservation organizations in 19 countries, from the United States south to Argentina. The final recovery plan sets goals for improving the species' status across its range and provides a framework for aligning stakeholder efforts to achieve recovery. Critical to the recovery of the jaguar is conservation of key jaguar habitat (including core areas and connective corridors) and populations. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. ~~We anticipate that it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.~~

Q: What are the primary threats to the jaguar?

A: Loss of habitat, killing of individuals and depletion of prey throughout its range are the primary reasons for decreasing populations of jaguars. The recovery plan identifies conservation activities in every country and region for addressing each of these threats. It establishes goals for minimizing threats and for establishing viable populations throughout the jaguar's expansive range.

Q: What is a recovery plan?

A: Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

Q: What are the strategies for conserving and recovering the jaguar in the final recovery plan?

A: The recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units: the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern

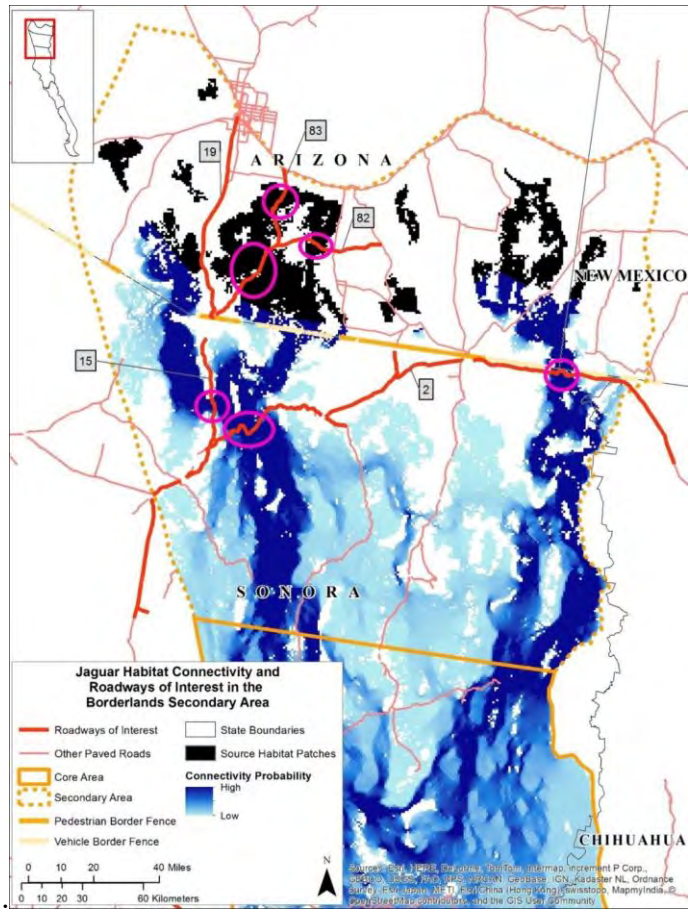
Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. The plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery. As it has in the past, the Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar.

The final recovery plan focuses on the NRU because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction and has an established working relationship with Mexico. The NRU includes the jaguars that occupy the U.S. Southwest borderlands region. Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States (southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico). These jaguars are believed to be expanding their range from the nearest core area and breeding population, which is approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora. Recovery criteria in the Borderlands Secondary Area address mapping and implementing plans to ensure permeability of at least two transborder linkages to provide connectivity.

The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but focuses on efforts to sustain habitat, eliminate poaching, maintain at least two borderland dispersal corridors (see Figure 4 in the final recovery plan), and improve human social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate jaguars that disperse into the United States.

Q: What are the borderland dispersal corridors referred to in the recovery plan and how critical are they to the recovery of jaguars in the United States?

A: Dispersal corridors are rugged, remote areas that presently male jaguars, presumably from the Sonora Core breeding area in Mexico, use to access secondary area habitat, a portion of which is in southern Arizona and New Mexico. These areas have been identified from habitat characteristics, historical records, recent sightings and photo monitoring in the United States and Mexico. (See Jaguar Habitat Connectivity and Identification of Potential Road Mitigation Locations in the NRU for the Jaguar report, as well as Figure 4 of the recovery plan.)



Continued jaguar access to habitat through transborder linkages is the sole mechanism identified in the recovery plan for continued jaguar occupation in the U.S. portion of the species' range. Maintaining this habitat connectivity is one of the recovery criteria for the Northwestern Recovery Unit. Research documents the importance of animal populations at the extremities of their ranges for the expansion and contraction of species' ranges and, ultimately, the long-term recovery of species.

These jaguar dispersal corridors are rugged and remote areas. Border interventions and operations in these areas, at present, are most practically addressed through surveillance and remote detection (electronics, towers, etc.). The U.S.-Mexico border is currently permeable to jaguar movement at these dispersal corridors. Continued work with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will remain important to allowing ongoing opportunities for cross-border movement of jaguars.

Q: How important is the recovery of jaguars in the United States to their overall recovery across their range?

A: The U.S. range of the jaguar represents the very northernmost edge of its 19-country range that extends all the way to South America. The U.S. range represents just one-tenth of 1 percent of its historic range.

Given that the jaguar is an international species with the vast majority of its range outside of the United States, primary actions to recover the jaguar will occur in other countries. Because more than 95 percent of the jaguar's habitat in the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) is in Mexico, Mexico will be the primary contributor to the jaguar's recovery in the NRU. In the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU), countries within the jaguar's range will be the principal contributors to jaguar recovery.

The Service's limited resources are better applied to planning and on-the-ground implementation of conservation actions within the United States boundaries and in partnership with Mexico. Therefore, the Service and the Jaguar Recovery Team have established objective and measurable criteria for recovery and site-specific actions that, if implemented, will conserve viable jaguar populations in the northwestern portion of its range (e.g., the NRU). Priority is given to this unit because this is where the Service has the most jurisdiction, and we have an established working relationship with Mexico on issues of mutual concern.

Q: Was Customs and Border Patrol included in the developing of this plan?

A: Yes. U.S. Border Patrol (Tucson Sector) is represented on the Implementation Subgroup of the Jaguar Recovery Team. Other U.S. border area groups on the subgroup include ranchers, Malpais Borderlands Group, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance (ranching group), and state and federal land and wildlife managers.

Q: What are the actions and partnerships the Service is taking to support recovery of the jaguar in its primary range in 19 Central and South American countries?

A: In recent years, the Service's International Affairs Program has been at the forefront of supporting the conservation of jaguars throughout their range in Mexico, Central America and South America. During the past four years alone, we have supported 23 jaguar-related projects in 10 countries with more than $1 million in conservation funding. When jaguar habitat is conserved, many other species directly benefit.

In addition to providing incentives to protect habitat, many of the projects we support, seek to alleviate fears about jaguars in human communities through education. They also frequently provide landowners with concrete strategies and methods that reduce conflict in such a way that humans and jaguars can co-exist. As a result, landowners are better able to protect their livelihoods and economic interests while helping protect jaguars. They achieve these goals by discouraging jaguars from coming into contact with their livestock, by reforesting areas of their land, and by helping maintain the species' natural prey populations. Based on project reporting to date, most landowners who employ jaguar-friendly ranching techniques see a dramatic reduction in attacks and subsequent livestock mortality. A project in Paraguay has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by 80-100 percent at 12 sites that cover an area more than 770 square miles. Another project in the Maya Biosphere of Guatemala has reduced cattle mortality from jaguar attacks by approximately 70 percent at 283 properties, covering about 11,603 hectares of land now under improved management.

Q: What are the requirements for a full recovery of the jaguar?

A: The approach in this Recovery Plan is as follows:

- Two recovery units are included, the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) and the larger Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU). The NRU extends from south-central Arizona and extreme southwestern New Mexico, United States, south to Colima, Mexico. The PARU encompasses 18 countries from Mexico to Argentina. These units are further divided into core, secondary, and peripheral areas.
- The status of and threats to jaguars in the PARU are summarized and general actions and criteria for addressing these threats and evaluating rangewide recovery are recommended.
- Detailed criteria and actions necessary to recover jaguar populations in the NRU are provided.

The Service will consider removing the jaguar from the ESA list due to recovery when all of the following conditions are met:

A. PARU

i. The status of the jaguar changes to Least Concern (LC) and is maintained under the IUCN Red List criteria (as defined by the World Conservation Union, http://www.iucnredlist.org) for at least 20 more years after first qualifying for LC, which would mean threats have been reduced so the jaguar population is no longer at risk of a ≥ 30 percent decline because its area of occupancy, extent of occurrence, and/or habitat quality, as well as actual or potential levels of exploitation, have been stable for at least 40 years.

B. NRU

i. Maintain approximately 60 percent occupancy (proportion of cells) in each of the Core Areas over 40 years (inclusive of the 20 years required to downlist).

ii. Over 40 years, genetic distance (e.g., F_{ST} or G_{ST}) between the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas does not significantly increase, and inbreeding coefficients (F_{IS} or G_{IS}) within each of the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas do not significantly increase.

iii. During a period of 40 years, the average of at least 30 percent of the adult population within the Sonora and Jalisco Core Areas are female (based on data gathered through surveying, monitoring, genetic analysis, etc.).

iv. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation siting and design), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure the network of ≥ 100-km^2 blocks (the minimum area capable of supporting at least three breeding females) of high-quality habitat and habitat connections between blocks within each Core Area (Sonora and Jalisco) will support genetically and demographically viable jaguar populations for the foreseeable future.

v. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability will be maintained for jaguars within the Sinaloa Secondary Area.

vi. Agency policies and regulations (including transportation), land-use regulations, and landowner agreements in the United States and Mexico are sufficient to ensure landscape permeability, including at least two trans-border linkages, will be maintained for jaguars throughout the Borderlands Secondary Area.

vii. The threat of direct human killing of jaguars is decreased or maintained at sustainable levels as measured by acceptable evidence or an index.

viii. Effective federal, state, tribal, and/or local laws are in place in the NRU that ensure killing of jaguars is prohibited or regulated so viable populations of the species can be maintained.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

News Release

Arizona Ecological Services
Field Office
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Arizona Ecological Services Field Office **www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/**

For Release: [insert date here] [DRAFT]
Contact: Jeff Humphrey, (602) 889-5946, jeff_humphrey@fws.gov

Service and Binational Team Complete ESA Recovery Plan for America's Largest Wild Cat

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery plan for the jaguar, currently listed under the Aact at endangered. The plan provides a recovery framework and goals for improving the species' status throughout its entire 19-country range while focusing on the jaguar populations in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States.

The final recovery plan describes two large jaguar recovery units – the Pan-American Recovery Unit (PARU) where jaguars occupy habitat from eastern Mexico to northern Argentina, and the Northwestern Recovery Unit (NRU) extending from Colima State in western Mexico to the U.S. Southwest. More than 99 percent of the jaguar's range is in Central and South America, so the plan recognizes that countries within the PARU will be the principal contributors to its recovery. The Service will continue to promote jaguar recovery throughout the range of the jaguar, including continued funding support.

The Service has established strong working relationships with state and local partners, conservation groups and the Mexican government. The binational recovery team has not prescribed jaguar reintroductions in the United States but calls for focusing efforts on sustaining potential habitat. In addition, the plan calls for establishing at least two borderland dispersal corridors for jaguars' continued movement through remote, rugged habitat between the countries, eliminating poaching, and improving social acceptance of the jaguar to accommodate their return to the United States.

"The binational recovery team's scientific expertise in protecting the jaguar has been invaluable," said Amy Lueders, the Service's Southwest Regional Director. "We recognize the challenges involved in conserving and recovering a species with such an expansive international range, and the team has laid out a comprehensive plan with goals that are achievable and realistic. We look forward to continuing to work with our diverse partners on this effort within and outside the United States."

Loss of habitat, direct killing of the cats, and depletion of prey are the primary factors contributing to the jaguar's current status and decreasing population trend. Due to past habitat loss, it is unlikely that jaguars will be fully self-sustaining throughout their entire historical range. However, conservation of key jaguar populations and habitat -- including core breeding and connective areas -- will be critical to jaguar recovery. ~~We anticipate it will take a minimum of 50 years to recover the jaguar.~~

Since 1996, seven individual male jaguars have been documented in the United States, all in southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. These jaguars are believed to have come from the nearest core area and breeding population, approximately 130 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Sonora.

Across the jaguar's primary range in Latin America, the Service is actively working with countries and local partners to protect and recover the cat. Conservation efforts include providing incentives for protecting jaguar habitat and prey, education campaigns addressing misinformation and fears, and providing landowners with strategies for co-existing with jaguars.

Recovery plans are not regulatory but provide a framework for recovery of a species so protection under the ESA is no longer necessary. This recovery plan includes scientific information about the species and provides recovery criteria, conservation actions necessary for its recovery and delisting from the ESA and estimates of the time and cost to carry out the measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.

To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations must be secured throughout their range. This will require protecting jaguar habitat quality and connectivity; providing incentives to protect jaguars and their habitat; reducing human-caused mortality of jaguars, particularly retaliatory killing due to livestock depredation; improving, enacting and/or enforcing effective laws that regulate illegal killing of jaguars, jaguar prey and habitat loss; securing adequate funding to implement recovery actions; and maintaining and developing partnerships in the Americas, particularly in Mexico. Once recovery is achieved and the jaguar is delisted, the states manage the species ~~These protections must remain in place after delisting~~ to ensure its ~~the~~ long-term viability~~. of the species.~~

The binational Jaguar Recovery Team includes representatives of CONANP (National Commission of Protected Areas in Mexico), CEDES (Commission of Ecology and Sustainable Development of the State of Sonora), U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS Wildlife Services and U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Border Patrol, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Tohono O'odham Nation, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance, Malpai Borderlands Group, Naturalia, Panthera and several ranchers, landowners, stakeholders and universities in Mexico and the United States. Additionally, the Conservation Planning Specialist Group and the Wildlife Conservation Society contributed substantially to technical aspects of the recovery plan.

The Jaguar Recovery Plan is available at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Jaguar.htm or by request from Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Ecological Services Office, 9828 North 31st Avenue, #C3, Phoenix, AZ 85051–2517; phone 602/242-0210.

*The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit **www.fws.gov**, or connect with us through any of these social media channels: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube.*

Photos available at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/sets/72157632294203147/
Video at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guuhu_-G-Pw&feature=youtu.be

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
AND THE
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Regarding Implementation of Executive Order 13186: "Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds"

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), herein collectively referred to as the Parties.

A. Purpose and Scope

The Parties enter into this MOU pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 13186 (66 FR 3853, Jan. 17, 2001) concerning the responsibilities of Federal agencies to protect migratory birds. The EO directs executive departments and agencies to take certain actions to further implement the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)[1]. This MOU focuses on avoiding and minimizing adverse impacts on migratory birds and strengthening migratory bird conservation through enhanced collaboration between the Parties. This MOU does not waive any applicable legal requirements and does not authorize the take of migratory birds.

B. Authority

The Parties enter into this MOU under the provisions of the following laws and other authorities available to the Parties:

- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act) of 1940, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668–668d);
- Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1451–1466);
- Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531–1544);
- Executive Order 13186, Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds, 2001 (66 Fed. Reg. 3853, Jan. 17, 2001);
- Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act), as amended (33 U.S.C.

[1] This MOU focuses on improving bird conservation actions under the provisions of the MBTA. However, some birds are protected by other environmental laws and associated regulations such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). As such, the coordination, permitting procedures; and requirements under these statutes are different. Therefore, if migratory bird species also covered by the ESA or the Eagle Act are present, CBP should coordinate with FWS to ensure compliance with the specific considerations of these statutes.

1251–1388);
- Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742a–j-2 *et seq*.);
- Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2901–2911);
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1980, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661–667d);
- Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742l);
- Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929, as amended (16 U.S.C. 715–715r);
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended (16 U.S.C. 703–712); and
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321–4347).

C. Missions of Both Parties

CBP

CBP is the largest federal law enforcement agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) charged with the dual mission of securing the Nation's borders while facilitating legitimate trade and travel. As the guardian of U.S. borders, CBP protects approximately 4,000 miles of the international border between the contiguous United States and Canada, as well as 1,000 miles between Alaska and Canada, 1,900 miles of international border with Mexico, and 95,000 miles of shoreline in the contiguous United States.

CBP serves as the front line in defending the United States against terrorists and instruments of terror and protects the economic security of the United States by regulating and facilitating the lawful movement of goods and people across the U.S. border. CBP protects the U.S. economy by enforcing trade laws, intellectual property rights, and collection of revenue on goods imported into the United States; protects the food supply and agricultural industry from pests and disease; and increases the security of our airspace. CBP accomplishes its goals by:

- Effective targeting - each year, more than 11 million maritime containers arrive at U.S. seaports. At land borders, another 11 million containers arrive by truck and 2.7 million by rail. CBP is responsible for knowing the contents of these containers and any safety issues they might pose to the American people. In addition, CBP assesses all people and cargo entering the United States from abroad for terrorist risk.

- Enforcing trade laws – CBP works with internal and external stakeholders to facilitate legitimate trade and address areas of non-compliance while effectively communicating the terms of trade agreements and preferential trade legislation. CBP enforces import and export laws at port-of-entry locations under provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Endangered Species Act. CBP inspects for potential signs of violation of environmental laws such as transnational smuggling of migratory bird parts, invasive species, or other wildlife items. CBP also confirms that all cargo is legally possessed and collects proper revenues for imports.

- Fostering legitimate and safe travel - a key goal of CBP, which increases passenger security through effective risk assessment.

- Inspection technology and equipment - given the magnitude of CBP's responsibility, the development and deployment of sophisticated detection technology is essential. Deployment of nonintrusive inspection technologies is increasing. These technologies are viewed as "force multipliers" that enable CBP officers to screen or examine a larger portion of the stream of commercial traffic. CBP does not rely on any single technology or inspection process. Instead, officers and agents use various technologies in different combinations to substantially increase the likelihood that terrorist weapons, including a nuclear or radiological weapon, will be detected and interdicted.

- Outbound inspections: Keeping weapons and money out of terrorist hands - CBP has the authority to search outbound as well as inbound shipments and uses targeting to carry out its mission in this area. Targeting of outbound shipments and people is a multi-dimensional effort that is enhanced by interagency cooperation.

- Protecting border areas between official ports of entry - Border Patrol agents and Air and Marine Operations personnel are securing areas between the ports of entry by implementing a comprehensive border enforcement strategy, expanding, integrating, and coordinating the use of technology and communications.

In carrying out its statutory mandate to control and guard the border of the United States, CBP performs a number of operational, administrative, and management-related activities and projects that potentially impact migratory birds and their habitat. These activities include, but are not limited to, construction, demolition, operation, maintenance, and repair of:

- Facilities - defined as ports of entry, U.S. Border Patrol Stations, forward operating bases, Air and Marine Operations Facilities, Customs Quarters (housing), camps, checkpoints, or other CBP operated installations, which consists of the land, buildings, on-site roadways, and parking lots that CBP owns, leases, or uses as free space.

- Tactical infrastructure - defined by CBP as any physical component designed to consistently slow, delay, and act as an obstacle to illegal cross-border activity. These components include: fences and gates; roads; bridges, crossovers, and low-water crossings; drainage management structures; boat ramps; lighting and ancillary power systems; remote surveillance systems; mobile detection and inspection technologies and equipment; underground sensors; traffic checkpoints; license-plate readers; and barriers to prohibit illegal vehicle entry.

- Towers and aerostats with infrastructure - to support communications and surveillance activities. This includes fixed-site, tether-controlled approximately 200 foot-long aerostats operating up to 10,000 feet Mean Sea Level (MSL) and smaller relocatable aerostats tethered up to 5000 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) from under 200-foot tower

systems.

- Landscape and vegetation maintenance - to support surveillance activities and Border Patrol safety by improving line of sight and reducing physical obstacles when monitoring cross-border activity.

CBP is committed to executing its mission in an environmentally responsible manner and in compliance with environmental laws, regulations, and EOs, including EO 13186. As part of CBP's commitment to migratory bird conservation, CBP prepared a Migratory Bird Treaty Act Handbook to meet its responsibility to avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and/or their habitats.

FWS

The mission of the FWS is to work with others to conserve, protect, manage, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The FWS Migratory Bird Program serves as the focal point in the United States for policy development and strategic planning, program implementation, and evaluation of actions designed to conserve migratory birds and their habitats.

The FWS is legally mandated to implement the conservation provisions of the MBTA, which includes responsibilities for managing migratory bird populations, domestic and international coordination, and the development and enforcement of regulations. The Migratory Bird Conservation Act and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act mandate migratory bird habitat conservation including habitat protection through acquisition, enhancement, and/or management, and avoidance and minimization of impacts.

FWS programs that involve bird conservation activities include:

1. The Division of Migratory Bird Management and the Migratory Bird Programs in the FWS Regional Offices serve as focal points for policy development and strategic planning. These offices develop and implement monitoring and management initiatives and issue permits for intentional take. Migratory Bird Programs help maintain healthy populations of migratory birds and their habitats to provide continued opportunities for citizens to enjoy bird-related recreation.

2. The Division of Bird Habitat Conservation is instrumental in supporting habitat conservation partnerships through the administration of bird conservation grant programs and development of Joint Ventures that serve as major vehicles for implementing the various bird conservation plans across the country.

3. Ecological Services Field Offices across the country serve as the primary contacts for technical assistance and environmental reviews of projects involving migratory bird issues. The Field Offices coordinate with the Regional FWS Migratory Bird Offices, as necessary,

during these reviews, regarding permits and overall migratory bird conservation strategies.

4. The Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) is the principal FWS program that enforces the legal provisions of the MBTA, Eagle Act, ESA, and other laws pertaining to migratory bird conservation.

5. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) provides the basis for international cooperation and collaboration to ensure trade does not contribute to decline in wild populations of animals and plants, including protected bird species. All documents must be validated or certified by an officially recognized, originating country CITES-inspection authority at the time of export. FWS receives inspection documentation on all regulated CITES commodities including migratory birds and migratory bird parts after CBP completes its inspections.

6. The National Wildlife Refuge System manages National Wildlife Refuges, Waterfowl Protection Areas, and Wetland Management Districts across the country. Many units of this system were established to protect and conserve migratory birds. Refuges not only protect important habitat, but also focus on monitoring migratory bird populations and native habitat restoration for the benefit of migratory birds. The Division of Refuge Law Enforcement enforces the legal provisions of wildlife laws on National Wildlife Refuges, Waterfowl Production Areas, and National Fisheries. The Division of Refuge Law Enforcement also assists OLE when needed.

7. The Science Applications program works with other Service programs and partners to ensure that the necessary science, tools, and capacity are available for planning and implementing the most efficient and effective best management practices (BMPs) to protect fish and wildlife including migratory birds. They facilitate regional self-directed science management partnerships called Landscape Conservation Cooperatives to develop and apply shared science capacity to conservation.

D. Statement of Mutual Interest and Benefit

Both Parties agree that migratory birds are important components of biological diversity. Their conservation will help to sustain ecological integrity and serve the public demand for outdoor recreation, conservation education, wildlife viewing, and hunting opportunities. Further, the Parties agree that it is important to identify measures that will: 1) promote migratory bird conservation; 2) avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and their habitats; and 3) recognize that actions that may provide long-term benefits to migratory bird populations as a whole may result in short-term negative effects on individual birds. It is in the interest of both Parties that potential impacts, direct and indirect, are thoroughly assessed and unavoidable impacts are appropriately mitigated.

Nothing in this MOU is intended to prevent Border Patrol agents from exercising existing exigent/emergency authorities to access lands, including authority to conduct motorized off-road pursuit of cross border violators at any time.

E. Obligations of Both Parties

To the extent allowed by law, subject to the availability of appropriations and within administration budgetary limits, and in accord with the CBP and FWS missions and capabilities, each Party shall:

1. Support the conservation intent of EO 13186 and the migratory bird conventions, to the extent practicable, by: 1) integrating bird conservation principles, measures, and practices into agency actions, and 2) avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

2. Develop BMPs and implement accepted BMPs that are consistent with EO 13186 resulting in the avoidance, minimization, and reduction of negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

3. Promote economic and recreational value of birds to the general public as appropriate by developing and integrating information on migratory birds and their habitats into environmental studies, outreach, and education materials.

4. To the extent practicable, protect, restore, and enhance habitat of migratory birds on facilities and lands administered (controlled or leased) by CBP and prevent and minimize the loss or degradation of remaining natural habitats. This includes:

    a. Collaboration on development and implementation of management practices to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory bird populations and/or their migration, breeding, nesting, foraging, staging, or wintering habitats.

    b. Working collaboratively with other Federal and State agencies, Tribes, non-governmental organizations, private landowners, and other partners, where appropriate, in joint efforts to identify, protect, restore, enhance, monitor, and manage important migratory bird areas (e.g., Important Bird Areas, other significant bird sites that occur on CBP properties) potentially affected by agency actions, focusing efforts in areas of current or future project activities.

5. Promote research and information exchange related to migratory bird conservation including inventorying and monitoring, developing studies related to agency decisions and management practices that may impact migratory birds, and information on environmental contaminants and other physical and biological stressors that are relevant to the conservation of migratory birds. Share information through online tools such as the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN) and Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support

system. The Parties agree to:

a. As practicable and compatible with other study needs and program mandates, collaborate in developing studies: 1) on migratory bird species that may be potentially affected by agency actions, with an emphasis on Birds of Conservation Concern; 2) on the effects of management activities; 3) on avoiding and minimizing degradation of migratory bird habitat; and 4) on creating a framework for implementing appropriate mitigation measures for CBP actions that will negatively effect migratory birds.

b. Identifying BMPs for: 1) avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat; 2) conserving and restoring migratory bird habitats; 3) promoting bird conservation; and 4) inventorying and monitoring migratory birds. Feasible BMPs will be incorporated into online tools, job aids, guidance, and agency policy documents where appropriate.

c. Developing partnerships to further migratory bird conservation, as practicable. This includes cooperation, coordination, and data sharing with other Federal or State agencies, universities, potential developers or their contractors, and nongovernmental organizations involved in monitoring and research studies to provide reliable and comparable information on the distribution and abundance or status and trends of migratory bird populations. Utilize and contribute information to online data sharing sites, such as AKN or IPaC.

d. Promoting the implementation of existing regional or national inventory and monitoring programs and systems such as Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), eBIRD, Christmas Bird Counts, bird atlas projects, or migratory game bird surveys when practicable.

e. Collaborating on studies and research to understand the effects of agency actions on migratory birds, and monitoring bird population responses to BMPs once these practices have been developed and implemented.

f. Contributing information on migratory bird resources to partners developing outreach and education materials and activities.

6. Promoting training opportunities in the most appropriate methods and techniques to: 1) increase migratory bird conservation awareness in compliance with applicable legislation, regulations, and policies; 2) evaluate impacts of projects on migratory birds; and 3) develop management practices that avoid and minimize adverse impacts and promote beneficial proactive approaches to migratory bird conservation.

7. As new information on effectiveness of BMPs become available, evaluate the measures described in this MOU intended to protect, restore, and enhance migratory bird populations and their habitats, including avoiding and minimizing adverse impacts to migratory birds. The FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management, FWS Ecological Services Offices and

CBP agree to design and implement feasible and effective BMPs.

8. Participate, as appropriate, in the interagency Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds (through DHS representatives) to share information on the conservation of migratory birds. The Council's duties include:

    a. Sharing the latest resource information to assist in the conservation and management of migratory birds.

    b. Developing an annual report of accomplishments and recommendations related to EO 13186. CBP will provide information to be incorporated in the DHS highlighted page.

    c. Fostering partnerships to further the goals of EO 13186.

    d. When appropriate, CBP can nominate a project that exemplifies the implementation of EO 13186 for consideration of the Presidential Migratory Bird Federal Stewardship Award for contributions to the protection of migratory birds.

F. CBP Obligations:

The appropriateness and practicality of implementing any specific conservation measure that reduces negative effects on migratory birds and destruction of migratory bird habitat will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Best management practices (BMPs) have been developed to benefit a variety of migratory bird species and their associated habitats. CBP will work cooperatively with FWS to provide information on existing BMPs, develop new BMPs as needed, and provide recommendations regarding feasible BMPs for CBP projects and actions that have the potential to negatively affect migratory birds. To the extent allowed by law, subject to the availability of appropriations and within Administration budgetary limits, and consistent with CBP missions and capabilities, CBP shall:

1) Follow CBP guidance as outlined in the internal *CBP Migratory Bird Treaty Act Handbook for CBP Preparers* (Sept. 4, 2013) regarding CBP's responsibility to avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and/or their habitats pursuant to the MBTA and EO 13186.

2) Prior to starting CBP activities that are associated with general BMP measures (described in #9), utilize credible online tools such as IPaC and AKN to identify activities that are likely to result in negative effects on migratory birds. If additional information is needed, CBP shall engage in early planning and scoping with the FWS to identify migratory bird species likely to occur in areas affected by a proposed action.

3) Integrate migratory bird conservation principles, measures, and practices into agency activities. Avoid and minimize, to the extent practicable, adverse impacts on migratory bird

resources when conducting agency actions, in compliance with, and supporting the purposes of the MBTA, the Eagle Act, the ESA, NEPA, and other applicable statutes.

4) During the NEPA process CBP will assess the potential adverse impacts of proposed actions on migratory birds and their habitat, proactively address migratory bird conservation (including conservation measures in budgeting), initiate appropriate actions to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory birds, and assess and document effects on species of concern. CBP will use the best available demographic, population, and/or habitat association data in the assessment of effects on species of concern.

5) To the extent practicable, protect, restore, and enhance habitat of migratory birds on facilities and lands administered (controlled or leased) by CBP and prevent and minimize the loss or degradation of remaining natural habitats. This includes the following:

    a) Prevent, contain, or abate pollution detrimental to migratory birds and their habitats.

    b) Prevent or abate detrimental alteration of migratory bird habitats, to the extent practicable.

    c) Communicate with FWS, as practicable, to resolve any negative effects on migratory birds occurring during immediate actions taken by CBP to respond to exigent/emergency situations involving human life, health, safety of persons, posing threat to national security. Examples of such CBP actions include pursuit of cross-border violators, search and rescue, response to credible threat, or, in some cases, emergency repair of certain strategic communications equipment. Communication may occur through most expedient channels including through coordination with uniformed FWS law enforcement personnel.

6) Implement the following approaches for avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds, focusing first on species of concern, priority habitats, and key risk factors:

    a) Assess and estimate the effects of proposed actions on migratory birds and their habitats through the project planning process (include this analysis in the NEPA document associated with the proposed action whenever possible). Use best available demographic, population, behavioral, and habitat data in the assessment of effects upon migratory birds. If sufficient data are unavailable, attempt to acquire necessary data by working with Federal, State, and other partners. Utilize online tools, such as AKN, for obtaining geospatial and biological data, and IPaC to obtain information regarding practices relating to geospatial data necessary to support the impact analysis.

    b) Evaluate, through the NEPA process, a reasonable range of alternatives in environmental reviews and, as applicable, incorporate practices to avoid and minimize adverse effects to migratory birds or degradation of habitats consistent with CBP's primary mission to protect the Nation's borders and facilitate legitimate trade and travel. Develop practices,

in coordination with FWS, to avoid and minimize impacts to migratory birds and their habitat and determine how to improve evaluation of impacts.

c) Work collaboratively with FWS and other partners, and develop partnerships with non-federal entities, to monitor migratory birds, as resources allow and within the agency's capabilities and authorities, to improve and better understand the need for, and effectiveness of, conservation efforts tied to projects under CBP authority.

7) Encourage incorporation of comprehensive migratory bird management objectives and BMPs in CBP environmental planning and guiding documents, including MBTA Handbook, ESA Handbook, NEPA Handbook, and other environmental documents consistent with NEPA, CEQ regulations, and other Federal environmental mandates.

8) Comply with applicable Federal migratory bird permitting requirements for activities subject to 50 CFR Part 21. While working through the permitting process with FWS, CBP will, to the maximum extent practicable, avoid and minimize the intentional take of migratory bird species, with an emphasis on species of concern, and, if necessary, develop standards and procedures regarding such take.

9) Develop BMPs to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory birds or migratory bird habitat. The agreed-upon practices should be documented through the NEPA process. These BMPs should emphasize taking steps to avoid and minimize any potential impacts of known stressors associated with the proposed action on migratory birds, which will in turn reduce threats and assist with meeting migratory-bird conservation goals. Examples of BMPs include, but are not limited to:

a) General measures:
   i) Avoid construction, demolition, installation, and maintenance activities during migratory bird nesting/breeding season to the extent practicable. Where project work cannot occur outside the migratory bird nesting season, conduct surveys prior to scheduled activity to determine if active nests are present within the area of impact. Generally, the surveys should be conducted no more than five days prior to scheduled activity. If active nests are identified within or in the vicinity of a project site, avoid the site if practicable until nestlings have fledged or the nest fails. Coordinate with FWS if an active nest needs to be removed or relocated.
   ii) Limit roadside food source or habitat plantings (including landscaping projects near roads) to trees that do not bear fruit (e.g., choosing not to plant attractants like serviceberries, wild cherries, and spicebush, etc.).
   iii) Stay within existing roads and trails to the extent feasible. For motorized off-road pursuits, CBP will use the least intrusive or damaging motorized vehicle readily available, without compromising agent or officer safety. In accordance with the principles of the 2006 MOU (Memorandum of Understanding Among U. S. Department of Homeland Security and U. S. Department of the Interior and U. S. Department of Agriculture Regarding Cooperative National Security and

Counterterrorism Efforts on Federal Lands along the United States' Borders), between CBP-BP and the Department of the Interior (DOI) for Cooperative National Security and Counterterrorism Efforts on Federal Lands along the United States' Border, agents and officers will use their professional judgment in each specific situation based on available evidence to conclude if motorized off-road pursuit is reasonably expected to result in the apprehension of suspected cross-border violators.

iv) Avoid vegetation removal, trimming, and maintenance (e.g., general landscaping activities, tree trimming, grubbing, etc.) during the nesting season to the extent practicable consistent with USBP operational needs to maintain clear lines of sight to the border in key areas of illegal cross-border traffic and otherwise where citizen and agent safety and security is at risk. Periodic vegetation maintenance (e.g. grass mowing once a week) does not require nesting bird surveys prior to each maintenance event. When possible, consider clearing woody vegetation during the non-nesting season a year in advance of a proposed action.

v) Prevent release of non-native plants within project areas and use native plants in CBP facility landscaping where appropriate.

vi) Minimize wildfire potential by reducing hazards that can cause or help spread accidental fires.

b) Lighting, noise, and structural additions:

i) Prevent bird injury or death due to collisions with windows by turning off lights at night or putting up curtains.

ii) To improve avian ability to detect and avoid glass, break up window glass with either a pattern of vertical stripes that are at least ¼ inch wide with a maximum spacing of 4 inches, or horizontal stripes that are at least ¼ inch wide with a maximum spacing of 2 inches. Pattern variations may be appropriate for particular species and habitats.. Patterns should be applied on the outside of see-through windows and reflective glass. The pattern should also contrast enough with the glass to be seen clearly by birds.

iii) Minimize and shield lighting (e.g., downshield lights, install motion sensors).

iv) If migratory birds commonly nest on facilities that must be maintained/repaired during the nesting season, when feasible, prevent nesting by installing anti-perching devices on affected sections of the structure.

c) Communication towers, utilities and energy development:

i) Review BMPs outlined in FWS Guidance and consult with FWS when appropriate on the BMPs that are most suitable for CBP implementation and for prevention of negative effects. Available guidance includes, but is not limited to:

(1) The Federal Aviation Administration's Obstruction Marking and Lighting Advisory Circular AC 70/7460-1L.

(2) Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Decommissioning Division of Migratory Bird Management U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Falls Church, Virginia August 2016.);

(3) Avian Power Line Interaction Committee – Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines (2006);
(4) Avian Power Line Interaction Committee – Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines (2012); and
(5) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Land-based Wind Energy Guidelines (2012)

CBP will coordinate with FWS, as needed, in considering potential effects on migratory birds of CBP proposals for locating communication towers, utilities, and energy development projects such as power lines or wind turbines. Construction of new communications, utility and energy systems, and associated infrastructure should be designed to avoid and minimize impacts on migratory bird populations where feasible. Existing utilities may also be considered for retrofitting to eliminate or reduce impacts.

10) Consistent with safety and security protocols, allow FWS and other partners reasonable access to CBP properties when necessary for conducting sampling or survey programs such as Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship stations, Breeding Bird Surveys, International Shorebird Survey, and breeding bird atlases.

11) Support efforts by FWS to promote the ecological, economic, and recreational values of migratory birds by supporting outreach and educational activities and materials, when appropriate.

12) Minimize or prevent the pollution or detrimental alteration of the environment used by migratory birds whenever practicable by assessing information on environmental contaminants and other stressors associated with CBP actions or existing infrastructure relevant to migratory bird conservation.

13) Where BMPs require inventorying and monitoring, develop and implement new and/or existing inventory and monitoring programs, at appropriate scales, using national standardized protocols when available, to evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs designed to avoid and minimize take of migratory birds, with emphasis on those actions that have the potential to significantly impact species of concern.

14) Where appropriate and feasible, work with FWS to identify opportunities and processes for CBP vessels and aircraft to accommodate FWS staff ride-alongs where such accommodation will not interfere with CBP mission capability or create a financial burden on CBP, but will enable the FWS to conduct important research beneficial to migratory sea birds.

15) Advise the public of the availability of this MOU through a notice published in the Federal Register.

G. The Fish and Wildlife Service Shall:

1. Work with CBP by providing recommendations to avoid and minimize adverse effects

upon migratory birds from CBP actions. FWS may also incorporate these recommendations into IPaC for ease of reference.

2. Through the Division of Migratory Bird Management, maintain a web page on permits that provides links to all offices responsible for issuing permits and permit application forms for take of migratory birds.

3. Provide essential background information to CBP when requested, or through online tools such as AKN and IPaC, to ensure sound management decisions. This may include:

    a. Migratory bird distributions, status, key habitats, conservation guidelines, and risk factors within each Bird Conservation Region.

    b. Changes to the MBTA and its regulations and procedures or other Acts and their regulations affecting management of migratory birds.

    c. Population trends of species that CBP's activities may affect.

    d. Protection measures for reducing human-caused bird mortality that may be applicable to CBP activities, as new information becomes available.

    e. Proactively share with CBP new guidance documents, tools, and job aids designed to improve understanding of MBTA requirements and further the ability of CBP to promote the conservation of migratory birds.

4. Update the FWS publication of *Birds of Conservation Concern* at regular intervals for reliable reference.

5. Recommend accepted BMPs that CBP could programmatically adopt in dealing with migratory bird issues and reducing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

6. FWS will work cooperatively with CBP to provide information on existing BMPs, develop new BMPs as needed, and provide recommendations regarding feasible BMPs for CBP projects and actions that have the potential to take migratory birds.

7. Work to identify important migratory bird habitats (i.e., migration corridors and staging, wintering, nesting, brood-rearing, stop-over habitats, ecological conditions important to nesting habitats, foraging habitats on or adjoining OCS) to aid in collaborative planning.

8. Through IPAC or through the Regional Migratory Bird office, provide to CBP, upon request, technical assistance on migratory bird species and their habitats.

9. Through the appropriate Ecological Services Field office, provide to CBP, upon request, technical assistance for avoiding and minimizing project-related effects on migratory

birds and their habitat resulting from CBP actions.

10. Review and comment on NEPA documents and other planning documents forwarded by CBP (through the Department of Homeland Security). When appropriate, due to special expertise, join as a cooperating agency for preparation of NEPA documents, consistent with the 2013 Memorandum of Agreement for Environmental Coordination and Review of Border Security Activities between the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

H. Dispute Resolution

To prevent potential conflicts and resolve actual disagreements between the Parties, the appropriate CBP Office and the corresponding FWS Ecological Services Field Office will first attempt to resolve the dispute. The Parties will use collaborative processes, including informal meetings or negotiations, to avoid or minimize a dispute. If necessary, the Parties will use conflict prevention or traditional Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes to achieve consensus. . If there is no resolution at the field-office level within 30 days the CBP Office should elevate the issue to the CBP Office of Facilities and Asset Management, Facilities Management and Engineering Directorate, Energy and Environmental Management Division, and the FWS Ecological Services Field Office should elevate the issue to the FWS Regional Office. In the event that the Parties cannot resolve the matter at this level within 30 days, CBP may elevate the dispute to the CBP Office of Facilities and Asset Management, Facilities Management and Engineering Directorate and FWS may elevate the dispute to the FWS Headquarters.

Representatives of both agencies agree to enter into a conflict prevention process using collaborative methods or to enter into a traditional ADR process, as appropriate.

I. Agreement

The Parties mutually agree and understand that:

1. This MOU in no way alters either Party's obligations or responsibilities under the authorities listed in Section B of this MOU or any other statute or other legal authority.

2. Documents furnished to a Party under this MOU may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552). A Party shall not release documents originating in the other Party to a FOIA requester. Rather, the Party shall forward such document(s) to the originating Party for review, determination, and response directly to the requester.

3. This MOU is neither a fiscal- nor a funds-obligation document. The Parties will handle any endeavor involving reimbursement, contribution of funds, or other transfer of anything of value between the Parties in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures,

including those for government procurement and printing. This instrument does not provide such authority.

4. Press releases prepared by either Party that reference this MOU, or the relationship established between the Parties of this MOU, must have prior approval of both Parties appropriate departments.

5. The Parties shall schedule periodic meetings every three years to review progress and identify opportunities for advancing the principles of this MOU.

6. This MOU in no way alters or takes the place of the respective Parties' obligations to comply with applicable requirements pursuant to NEPA, MBTA, ESA, CZMA, the Eagle Act, or other applicable statutes and legal authorities.

7. CBP may incorporate the responsibilities established by this MOU into existing CBP actions; however, CBP may not be able to implement some responsibilities identified in the MOU until CBP has successfully included them in formal planning processes. This MOU does not require changes to current contracts, permits, or other third-party agreements, until such time as CBP has successfully included them in a formal planning process. The Parties will implement this MOU when initiating new actions, when creating new agency guidance documents, and when revising the existing CBP MBTA Handbook, ESA Handbook, NEPA Handbook, or other environmental documents. It does not apply to ongoing CBP actions for which a NEPA decision document was finalized prior to, or within 180 days of the date this MOU was signed, unless supplemental NEPA analysis is subsequently required for the underlying action.

8. This MOU is intended only to improve the internal management of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government and does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, separately enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies or instrumentalities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

9. This MOU takes effect upon the signature of CBP and FWS, and shall be reviewed every three years from the date of execution. This MOU may be amended upon written request of either Party and the subsequent written concurrence of the other Party. Either Party may terminate this MOU, in whole or in part, at any time by providing the other Party 30-days written notice to that effect. This MOU in no way restricts either Party from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, governments, organizations, or individuals.

The principal contacts for this MOU are as follows:

Ken Richkus, Chief
Division of Migratory Bird Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
(b) (6)

(b) (6)
Environmental Planning and Compliance

U.S. Department of the Interior
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Environmental and Energy Division
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

The Parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the last date shown below.

_____
James W. Kurth
Deputy Director
Exercising the Authority of the Director
for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Date: _____

_____
(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) Office of Facilities and
Asset Management
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Date: _____

Appendix A

Definitions:

Action – a program, activity, project, official policy, rule, regulation, or formal plan directly carried out by CBP.

Active nest – nest containing viable eggs, unfledged young, or fledged young that are still dependent on the nest, except bald and golden eagles. An active bald or golden eagle nest is defined by regulation as an "in-use nest," which means "a bald or golden eagle nest characterized by the presence of one or more eggs, dependent young, or adult eagles on the nest in the past 10 days during breeding season." 50 C.F.R. § 22.3 (also note additional definitions for "alternate nest" and "eagle nest").

Avian Knowledge Network (AKN) – An online database of bird distribution and abundance dedicated to the development of tools and resources that guide and inform conservation management (www.avianknowledge.net).

Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) – a standardized international survey that provides information on population trends of breeding birds, through volunteer observations located along randomly selected roadside routes in the United States, Canada and Mexico (http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/html).

Birds of Conservation Concern – A list published and periodically updated by the FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management. The overall goal of this list is to identify the migratory and non-migratory bird species that, in addition to species already listed under ESA, represent the FWS's highest conservation priorities. The most current version of the list, Birds of Conservation Concern 2008, is available at http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds.

CBP Office – All CBP organizational elements, including: Headquarters, Program Management Offices, Facility Divisions or Centers, Field Offices, and any other entity that reports to the Commissioner of CBP.

Conservation Measure – an action undertaken to avoid or minimize action-related environmental effects (in this case specific to migratory birds) and ultimately improve the conservation status of one or more species of migratory birds. Examples include BMPs, surveys and inventories, monitoring, status assessments, land acquisition or protection, habitat restoration, population manipulation, research, and outreach.

Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds – an interagency council established by the Secretary of Interior to oversee the implementation of Executive Order 13186.

Ecological Condition – the composition, structure, and processes of ecosystems over time and space. This includes the diversity of plant and animal communities, the productive capacity of

ecological systems and species diversity, ecosystem diversity, disturbance processes, soil productivity, water quality and quantity, and air quality. Often referred to in terms of ecosystem health, which is the degree to which ecological factors and their interactions are reasonably complete and functioning for continued resilience, productivity, and renewal of the ecosystem.

Effect (adverse or beneficial) – "effects" and "impacts," as used in this MOU are synonymous. Effects may be direct, indirect, or cumulative, and refer to effects from management actions or categories of management actions on migratory bird populations, habitats, ecological conditions, or significant bird conservation sites.

Facility (CBP) - Ports of Entry, U.S. Border Patrol Stations, Forward Operating Bases, Air and Marine Operations Facilities, Customs Quarters (housing), camps, checkpoints, or other CBP-operated installations, which consists of the land, buildings, on-site roadways, and parking lots that CBP owns, leases, or uses as free space.

Important Bird Areas (IBA) – a network of sites that provide essential habitat for the long-term conservation of birds. In the United States, the IBA network is administered by the American Bird Conservancy and the National Audubon Society. (http://www.audubon.org/bird/iba/).

Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support system - a conservation planning tool for streamlining the environmental review process (http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac).

International Shorebird Survey – a monitoring program started in 1974 to survey shorebirds (sandpipers, plovers, etc.) across the Western Hemisphere. (http://www.manomet.org/programs.shorebirds).

Management Action – an activity by a government agency that could cause a positive or negative effect on migratory bird populations or habitats.

Migratory Bird – an individual of any species protected by the MBTA. A list of migratory birds can be found in 50 CFR § 10.13 and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/intrnltr/mbta/mbtandx.html.

Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) – a program that uses the banding of birds during the breeding season to track the changes and patterns in the number of young produced and the survivorship of adults and young. (http://www.birdpop.org/maps.htm).

Mitigation – For NEPA purposes, mitigation includes (a) avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action, (b) minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, (c) rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment, (d) reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action, and (e) compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments

(from 40 C.F.R. § 1508.20, CEQ Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act).

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – the law that requires Federal agencies to prepare a detailed analysis of the environmental impacts of their proposed action with alternatives and to include public involvement in the decision making process for major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. 42 U.S.C. § 4321–4347.

Species of Concern – refers to several categories of birds including: 1) species listed in the periodic report, *Birds of Conservation Concern*, published by the FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management (http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds); 2) priority migratory bird species documented in the comprehensive bird conservation plans (North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, United States Shorebird Conservation Plan, Partners in Flight Bird Conservation Plans); 3) species or populations of waterfowl identified as high, or moderately high, continental priority in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan; 4) listed threatened and endangered bird species in 50 C.F.R. § 17.11; and 5) MBTA-listed gamebirds of management concern (http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds).

Take – to pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect or attempt to pursue, hunt, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect (50 C.F.R. § 10.12). The Eagle Act defines take to mean pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, destroy, molest, or disturb bald and golden eagles (16 U.S.C. § 668c). "Disturb" is further defined by regulation to mean "agitate or bother an eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, (1) injury to an eagle, (2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or (3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior." 50 C.F.R. § 22.3.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
AND THE
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Regarding Implementation of Executive Order 13186: "Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds"

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), herein collectively referred to as the Parties.

A. Purpose and Scope

The Parties enter into this MOU pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 13186 (66 FR 3853, Jan. 17, 2001) concerning the responsibilities of Federal agencies to protect migratory birds. The EO directs executive departments and agencies to take certain actions to further implement the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)[1]. This MOU focuses on avoiding and minimizing adverse impacts on migratory birds and strengthening migratory bird conservation through enhanced collaboration between the Parties. This MOU does not waive any applicable legal requirements and does not authorize the take of migratory birds.

B. Authority

The Parties enter into this MOU under the provisions of the following laws and other authorities available to the Parties:

- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act) of 1940, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668–668d);
- Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1451–1466);
- Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531–1544);
- Executive Order 13186, Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds, 2001 (66 Fed. Reg. 3853, Jan. 17, 2001);
- Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act), as amended (33 U.S.C.

[1] This MOU focuses on improving bird conservation actions under the provisions of the MBTA. However, some birds are protected by other environmental laws and associated regulations such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). As such, the coordination, permitting procedures; and requirements under these statutes are different. Therefore, if migratory bird species also covered by the ESA or the Eagle Act are present, CBP should coordinate with FWS to ensure compliance with the specific considerations of these statutes.

1251–1388);
- Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742a–j-2 *et seq*.);
- Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2901–2911);
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1980, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661–667d);
- Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742l);
- Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929, as amended (16 U.S.C. 715–715r);
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended (16 U.S.C. 703–712); and
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321–4347).

C. Missions of Both Parties

CBP

CBP is the largest federal law enforcement agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) charged with the dual mission of securing the Nation's borders while facilitating legitimate trade and travel. As the guardian of U.S. borders, CBP protects approximately 4,000 miles of the international border between the contiguous United States and Canada, as well as 1,000 miles between Alaska and Canada, 1,900 miles of international border with Mexico, and 95,000 miles of shoreline in the contiguous United States.

CBP serves as the front line in defending the United States against terrorists and instruments of terror and protects the economic security of the United States by regulating and facilitating the lawful movement of goods and people across the U.S. border. CBP protects the U.S. economy by enforcing trade laws, intellectual property rights, and collection of revenue on goods imported into the United States; protects the food supply and agricultural industry from pests and disease; and increases the security of our airspace. CBP accomplishes its goals by:

- Effective targeting - each year, more than 11 million maritime containers arrive at U.S. seaports. At land borders, another 11 million containers arrive by truck and 2.7 million by rail. CBP is responsible for knowing the contents of these containers and any safety issues they might pose to the American people. In addition, CBP assesses all people and cargo entering the United States from abroad for terrorist risk.

- Enforcing trade laws – CBP works with internal and external stakeholders to facilitate legitimate trade and address areas of non-compliance while effectively communicating the terms of trade agreements and preferential trade legislation. CBP enforces import and export laws at port-of-entry locations under provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Endangered Species Act. CBP inspects for potential signs of violation of environmental laws such as transnational smuggling of migratory bird parts, invasive species, or other wildlife items. CBP also confirms that all cargo is legally possessed and collects proper revenues for imports.

- Fostering legitimate and safe travel - a key goal of CBP, which increases passenger security through effective risk assessment.

- Inspection technology and equipment - given the magnitude of CBP's responsibility, the development and deployment of sophisticated detection technology is essential. Deployment of nonintrusive inspection technologies is increasing. These technologies are viewed as "force multipliers" that enable CBP officers to screen or examine a larger portion of the stream of commercial traffic. CBP does not rely on any single technology or inspection process. Instead, officers and agents use various technologies in different combinations to substantially increase the likelihood that terrorist weapons, including a nuclear or radiological weapon, will be detected and interdicted.

- Outbound inspections: Keeping weapons and money out of terrorist hands - CBP has the authority to search outbound as well as inbound shipments and uses targeting to carry out its mission in this area. Targeting of outbound shipments and people is a multi-dimensional effort that is enhanced by interagency cooperation.

- Protecting border areas between official ports of entry - Border Patrol agents and Air and Marine Operations personnel are securing areas between the ports of entry by implementing a comprehensive border enforcement strategy, expanding, integrating, and coordinating the use of technology and communications.

In carrying out its statutory mandate to control and guard the border of the United States, CBP performs a number of operational, administrative, and management-related activities and projects that potentially impact migratory birds and their habitat. These activities include, but are not limited to, construction, demolition, operation, maintenance, and repair of:

- Facilities - defined as ports of entry, U.S. Border Patrol Stations, forward operating bases, Air and Marine Operations Facilities, Customs Quarters (housing), camps, checkpoints, or other CBP operated installations, which consists of the land, buildings, on-site roadways, and parking lots that CBP owns, leases, or uses as free space.

- Tactical infrastructure - defined by CBP as any physical component designed to consistently slow, delay, and act as an obstacle to illegal cross-border activity. These components include: fences and gates; roads; bridges, crossovers, and low-water crossings; drainage management structures; boat ramps; lighting and ancillary power systems; remote surveillance systems; mobile detection and inspection technologies and equipment; underground sensors; traffic checkpoints; license-plate readers; and barriers to prohibit illegal vehicle entry.

- Towers and aerostats with infrastructure - to support communications and surveillance activities. This includes fixed-site, tether-controlled approximately 200 foot-long aerostats operating up to 10,000 feet Mean Sea Level (MSL) and smaller relocatable aerostats tethered up to 5000 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) from under 200-foot tower

systems.

- Landscape and vegetation maintenance - to support surveillance activities and Border Patrol safety by improving line of sight and reducing physical obstacles when monitoring cross-border activity.

CBP is committed to executing its mission in an environmentally responsible manner and in compliance with environmental laws, regulations, and EOs, including EO 13186. As part of CBP's commitment to migratory bird conservation, CBP prepared a Migratory Bird Treaty Act Handbook to meet its responsibility to avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and/or their habitats.

FWS

The mission of the FWS is to work with others to conserve, protect, manage, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The FWS Migratory Bird Program serves as the focal point in the United States for policy development and strategic planning, program implementation, and evaluation of actions designed to conserve migratory birds and their habitats.

The FWS is legally mandated to implement the conservation provisions of the MBTA, which includes responsibilities for managing migratory bird populations, domestic and international coordination, and the development and enforcement of regulations. The Migratory Bird Conservation Act and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act mandate migratory bird habitat conservation including habitat protection through acquisition, enhancement, and/or management, and avoidance and minimization of impacts.

FWS programs that involve bird conservation activities include:

1. The Division of Migratory Bird Management and the Migratory Bird Programs in the FWS Regional Offices serve as focal points for policy development and strategic planning. These offices develop and implement monitoring and management initiatives and issue permits for intentional take. Migratory Bird Programs help maintain healthy populations of migratory birds and their habitats to provide continued opportunities for citizens to enjoy bird-related recreation.

2. The Division of Bird Habitat Conservation is instrumental in supporting habitat conservation partnerships through the administration of bird conservation grant programs and development of Joint Ventures that serve as major vehicles for implementing the various bird conservation plans across the country.

3. Ecological Services Field Offices across the country serve as the primary contacts for technical assistance and environmental reviews of projects involving migratory bird issues. The Field Offices coordinate with the Regional FWS Migratory Bird Offices, as necessary,

during these reviews, regarding permits and overall migratory bird conservation strategies.

4. The Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) is the principal FWS program that enforces the legal provisions of the MBTA, Eagle Act, ESA, and other laws pertaining to migratory bird conservation.

5. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) provides the basis for international cooperation and collaboration to ensure trade does not contribute to decline in wild populations of animals and plants, including protected bird species. All documents must be validated or certified by an officially recognized, originating country CITES-inspection authority at the time of export. FWS receives inspection documentation on all regulated CITES commodities including migratory birds and migratory bird parts after CBP completes its inspections.

6. The National Wildlife Refuge System manages National Wildlife Refuges, Waterfowl Protection Areas, and Wetland Management Districts across the country. Many units of this system were established to protect and conserve migratory birds. Refuges not only protect important habitat, but also focus on monitoring migratory bird populations and native habitat restoration for the benefit of migratory birds. The Division of Refuge Law Enforcement enforces the legal provisions of wildlife laws on National Wildlife Refuges, Waterfowl Production Areas, and National Fisheries. The Division of Refuge Law Enforcement also assists OLE when needed.

7. The Science Applications program works with other Service programs and partners to ensure that the necessary science, tools, and capacity are available for planning and implementing the most efficient and effective best management practices (BMPs) to protect fish and wildlife including migratory birds. They facilitate regional self-directed science management partnerships called Landscape Conservation Cooperatives to develop and apply shared science capacity to conservation.

D. Statement of Mutual Interest and Benefit

Both Parties agree that migratory birds are important components of biological diversity. Their conservation will help to sustain ecological integrity and serve the public demand for outdoor recreation, conservation education, wildlife viewing, and hunting opportunities. Further, the Parties agree that it is important to identify measures that will: 1) promote migratory bird conservation; 2) avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and their habitats; and 3) recognize that actions that may provide long-term benefits to migratory bird populations as a whole may result in short-term negative effects on individual birds. It is in the interest of both Parties that potential impacts, direct and indirect, are thoroughly assessed and unavoidable impacts are appropriately mitigated.

Nothing in this MOU is intended to prevent Border Patrol agents from exercising existing exigent/emergency authorities to access lands, including authority to conduct motorized off-road pursuit of cross border violators at any time.

E. Obligations of Both Parties

To the extent allowed by law, subject to the availability of appropriations and within administration budgetary limits, and in accord with the CBP and FWS missions and capabilities, each Party shall:

1. Support the conservation intent of EO 13186 and the migratory bird conventions, to the extent practicable, by: 1) integrating bird conservation principles, measures, and practices into agency actions, and 2) avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

2. Develop BMPs and implement accepted BMPs that are consistent with EO 13186 resulting in the avoidance, minimization, and reduction of negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

3. Promote economic and recreational value of birds to the general public as appropriate by developing and integrating information on migratory birds and their habitats into environmental studies, outreach, and education materials.

4. To the extent practicable, protect, restore, and enhance habitat of migratory birds on facilities and lands administered (controlled or leased) by CBP and prevent and minimize the loss or degradation of remaining natural habitats. This includes:

    a. Collaboration on development and implementation of management practices to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory bird populations and/or their migration, breeding, nesting, foraging, staging, or wintering habitats.

    b. Working collaboratively with other Federal and State agencies, Tribes, non-governmental organizations, private landowners, and other partners, where appropriate, in joint efforts to identify, protect, restore, enhance, monitor, and manage important migratory bird areas (e.g., Important Bird Areas, other significant bird sites that occur on CBP properties) potentially affected by agency actions, focusing efforts in areas of current or future project activities.

5. Promote research and information exchange related to migratory bird conservation including inventorying and monitoring, developing studies related to agency decisions and management practices that may impact migratory birds, and information on environmental contaminants and other physical and biological stressors that are relevant to the conservation of migratory birds. Share information through online tools such as the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN) and Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support

system. The Parties agree to:

a. As practicable and compatible with other study needs and program mandates, collaborate in developing studies: 1) on migratory bird species that may be potentially affected by agency actions, with an emphasis on Birds of Conservation Concern; 2) on the effects of management activities; 3) on avoiding and minimizing degradation of migratory bird habitat; and 4) on creating a framework for implementing appropriate mitigation measures for CBP actions that will negatively effect migratory birds.

b. Identifying BMPs for: 1) avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat; 2) conserving and restoring migratory bird habitats; 3) promoting bird conservation; and 4) inventorying and monitoring migratory birds. Feasible BMPs will be incorporated into online tools, job aids, guidance, and agency policy documents where appropriate.

c. Developing partnerships to further migratory bird conservation, as practicable. This includes cooperation, coordination, and data sharing with other Federal or State agencies, universities, potential developers or their contractors, and nongovernmental organizations involved in monitoring and research studies to provide reliable and comparable information on the distribution and abundance or status and trends of migratory bird populations. Utilize and contribute information to online data sharing sites, such as AKN or IPaC.

d. Promoting the implementation of existing regional or national inventory and monitoring programs and systems such as Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), eBIRD, Christmas Bird Counts, bird atlas projects, or migratory game bird surveys when practicable.

e. Collaborating on studies and research to understand the effects of agency actions on migratory birds, and monitoring bird population responses to BMPs once these practices have been developed and implemented.

f. Contributing information on migratory bird resources to partners developing outreach and education materials and activities.

6. Promoting training opportunities in the most appropriate methods and techniques to: 1) increase migratory bird conservation awareness in compliance with applicable legislation, regulations, and policies; 2) evaluate impacts of projects on migratory birds; and 3) develop management practices that avoid and minimize adverse impacts and promote beneficial proactive approaches to migratory bird conservation.

7. As new information on effectiveness of BMPs become available, evaluate the measures described in this MOU intended to protect, restore, and enhance migratory bird populations and their habitats, including avoiding and minimizing adverse impacts to migratory birds. The FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management, FWS Ecological Services Offices and

CBP agree to design and implement feasible and effective BMPs.

8. Participate, as appropriate, in the interagency Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds (through DHS representatives) to share information on the conservation of migratory birds. The Council's duties include:

    a. Sharing the latest resource information to assist in the conservation and management of migratory birds.

    b. Developing an annual report of accomplishments and recommendations related to EO 13186. CBP will provide information to be incorporated in the DHS highlighted page.

    c. Fostering partnerships to further the goals of EO 13186.

    d. When appropriate, CBP can nominate a project that exemplifies the implementation of EO 13186 for consideration of the Presidential Migratory Bird Federal Stewardship Award for contributions to the protection of migratory birds.

F. CBP Obligations:

The appropriateness and practicality of implementing any specific conservation measure that reduces negative effects on migratory birds and destruction of migratory bird habitat will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Best management practices (BMPs) have been developed to benefit a variety of migratory bird species and their associated habitats. CBP will work cooperatively with FWS to provide information on existing BMPs, develop new BMPs as needed, and provide recommendations regarding feasible BMPs for CBP projects and actions that have the potential to negatively affect migratory birds. To the extent allowed by law, subject to the availability of appropriations and within Administration budgetary limits, and consistent with CBP missions and capabilities, CBP shall:

1) Follow CBP guidance as outlined in the internal *CBP Migratory Bird Treaty Act Handbook for CBP Preparers* (Sept. 4, 2013) regarding CBP's responsibility to avoid and minimize negative effects to migratory birds and/or their habitats pursuant to the MBTA and EO 13186.

2) Prior to starting CBP activities that are associated with general BMP measures (described in #9), utilize credible online tools such as IPaC and AKN to identify activities that are likely to result in negative effects on migratory birds. If additional information is needed, CBP shall engage in early planning and scoping with the FWS to identify migratory bird species likely to occur in areas affected by a proposed action.

3) Integrate migratory bird conservation principles, measures, and practices into agency activities. Avoid and minimize, to the extent practicable, adverse impacts on migratory bird

resources when conducting agency actions, in compliance with, and supporting the purposes of the MBTA, the Eagle Act, the ESA, NEPA, and other applicable statutes.

4) During the NEPA process CBP will assess the potential adverse impacts of proposed actions on migratory birds and their habitat, proactively address migratory bird conservation (including conservation measures in budgeting), initiate appropriate actions to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory birds, and assess and document effects on species of concern. CBP will use the best available demographic, population, and/or habitat association data in the assessment of effects on species of concern.

5) To the extent practicable, protect, restore, and enhance habitat of migratory birds on facilities and lands administered (controlled or leased) by CBP and prevent and minimize the loss or degradation of remaining natural habitats. This includes the following:

    a) Prevent, contain, or abate pollution detrimental to migratory birds and their habitats.

    b) Prevent or abate detrimental alteration of migratory bird habitats, to the extent practicable.

    c) Communicate with FWS, as practicable, to resolve any negative effects on migratory birds occurring during immediate actions taken by CBP to respond to exigent/emergency situations involving human life, health, safety of persons, posing threat to national security. Examples of such CBP actions include pursuit of cross-border violators, search and rescue, response to credible threat, or, in some cases, emergency repair of certain strategic communications equipment. Communication may occur through most expedient channels including through coordination with uniformed FWS law enforcement personnel.

6) Implement the following approaches for avoiding and minimizing negative effects on migratory birds, focusing first on species of concern, priority habitats, and key risk factors:

    a) Assess and estimate the effects of proposed actions on migratory birds and their habitats through the project planning process (include this analysis in the NEPA document associated with the proposed action whenever possible). Use best available demographic, population, behavioral, and habitat data in the assessment of effects upon migratory birds. If sufficient data are unavailable, attempt to acquire necessary data by working with Federal, State, and other partners. Utilize online tools, such as AKN, for obtaining geospatial and biological data, and IPaC to obtain information regarding practices relating to geospatial data necessary to support the impact analysis.

    b) Evaluate, through the NEPA process, a reasonable range of alternatives in environmental reviews and, as applicable, incorporate practices to avoid and minimize adverse effects to migratory birds or degradation of habitats consistent with CBP's primary mission to protect the Nation's borders and facilitate legitimate trade and travel. Develop practices,

in coordination with FWS, to avoid and minimize impacts to migratory birds and their habitat and determine how to improve evaluation of impacts.

c) Work collaboratively with FWS and other partners, and develop partnerships with non-federal entities, to monitor migratory birds, as resources allow and within the agency's capabilities and authorities, to improve and better understand the need for, and effectiveness of, conservation efforts tied to projects under CBP authority.

7) Encourage incorporation of comprehensive migratory bird management objectives and BMPs in CBP environmental planning and guiding documents, including MBTA Handbook, ESA Handbook, NEPA Handbook, and other environmental documents consistent with NEPA, CEQ regulations, and other Federal environmental mandates.

8) Comply with applicable Federal migratory bird permitting requirements for activities subject to 50 CFR Part 21. While working through the permitting process with FWS, CBP will, to the maximum extent practicable, avoid and minimize the intentional take of migratory bird species, with an emphasis on species of concern, and, if necessary, develop standards and procedures regarding such take.

9) Develop BMPs to avoid and minimize negative effects on migratory birds or migratory bird habitat. The agreed-upon practices should be documented through the NEPA process. These BMPs should emphasize taking steps to avoid and minimize any potential impacts of known stressors associated with the proposed action on migratory birds, which will in turn reduce threats and assist with meeting migratory-bird conservation goals. Examples of BMPs include, but are not limited to:

a) General measures:
   i) Avoid construction, demolition, installation, and maintenance activities during migratory bird nesting/breeding season to the extent practicable. Where project work cannot occur outside the migratory bird nesting season, conduct surveys prior to scheduled activity to determine if active nests are present within the area of impact. Generally, the surveys should be conducted no more than five days prior to scheduled activity. If active nests are identified within or in the vicinity of a project site, avoid the site if practicable until nestlings have fledged or the nest fails. Coordinate with FWS if an active nest needs to be removed or relocated.
   ii) Limit roadside food source or habitat plantings (including landscaping projects near roads) to trees that do not bear fruit (e.g., choosing not to plant attractants like serviceberries, wild cherries, and spicebush, etc.).
   iii) Stay within existing roads and trails to the extent feasible. For motorized off-road pursuits, CBP will use the least intrusive or damaging motorized vehicle readily available, without compromising agent or officer safety. In accordance with the principles of the 2006 MOU (Memorandum of Understanding Among U. S. Department of Homeland Security and U. S. Department of the Interior and U. S. Department of Agriculture Regarding Cooperative National Security and

Counterterrorism Efforts on Federal Lands along the United States' Borders), between CBP-BP and the Department of the Interior (DOI) for Cooperative National Security and Counterterrorism Efforts on Federal Lands along the United States' Border, agents and officers will use their professional judgment in each specific situation based on available evidence to conclude if motorized off-road pursuit is reasonably expected to result in the apprehension of suspected cross-border violators.

iv) Avoid vegetation removal, trimming, and maintenance (e.g., general landscaping activities, tree trimming, grubbing, etc.) during the nesting season to the extent practicable consistent with USBP operational needs to maintain clear lines of sight to the border in key areas of illegal cross-border traffic and otherwise where citizen and agent safety and security is at risk. Periodic vegetation maintenance (e.g. grass mowing once a week) does not require nesting bird surveys prior to each maintenance event. When possible, consider clearing woody vegetation during the non-nesting season a year in advance of a proposed action.

v) Prevent release of non-native plants within project areas and use native plants in CBP facility landscaping where appropriate.

vi) Minimize wildfire potential by reducing hazards that can cause or help spread accidental fires.

b) Lighting, noise, and structural additions:

i) Prevent bird injury or death due to collisions with windows by turning off lights at night or putting up curtains.

ii) To improve avian ability to detect and avoid glass, break up window glass with either a pattern of vertical stripes that are at least ¼ inch wide with a maximum spacing of 4 inches, or horizontal stripes that are at least ¼ inch wide with a maximum spacing of 2 inches. Pattern variations may be appropriate for particular species and habitats.. Patterns should be applied on the outside of see-through windows and reflective glass. The pattern should also contrast enough with the glass to be seen clearly by birds.

iii) Minimize and shield lighting (e.g., downshield lights, install motion sensors).

iv) If migratory birds commonly nest on facilities that must be maintained/repaired during the nesting season, when feasible, prevent nesting by installing anti-perching devices on affected sections of the structure.

c) Communication towers, utilities and energy development:

i) Review BMPs outlined in FWS Guidance and consult with FWS when appropriate on the BMPs that are most suitable for CBP implementation and for prevention of negative effects. Available guidance includes, but is not limited to:

(1) The Federal Aviation Administration's Obstruction Marking and Lighting Advisory Circular AC 70/7460-1L.

(2) Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Decommissioning Division of Migratory Bird Management U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Falls Church, Virginia August 2016.);

(3) Avian Power Line Interaction Committee – Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines (2006);
(4) Avian Power Line Interaction Committee – Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines (2012); and
(5) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Land-based Wind Energy Guidelines (2012)

CBP will coordinate with FWS, as needed, in considering potential effects on migratory birds of CBP proposals for locating communication towers, utilities, and energy development projects such as power lines or wind turbines. Construction of new communications, utility and energy systems, and associated infrastructure should be designed to avoid and minimize impacts on migratory bird populations where feasible. Existing utilities may also be considered for retrofitting to eliminate or reduce impacts.

10) Consistent with safety and security protocols, allow FWS and other partners reasonable access to CBP properties when necessary for conducting sampling or survey programs such as Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship stations, Breeding Bird Surveys, International Shorebird Survey, and breeding bird atlases.

11) Support efforts by FWS to promote the ecological, economic, and recreational values of migratory birds by supporting outreach and educational activities and materials, when appropriate.

12) Minimize or prevent the pollution or detrimental alteration of the environment used by migratory birds whenever practicable by assessing information on environmental contaminants and other stressors associated with CBP actions or existing infrastructure relevant to migratory bird conservation.

13) Where BMPs require inventorying and monitoring, develop and implement new and/or existing inventory and monitoring programs, at appropriate scales, using national standardized protocols when available, to evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs designed to avoid and minimize take of migratory birds, with emphasis on those actions that have the potential to significantly impact species of concern.

14) Where appropriate and feasible, work with FWS to identify opportunities and processes for CBP vessels and aircraft to accommodate FWS staff ride-alongs where such accommodation will not interfere with CBP mission capability or create a financial burden on CBP, but will enable the FWS to conduct important research beneficial to migratory sea birds.

15) Advise the public of the availability of this MOU through a notice published in the Federal Register.

G. The Fish and Wildlife Service Shall:

1. Work with CBP by providing recommendations to avoid and minimize adverse effects

upon migratory birds from CBP actions. FWS may also incorporate these recommendations into IPaC for ease of reference.

2. Through the Division of Migratory Bird Management, maintain a web page on permits that provides links to all offices responsible for issuing permits and permit application forms for take of migratory birds.

3. Provide essential background information to CBP when requested, or through online tools such as AKN and IPaC, to ensure sound management decisions. This may include:

    a. Migratory bird distributions, status, key habitats, conservation guidelines, and risk factors within each Bird Conservation Region.

    b. Changes to the MBTA and its regulations and procedures or other Acts and their regulations affecting management of migratory birds.

    c. Population trends of species that CBP's activities may affect.

    d. Protection measures for reducing human-caused bird mortality that may be applicable to CBP activities, as new information becomes available.

    e. Proactively share with CBP new guidance documents, tools, and job aids designed to improve understanding of MBTA requirements and further the ability of CBP to promote the conservation of migratory birds.

4. Update the FWS publication of *Birds of Conservation Concern* at regular intervals for reliable reference.

5. Recommend accepted BMPs that CBP could programmatically adopt in dealing with migratory bird issues and reducing negative effects on migratory birds and their habitat.

6. FWS will work cooperatively with CBP to provide information on existing BMPs, develop new BMPs as needed, and provide recommendations regarding feasible BMPs for CBP projects and actions that have the potential to take migratory birds.

7. Work to identify important migratory bird habitats (i.e., migration corridors and staging, wintering, nesting, brood-rearing, stop-over habitats, ecological conditions important to nesting habitats, foraging habitats on or adjoining OCS) to aid in collaborative planning.

8. Through IPAC or through the Regional Migratory Bird office, provide to CBP, upon request, technical assistance on migratory bird species and their habitats.

9. Through the appropriate Ecological Services Field office, provide to CBP, upon request, technical assistance for avoiding and minimizing project-related effects on migratory

birds and their habitat resulting from CBP actions.

10. Review and comment on NEPA documents and other planning documents forwarded by CBP (through the Department of Homeland Security). When appropriate, due to special expertise, join as a cooperating agency for preparation of NEPA documents, consistent with the 2013 Memorandum of Agreement for Environmental Coordination and Review of Border Security Activities between the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

H. Dispute Resolution

To prevent potential conflicts and resolve actual disagreements between the Parties, the appropriate CBP Office and the corresponding FWS Ecological Services Field Office will first attempt to resolve the dispute. The Parties will use collaborative processes, including informal meetings or negotiations, to avoid or minimize a dispute. If necessary, the Parties will use conflict prevention or traditional Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes to achieve consensus. . If there is no resolution at the field-office level within 30 days the CBP Office should elevate the issue to the CBP Office of Facilities and Asset Management, Facilities Management and Engineering Directorate, Energy and Environmental Management Division, and the FWS Ecological Services Field Office should elevate the issue to the FWS Regional Office. In the event that the Parties cannot resolve the matter at this level within 30 days, CBP may elevate the dispute to the CBP Office of Facilities and Asset Management, Facilities Management and Engineering Directorate and FWS may elevate the dispute to the FWS Headquarters.

Representatives of both agencies agree to enter into a conflict prevention process using collaborative methods or to enter into a traditional ADR process, as appropriate.

I. Agreement

The Parties mutually agree and understand that:

1. This MOU in no way alters either Party's obligations or responsibilities under the authorities listed in Section B of this MOU or any other statute or other legal authority.

2. Documents furnished to a Party under this MOU may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552). A Party shall not release documents originating in the other Party to a FOIA requester. Rather, the Party shall forward such document(s) to the originating Party for review, determination, and response directly to the requester.

3. This MOU is neither a fiscal- nor a funds-obligation document. The Parties will handle any endeavor involving reimbursement, contribution of funds, or other transfer of anything of value between the Parties in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures,

including those for government procurement and printing. This instrument does not provide such authority.

4. Press releases prepared by either Party that reference this MOU, or the relationship established between the Parties of this MOU, must have prior approval of both Parties appropriate departments.

5. The Parties shall schedule periodic meetings every three years to review progress and identify opportunities for advancing the principles of this MOU.

6. This MOU in no way alters or takes the place of the respective Parties' obligations to comply with applicable requirements pursuant to NEPA, MBTA, ESA, CZMA, the Eagle Act, or other applicable statutes and legal authorities.

7. CBP may incorporate the responsibilities established by this MOU into existing CBP actions; however, CBP may not be able to implement some responsibilities identified in the MOU until CBP has successfully included them in formal planning processes. This MOU does not require changes to current contracts, permits, or other third-party agreements, until such time as CBP has successfully included them in a formal planning process. The Parties will implement this MOU when initiating new actions, when creating new agency guidance documents, and when revising the existing CBP MBTA Handbook, ESA Handbook, NEPA Handbook, or other environmental documents. It does not apply to ongoing CBP actions for which a NEPA decision document was finalized prior to, or within 180 days of the date this MOU was signed, unless supplemental NEPA analysis is subsequently required for the underlying action.

8. This MOU is intended only to improve the internal management of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government and does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, separately enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies or instrumentalities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

9. This MOU takes effect upon the signature of CBP and FWS, and shall be reviewed every three years from the date of execution. This MOU may be amended upon written request of either Party and the subsequent written concurrence of the other Party. Either Party may terminate this MOU, in whole or in part, at any time by providing the other Party 30-days written notice to that effect. This MOU in no way restricts either Party from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, governments, organizations, or individuals.

The principal contacts for this MOU are as follows:

Ken Richkus, Chief
Division of Migratory Bird Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
(b) (6)

(b) (6)
Environmental Planning and Compliance

U.S. Department of the Interior
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Environmental and Energy Division
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

The Parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the last date shown below.

_____
James W. Kurth
Deputy Director
Exercising the Authority of the Director
for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Date: _____

_____
(b) (6)(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6), Office of Facilities and
Asset Management
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Date: _____

Appendix A

Definitions:

Action – a program, activity, project, official policy, rule, regulation, or formal plan directly carried out by CBP.

Active nest – nest containing viable eggs, unfledged young, or fledged young that are still dependent on the nest, except bald and golden eagles. An active bald or golden eagle nest is defined by regulation as an "in-use nest," which means "a bald or golden eagle nest characterized by the presence of one or more eggs, dependent young, or adult eagles on the nest in the past 10 days during breeding season." 50 C.F.R. § 22.3 (also note additional definitions for "alternate nest" and "eagle nest").

Avian Knowledge Network (AKN) – An online database of bird distribution and abundance dedicated to the development of tools and resources that guide and inform conservation management (www.avianknowledge.net).

Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) – a standardized international survey that provides information on population trends of breeding birds, through volunteer observations located along randomly selected roadside routes in the United States, Canada and Mexico (http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/html).

Birds of Conservation Concern – A list published and periodically updated by the FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management. The overall goal of this list is to identify the migratory and non-migratory bird species that, in addition to species already listed under ESA, represent the FWS's highest conservation priorities. The most current version of the list, Birds of Conservation Concern 2008, is available at http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds.

CBP Office – All CBP organizational elements, including: Headquarters, Program Management Offices, Facility Divisions or Centers, Field Offices, and any other entity that reports to the Commissioner of CBP.

Conservation Measure – an action undertaken to avoid or minimize action-related environmental effects (in this case specific to migratory birds) and ultimately improve the conservation status of one or more species of migratory birds. Examples include BMPs, surveys and inventories, monitoring, status assessments, land acquisition or protection, habitat restoration, population manipulation, research, and outreach.

Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds – an interagency council established by the Secretary of Interior to oversee the implementation of Executive Order 13186.

Ecological Condition – the composition, structure, and processes of ecosystems over time and space. This includes the diversity of plant and animal communities, the productive capacity of

ecological systems and species diversity, ecosystem diversity, disturbance processes, soil productivity, water quality and quantity, and air quality. Often referred to in terms of ecosystem health, which is the degree to which ecological factors and their interactions are reasonably complete and functioning for continued resilience, productivity, and renewal of the ecosystem.

Effect (adverse or beneficial) – "effects" and "impacts," as used in this MOU are synonymous. Effects may be direct, indirect, or cumulative, and refer to effects from management actions or categories of management actions on migratory bird populations, habitats, ecological conditions, or significant bird conservation sites.

Facility (CBP) - Ports of Entry, U.S. Border Patrol Stations, Forward Operating Bases, Air and Marine Operations Facilities, Customs Quarters (housing), camps, checkpoints, or other CBP-operated installations, which consists of the land, buildings, on-site roadways, and parking lots that CBP owns, leases, or uses as free space.

Important Bird Areas (IBA) – a network of sites that provide essential habitat for the long-term conservation of birds. In the United States, the IBA network is administered by the American Bird Conservancy and the National Audubon Society. (http://www.audubon.org/bird/iba/).

Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support system - a conservation planning tool for streamlining the environmental review process (http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac).

International Shorebird Survey – a monitoring program started in 1974 to survey shorebirds (sandpipers, plovers, etc.) across the Western Hemisphere. (http://www.manomet.org/programs.shorebirds).

Management Action – an activity by a government agency that could cause a positive or negative effect on migratory bird populations or habitats.

Migratory Bird – an individual of any species protected by the MBTA. A list of migratory birds can be found in 50 CFR § 10.13 and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/intrnltr/mbta/mbtandx.html.

Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) – a program that uses the banding of birds during the breeding season to track the changes and patterns in the number of young produced and the survivorship of adults and young. (http://www.birdpop.org/maps.htm).

Mitigation – For NEPA purposes, mitigation includes (a) avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action, (b) minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, (c) rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment, (d) reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action, and (e) compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments

(from 40 C.F.R. § 1508.20, CEQ Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act).

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – the law that requires Federal agencies to prepare a detailed analysis of the environmental impacts of their proposed action with alternatives and to include public involvement in the decision making process for major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. 42 U.S.C. § 4321–4347.

Species of Concern – refers to several categories of birds including: 1) species listed in the periodic report, *Birds of Conservation Concern*, published by the FWS Division of Migratory Bird Management (http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds); 2) priority migratory bird species documented in the comprehensive bird conservation plans (North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, United States Shorebird Conservation Plan, Partners in Flight Bird Conservation Plans); 3) species or populations of waterfowl identified as high, or moderately high, continental priority in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan; 4) listed threatened and endangered bird species in 50 C.F.R. § 17.11; and 5) MBTA-listed gamebirds of management concern (http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds).

Take – to pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect or attempt to pursue, hunt, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect (50 C.F.R. § 10.12). The Eagle Act defines take to mean pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, destroy, molest, or disturb bald and golden eagles (16 U.S.C. § 668c). "Disturb" is further defined by regulation to mean "agitate or bother an eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, (1) injury to an eagle, (2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or (3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior." 50 C.F.R. § 22.3.

Appendix C: List of Bird Species Not Protected under the MBTA

Federal Register Volume 70 Number 49 - List of Bird Species to Which the Migratory Bird Treaty Act Does Not Apply

Species Not Protected under the MBTA

A. **Species that are (1) nonnative human-introduced and (2) belong to families covered by conventions implemented by the MBTA**

70 FR 12710 (March 15, 2005)

B. **Species that are (1) native and (2) belong to families not covered by any of the conventions implemented by the MBTA**[Q]

Family MEGAPODIIDAE
Megapodius laperouse, Micronesian Megapode+ (NMI)‡
Family PHASIANIDAE
Bonasa umbellus, Ruffed Grouse+ (cont. U.S.)
Centrocercus minimus, Gunnison Sage-Grouse+ (CO, UT)
Centrocercus urophasianus, Greater Sage-Grouse+ (w. U.S.)
Dendragapus obscurus, Blue Grouse+ (w. U.S.)
Falcipennis canadensis, Spruce Grouse (n. U.S.)
Lagopus lagopus, Willow Ptarmigan+ (n. U.S.)
Lagopus leucurus, White-tailed Ptarmigan+ (n. U.S.)
Lagopus mutus, Rock Ptarmigan+ (n. U.S.)
Meleagrus gallopavo, Wild Turkey+ (cont. U.S.)
Tympanuchus cupido, Greater Prairie-Chicken+ (c. & w. U.S.)‡
Tympanuchus pallidicinctus, Lesser Prairie-Chicken+ (c. & w. U.S.)
Tympanuchus phasianellus, Sharp-tailed Grouse+ (n. & w. U.S.)
Family ODONTOPHORIDAE
Callipepla californica, California Quail+ (CA, NV, OR)
Callipepla gambelii, Gambel's Quail+ (sw U.S.)
Callipepla squamata, Scaled Quail+ (sw U.S.)
Colinus virginianus, Northern Bobwhite+ (cont. U.S.)
Cyrtonyx montezumae, Montezuma Quail+ (sw U.S.)
Oreortyx pictus, Mountain Quail+ (w. U.S.)
Family BURHINIDAE
Burhinus bistriatus, Double-striped Thick-knee (TX)
Family GLAREOLIDAE
Glareola maldivarum, Oriental Pratincole (AK)
Family PSITTACIDAE
Amazona vittata, Puerto Rican Parrot+ (PR)‡
Aratinga chloroptera, Hispaniolan Parakeet (PR–Extirpated)
Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha, Thick-billed Parrot (AZ, NM)‡
Family TODIDAE
Todus mexicanus, Puerto Rican Tody+ (PR)
Family MELIPHAGIDAE

Moho braccatus, Kauai Oo+ (HI)‡
Family MONARCHIDAE
Chasiempis sandwichensis, Elepaio+ (HI)‡
Clytorhynchus vitiensis, Fiji Shrikebill+ (AS)
Myiagra freycineta, Guam Flycatcher+ (GU)
Monarcha takatsukasai, Tinian Monarch+ (NMI)
Rhipidura rufifrons, Rufous Fantail+ (GU, NMI)
Family TIMALIIDAE
Chamaea fasciata, Wrentit+ (CA, OR, WA)
Family ZOSTEROPIDAE
Zosterops conspicillatus, Bridled White-eye+ (GU, NMI)‡
Family COEREBIDAE
Coereba flaveola, Bananaquit+ (PR, VI)
Family DREPANIDINAE
Hemignathus flavus, Oahu Amakihi+ (HI)
Hemignathus kauaiensis, Kauai Amakihi+ (HI)
Hemignathus lucidus, Nukupuu+ (HI)‡
Hemignathus munroi, Akiapolaau+ (HI)
Hemignathus parvus, Anianiau+ (HI)
Hemignathus virens, Hawaii Amakihi+ (HI)
Himatione sanguinea, Apapane+ (HI)
Loxioides bailleui, Palila+ (HI)‡
Loxops caeruleirostris, Akekee+ (HI)
Loxops coccineus, Akepa+ (HI)
Melamprosops phaeosoma, Poo-uli [=Po'ouli] + (HI-Extinct 2004)‡
Oreomystis bairdi, Akikiki+ (HI)
Oreomystis mana, Hawaii Creeper+ (HI)‡
Palmeria dolei, Akohekohe [=Crested Honeycreeper]+ (HI)‡
Paroreomyza flammea, Kakawahie [=Molokai Creeper]+ (HI)‡
Paroreomyza maculata, Oahu Alauahio [=Oahu Creeper]+ (HI–probably Extinct)‡
Paroreomyza montana, Maui Alauahio+ (HI)
Pseudonestor xanthophrys, Maui Parrotbill+ (HI)‡
Psittirostra psittacea, Ou+ (HI)‡
Telespiza cantans, Laysan Finch+ (HI)‡
Telespiza ultima, Nihoa Finch+ (HI)‡
Vestiaria coccinea, Iiwi+ (HI)

C. Species that are (1) nonnative human-introduced and (2) belong to families not covered by any of the conventions implemented by the MBTA[1]

Family TINAMIDAE
Nothoprocta perdicaria, Chilean Tinamou
Nothura maculosa, Spotted Nothura

Rhynchotus rufescens, Red-winged Tinamou
Tinamus major, Great Tinamou
Family CRACIDAE
Crax rubra, Great Curassow
Ortalis cinereiceps, Gray-headed Chachalaca
Ortalis garrula, Chestnut-winged Chachalaca
Ortalis vetula, Plain Chachalaca (GA)
Penelope purpurascens, Crested Guan
Family PHASIANIDAE
Alectoris barbara, Barbary Partridge
Alectoris chukar, Chukar^ (w. U.S.)
Alectoris graeca, Rock Partridge
Ammoperdix griseogularis, See-see Partridge
Bambusicola thoracica, Chinese Bamboo-Partridge
Bonasia bonasia, Hazel Grouse
Chrysolophus amherstiae, Lady Amherst's Pheasant
Chrysolophus pictus, Golden Pheasant
Coturnix chinensis, Blue-breasted Quail
Coturnix japonica, Japanese Quail^ (HI)
Coturnix pectoralis, Stubble Quail
Francolinus adspersus, Red-billed Francolin
Francolinus clappertoni, Clapperton's Francolin
Francolinus erckelii, Erckel's Francolin^ (HI)
Francolinus francolinus, Black Francolin^ (HI)
Francolinus icterorhynchus, Heuglin's Francolin
Francolinus leucoscepus, Yellow-necked Spurfowl (HI-Extirpated)*
Francolinus pintadeanus, Chinese Francolin
Francolinus pondicerianus, Gray Francolin^ (HI)
Gallus gallus, Red Junglefowl^ (FL, HI)
Gallus sonnerati, Gray Junglefowl
Lophura leucomelanos, Kalij Pheasant^ (HI)
Lophura nycthemera, Silver Pheasant
Melanoperdix nigra, Black Partridge
Numida meleagris, helmeted Guineafowl^ (HI, PR)
Pavo cristatus, Common Peafowl^ (HI)
Perdix perdix, Gray Patridge^ (cont. U.S.)
Phasianus colchicus, Ring-necked Pheasant^ (cont. U.S., HI)
Phasianus versicolor, Green Pheasant
Rollulus rouloul, Crested Partridge
Syrmaticus ellioti, Elliot's Pheasant
Syrmaticus reevesii, Reeve's Pheasant
Syrmaticus soemmerringii, Copper Pheasant
Tetrao tetrix, Black Grouse
Tetrao urogallus, Western Capercaillie
Tetraogallus himalayensis, Himalayan Snowcock^ (NV)
Family TURNICIDAE

Turnix varia, painted Buttonquail
Family ODONTOPHORIDAE
Colinus cristatus, Crested Bobwhite^ (VI–now Extirpated)
Callipepla douglasii, Elegant Quail
Family PTEROCLIDIDAE
Pterocles exustus, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse^ (HI)
Family PSITTACIDAE
Agapornis fischeri, Fischer's Lovebird
Agapornis personatus, Yellow-collared Lovebird
Agapornis roseicollis, Peach-faced Lovebird
Amazona aestiva, Blue-fronted Parrot
Amazona albifrons, White-fronted Parrot (FL)*
Amazona amazonica, Orange-winged Parrot
Amazona auropalliata, Yellow-naped Parrot
Amazona autumnalis, Red-lored Parrot (FL–now Extirpated)*
Amazona barbadensis, Yellow-shouldered Parrot
Amazona farinosa, Mealy Parrot
Amazona festiva, Festive Parrot
Amazona finschi, Lilac-crowned Parrot
Amazona ochrocephala, Yellow-crowned Parrot^ (PR)
Amazona oratrix, Yellow-headed Parrot^ (FL, PR)
Amazona pretrei, Red-spectacled Parrot
Amazona ventralis, Hispaniolan Parrot^ (PR, VI)
Amazona viridigenalis, Red-crowned Parrot^ (CA, FL)
Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus, Hyacinth Macaw
Ara ararauna, Blue-and-yellow Macaw^ (PR)
Ara chloroptera, Red-and-green Macaw
Ara macao, Scarlet Macaw
Ara militaris, Military Macaw
Ara severa, Chestnut-fronted Macae (FL)*
Aratinga acuticaudata, Blue-crowned Parakeet (FL)*
Aratinga aurea, Peach-fronted Parakeet
Aratinga canicularis, Orange-fronted Parakeet (FL)*
Aratinga erythrogenys, Red-masked Parakeet (FL)*
Aratinga finschi, Crimson-fronted Parakeet
Aratinga holochlora, Green Parakeet^ (TX)
Aratinga leucophthalmus, White-eyed Parakeet (FL)*
Aratinga mitrata, Mitred Parakeet^ (CA, FL)
Aratinga pertinax, Brown-throated Parakeet^ (FL, PR)
Aratinga rubritorquis, Red-throated Parakeet

Aratinga solstitialis or jandaya, Sun or Jandaya parakeet
Aratinga wagleri, Scarlet-fronted Parakeet
Aratinga weddellii, Dusky-headed Parakeet (FL)*

*Brotogeris chiriri, Yellow-chevroned Parakeet * (FL)*
Brotogeris jugularis, Orange-chinned Parakeet
Brotogeris versicolurus, White-winged Parakeet^ (CA, FL)
Cacatua alba, White Cockatoo
Cacatua galerita, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (FL–now Extirpated)*
Cacatua goffini, Tanimbar Cockatoo
Cacatua moluccensis, Salmon-crested Cockatoo
Cyanoliseus patagonus, Burrowing Parrot
Diopsittaca nobilis, Red-shouldered Macaw
Eclectus roratus, Eclectus Parrot
Eolophus roseicapillus, Galah
Eos bornea, Red Lory (FL–Extirpated)*
Lorius garrulus, Chattering Lory
Melopsittacus undulatus, Budgerigar^ (FL)
Myiopsitta monachus, Monk Parakeet^ (e. U.S, PR, TX)
Nandayus nenday, Black-hooded Parakeet
Nymphicus hollandicus, Cockatiel
Pionites melanocephala, Black-headed Parrot
Pionus maximiliani, Scaly-headed Parrot
Pionus senilis, White-crowned Parrot
Poicephalus rueppellii, Rueppell's Parrot (FL–now Extirpated)*
Poicephalus senegalus, Senegal Parrot (FL–now Extirpated)*
Propyrrhura auricollis, Golden-collared Macaw
Psephotus haematonotus, Red-rumped Parrot
Pseudos fuscata, Dusky Lory
Psittacula alexandri, Red-breasted Parakeet
Psittacula columboides, Malabar Parakeet
Psittacula cyanocephala, Plum-headed Parakeet
Psittacula eupatris, Alexandrine Parakeet
Psittacula krameri, Rose-ringed Parakeet^ (FL, HI, VA)
Psittacula roseata, Blossom-headed Parakeet
Psittacus erithacus, Gray Parrot
Pyrrhura frontalis, Maroon-bellied Parakeet
Pyrrhura molinae, Green-cheeked Parakeet (FL)*
Rhynchopsitta terrisi, Maroon-fronted Parrot
Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet
Trichoglossus haematodus, Rainbow Lorikeet (FL–now Extirpated)*
Trichoglossus ornatus, Ornate Lorikeet

Family DICRURIDAE
Dicrurus macrocercus, Black Drongo^ (GU, NMI)

Family RHAMPHASTIDAE
Ramphastos sulfuratus, Keel-billed Toucan
Ramphastos citrolaemus, Citron-throated Toucan
Ramphastos toco, Toco Toucan

Family MUSOPHAGIDAE
Musophaga violacea, Violet Turaco

Tauraco corythaix, Knysna Turaco
Tauraco schalowi, Schalow's Turaco
Family BUCEROTIDAE
Tockus nasutus, African Gray Hornbill
Aceros undulatus, Wreathed Hornbill
Ceratogymna brevis, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill
Family BUCORVIDAE
Bucorvus abyssinicus, Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill
Family PYCNONOTIDAE
Hypsipetes madagascariensis, Black Bulbul
Pycnonotus cafer, Red-vented Bulbul^ (FL)
Pycnonotus jocosus, Red-whiskered Bulbul^ (FL, HI)
Family PITTIDAE
Pitta guajana, Banded Pitta
Family IRENIDAE
Irena puella, Asian Fairy-bluebird
Family TIMALIIDAE
Garrulax canorus, Hwamei^ (HI)
Garrulax leucolophus, White-crested Laughingthrush (HI-Extirpated)*
Garrulax pectoralis, Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush^ (HI)
Leiothrix lutea, Red-billed Leiothrix^ (HI)
Family ZOSTEROPIDAE
Zosterops japonicus, Japanese White-eye^ (HI)
Family STURNIDAE
Acridotheres cristatellus, Crested Myna
Acridotheres fuscus, Jungle Myna
Acridotheres tristis, Common Myna^ (FL, HI)
Gracula religiosa, Hill Myna^ (HI, PR)
Lamprotornis superbus, Superb Starling
Mino dumontii, Yellow-faced Myna
Sturnus vulgaris, European Starling^ (cont. U.S., PR)
Family PASSERIDAE
Passer domesticus, House Sparrow^ (cont. U.S., HI, PR, VI)
Passer luteus, Sudan Golden Sparrow
Passer montanus, Eurasian Tree Sparrow^ (IL, MO)
Family PLOCEIDAE
Euplectes afer, Yellow-crowned Bishop^ (PR)
Euplectes ardens, Red-collared Bishop^ (PR)
Euplectes franciscanus, Orange Bishop^ (CA, PR)
Euplectes orix, Red Bishop
Ploceus cucullatus, Village Weaver
Ploceus velatus, African Masked-Weaver
Family ESTRIDIDAE
Amandava amandava, Red Avadavat^ (HI, PR)
Estrilda astrild, Common Waxbill^ (HI, PR)
Estrilda caerulescens, Lavender Waxbill^ (HI)

Estrilda melpoda, Orange-cheeked Waxbill^ (HI, PR)
Estrilda troglodytes, Black-rumped Waxbill^ (HI, PR)
Lonchura atricapilla, Chestnut Munia^ (HI, PR)
Lonchura cantans, African Silverbill^ (HI)
Lonchura cucullata, Bronze Mannikin^ (PR)
Lonchura maja, White-headed Munia
Lonchura malabarica, Indian Silverbill^ (PR)
Lonchura malacca, Tricolored Munia^ (HI, PR)
Lonchura nana, Madagascar Munia
Lonchura punctulata, Nutmeg Mannikin^ (HI)
Padda oryzivora, Java Sparrow^ (HI, PR)
Taeniopygia guttata, Zebra Finch
Uraeginthus bengalus, Red-cheeked Cordonbleu^ (HI)
Vidua macroura, Pin-tailed Whydah^ (PR)

Source: *http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/RegulationsPolicies/mbta/MBTAProtectedNonprotected.html; Accessed on April 23, 2013*

(1)
Symbols: plus sign (+) denotes a native species with breeding populations in the U.S.; hat (^) denotes an introduced species that has established a self-sustaining breeding population; asterisk (*) denotes an introduced species that has nested in the U.S. but has not established a self-sustaining breeding population; double dagger (‡) denotes a species that is covered by the Endangered Species Act in all or part of its U.S. range.

Abbreviations (in parentheses) are used to denote the known U.S. range, and are used only for species with established populations or evidence of breeding: AK = Alaska, AS = American Samoa, AZ = Arizona, CA = California, FL = Florida, GU = Guam, HI = Hawaii, NM = New Mexico, NMI = Northern Marina Islands, NV = Nevada, OR = Oregon, PR = Puerto Rico, TX = Texas, UT = Utah, VI = Virgin Islands, WA = Washington.
main content

Appendix D: Executive Order 13186

Executive Order 13186 - Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds

Appendix E: Nesting Bird Survey Protocol and Survey Checklist

Pre-construction nesting bird surveys should be conducted during migratory bird nesting season no more than 5 days prior to commencement of a project and during the project if the site was dormant for more than 5 days. The survey area for active bird nests should include the project area and appropriate buffer zone (coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services Field Office, as necessary).

Prior to surveys, a desktop review of bird species (and their preferred habitat) with potential to nest in the project area should be conducted. A special emphasis should be placed on the presence of Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) within the action area. Please refer to the complete list of BCC species.

Survey should consist of walking transects that will be spaced accordingly to allow complete visual coverage (when possible) of all habitats including: open fields, barren areas, manmade structures (e.g., bridges and buildings), riparian corridors, wooded areas and brush dominated ground cover within, and adjacent to, the project area that could support nesting birds. Appropriate spacing will ultimately be determined by the surveyor in the field, but the following guidelines are recommended to ensure adequate coverage of habitats:

- 100-300 feet for open grasslands
- 25-50 feet for areas with dense brush or shrubs
- <25 feet as needed for a dense stand of trees or very dense vegetation

The survey should also include actively searching for low-level, ground, cavity and tree nests in the vegetation proposed for disturbance. For example, cavity nesting would include searching/inspecting all relevant local features: structures, suitable tree holes and cavities and may require an extension pole with mirror to make a determination.

When breeding or nesting activities are suspected or observed, the surveyor will spend time watching the activity (with the aid of binoculars when appropriate) to determine the status of the observed activity. The following behaviors are indicators that an active nest may be present:

1. Carrying material to build nest within the survey area
2. Copulations
3. Carrying food or feeding young
4. Carrying fecal sacks away from nest
5. Mate-feeding; repeated "bee-line" flying to likely nest site
6. Observation of nest
7. Observation of chicks

8. Alarm calls being given by one or both adults of a pair
9. Females giving call or chip notes alerting their mate that they are off the nest
10. Auditory evidence of chicks

If there is inconclusive evidence to determine whether the nest is being actively utilized, it may be necessary to conduct additional surveys. Up to three additional survey events of the nest itself, up to 2 hours each, should be conducted to document whether nest is active. If breeding activity is noted, but no nest is found, the surveyor should assume the presence of a nest and take appropriate measures to protect the nest from project-related activities.

The location of any confirmed active nest of a migratory bird species should be recorded on a survey form (see next page for a sample of a survey checklist) and submitted to the environmental project lead, preparer and project manager.

If active nests are identified within or in the vicinity of a project site, avoid the site until nestlings have fledged or the nest fails. If activity must occur, establish a buffer zone around the nest and no activities will occur within that zone until nestlings have fledged and left the nest area.

Homeland Security

Nesting Bird Survey Checklist

1. Site Name_____.

2. Day_____ Month_____ Year_____.

3. Locality: Name nearest town or prominent map feature whose latitude and longitude can be looked up: _____ . County/Township _____. State/Province_____.

Locality name (e.g. Smith Marsh, Jones Woods):_____.

Latitude/longitude to nearest minute (optional except for remote areas, but encouraged for regularly-visited sites): Latitude_____. Longitude _____ ____.

4. Observer name(s)_____.

5. Start time (to nearest quarter hour) _____.

6. End time (to nearest quarter hour) _____.

7. Evidence of active nests _____.

If active nest is identified:

Location of a nest _____.

Distance of a nest to construction _____.

Stage of nesting (eggs, nestlings) _____.

Nesting bird species (if known) _____.

Photograph of the nesting bird species (e.g. attached, emailed) _____.

8. Habitat(s) visited (check as many as apply): Deciduous woodland____ Coniferous woodland____ Scrub____ Grassland____ Agricultural____ Rural____ Suburban____ Urban____ Freshwater____ Salt water____ Other_____.

6. Site photographs (e.g. attached, emailed) _____.

Appendix F: Electronic Resources for Bird Conservation and Project Assessment

GENERAL RESOURCES

- **USFWS Division of Migratory Bird Management**
  - http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/
  - Source for Bird Lists, Conservation Plans, MBTA, BGEPA, and EO 13186 information, links to permits information

- **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service- Division of Bird Habitat Conservation**
  - http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/index.shtm
  - Information on grant programs to conserve bird habitats, bird conservation plans, and all the habitat and species joint ventures to conserve bird habitat.

- **Bird Strike Committee - USA**
  - http://www.birdstrike.org/
  - Source of information on bird and wildlife strikes at airports in U.S. including reporting strikes, meetings and workshops, BMP's for airports, risk assessment, and publications.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES/CONSERVATION MEASURES

- **USFWS Service Guidance on the Siting, Construction Operation and Decommissioning of Communications Towers**
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2000.
  - http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/com_tow_guidelines.pdf

- **Avian Protection Plan Guidelines (Electric Utilities)**
  - Avian Power Line Interaction Committee and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2005. Avian protection plan (APP) guidelines. http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/APP/AVIAN%20PROTECTION%20PLAN%20FINAL%204%2019%2005.pdf

- **USGS- Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center- Effects of Management Practices on Grassland Birds and Effects of Management Practices on Wetland Birds.**
  - http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/literatr/grasbird/index.htm
  - http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/literatr/wetbird/index.htm
  - Individual grassland and wetland bird species accounts including range maps, suitable habitat, response to management, management recommendations, and literature citations.

BIRD BIOLOGY/ECOLOGY/DATA RESOURCES

- **Birds of North America**
  - http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/
  - Source of detailed information on each bird species

- **Partners in Flight**
  - http://www.partnersinflight.org/
  - Source for population estimates of landbirds, conservation plans, outreach materials and best management practices for birds.

- **eBird**
  - http://ebird.org/content/ebird/
  - Source of bird sightings data, Citizen Science, range maps, distribution information

- **State of the Birds**
  - http://www.stateofthebirds.org/
  - Source for report about bird populations

- **North American Bird Conservation Initiative**
  - http://www.nabci-us.org/main2.html
  - Source for general bird conservation information and map of Bird Conservation Regions

- **USGS Patuxent Wildlife Resource Center**
  - http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/
  - Source of variety of bird information, survey information, banding information, bird identification information

- **The Institute for Bird Populations**
  - http://www.birdpop.org/
  - Source of information on bird distribution and ecology, changes in bird abundance, how to run a MAPS station.

- **Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN)**
  - http://www.whsrn.org/
  - U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, shorebird species conservation plans, shorebird status, information on WHSRN sites, how to nominate a site.

- **Department of Defense- Partners In Flight**
  - http://www.dodpif.org/
  - Bird conservation programs, plans, and projects on DoD lands, Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard program, and bird monitoring programs.

- **USGS- Audubon Christmas Bird Count**
  - http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/cbc.html
  - Bird population trends, abundance maps, indices, etc. based on Christmas Bird Counts.

- **USGS North American Breeding Bird Atlas Explorer**
  - http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bba/
  - Information and status of breeding bird atlas efforts for states and provinces in North America.

- **USGS National Wetlands Research Center**
  - http://www.nwrc.usgs.gov/wdb/pub/wmh/contents.html
  - Online Waterfowl Management Handbook covering waterfowl ecology and population management, and wetland ecology and habitat management.
- **U.S. National Park Service Park Flight Migratory Bird Program**
  - http://www.nps.gov/oia/topics/flight/flight.htm
  - Information on National Park Service program to conserve migratory birds and to protect breeding, migration, and winter habitat for birds.

- **U.S. Forest Service-Wings Across the Americas**
  - http://www.fs.fed.us/global/wings/birds/welcome.htm
  - Information on U.S. Forest Service programs to conserve all bird species throughout the Americas.

Appendix G: USFWS Migratory Bird Program Staff Directory

Region	Name1	Job Title	Basic Function	E-mail Address	Phone Number
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1	vacant	Wildlife Biologist			503-231-6164
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Appendix 3

PowerPoint Training Materials for trainings describing MBTA Laws and Regulations

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Tucson Sector specialized environmental awareness training

INTEGRATED FIXED TOWERS
BLOCK 1 REPLACEMENT PROJECT

U.S. BORDER PATROL
TUCSON AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

TUCSON SECTOR
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS BRIEFING

GENERAL ACTIVITY BMPS

PROJECT ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING STAGING, PARKING AND EQUIPMENT STORAGE WILL BE CONFINED TO THE PREVIOUSLY DISTURBED ROAD CORRIDOR AND THE MARKED 100 FOOT BY 100 FOOT TEMPORARY DISTURBANCE AREA AT ALL SENSOR TOWERS.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING STAGING, PARKING AND EQUIPMENT STORAGE WILL BE CONFINED TO THE FENCED PERIMETER OF THE TOWER SITE AND PREVIOUSLY DISTURBED ROAD CORRIDOR AT THE COMMUNICATION TOWER.

INVOLVED ENTITIES WILL MINIMIZE THE NUMBER OF VEHICLES TRAVELING TO AND FROM THE PROJECT SITE AND THE NUMBER OF TRIPS PER DAY TO REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD OF DISTURBING ANIMALS IN THE AREA OR INJURING AN ANIMAL ON THE ROAD, OR DISTURBING THEIR HABITAT.

DISTURBANCE WILL BE MINIMIZED BY LIMITING DELIVERIES OF MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT TO ONLY THOSE NEEDED FOR EFFECTIVE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.

ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC WILL USE DESIGNATED/AUTHORIZED ROADS TO ACCESS THE PROPOSED TOWER SITES AND WILL AVOID OFF-ROAD VEHICLE ACTIVITY OUTSIDE OF THE PROJECT FOOTPRINT.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

MIGRATORY BIRDS

A SURVEY FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS MUST BE CONDUCTED PRIOR TO ALL ACTIVITIES TO BE IMPLEMENTED DURING THE NESTING PERIOD (FEBRUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1).

IF AN ACTIVE NEST IS FOUND, A BUFFER ZONE OF 300 FEET MUST BE ESTABLISHED AROUND THE NEST AND NO ACTIVITIES WILL OCCUR WITHIN THAT ZONE UNTIL NESTLINGS HAVE FLEDGED AND ABANDONED THE NEST. CONFIRMATION THAT ALL YOUNG HAVE FLEDGED MUST BE MADE BY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.

IF PROJECT ACTIVITIES ARE SCHEDULED DURING THE NESTING SEASON, STEPS TO PREVENT NESTING IN THE POTENTIAL IMPACT AREA CAN BE TAKEN, INCLUDING COVERING EQUIPMENT AND STRUCTURES, AND USING NESTING DETERRENTS (E.G., NOISE).

IF PROJECT ACTIVITIES MAY RESULT IN THE "TAKE" (IMPACTS TO ACTIVE NESTS, EGGS, OR FLEDGLINGS) OF A BIRD, COORDINATION WITH USFWS AND/OR ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT IS REQUIRED.

THREATENED/ENDANGERED & OTHER
PROTECTED SPECIES OVERVIEW

THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (ESA)

THE PURPOSE OF THE ESA IS TO PROTECT AND RECOVER IMPERILED SPECIES AND THE ECOSYSTEMS UPON WHICH THEY DEPEND. IT IS ADMINISTERED BY THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AND THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT'S NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE. UNDER THE ESA, SPECIES MAY BE LISTED AS EITHER ENDANGERED OR THREATENED.

"ENDANGERED" MEANS A SPECIES IS IN DANGER OF EXTINCTION THROUGHOUT ALL OR A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF ITS RANGE.

"THREATENED" MEANS A SPECIES IS LIKELY TO BECOME ENDANGERED WITHIN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

ALL SPECIES OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS (EXCEPT PEST INSECTS) ARE ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING AS ENDANGERED OR THREATENED. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE ESA, CONGRESS DEFINED SPECIES TO INCLUDE SUBSPECIES, VARIETIES, AND, FOR VERTEBRATES, DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENTS.

STIFF PENALTIES MAY BE IMPOSED FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT. CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES MAY BE PUNISHED WITH FINES UP TO $50,000 AND/OR ONE YEAR IMPRISONMENT FOR CRIMES INVOLVING ENDANGERED SPECIES, AND $25,000 AND/OR SIX MONTHS IMPRISONMENT FOR CRIMES INVOLVING THREATENED SPECIES.

THREATENED/ENDANGERED & OTHER PROTECTED SPECIES OVERVIEW

IF A LISTED SPECIES IS OBSERVED WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA, WORK IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY MUST BE SUSPENDED UNTIL IT MOVES OUT OF HARM'S WAY ON ITS OWN, OR UNTIL IT IS RELOCATED BY A PERMITTED INDIVIDUAL.

THE UNDERSIDE OF ALL VEHICLES AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT MUST BE CHECKED FOR LISTED SPECIES AND OTHER WILDLIFE PRIOR TO MOVING AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH WORKDAY AND AFTER VEHICLES HAVE IDLED FOR MORE THAN 15 MINUTES.

SURFACE WATER FROM UNTREATED SOURCES LOCATED WITHIN ONE MILE OF AQUATIC HABITAT FOR FEDERALLY LISTED AQUATIC SPECIES MUST NOT BE USED.

SPECIES-SPECIFIC BMPS FOR
TUCSON BORDER PATROL STATION AOR
PIMA PINEAPPLE CACTUS
CHIRICAHUA LEOPARD FROG
NORTHERN MEXICAN GARTERSNAKE
YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO
(COCCYZUS AMERICANUS)

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO

TUS-035
TUS-041
TUS-181
TUS-185
TUS-287
TUS-290
TUS-299

HABITAT

THE WESTERN YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO BREEDS IN RIPARIAN HABITAT ALONG LOW GRADIENT (SURFACE SLOPE LESS THAN 3 PERCENT) RIVERS AND STREAMS, AND IN OPEN RIVERINE VALLEYS THAT PROVIDE WIDE FLOODPLAIN CONDITIONS (GREATER THAN 325 FEET).

WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENT (DPS), THESE RIPARIAN AREAS ARE LOCATED FROM SOUTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA, TO SOUTHERN SINALOA, MEXICO, AND MAY OCCUR FROM SEA LEVEL TO 7,000 FEET (OR SLIGHTLY HIGHER IN WESTERN COLORADO, UTAH, AND WYOMING) IN ELEVATION.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO

ESA STATUS: *THREATENED*

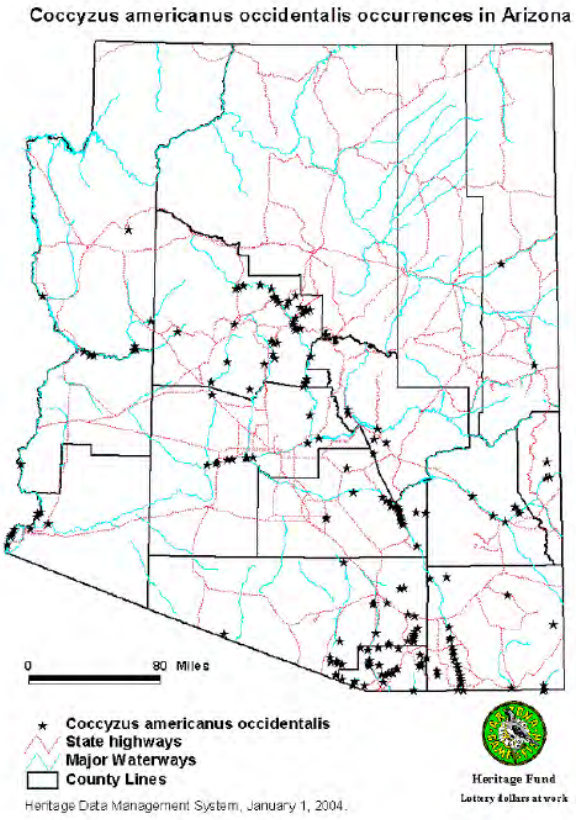
ALL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AT TUS-35 AND TUS-287, AND ASSOCIATED ACCESS ROADS, MUST CEASE FROM JUNE 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30.

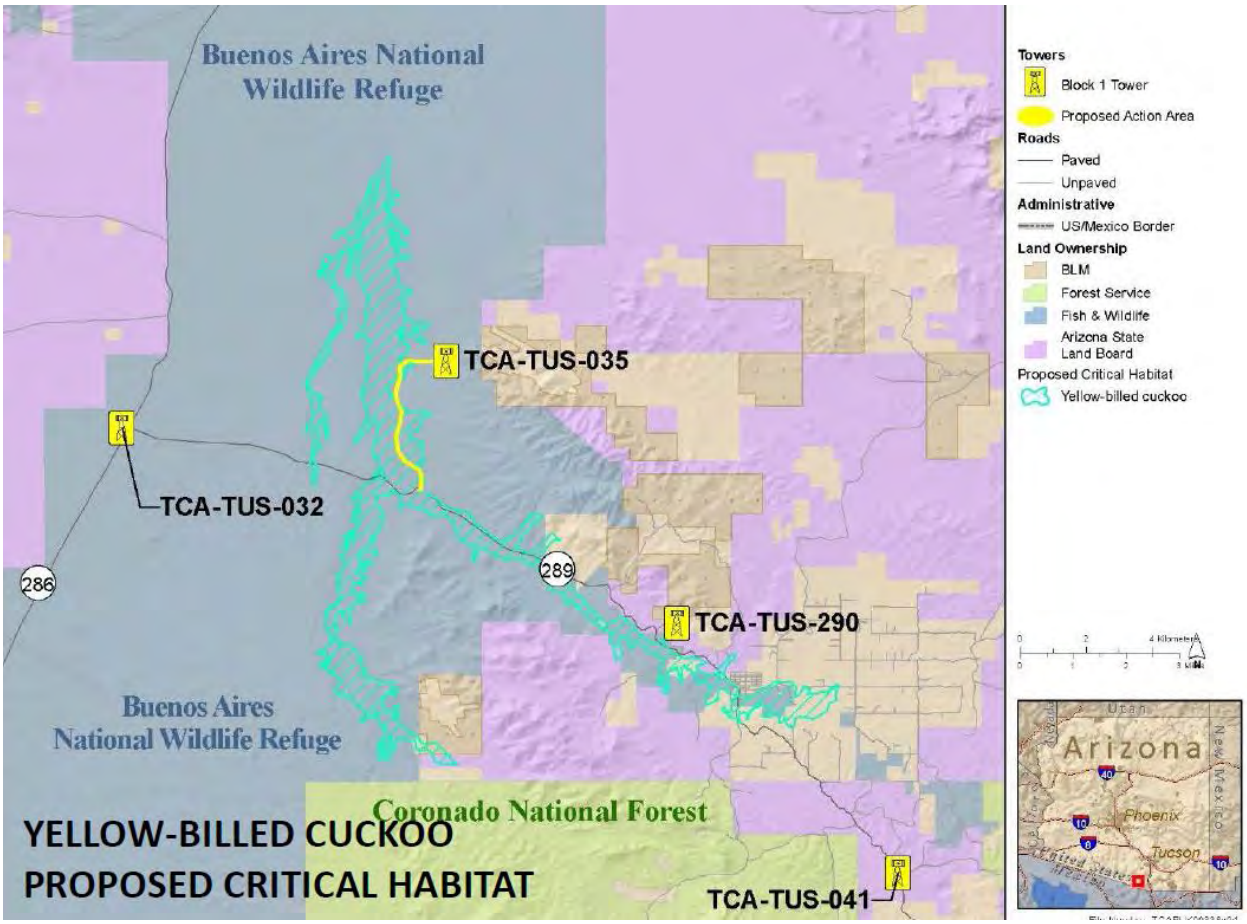
ALL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AT TUS-299 MUST CEASE FROM JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30.

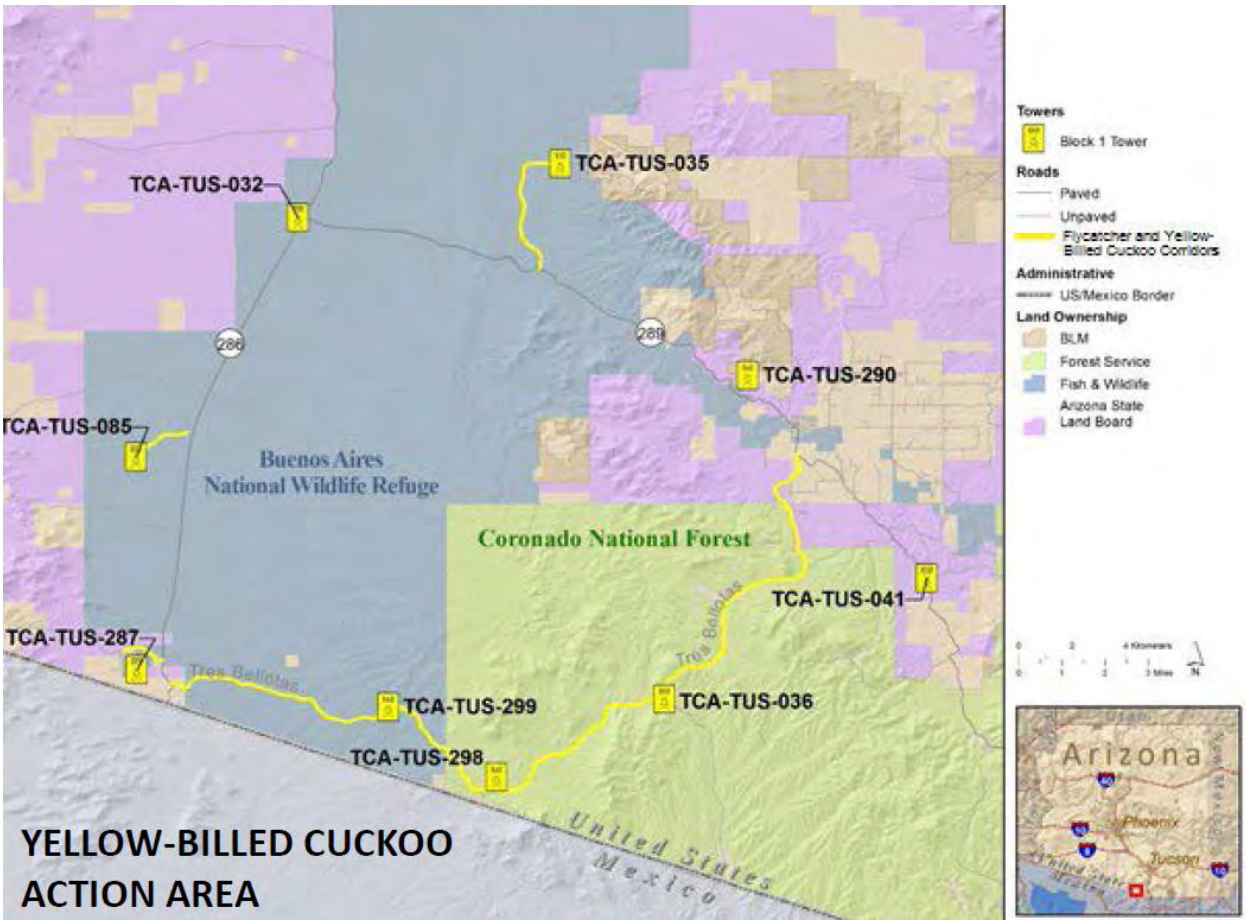
CUCKOO PROTOCOL SURVEYS MUST BE CONDUCTED IN DRAINAGES BORDERED BY TREES WITHIN 0.25 MILES OF TOWER TCA-TUS-299 FROM JUNE 1 TO JUNE 30.

IF ANY CUCKOOS ARE LOCATED WITHIN 0.25 MILES OF THIS TOWER, CBP WILL ENGAGE THE USFWS IN DEVELOPMENT OF MEASURES NECESSARY TO MINIMIZE AND AVOID IMPACTS TO THE SPECIES IN THESE LOCATIONS.

TRES BELLOTAS ROAD ALONG FRESNAL WASH MUST BE AVOIDED BETWEEN TCA-TUS-298 AND TCA-TUS-036 FROM JUNE 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30 TO AVOID DISTURBANCE TO CUCKOOS IN SUITABLE HABITAT.

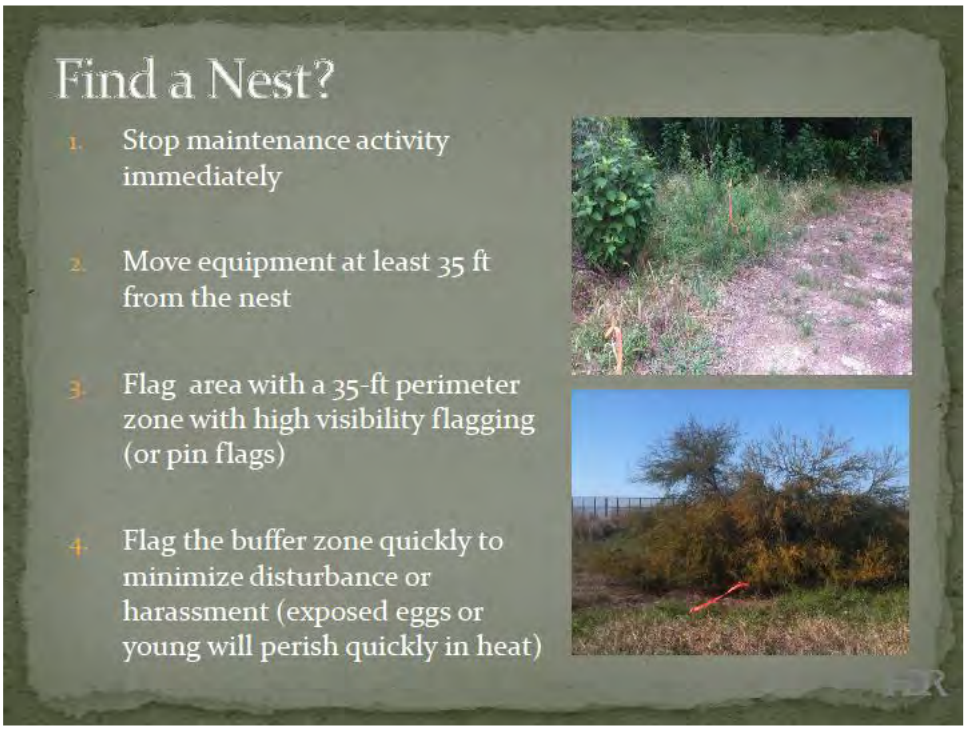



Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge
TCA-TUS-035
TCA-TUS-032
286
289
TCA-TUS-290
Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge
Coronado National Forest
YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO
PROPOSED CRITICAL HABITAT
TCA-TUS-041
Towers
Block 1 Tower
Proposed Action Area
Roads
Paved
Unpaved
Administrative
US/Mexico Border
Land Ownership
BLM
Forest Service
Fish & Wildlife
Arizona State Land Board
Proposed Critical Habitat
Yellow-billed cuckoo
Arizona
Phoenix
Tucson
New Mexico


TCA-TUS-032
TCA-TUS-035
TCA-TUS-290
TCA-TUS-085
TCA-TUS-041
TCA-TUS-287
TCA-TUS-299
TCA-TUS-036
TCA-TUS-298
286
281
Buenos Aires
National Wildlife Refuge
Coronado National Forest
Tres Bellotas
Tres Bellotas
United States
Mexico
Towers
Block 1 Tower
Roads
Paved
Unpaved
Flycatcher and Yellow-Billed Cuckoo Corridors
Administrative
US/Mexico Border
Land Ownership
BLM
Forest Service
Fish & Wildlife
Arizona State Land Board
Arizona
Phoenix
Tucson
YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO
ACTION AREA

Del Rio, Laredo, and Rio Grande Valley Sector Nesting Bird Awareness Training

This is an example of regionally specific training developed for a maintenance and repair contract. It was administered and required for all Agents, Contractors, Sub-Contractors, COTRs and PMs. Regionally specific training was developed for each area where this contract vehicle was utilized.



Draft Proposed MBTA Bird Removal/Relocation Training

Managing Bird Encounters for CBP Towers

Draft Training for Border Patrol, CBP employees, and Contractors

Managing Bird Encounters for CBP Towers

Draft Training for Border Patrol, CBP employees, and Contractors

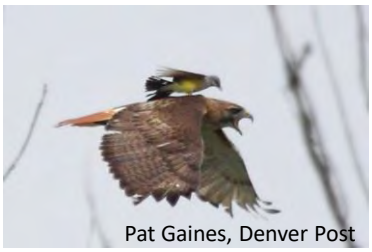
Migratory Bird Treaty Act

- International agreement to protect migratory birds
- Executive Order 13186 (January 2001)
- Agencies are required to take conservation actions to implement the MBTA
- Avoid or minimize adverse impacts on migratory bird resources
- Integrate migratory bird habitat and population conservation into agency plans
- Develop and use practices to decrease unintentional take
- Provide training to employees on methods of avoiding or minimizing take of migratory birds and conserving migratory bird habitat
- THIS TRAINING is to help CBP continue needed repairs, maintenance and operations while complying with the MBTA requirements

Nesting Habitats

- Ground (bare ground, gravel/rocks)
- Woodland
- Grasslands
- Marshes
- Shrubland
- Cavities
- Banks/cliffs
- Sometimes - Towers, Buildings & Equipment

Be Aware Nesting Behavior


Pat Gaines, Denver Post

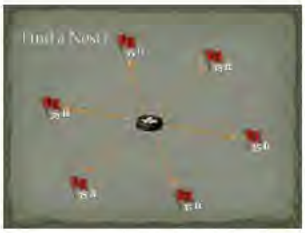
Anna Mlodzinski

- Dive bombing
- Fuss calls
- Subtle calls
- Chasing / circling
- Distraction displays
- Persistent bird in one location
- Some birds will leave the immediate area of their nest when they are disturbed
- Most active in the early morning and late afternoon

Find a Nest?

- Stop maintenance or repair activity immediately
- Move equipment at least 35 ft from the nest Immediately. Further distance may be required if the nest is occupied.
- From a distance if possible observe the nest. If no eggs or baby birds are present remove the nest unless the nest is an eagle nest (which are further protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and cannot be removed without special provisions) and **notify**.
- If eggs or baby birds are present. Flag area with a minimum 100-foot perimeter zone with high visibility flagging (or pin flags). You could reduce the buffer if it appears that a nesting pair is tolerant of disturbance. A designated monitor should watch the nesting birds for signs of stress or disturbance associated with the activities after the buffer is established. The buffer may need to be increased if they appear disturbed. Raptors require even larger buffers. For more guidance concerning appropriate buffer sizes see table 1.
- Flag the buffer zone quickly to minimize disturbance or harassment (exposed eggs or young will perish quickly in heat) and **notify**.

Photo: Duckling being harassed instead of allowing it to leave its nest naturally.



Notify

- BP Agents Notify PLLA (Specific Contact info placed here)
- CBP civilian personnel notify BPAM (Specific Contact info placed here)
- Contractors Notify Contracting Officer Technical Representative (Specific Contact info placed here)
- PLLA and COTR will contact BPAM and BPAM:
  - **If the nest is removed**, will **record the incident**
  - **If the nest is occupied**, will **determine the best course of action**:
    - If there is no critical need for removal the nest will remain until Fledging – record the incident and end of incident
    - If there is a need for removal BPAM will:
      - Contract removal, relocation, rehabilitation with an appropriate contractor as listed in the list of approved relocators and rehabilitators and record the incident – or
      - Arrange removal and transport by a BPAM trained person to an appropriate contractor as listed in the list of approved relocators and rehabilitators and record the incident

Contracting Relocators and Rehabilitators

- It will BPAM's responsibility to ensure that the relocator and the rehabilitation facility are covered by the proper permits
- The following relocators have been identified for this project from the list of approved relocators and rehabilitators
- (Specific Contact information placed here)

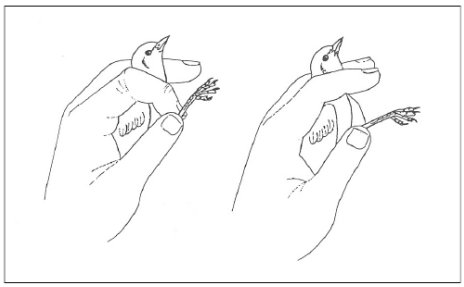
If you are tasked by BPAM to move a nest, eggs, or baby birds (fledglings)

1. Do not take any action until tasked by BPAM to remove and transport.
2. Contact the recipient (the approved rehabilitation facility provided by BPAM) of the bird, nest, eggs, or fledglings to make sure they will be present to receive them when you arrive.
3. Consider the timing to remove the birds, nest, eggs, or fledglings in light of the need to allow the birds to calm down before transport and likely transportation time.

Transporting Birds

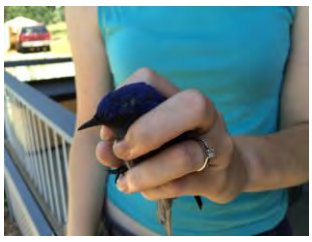
1. *Prepare a container.* Put a soft cloth in a cardboard box or pet carrier of an appropriate size to prevent the bird from sliding or being jostled during transport. If a box, make sure there are air holes.
2. *Protect yourself.* Wear heavy leather gloves if necessary. Some birds may bite or scratch to protect themselves, even if sick or injured. Remember the bird is terrified of you. Smaller birds do not require gloves
3. *Cover the container* with a light sheet or towel. You want to keep the bird warm and calm. Keeping the container dark also will help keep the animal calm.
4. *Gently pick up the bird* and put it in the prepared container. *Extreme fright can kill*
   a. With **a larger bird**, it's important to pick up the bird from the back and secure its wings in one motion. A towel will help in this process.
   b. With **a smaller bird**, its body is like a small water bag and it can be internally injured by too much handling. Do not move your hands around while holding the baby, or turn it upside down, as rapid changes in posture can also kill.
5. *Do not give the animal food or water.* Keep it away from children and pets.
6. After placing the bird into the prepared container:
   1. If it is an adult or injured bird, allow the bird to rest and unstress for at least 20 minutes before transporting. Allow for this time in your transportation estimate to the rehabilitation facility.
   2. If the bird is fledgling or if they are eggs move quickly to ensure that the fledglings or eggs do not cool down or get too hot. No unstress time interval is needed.
7. *Keep the bird warm and calm.* A bottle of warm tap water can provide warmth
8. *Note exactly where you found the bird.* The rehabilitator will want to know this information and BPAM will need the information for the official record.
9. If the bird(s) die during transportation notify the rehabilitation facility AND BPAM.

Handling Birds



THE NORTH AMERICAN BANDERS' STUDY GUIDE

- *Protect yourself.* Wear heavy leather gloves if necessary. Some birds may bite or scratch to protect themselves, even if sick or injured. Remember the bird is terrified of you. Smaller birds do not require gloves
- Approach the bird from the back with your hand. Place your pointer finger and middle finger on either side of the back of the bird's neck (to avoid crushing the bird's airway). Wrap the rest of your fingers around the wings and sides of the bird to keep the wings gently pinned against the body. Be careful not to squeeze very hard and be very careful not to squeeze the breast (they need to be able to breathe).



Merwin (Chip) Brown

Handling Larger Birds

- Approach them from behind, place one gloved hand over the wings, and slide the other hand under the body (touch the back of the bird and slide down until you feel the top of the legs),
- Put your middle finger between the top of the two legs, your pointer finger on the outside of the legs, and your ring finger on the outside of the other leg.
- Always keep control of the legs, the feet are the business end that you want to stay away from if you can.
- Once you have hold of the legs and wings, you can pick the bird up and put it's back against your chest so that you don't have to continue holding the wings, or you can cradle the bird in the crook of your arm, still holding the feet.

Merwin (Chip) Brown

Rob Doster

Managing Bird Encounters for CBP Towers

Additional Reference Material

Table 1
Buffers for Horizontal and Vertical Ground and Helicopter Construction

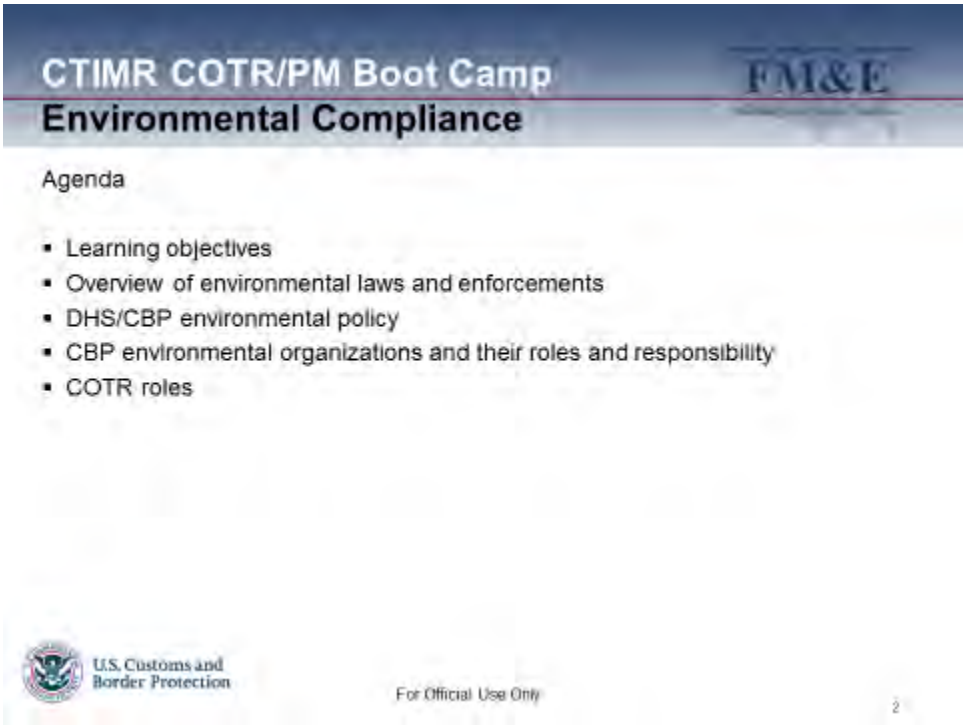
Avian Group (nest type /location)	Species Potentially Nesting within WOD Limits and Survey Area[1]	Minimum Buffers for Ground Construction Per Disturbance Level (feet)	Horizontal Buffer for Helicopter Construction (feet)	Vertical Buffer for Helicopter Construction (feet)[2]
Waterfowl and rails	Canada goose, wood duck, mallard, cinnamon teal, ruddy duck, Virginia rail, sora, American coot, pied-billed grebe	150	300	150
Quail	California quail, Gambel's quail	150	200	150
Herons	Great blue heron, great egret, snowy egret, cattle egret, black-crowned night-heron	250	500	300
Birds of prey (category 1)	American kestrel, barn owl, western screech-owl	300	200	150
Birds of prey (Category 2)	Osprey, Cooper's hawk, red-tailed hawk (2); some urban/suburban), red-shouldered hawk, great horned owl, burrowing owl[3]	300	300	200
Birds of prey (Category 3)	Turkey vulture, red-tailed hawk (2; some rural/ remote), white-tailed kite, northern harrier, long-eared owl	500	500	300
	Peregrine falcon, prairie falcon,	Consult CDFW & USFWS	Consult CDFW & USFWS	Consult CDFW & USFWS
Eagles	Golden eagle	1 mi line of site 0.5 mi no line of site	1 mi line of site 0.5 mi no line of site	1 mi line of site 0.5 mi no line of site
Shorebirds	Killdeer	200	200	200
Pigeons	Band-tailed pigeon	150	200	200
Doves	Mourning dove, white-winged dove, common ground-dove	150	200	150
Roadrunners	Greater roadrunner	300	200	150
Nightjars	Lesser nighthawk, common poorwill	150	200	150
Swifts	White-throated swift	200	200	150
Hummingbirds	Black-chinned hummingbird, Anna's hummingbird, Costa's hummingbird, Allen's hummingbird	100	200	150

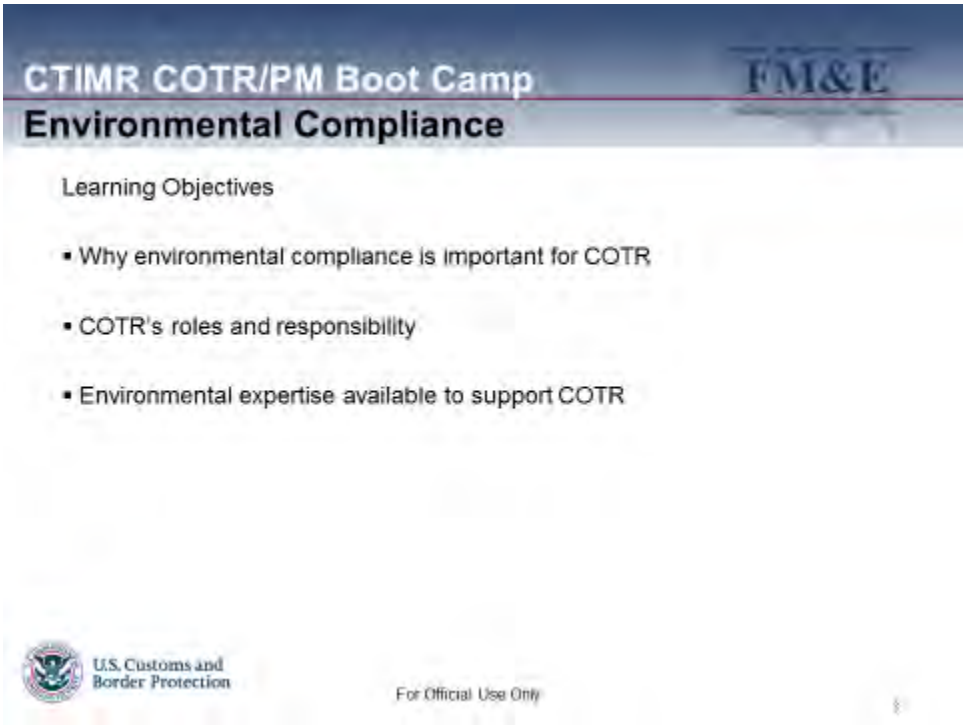
Table 1
Buffers for Horizontal and Vertical Ground and Helicopter Construction

Avian Group (nest type /location)	Species Potentially Nesting within WOD Limits and Survey Area[1]	Minimum Buffers for Ground Construction Per Disturbance Level (feet)	Horizontal Buffer for Helicopter Construction (feet)	Vertical Buffer for Helicopter Construction (feet)[2]
Woodpeckers	Acorn woodpecker, ladder-backed woodpecker, Nuttall's woodpecker, downy woodpecker, northern flicker	150	200	150
Passerines (cavity and crevice nesters)	Say's phoebe, ash-throated flycatcher, brown-crested flycatcher, tree swallow, rock wren, canyon wren, house wren, Bewick's wren (2), mountain chickadee, oak titmouse, western bluebird	100	150	100
Passerines (bridge, culvert, and building nesters)	Black phoebe, Say's phoebe, northern rough-winged swallow, cliff swallow, barn swallow, house finch (3)	100	150	100
Passerines (ground nesters, open habitats)	Horned lark, rock wren, western meadowlark, orange-crowned warbler, lark sparrow, grasshopper sparrow	150	200	150
Passerines (understory and thicket nesters)	Bushtit, Bewick's wren (2), blue-gray gnatcatcher (2), black-throated gray warbler, yellow-breasted chat, spotted towhee, black-chinned sparrow, sage sparrow, song sparrow, black-headed grosbeak, blue grosbeak, lazuli bunting, American goldfinch	150	200	150
Passerines (shrub and tree nesters)	Pacific-slope flycatcher, Cassin's kingbird, western kingbird (2), loggerhead shrike (2),* Hutton's vireo, western scrub-jay, American crow, common raven, verdin, bushtit, black-tailed gnatcatcher, blue-gray gnatcatcher (2), cactus wren (2),* American robin, northern mockingbird, Le Conte's thrasher, phainopepla, yellow warbler, black-throated gray warbler, yellow-breasted chat, California towhee, black-throated sparrow, song sparrow, summer tanager, great-tailed grackle, hooded oriole, Bullock's oriole, house finch (3), Lawrence's goldfinch, lesser goldfinch	150 (300 for species marked with an *)	200	150
Passerines (open scrub nesters)	Loggerhead shrike (2),* verdin, cactus wren (2),* black-tailed gnatcatcher, wren tit, northern mockingbird, California thrasher, Le Conte's thrasher, Phainopepla, orange-crowned warbler, southern rufous-crowned sparrow, California towhee, black-throated sparrow, Brewer's blackbird, lesser goldfinch	150 (300 for species marked with an *)	200	150
Passerines (tower nesters)	Western kingbird (2), common raven, house finch (3)	150	200	150
Passerines (marsh nesters)	Common yellowthroat, red-winged blackbird, tricolored blackbird,* great-tailed grackle	150 (300 for species marked with an *)	200	150

CTIMR COTR/PM Boot Camp: Environmental Compliance

Excerpted from Environmental compliance "Bootcamp" for COTRs and Project Managers in the Comprehensive Maintenance & Repair Program. Nationwide training.





CTIMR COTR/PM Boot Camp

Training Aids and Handouts

FM&E

- DHS Directive 023-01
- Copies of DHS Secretary's environmental waivers
- Sample copy of Environmental Assessment
- Sample copy of Environmental Stewardship Plan
- Sample copy of Categorical Exclusion/Record of Environmental Consideration (CATEX/REC)
- Sample copy of Biological Opinion
- Copy of the FM&E Executive Director's letters to federal land management agencies
- Copy of CTIMR contract best management practices (BMP) list

CTIMR COTR/PM Boot Camp

Briefing Provided to CEQ

FM&E

CTIMR COTR/PM Boot Camp

Overview of Environmental Laws

- Congress has enacted numerous environmental laws and created regulatory agencies to enforce them
  - CBP Tactical Infrastructure (TI) maintenance and repair (M&R) activities are subject to some of these laws
  - CBP is committed to complying with these laws

- This session discusses most relevant laws in implementing CTIMR
  - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
  - Endangered Species Act (ESA)
  - Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)
  - National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
  - Clean Water Act (CWA) – Wetland

CTIMR COTR/PM Boot Camp

Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)

- MBTA makes it unlawful to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, or sell birds listed therein ("migratory birds"). The statute does not discriminate between live or dead birds and also grants full protection to any bird parts including feathers, eggs, and nests. Over 800 species are currently on the list
- United States and Mexico entered the treaty in 1936
- Some of these conventions stipulate protections not only for the birds themselves, but also for habitats and environs necessary for the birds' survival
- CTIMR activities covered under the MBTA
  - Preservation of bird habitats protected under the MBTA
  - Curtailed CTIMR activities during the breeding season

Environmental Stewardship Training Program

This training was prepared for COTRs, PMs, Border Patrol Agents, Contractors, Subcontractors, Environmental Monitors, and other personnel with responsibilities in Maintenance and Repair. Although the entire environmental stewardship program was required training, this document only shows portions pertinent to MBTA compliance including general and ESA Best Management Practices.

INTRODUCTION

- This training program provides an overview of the environmental concerns, both biological and cultural, for maintenance and repair activities in Del Rio, Laredo, and Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sectors. You are required to understand the content of this program.
- The training program will cover BMPs which have been carefully designed to provide protection to natural and cultural resources, including plants and wildlife.
- Environmental stewardship is very important to CBP.
- This presentation identifies specific practices and habitat conservation measures you will be required to implement while maintaining and repairing tactical infrastructure.
- In this module, you will recognize photos outlined in green or red. Photos outlined in red depict actions that are out of compliance with BMPs. These deficiencies are also denoted with an "X" through the photo. Photos outlined in green depict actions that were performed in compliance with the BMPs.

WHAT ARE BMPs?

- BMPs are common-sense actions applied to maintenance and repair activities to promote execution of the work in an environmentally responsible manner, so that wildlife, habitat, water quality, air quality, cultural resources, and landscape integrity are conserved.
- These BMPs were developed in consultation with the USFWS and CBP is obligated to implement them.

Photo (above): Proper dust suppression during excavation activities.

Photo (right): Hydroseeding a temporarily disturbed area.

Photo (right): Properly installed silt fencing and fiber rolls to prevent erosion along waterway.

NOISE

BMP: All Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements will be followed with respect to maintenance and repair noise impacts. Ensure all motorized equipment possess properly working mufflers and are kept properly tuned to reduce backfires. Ensure all motorized generators will be in baffle boxes (a sound-resistant box that is placed over or around a generator), have an attached muffler, or use other noise-abatement methods in accordance with industry standards. For activities involving heavy equipment, seasonal restrictions might be required to avoid impacts on threatened or endangered species in areas where these species or their potential habitat occur. See species-specific BMPs.

VEGETATION

BMP: Clearly demarcate the perimeter of all new areas to be disturbed using flagging or temporary construction fence. Do not allow any disturbance outside that perimeter. Riparian vegetation should be protected during maintenance activities.

Photo (above): No perimeter markers resulted in disturbance outside the perimeter.

Photos (below and right): Correct demarcation of perimeter.

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VEGETATION

BMP: Identify fill material, sandbags, hay bales, and mulch brought in from outside the project area by its source location. Use sources that are sterile or weed-free.

BMP: Avoid the removal of mature trees providing shade or bank stabilization within the riparian area of any waterway during maintenance or repair activities.

BMP: If vegetation must be removed, allow natural regeneration of native plants by cutting vegetation with hand tools, mowing, trimming, or using other removal methods that allow root systems to remain intact.

Photo: Obtain weed-free fill material to use on site.

WILDLIFE

BMP: Minimize animal collisions during maintenance and repair activities by not exceeding 35 mph on major unpaved roads (graded with ditches on both sides) and 25 mph on all other unpaved roads. During periods of decreased visibility (e.g., night, poor weather, curves), do not exceed speeds of 25 mph.

Photo (above): Dead bird in grill.

WILDLIFE

BMP: If hollow bollards are necessary, cover hollow bollards (i.e., those that will be filled with a reinforcing material such as concrete) to prevent wildlife from entrapment. Deploy covers (and ensure they remain fully functioning) from the time the posts or hollow bollards arrive on the site and are unloaded, until they are filled with reinforcing material.

Photo (right): Uncovered bollards

BMP: Do not permit pets owned or under the care of the contractor or sector personnel inside the project boundaries, adjacent native habitats, or other associated work areas.

BMP: Clearing of riparian and aquatic vegetation will not occur within 100 feet of natural drainages, ephemeral and perennial aquatic habitats, or other water bodies to provide a buffer area to protect the habitat from sedimentation.

Photo (above): Pet monkey on construction site.

WILDLIFE

BMP: To prevent entrapment of wildlife species, ensure excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches are either completely covered by plywood or metal caps at the close of each work day or provided with one or more escape ramps (at no greater than 1,000-foot intervals and sloped less than 45 degrees) constructed of earth fill or wooden planks.

BMP: Each morning before the start of maintenance activities ensure holes and trenches are thoroughly inspected for trapped animals. Ensure that any animals discovered are allowed to escape voluntarily (by escape ramps or temporary structures), without harassment, before maintenance activities resume; or are removed from the trench or hole by a qualified person and allowed to escape unimpeded.

Photo (right): A turtle fell into an uncovered trench and became stuck in the rebar of the trench. Turtle was successfully recovered

Photo (above): Trench with an exit ramp (at each end of the trench).

WILDLIFE

BMP: Ensure permanent light poles and other permanent pole-like structures have anti-perch devices to discourage roosting by birds.

No bird deterrent

Bird deterrent

WILDLIFE

BMP: If maintenance activities will continue at night, direct shielded light only onto the area required for worker safety and productivity. Lights will not exceed 1.5-foot candles within the lit area.

Photo (above): Lights need to be pointed down and away from surrounding habitat. The light shown in the photo is not directing light onto the work area.

Photo (right): Lights are pointed into active work area.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

BMP: Initial mechanical and chemical vegetation clearing and subsequent mechanical vegetation control should be timed to avoid the migration, breeding, and nesting timeframe of Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)-covered birds (February 1 through September 1). Herbicide re-treatments could occur throughout the year. When initial mechanical and chemical vegetation control must be implemented during February 1 through September 1, a survey for nesting migratory birds will be conducted immediately prior to the start of activities. If an active nest is found, a buffer zone will be established around the nest and no activities will occur within that zone until nestlings have fledged and abandoned the nest.

Photo (above): Duckling found and removed from a nest in tall grass.

Photo (right): Duckling being harassed instead of allowing it to leave its nest naturally.

BMP: A survey for migratory birds will also be conducted prior to all other maintenance and repair activities to be implemented during the nesting period in areas where MBTA-covered birds might be nesting.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

BMP: If maintenance is scheduled during the migratory bird-nesting season, take steps to prevent MBTA-covered birds from establishing nests in the potential impact area. These steps could include covering equipment and structures, and use of various excluders (e.g., noise). Birds can be harassed to prevent them from nesting on the site. Once a nest is established, they cannot be harassed until all young have fledged and left the nest site. If nesting birds are found during the supplemental survey, defer intrusive maintenance activities until the birds have left the nest. Confirmation that all young have fledged should be made by qualified personnel.

THREATENED, ENDANGERED AND OTHER PROTECTED SPECIES

BMP: Check visible space underneath heavy equipment for listed species and other wildlife prior to moving the equipment at the beginning of each workday and after vehicles have sat idle for more than 15 minutes.

Photos (above): Didn't survive.

Photos (above): Species removed and survived.

Photo (above): Bird nest found in wheel well of equipment that had not been used for less than one week.

BIRD SPECIES

Black-capped Vireo (Del Rio Sector)

BMP: Vegetation control in suitable habitat of threatened or endangered bird species will be limited to the minimum necessary to maintain drivable access roads and to maintain the functionality of other tactical infrastructure. This limited vegetation control will be conducted outside of the nesting season. This restriction does not apply to areas where protocol surveys have been conducted and it has been determined that the area is not occupied and does not contain a primary constituent element (PCE).

Photo: TPWD

Photo (above): Duckling found and removed from a nest in tall grass.

BIRD SPECIES

Black-capped Vireo (Del Rio Sector)

BMP: If vegetation clearing is to be conducted adjacent to suitable habitat of a threatened or endangered bird species, qualified personnel with experience identifying suitable habitat of that species will delineate and clearly mark the suitable habitat to be avoided.

BMP: For all other maintenance activities to be conducted within suitable habitat of a threatened or endangered bird species during the nesting season, the following avoidance measures will apply. A qualified biologist will conduct a survey for threatened and endangered birds prior to initiating maintenance activities. If a threatened or endangered bird is present, a qualified biologist will survey for nests approximately once per week within 500 feet of the maintenance area for the duration of the activity. If an active nest is found, no maintenance will be conducted within 500 feet of the nest until the young have fledged.

Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

OMB Control No. 1018 - 0022
Expires 5/31/2017

Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Application Form

Click here for addresses.

Return to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Type of Activity: | **Special Purpose – Miscellaneous**

☑ **New Application**
☐ **Requesting Renewal or Amendment of Permit #** _____

Complete Sections A or B, and C, D, and E of this application. U.S. address may be required in Section C, see instructions for details.
See attached instruction pages for information on how to make your application complete and help avoid unnecessary delays.

A.	**Complete if applying as an individual**		
1.a. Last name	1.b. First name	1.c. Middle name or initial	1.d. Suffix
2. Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	3. Social Security No.	4. Occupation	5. Affiliation/ Doing business as (see instructions)
6.a. Telephone number	6.b. Alternate telephone number	6.c. Fax number	6.d. E-mail address

B.	**Complete if applying on behalf of a business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution**		
1.a. Name of business, agency, Tribe, or institution		1.b. Doing business as (dba)	
Customs and Border Protection		N/A	
2. Tax identification no.	3. Description of business, agency, or institution		
N/A	Border security law enforcement agency		
4.a. Principal officer Last name	4.b. Principal officer First name	4.c. Principal officer Middle name/ initial	4.d. Suffix
(b) (6)	(b) (6)	(b)	
5. Principal officer title		6. Primary contact name	
Director, Facilities Management and Engineering		(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)	
7.a. Business telephone number	7.b. Alternate telephone number	7.c. Business fax number	7.d. Business e-mail address
(b) (6)(b) (6)	(b) (6)(b) (6)	(b) (6)(b) (6)	(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

C.	**All applicants complete address information**			
1.a. Physical address (Street address; Apartment #, Suite #, or Room #; no P.O. Boxes)				
1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 755N				
1.b. City	1.c. State	1.d. Zip code/Postal code:	1.e. County/Province	1.f. Country
Washington	DC	20004	NA	USA
2.a. Mailing Address (include if different than physical address; include name of contact person if applicable)				
(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)				
2.b. City	2.c. State	2.d. Zip code/Postal code:	2.e. County/Province	2.f. Country
Washington	DC	(b) (6)(b) (6)	NA	USA

D.	**All applicants MUST complete**
1.	Attach check or money order payable to the U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE **in the amount** | **$100.00** ⊥ Federal, Tribal, State, and local government agencies, and those acting on behalf of such agencies, are exempt from the processing fee – ***attach documentation of fee exempt status as outlined in instructions.*** (50 CFR 13.11(d))
2.	Do you currently have or have you ever had any Federal Fish and Wildlife permits? Yes ☑ If "yes," list the number of the most current permit you have held or that you are applying to renew/re-issue: MB37271C-0 No ☐
3.	Certification: I hereby certify that I have read and am familiar with the regulations contained in ***Title 50, Part 13 of the Code of Federal Regulations*** and the other ***applicable parts in subchapter B of Chapter I of Title 50***, and I certify that the information submitted in this application for a permit is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement herein may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Signature (**in blue ink**) of applicant/person responsible for permit (No photocopied or stamped signatures) — Date of signature (mm/dd/yyyy): 6/8/18

Please continue to next page

SECTION E. SPECIAL PURPOSE - MISCELLANEOUS
(Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 50 CFR 21.27)

Note: A Federal Special Purpose - Miscellaneous permit is required to address migratory bird activities that are not covered by other existing permit types. Activities must benefit the migratory bird resource, address important research, address human concerns for individual birds, or show other compelling justification. You must be at least 18 years of age to apply for a permit. Special Purpose Permits may be valid up to 3 years.

Please provide the following information. You may use the space provided as well as a separate sheet of paper with your responses numbered according to the application questions below. You should be as thorough and specific as possible in your responses. Incomplete applications will be returned, delayed or abandoned.

1. The species (scientific and common name) and quantity of migratory birds, parts, nests, and eggs to be covered by the permit.

2. A detailed description of the project or activity, including the purpose. Include copies of supporting documentation, research proposals, and any other information that may be useful for evaluating your request.

3. The exact location (physical – address and/or GPS coordinates in decimal degree; or geographic, as appropriate) where the activity would be conducted.

4. A full description of your background and expertise in conducting the proposed activities.

5. If live birds will be maintained in captivity, describe the facilities. Attach photographs and diagrams of your enclosures. Diagrams must include dimensions (length, width, and height) and a description of interior and exterior construction materials, such as flooring and netting materials.

6. Indicate the intended disposition of the specimens, including, if applicable, the name and address of the public, scientific, or educational institution to which all specimens ultimately will be donated upon completion of activity.

7. Anyone who will be assisting you with the permitted activities or acting as your agent must either have their own Federal migratory bird permit for the activity or be identified by you, in writing, as a subpermittee under your permit. They may also require a State permit. Subpermittees must be at least 18 years old. As the primary permittee, you will be responsible for ensuring that your subpermittees are properly trained and adhere to the terms of your permit. Provide the name of anyone besides yourself who will be conducting activities under your permit. For anyone handling or caring for live birds, briefly describe what they will be doing and their qualifications.

8. You must retain records relating to the activities conducted under your permit for at least 5 years from the date of expiration of your permit. Is the physical address you provided in Section C on page 1 of this application the address where your records will be kept? Indicate "yes" or "no." If "no," provide the physical address.

9. **Any permit issued as a result of this application is not valid unless you also have any required State or tribal permits or approvals associated with the activity.** Have you obtained all required State or tribal permits or approvals to conduct this activity? **If "yes," attach a copy of the approval(s).** If "no," indicate whether your "have applied" or whether "none is required." **If you "have applied," send a copy when it is issued.**

10. **Disqualification factor.** A conviction, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, for a felony violation of the Lacey Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act disqualifies any such person from receiving or exercising the privileges of a permit, unless such disqualification has been expressly waived by the Service Director in response to a written petition. (50 CFR 13.21(c))

    Have you or any of the owners of the business, if applying as a business, been convicted, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, forfeited collateral, or are currently under charges for any violations of the laws mentioned above? If not, indicate "no." If you have, indicate "yes," and provide the following: a) the individual's name, b) date of charge, c) charge(s), d) location of incident, e) court, and f) action taken for each violation.

PERMIT APPLICATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

The following instructions pertain to an application for a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or CITES permit. The General Permit Procedures in 50 CFR 13 address the permitting process. For simplicity, all licenses, permits, registrations, and certificates are referred to as a permit.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- Complete all blocks/lines/questions in Sections A or B, and in C, D, and E.
- **An incomplete application may cause delays in processing or may be returned to the applicant. Be sure you are filling in the appropriate application form for the proposed activity.**
- Print clearly or type in the information. Illegible applications may cause delays.
- Sign the application in blue ink. Faxes or copies of the original signature will not be accepted.
- Mail the original application to the address at the top of page one of the application or if applicable on the attached address list.
- **Keep a copy of your completed application.**
- **Please plan ahead. Allow at least 60 days for your application to be processed. Some applications may take longer than 90 days to process. (50 CFR 13.11)**
- Applications are processed in the order they are received.
- Additional forms and instructions are available from http://permits.fws.gov.

COMPLETE EITHER SECTION A OR SECTION B:

Section A. **Complete if applying as an individual:**

- Enter the complete name of the responsible individual who will be the permittee if a permit is issued. Enter personal information that identifies the applicant. ***Fax and e-mail are not required if not available.***
- If you are applying on behalf of a client, the personal information must pertain to the client, and a document evidencing power of attorney must be included with the application.
- **Affiliation/ Doing business as (dba)**: business, agency, organizational, or institutional affiliation *directly* related to the activity requested in the application (e.g., a taxidermist is an individual whose business can *directly* relate to the requested activity). The Division of Management Authority (DMA) will **not** accept *doing business as* affiliations for individuals.

Section B. **Complete if applying as a business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution:**

- Enter the complete name of the business, agency, Tribe, or institution that will be the permittee if a permit is issued. Give a brief description of the type of business the applicant is engaged in. Provide contact phone number(s) of the business.
- **Principal Officer** is the person in charge of the listed business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution. The principal officer is the person responsible for the application and any permitted activities. Often the principal officer is a Director or President. **Primary Contact** is the person at the business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution who will be available to answer questions about the application or permitted activities. Often this is the preparer of the application.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION C:

- For all applications submitted to the Division of Management Authority (DMA) a physical U.S. address is **required**. Province and Country blocks are provided for those USFWS programs which use foreign addresses and are not required by DMA.
- **Mailing address** is address where communications from USFWS should be mailed if different than applicant's physical address.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION D:

Section D.1 **Application processing fee:**

- An application processing fee is required at the time of application; unless exempted under 50 CFR13.11(d)(3). The application processing fee is assessed to partially cover the cost of processing a request. **The fee does not guarantee the issuance of a permit. Fees will not be refunded for applications that are approved, abandoned, or denied**. We may return fees for withdrawn applications prior to any significant processing occurring.
- **Documentation of fee exempt status is not required for Federal, Tribal, State, or local government agencies; but must be supplied by those applicants acting on behalf of such agencies**. Those applicants acting on behalf of such agencies must submit a letter on agency letterhead and signed by the head of the unit of government for which the applicant is acting on behalf, confirming that the applicant will be carrying out the permitted activity for the agency.

Section D.2 **Federal Fish and Wildlife permits:**

- List the number(s) of your most current FWS or CITES permit or the number of the most recent permit if none are currently valid. If applying for re-issuance of a CITES permit, the original permit must be returned with this application.

Section D.3 **CERTIFICATION:**

- **The individual identified in Section A, the principal officer named in Section B, or person with a valid power of attorney (documentation must be included in the application) must sign and date the application in blue ink.** This signature binds the applicant to the statement of certification. This means that you certify that you have read and understand the regulations that apply to the permit. You also certify that everything included in the application is true to the best of your knowledge. Be sure to read the statement and re-read the application and your answers before signing.

ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE SECTION E.

Please continue to next page

APPLICATION FOR A FEDERAL FISH AND WILDLIFE PERMIT
Paperwork Reduction Act, Privacy Act, and Freedom of Information Act – Notices

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) and the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), please be advised:

1. The gathering of information on fish and wildlife is authorized by:
(Authorizing statutes can be found at: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html and http://www.fws.gov/permits/ltr/ltr.html.)

   a. Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668), 50 CFR 22;
   b. Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544), 50CFR 17;
   c. Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712), 50 CFR 21;
   d. Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361, *et. seq.*), 50 CFR 18;
   e. Wild Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4901-4916), 50 CFR 15;
   f. Lacey Act: Injurious Wildlife (18 U.S.C. 42), 50 CFR 16;
   g. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (TIAS 8249), http://www.cites.org , 50 CFR 23;
   h. General Provisions, 50 CFR 10;
   i. General Permit Procedures, 50 CFR 13; and
   j. Wildlife Provisions (Import/export/transport), 50 CFR 14.

2. Information requested in this form is purely voluntary. However, submission of requested information is required in order to process applications for permits authorized under the above laws. Failure to provide all requested information may be sufficient cause for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deny the request. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

3. Certain applications for permits authorized under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1539) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1374) will be published in the **Federal Register** as required by the two laws.

4. Disclosures outside the Department of the Interior may be made without the consent of an individual under the routine uses listed below, if the disclosure is compatible with the purposes for which the record was collected. (Ref. 68 FR 52611, September 4, 2003)

   a. Routine disclosure to subject matter experts, and Federal, Tribal, State, local, and foreign agencies, for the purpose of obtaining advice relevant to making a decision on an application for a permit or when necessary to accomplish an FWS function related to this system of records.
   b. Routine disclosure to the public as a result of publishing **Federal Register** notices announcing the receipt of permit applications for public comment or notice of the decision on a permit application.
   c. Routine disclosure to Federal, Tribal, State, local, or foreign wildlife and plant agencies for the exchange of information on permits granted or denied to assure compliance with all applicable permitting requirements.
   d. Routine disclosure to Captive-bred Wildlife registrants under the Endangered Species Act for the exchange of authorized species, and to share information on the captive breeding of these species.
   e. Routine disclosure to Federal, Tribal, State, and local authorities who need to know who is permitted to receive and rehabilitate sick, orphaned, and injured birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act; federally permitted rehabilitators; individuals seeking a permitted rehabilitator with whom to place a bird in need of care; and licensed veterinarians who receive, treat, or diagnose sick, orphaned, and injured birds.
   f. Routine disclosure to the Department of Justice, or a court, adjudicative, or other administrative body or to a party in litigation before a court or adjudicative or administrative body, under certain circumstances.
   g. Routine disclosure to the appropriate Federal, Tribal, State, local, or foreign governmental agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or implementing statutes, rules, or licenses, when we become aware of a violation or potential violation of such statutes, rules, or licenses, or when we need to monitor activities associated with a permit or regulated use.
   h. Routine disclosure to a congressional office in response to an inquiry to the office by the individual to whom the record pertains.
   i. Routine disclosure to the Government Accountability Office or Congress when the information is required for the evaluation of the permit programs.
   j. Routine disclosure to provide addresses obtained from the Internal Revenue Service to debt collection agencies for purposes of locating a debtor to collect or compromise a Federal claim against the debtor or to consumer reporting agencies to prepare a commercial credit report for use by the FWS.

5. For individuals, personal information such as home address and telephone number, financial data, and personal identifiers (social security number, birth date, etc.) will be removed prior to any release of the application.

6. The public reporting burden on the applicant for information collection varies depending on the activity for which a permit is requested. The relevant burden for a Special Purpose – Miscellaneous permit application is 2 hours and 30 minutes for recordkeeping. This burden estimate includes time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data and completing and reviewing the form. You may direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the form to the Service Information Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mail Stop 222, Arlington Square, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington D.C. 20240.

Freedom of Information Act – Notice

For organizations, businesses, or individuals operating as a business (i.e., permittees not covered by the Privacy Act), we request that you identify any information that should be considered privileged and confidential business information to allow the Service to meet its responsibilities under FOIA. Confidential business information must be clearly marked "Business Confidential" at the top of the letter or page and each succeeding page and must be accompanied by a non-confidential summary of the confidential information. The non-confidential summary and remaining documents may be made available to the public under FOIA [43 CFR 2.26 – 2.33].

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Migratory Bird Regional Permit Offices

FWS REGION	AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY	MAILING ADDRESS	CONTACT INFORMATION
Region 1	**Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Washington**	911 N.E. 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232-4181	Tel. (503) 872-2715 Fax (503) 231-2019 Email *permitsR1MB@fws.gov*
Region 2	**Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas**	P.O. Box 709 Albuquerque, NM 87103	Tel. (505) 248-7882 Fax (505) 248-7885 Email *permitsR2MB@fws.gov*
Region 3	**Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin**	5600 American Blvd. West Suite 990 Bloomington, MN 55437-1458 (Effective 5/31/2011)	Tel. (612) 713-5436 Fax (612) 713-5393 Email *permitsR3MB@fws.gov*
Region 4	**Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico**	P.O. Box 49208 Atlanta, GA 30359	Tel. (404) 679-7070 Fax (404) 679-4180 Email *permitsR4MB@fws.gov*
Region 5	**Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, West Virginia**	P.O. Box 779 Hadley, MA 01035-0779	Tel. (413) 253-8643 Fax (413) 253-8424 Email *permitsR5MB@fws.gov*
Region 6	**Colorado, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming**	P.O. Box 25486 DFC(60154) Denver, CO 80225-0486	Tel. (303) 236-8171 Fax (303) 236-8017 Email *permitsR6MB@fws.gov*
Region 7	**Alaska**	1011 E. Tudor Road (MS-201) Anchorage, AK 99503	Tel. (907) 786-3693 Fax (907) 786-3641 Email *permitsR7MB@fws.gov*
Region 8	**California, Nevada**	2800 Cottage Way Room W-2606 Sacramento, CA 95825	Tel. (916) 978-6183 Fax (916) 414-6486 Email*permitsR8MB@fws.gov*

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
STATEMENT OF WORK
BETWEEN
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR (DOI), U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES (FWS)

I. AUTHORITY

The authority of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) which is acting as the servicing agency (collectively the "Parties") to enter into this Interagency Agreement (IAA) is the Economy Act of 1932 (31 U.S.C. 1535), resulting in an assisted acquisition.

II. OBJECTIVE/PURPOSE

This Interagency Agreement (IAA) is between the Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (FWS) and the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Border Wall (BW) Program Management Office (PMO). In accordance with this agreement, FWS (servicing agency), will, on behalf of CBP (requesting agency), use its experience, background, and expertise to chemically and mechanically control non-native invasive plant species that exploit openings in the riparian forest canopy in the Tijuana River Valley and the Sweetwater River Valley which are located in the San Diego Border Patrol Sector.

The overall goals of the project are to: reduce the risk of wildfire; improve habitat for riparian nesting bird species including the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo and Southwestern willow flycatcher; mitigate safety risks to FWS staff and Border Patrol personnel; and improve access and visibility for Border Patrol operations. The San Diego Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol is one of the busiest in the country in terms of illegal entries and smuggling activity from Mexico.

III. SCOPE

This Statement of Work describes the comprehensive scope of support services for CBP's requirements. During the Base Period, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will use its best efforts to provide the following services either by contract or by in-house efforts:

a. **Sweetwater River Valley** (using either in-house or contractor resources), including but not limited to:

    1) The primary actions are to chemically and mechanically control non-native invasive plant species that exploit openings in the riparian forest canopy. Chemical treatments would include application of herbicide at the appropriate point of the growth cycle for the chemical to be transported to the roots and kill the plant. Mechanical treatments would include cutting, removal, and chipping. Non-native species that contribute to hazardous fuel loading and are targeted for

removal include giant reed (*Arundo donax*), saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.), Peruvian peppertree (*Schinus molle*), eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.), Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*), and castor bean (*Ricinus communis*). Planning activities include project plan development, mapping of target species, environmental compliance, contract development and administration, treatment effectiveness monitoring, and reporting. Two units of the Sweetwater River totaling 242 acres would be treated – Unit 1 (upstream of SR 94 to the Refuge boundary with private land) is 124 acres; Unit 2 (downstream of SR 94 to boundary with Sweetwater Authority) is 118 acres.

Follow-up chemical and mechanical treatments will likely be necessary for 3 years to achieve 100% control of invasive plant species and to remove live or dead biomass.

The project area is designated critical habitat for the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) and Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*).

b. **Tijuana River Valley** (using either in-house or contractor resources), including but not limited to:

1) The primary actions are to mechanically remove woody debris from the riparian zone and to chemically and mechanically control invasive plant species that exploit openings in the forest canopy created by the beetle infestation. Mechanical treatment of large woody debris would include cutting, removal, and chipping. Invasive plant species would be controlled with herbicides followed by mechanical removal of the dead material. The main species to be targeted include giant reed (*Arundo donax*), saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.), and castor bean (*Ricinus communis*). Planning activities include project plan development, mapping of target species, environmental compliance, contract development and administration, treatment effectiveness monitoring, and reporting. The total footprint of the project area is approximately 200 acres.

Follow-up mechanical and chemical treatments will likely be necessary for 3-5 years to achieve 100% control of invasive plant species or to remove additional woody debris generated by beetle activity.

Portions of the project area include designated critical habitat for the federally-endangered least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*).

IV. **REQUIREMENTS/TASKS:**

a. **Sweetwater River Valley:** The total footprint is 242 acres; and 242 acres would be counted for accomplishments.
   1) Treatment #1: CATNR-FY19-CX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   2) Treatment #2: CATNR-FY19-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP

b. **Tijuana River Valley:** The total footprint is approximately 200 acres; however, approximately 1,120 acres will be counted for accomplishments (each treatment type is counted once; follow-up treatments will occur for 3-5 years on each unit).
   1) Treatment #1: CATJR-FY19-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   2) Treatment #2: CATJR-FY19-CX-SCA-Units 3,4-BP
   3) Treatment #3: CATJR-FY20-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   4) Treatment #4: CATJR-FY20-CX-SCA-Units 3,4-BP
   5) Treatment #5: CATJR-FY20-MX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP
   6) Treatment #6: CATJR-FY20-CX-SCA-Units 1,2-BP

V. **ESTIMATED COST BREAKOUT (INCLUDING APPLICABLE FEES):**

Project Title	TOTAL COST ESTIMATE
Sweetwater River Valley	
FY19	350,000.00
Sub-Total	**350,000.00**
Tijuana River Valley	
FY19	330,000.00
FY20	320,000.00
Subtotal	**650,000.00**
Grand Total	**1,000,000.00**

Table 1: Project Cost Estimate

The Base Period amount includes all costs for all work included in the scope of this IAA plus the project management costs charged by FWS for the Base Period. Actual costs are dependent on the work performed. This budgetary estimate is based on a summation of all the labor, contract and other direct and indirect costs assumed to be required to fund the mechanical / chemical treatments executed during the Base Period through contract closeout.

VI. **DELIVERABLES:**

The servicing agency must provide an electronic version of the following:

- Monthly expense burn rate report
- Monthly Project Delivery Schedule

VII. PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

The place of performance for this requirement shall include San Diego Border Patrol Sector.

VIII. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

This Agreement is effective from _____ through four years from date of award, which is estimated to be from XXX 2019 – XXX, 2024.

IX. FUNDING

The initial value of the IAA base year is **$1,000,000.00**
Any modifications resulting from a CBP approved change request will be funded from the change management reserve contract line item number (CLIN) 10. Use of the change management reserve funding CLIN 10 is only authorized after receipt of a CBP approved change request. Funding will be provided by CBP BW PMO to the Department of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Specific funding information is as follows:

[Information found in the PRR in FMB Section or under Account Section of PR]

Cost Center:
Order:
Fund:
Functional Area:
Fund Center:
PR:

X. POINTS OF CONTACT

CBP:

(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)
Border Wall Program Management Office
Program Management Office Directorate
Phone: (b) (6)
E-mail: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)
Contracting Officer Representative
Acquisition, Real Estate, and Environmental
Border Wall Program Management Office
Phone: (b) (6)
E-mail: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

(b) (6)
(b) (6)(b) (6)
Border Wall Program Management Office
Phone: (b) (6)
E-mail: (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

CBP Acquisitions:

TBD
Contracting Specialist
US Customs and Border Protection/DHS
Phone: TBD
Email: TBD

(b) (6)
Contracting Officer
US Customs and Border Protection/DHS
Phone: (b) (6)
Email (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)

Department Of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service:

Gillian Fay
National Fire Budget Officer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Phone: 208-387-5536
Cell Phone: 208-559-1124
Email: gillian_fay@fws.gov

XI. PARTICIPATING AGENCY INFORMATION

Specific Agency information is as follows:
Full Agency Name: Department of the Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Full Agency Address: 3383 S Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705-5354
Telephone Number: 208- 387-5536
Fax Number: 208-387-5668
Tax Identification Number: 84-1024566
DUNS Number: 151157950
Agency Locator Code: 14-16-006
Treasury Account Symbol: 14.14X1125.16

From: Morris, Charisa
To: Aurelia Skipwith
Cc: Todd Willens; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Re: NY Times inquiry re: border wall protest
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2017 4:58:43 AM

Good morning! To close this loop, the following situation report was sent in from the region last night.

****
SitRep

(b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A)
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(b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A) (b)(7)(A)

End of SitRep.
****

On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 8:48 PM, Aurelia Skipwith <aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> Todd,
> I spoke with COS Charisa and she informed me that the region is aware and prepared. She's reaching out to
> Ben Tuggle, the regional law enforcement, who will be able to confirm any particulars. Charisa will inform all of us on this email as she gets in information.
>
> Thank you, Charisa.
>
> Aurelia Skipwith
> Deputy Assistant Secretary
> for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
>
> U.S. Department of Interior
> 1849 C Street NW, Room 3148
> Washington, DC 20240
> 202-208-5837
>
> On Aug 9, 2017, at 8:09 PM, Todd Willens <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
>
>> Is the refuge aware? Are permits required? Law enforcement ready?
>>
>> Todd Willens
>> Assistant Deputy Secretary
>> Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
>> U.S. Department of the Interior
>> 1849 C Street, NW - MIB Room 6116

Washington, DC 20240

Begin forwarded message:

From: Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>
Date: August 9, 2017 at 6:29:40 PM EDT
To: Downey Magallanes <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>, Douglas Domenech <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>, Todd Willens <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Russell Newell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Fwd: NY Times inquiry re: border wall protest

FYI.

Laura Keehner Rigas
Communications Director
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 897-7022 cell
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

From: Gavin Shire <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Date: August 9, 2017 at 5:27:58 PM CDT
To: Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>, Russell Newell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>, Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>, Paul Ross <paul_ross@ios.doi.gov>, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>, Laury Parramore <laury_parramore@fws.gov>, Brian Hires <brian_hires@fws.gov>, Vanessa Kauffman <vanessa_kauffman@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <matthew_huggler@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: NY Times inquiry re: border wall protest

FYI

G

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn_maestas@fws.gov>

Date: August 9, 2017 at 5:30:52 PM EDT
To: Gavin Shire <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Cc: Keenan Adams <keenan_adams@fws.gov>
Subject: NY Times inquiry re: border wall protest

Good afternoon Gavin,

I received a call today from Michael Hardy at the NY Times. He said he is planning to cover the protest at the Santa Ana NWR this weekend. He asked for our position on the proposed border wall. I provided him or statement and referred him to CBP. He asked a follow up question re: consultation and I reiterated our position (we are one of many agencies being informed as CBP works to implement the President's Executive Order).

Let me know if you have questions.

- Aislinn

--
Aislinn Maestas
Public Affairs Specialist
External Affairs
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Phone: 505-248-6599
aislinn_maestas@fws.gov

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Bcc: [redacted]
Subject: Sun Jul 30, 2017 1:56 PM MST
Date: Sunday, August 13, 2017 1:56:17 PM

SitRep 8/13

[redacted]

[redacted]

End or Report

Sent f om my iPad

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Su ject [redacted]
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FYI

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Gwen Shi a
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s a Chu ch VA 2204 -3803
703 358 2049 (o)
703 358 2 23 (c)
gwen_shi @fws gov

----- ---- Fo wa ded message ----- -----
F om **Keenum Adams** <[redacted]>
Date Sun Aug 13 2017 at 6 16 PM
Subject Sun a Ama Bu de Wa P otect S tRep 8 13 17
To Cha sa Mo a "[redacted]"
Cc [redacted] Joy N cho opou os <[redacted]> Aa on A ch beque <[redacted]>, [redacted]

SitRep 8/13

[redacted]

[redacted]

End or Report

Sent f om my iPad

Sent f om my iPad

From: Skipwith, Aurelia
To: Morris, Charisa
Cc: Todd Willens; greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov; casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Re: NY Times inquiry re: border wall protest
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2017 5:45:15 AM

Thank you very much!

Aurelia Skipwith
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3148
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-5837

On Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 7:57 AM, Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> Good morning! To close this loop, the following situation report was sent in from the region last night.
>
> **********
> (b) (7)(E)
>
> [redacted]
>
> [redacted]
> **********
>
> On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 8:48 PM, Aurelia Skipwith <aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
>
> > Todd,
> > I spoke with COS Charisa and she informed me that the region is aware and prepared. She's reaching out to
> > Ben Tuggle, the regional law enforcement, who will be able to confirm any particulars. Charisa will inform all of us on this email as she gets in information.
> >
> > Thank you, Charisa.
> >
> > Aurelia Skipwith
> > Deputy Assistant Secretary
> > for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
> >
> > U.S. Department of Interior
> > 1849 C Street NW, Room 3148
> > Washington, DC 20240

202-208-5837

On Aug 9, 2017, at 8:09 PM, Todd Willens <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Is the refuge aware? Are permits required? Law enforcement ready?

Todd Willens
Assistant Deputy Secretary
Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW - MIB Room 6116
Washington, DC 20240

Begin forwarded message:

From: Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>
Date: August 9, 2017 at 6:29:40 PM EDT
To: Downey Magallanes <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>, Douglas Domenech <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>, Todd Willens <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Russell Newell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Fwd: NY Times inquiry re: border wall protest

FYI.

Laura Keehner Rigas
Communications Director
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 897-7022 cell
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

From: Gavin Shire <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Date: August 9, 2017 at 5:27:58 PM CDT
To: Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>, Russell Newell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>, Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>, Paul Ross <paul_ross@ios.doi.gov>, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>, Laury Parramore <laury_parramore@fws.gov>, Brian Hires <brian_hires@fws.gov>, Vanessa Kauffman <vanessa_kauffman@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <matthew_huggler@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: NY Times inquiry re: border wall protest

FYI

G

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn_maestas@fws.gov>
Date: August 9, 2017 at 5:30:52 PM EDT
To: Gavin Shire <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Cc: Keenan Adams <keenan_adams@fws.gov>
Subject: NY Times inquiry re: border wall protest

Good afternoon Gavin,

I received a call today from Michael Hardy at the NY Times. He said he is planning to cover the protest at the Santa Ana NWR this weekend. He asked for our position on the proposed border wall. I provided him or statement and referred him to CBP. He asked a follow up question re: consultation and I reiterated our position (we are one of many agencies being informed as CBP works to implement the President's Executive Order).

Let me know if you have questions.

- Aislinn

--
Aislinn Maestas
Public Affairs Specialist
External Affairs
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Phone: 505-248-6599
aislinn_maestas@fws.gov

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

From: Nicholopoulos, Joy
To: Guertin, Stephen
Subject: Re: SW border waiver
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 3:47:08 PM

Hi Steve-
Sorry for the delay in responding to your message below.
Benjamin is at the North American. I want to check with him on the status and any discussions he has had before we respond.
I did want to let you know that the SW Solicitor is requesting a meeting related to the border wall (see pasted request below in italics) . . .

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(b) (5) attorney client .

I will provide a written response to your request for a status update as soon as I touch base with Benjamin.
Stay tuned,
Joy

On Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 11:17 AM, Guertin, Stephen <stephen_guertin@fws.gov> wrote:

> We have been asked by AS-FWP (for the Department) to run the traplines and make sure that we are ready for the Administration to issue a waiver for the envisioned border wall / barrier. We have been asked to ensure that there are no outstanding, last minute issues that could slow up the process, ie a BO needed.
>
> Can you please provide a status update?
>
> Thanks.
>
> Steve

On Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 11:17 AM, Guertin, Stephen <stephen_guertin@fws.gov> wrote:

> We have been asked by AS-FWP (for the Department) to run the traplines and make sure that we are ready for the Administration to issue a waiver for the envisioned border wall / barrier. We have been asked to ensure that there are no outstanding, last minute issues that could slow up the process, ie a BO needed.
>
> Can you please provide a status update?
>
> Thanks.
>
> Steve

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>

Fwd: LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL: (DUE 5/17/17 @ 1 PM) HRG #28 - JUSTICE Oversight Testimony 5/23/17 Re: A Time to Reform: Oversight of the Activities of the Justice Department's Civil, Tax, and ENR Divisions, and the U.S. Trustee Program

1 message

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov> Tue, May 16, 2017 at 4:38 PM
To: "Gilbert, Parks" <parks_gilbert@fws.gov>

FYI

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Hausman, Alyssa** <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, May 16, 2017 at 4:32 PM
Subject: Fwd: LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL: (DUE 5/17/17 @ 1 PM) HRG #28 - JUSTICE Oversight Testimony 5/23/17 Re: A Time to Reform: Oversight of the Activities of the Justice Department's Civil, Tax, and ENR Divisions, and the U.S. Trustee Program
To: "Miller, Kayla" <kayla_miller@fws.gov>, Chun-Xue Ren <chun-xue_ren@fws.gov>
Cc: Lisa Jones <lisa_m_jones@fws.gov>

Hi Kayla and Chun,

Attached is the draft testimony for DOJ's Environment and Natural Resources Division for an upcoming hearing. There is mention of ESA and CERCLA litigation. Can you please check with folks in ES and see if there is anything of major concern in the testimony?

If you could please let me Lisa and me know by 10am tomorrow, I would greatly appreciate it.

Thank you,
Alyssa

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL REFERRAL

Date:	**May 16, 2017**
To:	**Legislative Liaison**
Subject:	**HRG #28 - JUSTICE Oversight Testimony 5/23/17** **Re: A Time to Reform: Oversight of the Activities of the Justice Department's Civil, Tax, and ENR Divisions, and the U.S. Trustee Program**

Attached for your review, please find a draft DOJ Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) testimony for a May 23rd oversight hearing before the House Judiciary Sub-Committee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial, and Antitrust Law. This hearing is entitled "A Time to Reform: Oversight of the Activities of the Justice Department's Civil, Tax, and ENR Divisions, and the U.S. Trustee Program. Among other things, the draft testimony discusses ENRD: (1) efforts in support of Administration priorities, including the acquisition of private land to enhance border security; (2) enforcement efforts, to address crimes including fraud involving records of Renewable Identification Numbers and discharges of oily waste; and (3) civil settlements under the Clean Air Act, and Clean Water Act.

Note that witnesses from DOJ's Civil Division, Tax Division, and U.S. Trustee Program are also expected to testify at this hearing.

Please review the draft testimony and provide your comments/edits by the deadline above.

Please send agency comments or respond with a "no comment" to Pamela_Barkin@ios.doi.gov and Joseph_Nevils@ios.doi.gov by the deadline above.

Attachment(s): 1

--

RD61 DOJ OT on ENRD HJC 5-23-17.docx
120K

Draft 5/15/17

Department of Justice

STATEMENT OF

JEFFREY H. WOOD
ACTING ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY REFORM,
COMMERCIAL AND ANTITRUST LAW
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FOR A HEARING CONCERNING

OVERSIGHT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION

PRESENTED

MAY 23, 2017

Statement of Acting Assistant Attorney General Jeffrey H. Wood
Environment and Natural Resources Division
U.S. Department of Justice
Before the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform,
Commercial and Antitrust Law
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
May 23, 2017

(b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

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(b) (5)

[redacted]

[redacted]

predictability, and transparency of the federal environmental review and authorization process

(b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5)

[redacted]

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[redacted]

(b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5)

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>

Re: Review Requested: DHS QFRs on Southern Border

1 message

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov> Wed, Jul 12, 2017 at 8:48 AM
To: "Aubrey, Craig" <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>
Cc: Gary Frazer <gary_frazer@fws.gov>, Gina Shultz <Gina_Shultz@fws.gov>, Jeff Newman <jeff_newman@fws.gov>, Foster Tori <victoria_foster@fws.gov>

Hi All,

Region 8 agrees with your assessment (their note below)

I received the attached edits from R2. (b) (5) [redacted] Please let me know if you would like to move the attached comments forward.

Thanks,
Alyssa

> **R8 ARD**: Since this is really written from CBP point of view, I don't really have any edits. It does appear to be accurate based on our current understanding. I also called our solicitor who has been in on some recent conversations with DHS. (b) (5) [redacted]

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

On Wed, Jul 12, 2017 at 8:12 AM, Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov> wrote:

> Thank you very much, Craig.
>
> Alyssa Hausman
> Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> Office: (703) 358-2275
> Mobile: (703) 785-3402
> alyssa_hausman@fws.gov
>
> On Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 1:26 PM, Aubrey, Craig <craig_aubrey@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > They refer to "consults", "consultations" and "environmental assessments", which I understand were waived for previous work. I think they are using these terms in a broader sense (i.e., we don't own the word "consultation"), so I think it's probably not worth commenting on. But I wanted to flag it for senior management.
> >
> > FYI... they do mention IPaC.
> >
> > Otherwise, no issues.
> >
> > Craig
> >
> > ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> > From: **Hausman, Alyssa** <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>
> > Date: Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 10:41 AM
> > Subject: Review Requested: DHS QFRs on Southern Border
> > To: Jeff Newman <jeff_newman@fws.gov>, Craig Aubrey <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>
> >
> > Hi Jeff and Craig,
> >
> > The Department is circulating DHS QFRs from a recent hearing on southern border security. Questions 25 and 26 from Sen. Hirono (D-HI) discuss impacts to wildlife. Can you please take a look at those questions in the attached document and let me know if you have any concerns/proposed edits by COB today? I am also sending these to Regions 2 and 8.
> >
> > Sorry for the tight deadline, and thank you!
> >
> > - Alyssa

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL REFERRAL

Subject: **HRG #60 - DHS Questions for the Record from 5/23/17 Hearing**

Re: Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border

Attached for review, please find draft DHS (CBP) QFRs from a May 23rd hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee's Immigration Subcommittee, titled "Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border."

CBP Vitiello (29) #1144374 OMB Clearance FWS edit Q25.doc
62K

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>

Re: Review Requested: DHS QFRs on Southern Border

1 message

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov> Wed, Jul 12, 2017 at 8:49 AM
To: "Snow, Meghan" <meghan_snow@fws.gov>

Thanks, Meghan. ES at HQ took issue with the use of "consults", "consultations" and "environmental assessments" but not enough to submit comments.

Attached are the edits from R2, as an FYI.

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

On Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 7:09 PM, Snow, Meghan <meghan_snow@fws.gov> wrote:

Here's the response from our ARD of ES:

Meghan: Since this is really written from CBP point of view, I don't really have any edits. It does appear to be accurate based on our current understanding. I also called our solicitor who has been in on some recent conversations with DHS. (b) (5) [redacted]

Meghan Snow
Congressional Affairs Specialist
Pacific Southwest Region (Region 8), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Regional Office - Sacramento, CA
Office: (916) 978-4445
Cell: (916) 539-7494
Email: meghan_snow@fws.gov
Website: https://www.fws.gov/cno/

On Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 7:36 AM, Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Lesli and Meghan,

The Department is circulating DHS QFRs from a recent hearing on southern border security. Questions 25 and 26 from Sen. Hirono (D-HI) discuss impacts to wildlife. Can you please take a look at those questions in the attached document and let me know if you have any concerns/proposed edits by COB today?

Sorry for the tight deadline, and thank you!

- Alyssa

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL REFERRAL

Subject: **HRG #60 - DHS Questions for the Record from 5/23/17 Hearing**

Re: Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border

Attached for review, please find draft DHS (CBP) QFRs from a May 23rd hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee's Immigration Subcommittee, titled "Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border."

CBP Vitiello (29) #1144374 OMB Clearance FWS edit Q25.doc
62K

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>

Fwd: FYI: Draft DOJ QFRs on Environment and Natural Resources Division

1 message

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov> Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 3:58 PM
To: "Gilbert, Parks" <parks_gilbert@fws.gov>, Carey Galst <carey_galst@fws.gov>

fyi

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Hausman, Alyssa** <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 3:57 PM
Subject: FYI: Draft DOJ QFRs on Environment and Natural Resources Division
To: Craig Aubrey <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>, Sarah Quamme <sarah_quamme@fws.gov>, Jeff Newman <jeff_newman@fws.gov>, Chun-Xue Ren <chun-xue_ren@fws.gov>
Cc: "Frazer, Gary" <gary_frazer@fws.gov>, Gina Shultz <Gina_Shultz@fws.gov>, "Miller, Kayla" <kayla_miller@fws.gov>, Lisa Jones <lisa_m_jones@fws.gov>

Hi All,

This is largely an FYI. The Department is circulating draft QFRs from the DOJ Environment and Natural Resources Division's June hearing before the Judiciary Committee. Questions touch upon sue and settle, Border wall, and general views on ESA. I pasted one particular QFR of note below.

I did not see any red flags, but please let me know by noon tomorrow if you have any major concerns.

Thank you,
Alyssa

Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr.: What are your views about the Endangered Species Act?

DRAFT RESPONSE: (b) (5) [redacted]

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL REFERRAL

Subject: **HRG #35 - JUSTICE Questions for the Record from 6/8/17 Hearing Re: A Time to Reform: Oversight of the Activities of the Justice Department's Civil, Tax, and Environment and Natural Resources Division, and the U.S. Trustee Program**

Attached for your review, please find draft DOJ Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) responses to questions for the record stemming from a June 8th oversight hearing before the House Judiciary Sub-Committee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial, and Antitrust Law. Among other things, the draft responses discuss ENRD: (1) (b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) **(2)** (b) (5) **; and (3)** (b) (5)

LPS-#257719-v1-QFR_Responses_ENRD_Oversight_Draft_072417.docx
23K

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>

FYI: Draft DOJ QFRs on Environment and Natural Resources Division

1 message

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov> Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 3:57 PM
To: Craig Aubrey <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>, Sarah Quamme <sarah_quamme@fws.gov>, Jeff Newman <jeff_newman@fws.gov>, Chun-Xue Ren <chun-xue_ren@fws.gov>
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LPS-#257719-v1-QFR_Responses_ENRD_Oversight_Draft_072417.docx
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Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>

Re: FYI: Draft DOJ QFRs on Environment and Natural Resources Division

1 message

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov> Mon, Aug 14, 2017 at 8:19 AM
To: "Shultz, Gina" <gina_shultz@fws.gov>
Cc: "Aubrey, Craig" <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>, Sarah Quamme <sarah_quamme@fws.gov>, Jeff Newman <jeff_newman@fws.gov>, Chun-Xue Ren <chun-xue_ren@fws.gov>, "Frazer, Gary" <gary_frazer@fws.gov>, "Miller, Kayla" <kayla_miller@fws.gov>, Lisa Jones <lisa_m_jones@fws.gov>

Thanks, All.

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

On Fri, Aug 11, 2017 at 5:26 PM, Shultz, Gina <gina_shultz@fws.gov> wrote:
thank you craig

Gina Shultz
Deputy Assistant Director, Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-1985

On Fri, Aug 11, 2017 at 4:21 PM, Aubrey, Craig <craig_aubrey@fws.gov> wrote:
sorry for the late reply. no issues here

Craig

Craig W. Aubrey
Chief, Division of Environmental Review
Ecological Services Program
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
Ecological Services, MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2171 (general)
703-358-2442 (direct)

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From:	Prigan, Sara
To:	Mark Lawyer; Megan Apgar; Charisa Morris
Cc:	Tina Campbell; Anissa Craghead; Wilkinson, Susan
Subject:	FWS weekly submission of 30-day projection spreadsheet for FR docs (5/19/17)
Date:	Friday, May 19, 2017 2:50:00 PM
Attachments:	FWS entries, 30 day spreadsheet for May 23 2017_MASTER.xlsx

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Hi, Mark and Megan,

Here is the weekly 30-day-out report.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

Report Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Bureau	RIN or OMB Control Number	Title	Summary
FWS	1018-0022	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0022; Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Applications and Reports—Migratory Birds and Eagles	
FWS	1018-0093	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0093; Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Applications and Reports—Management Authority	
FWS	1018-0123	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0123; International Conservation Grant Programs	
FWS	1018-0095	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0095; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, Experimental Populations	The Notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 1018-0095. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to establish experimental populations of endangered or threatened species in 50 CFR 17.84. Individuals of experimental populations are protected under the ESA. This control number authorizes the Service to collect important information necessary to monitor the success of reintroduction and recovery efforts.
FWS	1018-0023	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0023; Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program and Migratory Bird Surveys	

FWS	1018-0066	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0066; Marine Mammal Marking, Tagging, and Reporting Certificates, and Registration of Certain Dead Marine Mammal Hard Parts	
FWS	1018-0102	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0102; National Wildlife Refuge Special Use Permit Applications and Reports	
FWS		Giant garter snake; Notice of Availability of Second Revised Draft Recovery Plan	This document describes the strategy, objectives, and actions necessary for achieving recovery of the giant garter snake, along with criteria that, when met, signify that the Service may be able to remove the species from the list of threatened and endangered species. The plan focuses on establishing and protecting self-sustaining populations throughout the range of the species, restoring and conserving healthy wetland ecosystems that will support the species, and ameliorating or eliminating the threats that caused the species to be listed.
FWS	1018-BB54	Listing Determination for the I'iwi	This final rule lists the I'iwi (Drepanis coccinea), a forest bird endemic to Hawaii, as threatened under the Endangered Species Act
FWS		Stock Assessment Reports for Southern Beaufort Sea and Chukchi-Bering Seas; Opening 90-day Public Comment Period	The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is publishing a Federal Register Notice of Availability on draft revised Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) for the Southern Beaufort and the Chukchi Seas stocks of polar bears. This notice opens a 90-day public comment period to request input on these draft revisions.

FWS		Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for Betteravia Farms, LLC /Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project, Santa Barbara County, California	
FWS		Draft Recovery Plan for the Pima Pineapple Cactus	We announce that our Pima pineapple cactus draft recovery plan is available. The cactus is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. This plant species is currently found in southern Arizona and in northern Sonora, Mexico. The draft recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to enable us to remove this species from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants. A proposed border wall is not anticipated to impede the recovery of the Pima pineapple cactus. We request that local, State, and Federal agencies, Tribes, and the public review and comment. We will also accept any new species status information throughout its range to assist with recovery plan finalization.
FWS		Batched permit notice: receipt of ES permit applications (ERO Resources Corp/ TE040510 and others)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for ESA recovery permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.

FWS	1018-BB34	Reopening of the Comment Period and Announcement of Two Public Hearings for Texas Hornshell	We received several requests for public hearings on the proposed rule to list the Texas hornshell (*Popenaias popeii*) as an endangered species. We are reopening the comment period on the proposed listing rule for 30 days and announcing the dates and locations of these public hearings. The additional comment period will allow the public another opportunity to comment on the proposed rule as well as allow us to take into consideration input we receive during the two public hearings. The public information sessions, to be held immediately before both public hearings, will give us an opportunity to interact with the public, hear their concerns, and provide information on what listing is and does.The Texas hornshell was part of the Multi District Litigation settlement agreement. The public hearings must occur in enough time to revise the final listing rule as appropriate and publish our final listing determination in the Federal Register by August 10, 2017.

FWS		Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities; Proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization for Pacific Walruses and Polar Bears in Alaska and Associated Federal Waters; Quintillion	In response to a request from Quintillion Subsea Operation, LLC (Quintillion), we propose to authorize the incidental taking by harassment of small numbers of Pacific walruses and polar bears from July 1, 2017, through November 15, 2017, under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA), as amended. Quintillion has requested this incidental harassment authorization (IHA) for its planned cable-laying activities in the northern Bering, Chukchi, and southwestern Beaufort Seas, the marine waters of the State of Alaska, and coastal land adjacent to Nome, Kotzebue, Point Hope, Wainwright, Utqiagvik, and Oliktok Point. We anticipate no take (as defined in the MMPA) by injury or death and include none in this proposed authorization, which, if finalized, would be for non-lethal, non-injurious, take by harassment only. The Quintillion project will provide for improved broadband internet service in northern Alaska. The project is a continuation of work begun in 2016.
FWS	1018-BA41	Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	
FWS		Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Associated Documents for LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan, TX	

FWS	1018-BB74	Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly in Northwestern Oregon	
FWS	1018-BA74, 1018-BB89, 1018-BB90, and 1018-BB87	Reopening of Comment Period on Proposed Rules: Listing & Critical Habitat (G. Fescue, 1018-BA74), Downlist from Endangered to Threatened (Cactuses, 1018-BB89 and 1018-BB90), Delist (Wild-Buckwheat, 1018-BB87)	We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce that we are reopening the comment periods for our proposed rules to list *Festuca ligulata* (Guadalupe fescue) as an endangered species; to designate *Festuca ligulata* critical habitat ; to reclassify *Sclerocactus brevihamatus* ssp. *tobuschii* (Tobusch fishhook cactus) from endangered to threatened; to reclassify *Echinocereus fendleri* var. *kuenzleri* (Kuenzler hedgehog cactus) from endangered to threatened; and to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants. We are reopening the comment period for each of these proposed rules for 30 days in order to publish a legal notice and to give all interested parties further opportunity to comment on the proposed rules. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted, as they will be fully considered in preparing the final listing determinations.
FWS		Louisiana Pinesnake; Notice of Availability for the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances	

FWS		Yolo Habitat Conservancy, CA; Counties of Yolo and Cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland; draft Joint Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan and draft Joint Natural Community Conservation Plan	
FWS		Initiation of a 5-Year Review of the Aleutian Shield Fern, AK	This notice alerts the public that we are initiating a 5-year status review for the Aleutian shield fern under the ESA and provides an opportunity for the public to provide information they may have on the species. A 5-year status review results in a recommendation on whether the species should be classified differently or delisted. The species is only known to occur on one island in the Aleutian Island chain.
FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications (first applicant: Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, Little Rock, AR)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits for Region 4 and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments.
FWS		Draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District Habitat Conservation Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Barton Springs salamander and Austin blind salamander, Texas	This is a Federal Register Notice of Availability for the draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District HCP and dEIS for take of the Barton Springs salamander (Eurycea sosorum) and the Austin blind salamander (Eurycea waterlooensis) in Travis and Hays Counties, Texas.

FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications; Region 6	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for ESA recovery permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.
FWS		Notice of availability; joint Draft Environmental Impact Statement And Draft Environmental Impact Report; receipt of permit application, Draft Habitat Conservation Plan; South Sacramento County, California	The proposed permit would authorize the incidental take of 28 covered-species by the construction and operation of new urban development, transportation, infrastructure, and other projects that would be implemented or authorized by five permit applicants over a 50-year period, within a 317,656-acre planning area located in south Sacramento County, California.
FWS		Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Availability of Proposed Low-Effect Lakes at St. Sebastian Preserve Habitat Conservation Plan, Brevard County, FL / Atlantic Coast Paladin Estates, LLC and Micco Road Investments, LLC c/o the Kelsey Group	The applicant is requesting take of approximately 99.85 acres of Audubon's Crested Caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*) nesting and foraging habitat incidental to the construction of a residential development project in Brevard County, Florida. The Audubon's Crested Caracara is federally listed as threatened. Impacts to the species will be offset by conservation of 20 acres of caracara habitat and a $10,000 management endowment.

FWS		NOA: Draft Texas Coastal Bend Shortgrass Prairie Multi-Species Recovery Plan, including Slender Rush-Pea and South Texas Ambrosia	This is a notice of availability for the draft recovery plan that includes slender rush-pea and South Texas ambrosia. The recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria that, when achieved, will enable us to remove both species from the list of endangered and threatened plants. We are requesting review and comment on the recovery plan from the public; tribes; and local, State, and Federal agencies.
FWS	1018-AX99	Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	
FWS		Recovery Permits (Kiernan, first)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery permits, requests public comment on the permits, and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.
FWS		ES Recovery Permit Applications (First Preserve District of Will County, Plainfield, IL, and others)	
FWS		Initiation of 5-Year Status Reviews of 23 Southeastern Species	

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Maire Malone, first) FWS-HQ-IA-2017-0019	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued nine permits under the ESA and two under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Nature Conservation Trust, first applicant)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Tony Goldberg, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, first applicant)	

FWS		Endangered Species; Notice of Issuance (Foreign Species Permits; Michael Rohweder, first permittee)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Feld Entertainment, Inc., first applicant)	This is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, to notify the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act (ESA) permits. This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on sixteen(16) (ESA) applications and one (1) Marine Mammal application that were received by the Service requesting authorization to conduct otherwise prohibited activities within the United States or to import biological specimens for research purposes. There are no decisions announced in these notices, but we cannot finalize the review of these permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period under the ESA.
FWS		Exemption from Threatened Species Permits for a Qualifying Beluga Sturgeon Aquaculture Facility	
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Dallas World Aquarium, first applicant)	
FWS		Meeting Notice; Service Regulations Committee Meeting	
FWS		Meeting Notice; North American Wetlands Council Meeting	
FWS	1018-BB24	Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale	

FWS	1018-AZ69	Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls)	
FWS		Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement; Hycroft Mining Company; Request for Take Permits Under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	
FWS	1018-AY30	Eagle Permits: Revision to Regulations for Eagle Incidental Take and Take of Nests; Correction	
FWS	1018-BB06	Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting	
FWS	1018-BB73	2018–19 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations	
FWS	1018-BB40	Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season	
FWS		Notice of Availability for the Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge and Black River Unit of Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Grays Harbor and Thurston Counties, WA; Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	

FWS		Notice of intent to implement annual hunting fees, annual fishing fees, and special permit fees; Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge, KY [FWS–R4–R–2016–N141]	Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge proposes to implement annual hunting and fishing fees and special permit fees for commercial recreational activities. The proposed cost for the annual access permit is $15 (free for youth under 16, and $5 for seniors 65 and over); there would be a $50 minimum fee for annual Recreational Special Use Permit authorizing commercial recreational activities to be conducted on the Refuge.
FWS	1018-BB75	Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18	
FWS		Notice of Intent to Re-open the Planning Process for the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Enivironmental Assessment at Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge	
FWS		NOA: Camas National Wildlife Refuge, Jefferson County, ID; Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	A Finding of No Significant Impact was signed on March 10, 2017, and the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) was completed for Camas National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), located in Jefferson County, Idaho. The CCP will guide management of the Refuge for 15 years or until it is revised, and actions will be implemented as funding becomes available. We are informing the Secretary of our intent to publish the Notice of Availability for the Camas National Wildlife Refuge CCP and the Finding of No Significant Impact for the Environmental Assessment (EA).

FWS	1018-BA31	Disapproval of Final Rule: Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska	The final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (P.L. 115-20). This action conforms to P.L. 115-20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the effective date of the final rule that was nullified under the Congressional Review Act.
FWS	1018-BA33	Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4	The proposed rule:• Is in response to requests from States to revise and simplify the rules for license certification. The Service worked closely with DOI solicitors and AFWA attorneys in developing the new language. • Includes changes that were reviewed by Regional and State representatives, and interested stakeholders, during pre-rulemaking comment periods and were developed considering the comments we received. • Includes definitions and additions to the rule that will clarify the rule and improve national consistency. • Was developed in coordination with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Federal Aid Coordinators Working Group, Regional WSFR offices, State representatives, and members of interest organizations.

Type	Estimated Date for DOI Clearance	Current Status	Has Been at Current Status Since (Date)
ICR Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/16/17

ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/17/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/08/17
Notice	5/4/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/15/17
Final Rule	5/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/20/17
Notice	5/12/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/11/17

Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Communications clearance	05/03/17
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Proposed Rule	5/18/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17

Notice	5/18/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Final Rule	5/22/2017	Drafting	
Notice	5/26/2017	Drafting	

Final Rule	5/26/2017	Drafting	
Proposed Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	02/24/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/04/17
Final Rule	6/2/2017	Drafting	
Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Notice	6/19/2017	Drafting	

Notice	5/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/12/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	
Notice	5/18/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	
Notice	5/24/2017	Pending Bureau clearance (with CCU)	
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/12/17
Notice	5/19/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/15/17
Final Rule	5/20/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/18/17

Final Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	04/26/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Final Rule	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/18/17
Proposed Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/03/17
Proposed Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17
Final Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Proposed Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	

Final Rule	6/2/2017	Pending Solicitor clearance	
Proposed Rule	5/19/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	03/01/17

Must be at Exec Sec no later than	DCN (Optional)	Program (Optional)	Critical Date (Judicial, Statutory, or Other)
Wednesday, May 3, 2017	2945	ABHC	
Wednesday, May 3, 2017	2946	ABHC	
Monday, May 22, 2017	2948	ABHC	
Monday, May 22, 2017	2943	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2970	ABHC	

Thursday, June 1, 2017	2968	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2969	ABHC	
Thursday, April 27, 2017	2839	ES	
Monday, April 24, 2017	2902	ES	Statutory, 9/20/2017
Friday, May 5, 2017	2782	ES	

Monday, May 8, 2017	2931	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2808	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2922	ES	

Thursday, May 4, 2017	2959	ES	

Thursday, May 11, 2017	2949	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017		ES	Statutory, 3/11/2017
Friday, May 19, 2017	2962	ES	

Friday, May 12, 2017	2940	ES	
Tuesday, May 16, 2017	2897	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2870	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2954	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2931	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2917	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2785	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2922	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2925	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2933	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2821	ES	
Friday, May 19, 2017	2795	ES	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2964	ES	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2956	ES	
Monday, June 12, 2017	2952	ES	

Friday, April 28, 2017	2905	IA	

Friday, May 5, 2017	2924	IA	
Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2925	IA	

Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2927	IA	

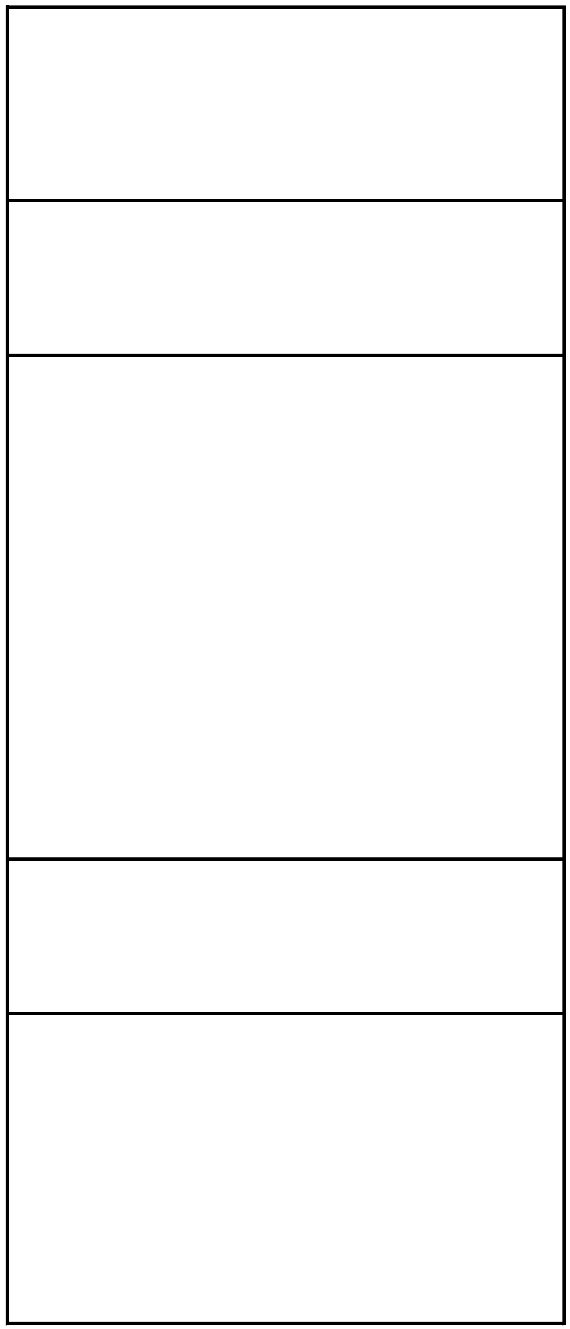
Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2934	IA	
Thursday, May 11, 2017	2953	IA	
Wednesday, May 17, 2017	2942	IA	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2941	MB	Other, 6/6/2017
Friday, May 12, 2017	2906	MB	Other, 5/26/2017
Monday, May 8, 2017	2763	MB	

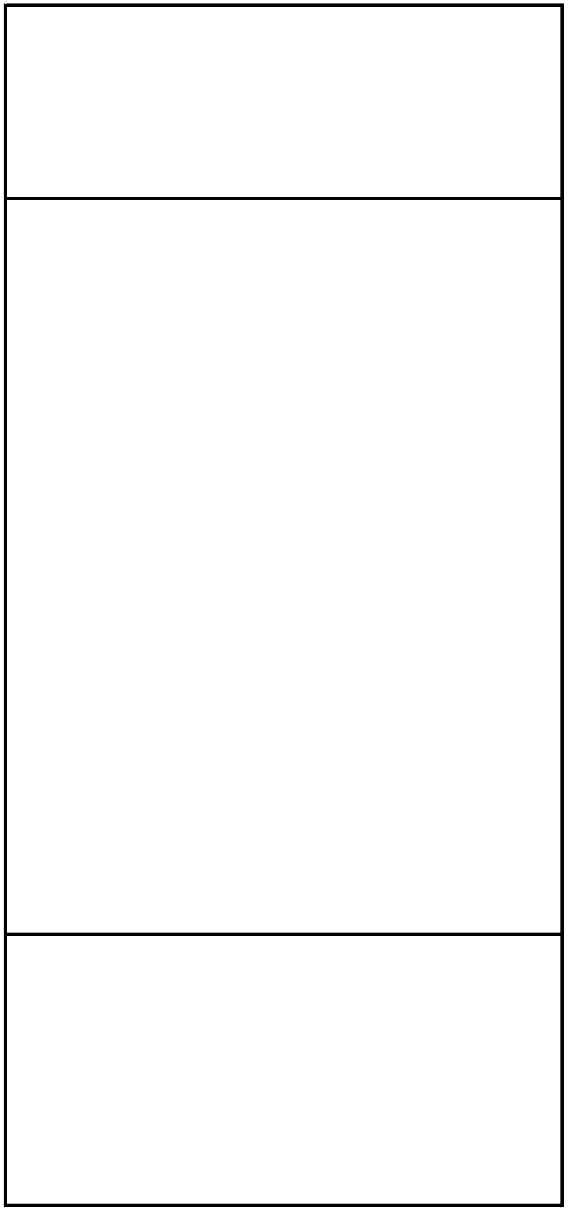
Tuesday, May 16, 2017	1426	MB	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2938	MB	
Thursday, May 25, 2017	2944	MB	
Friday, June 2, 2017	2278	MB	
Friday, June 2, 2017		MB	Other, 7/31/2017
Friday, June 2, 2017		MB	Other, 8/31/2017
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2914	NWRS	

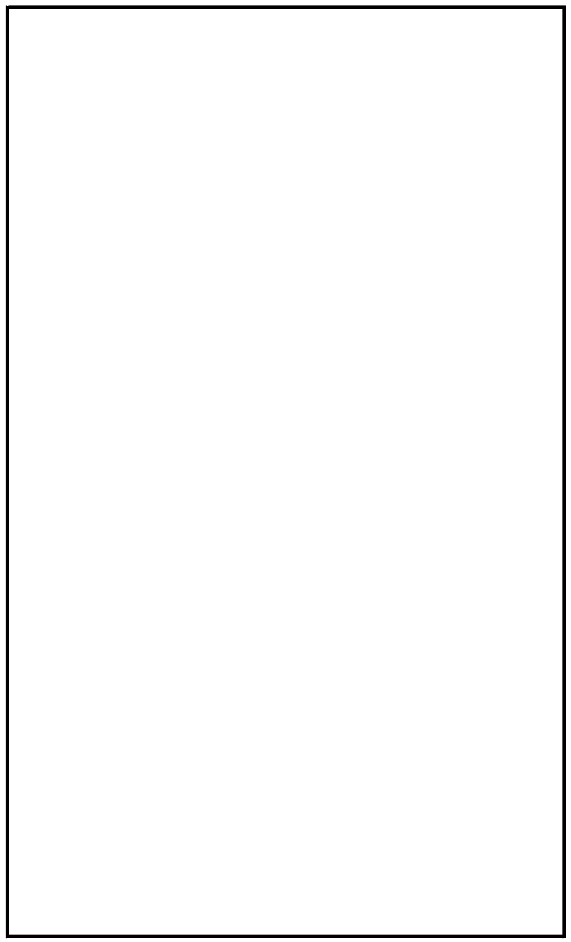
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2867	NWRS	Other, 8/15/2017
Tuesday, May 16, 2017		NWRS	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2881	NWRS	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2915	NWRS	

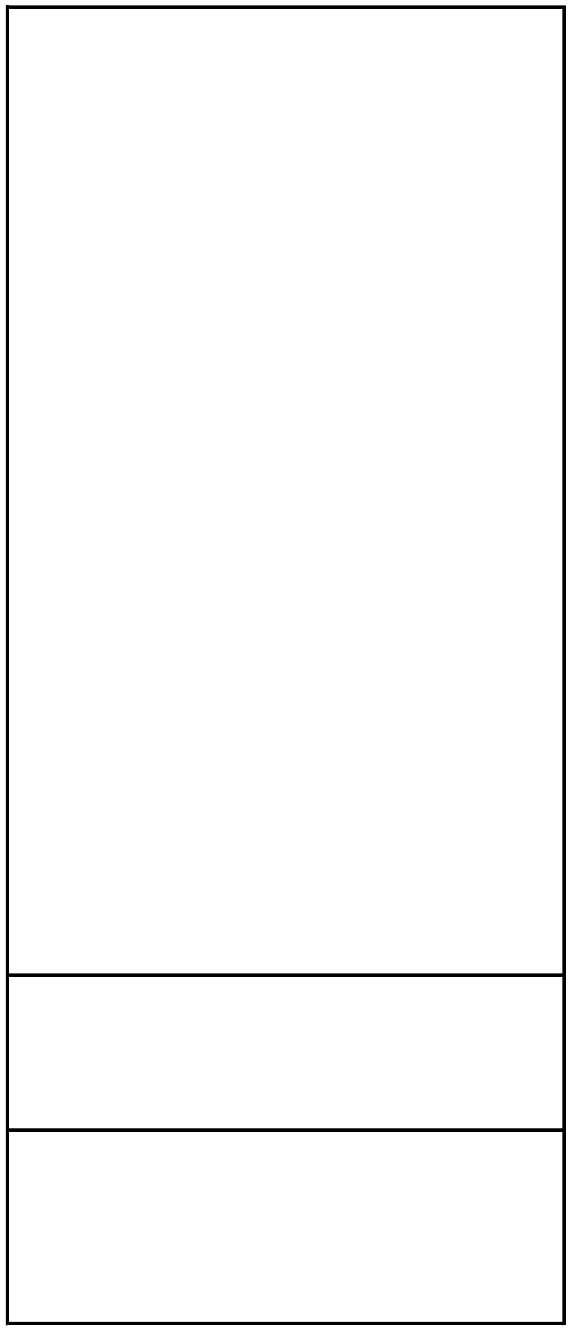
Friday, May 19, 2017		NWRS	
Friday, May 5, 2017	2841	WSFR	

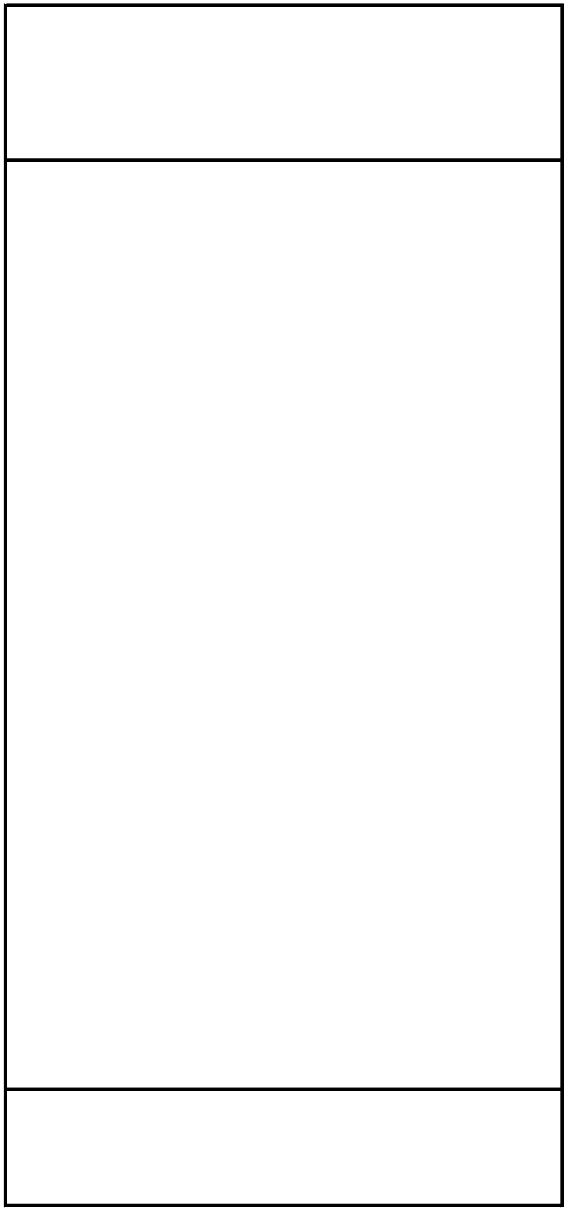
Explain Critical Date if "Other"

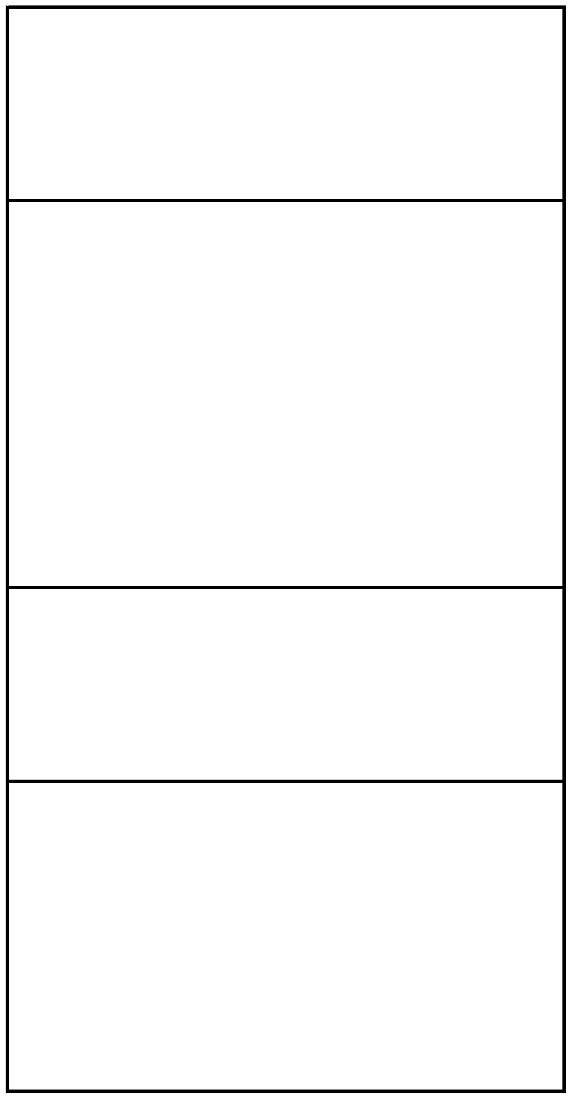


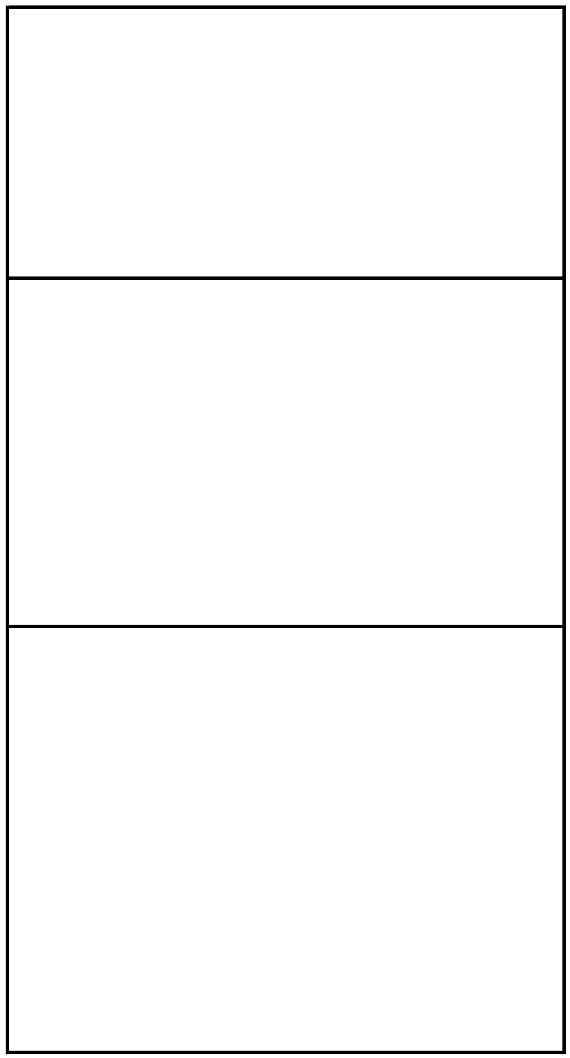


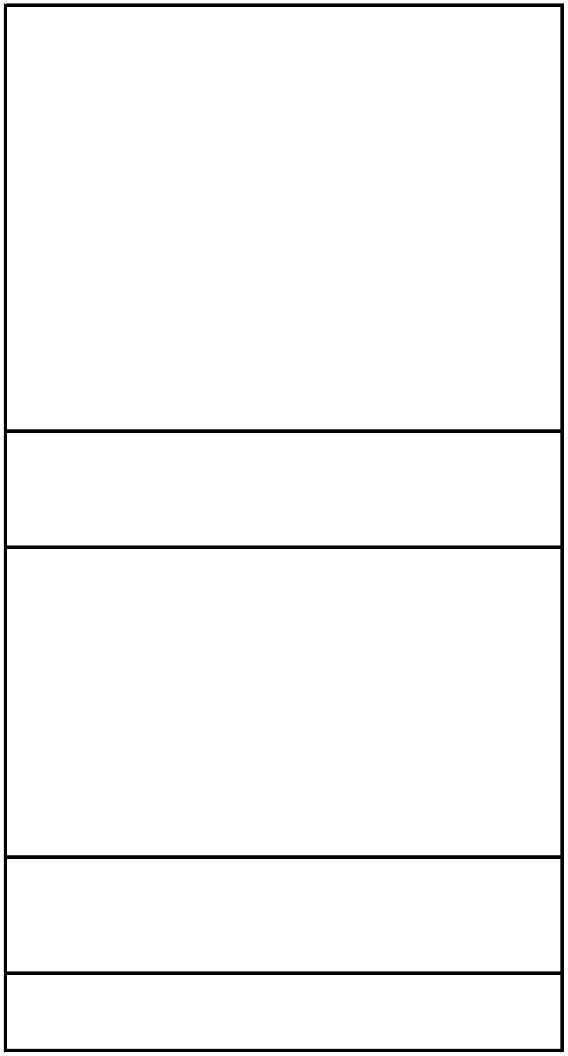


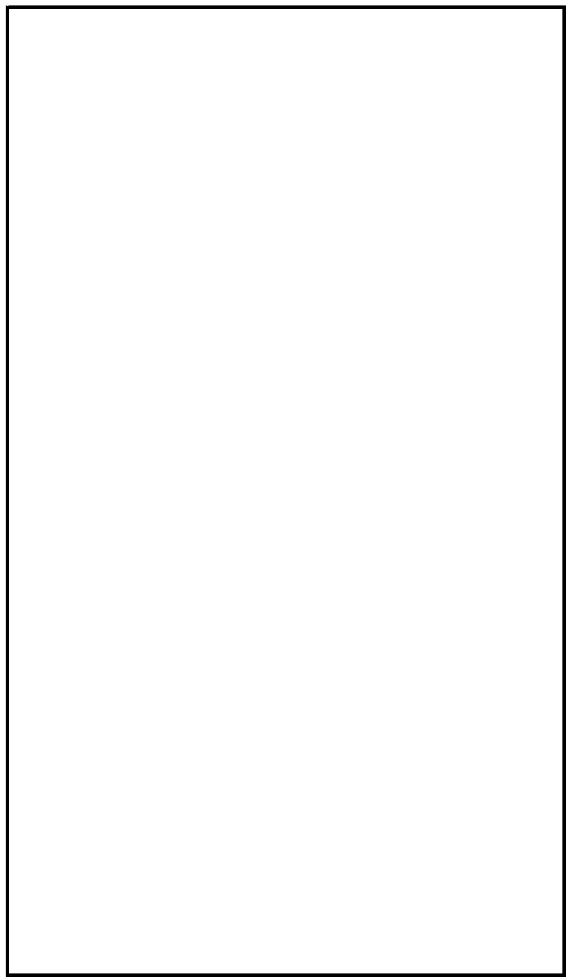


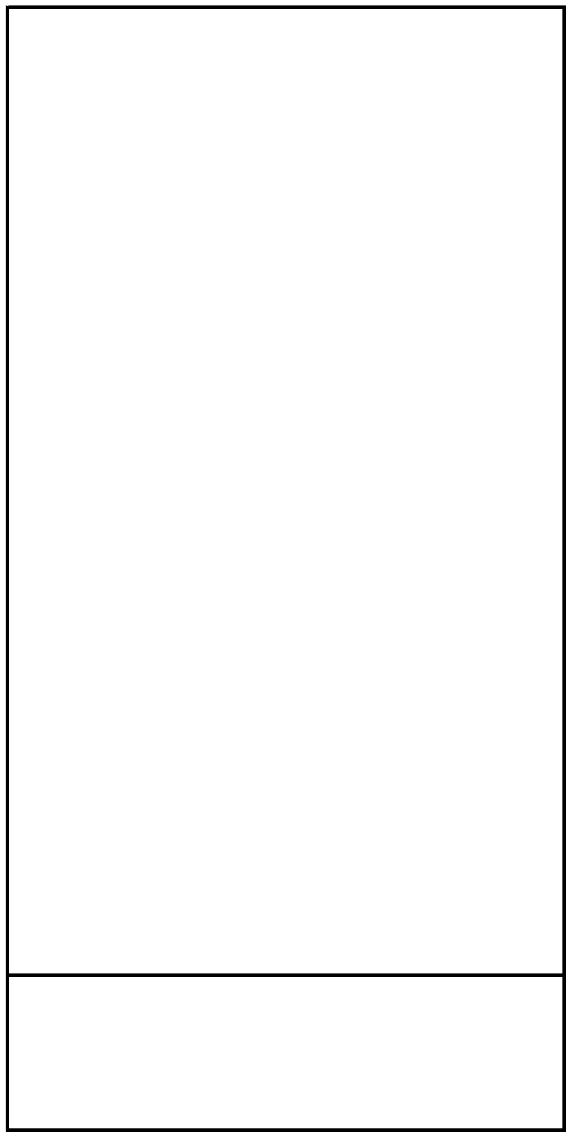


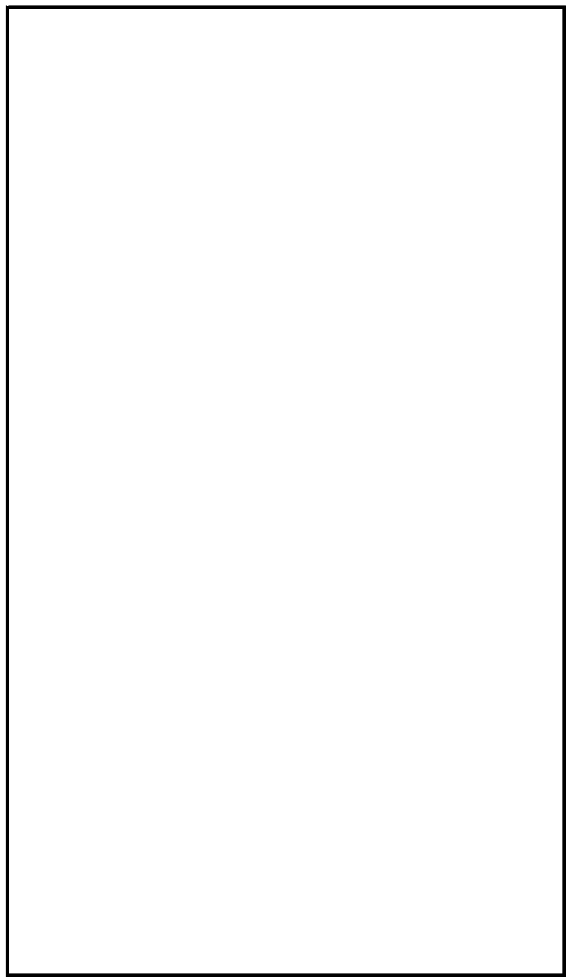








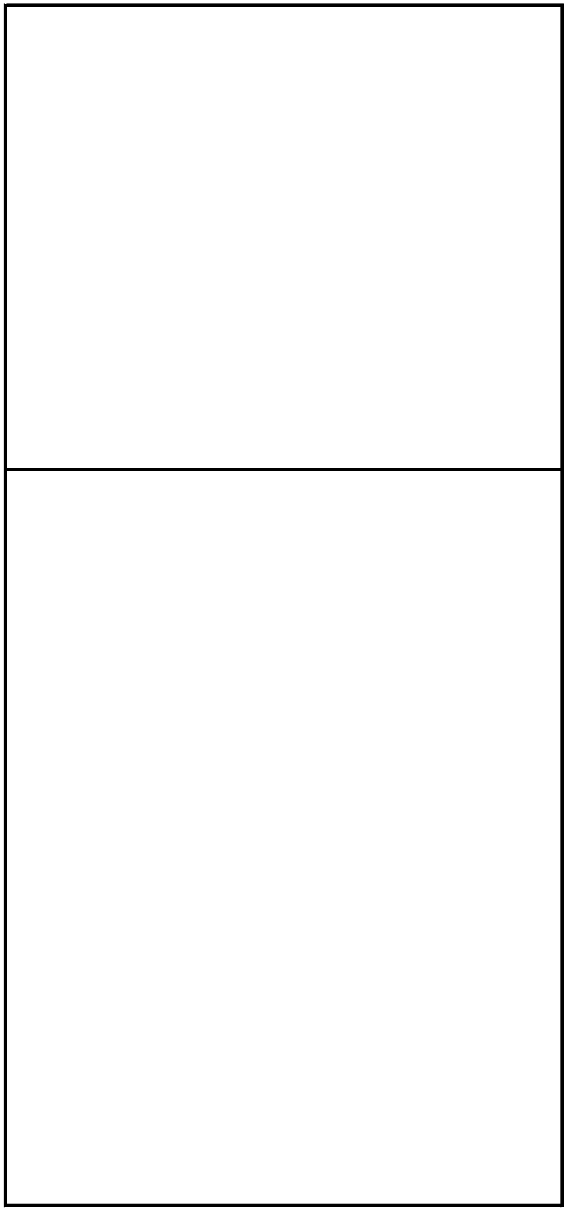




This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date, which is June 21, 2017.
This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date, which is June 13, 2017.

Must be published prior to Flyway Council meetings, which begin in August.
This is the drop-dead date to legally open 2017/2018 hunting seasons.

This date is necessary to enable us to initiate the recreational fee program.



From:	Morris, Charisa
To:	Gary Frazer
Subject:	Fwd: FWS weekly submission of 30-day projection spreadsheet for FR docs (5/19/17)
Date:	Monday, May 22, 2017 8:55:19 AM
Attachments:	FWS entries, 30 day spreadsheet for May 23 2017_MASTER.xlsx

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Good morning! Are you receiving these 30 day reports? If not, did you want to?

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Prigan, Sara** <sara_prigan@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, May 19, 2017 at 5:49 PM
Subject: FWS weekly submission of 30-day projection spreadsheet for FR docs (5/19/17)
To: Mark Lawyer <mark_lawyer@ios.doi.gov>, Megan Apgar <megan_apgar@ios.doi.gov>, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
Cc: Tina Campbell <tina_campbell@fws.gov>, Anissa Craghead <Anissa_Craghead@fws.gov>, "Wilkinson, Susan" <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>

Hi, Mark and Megan,

Here is the weekly 30-day-out report.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

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Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

Report Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Bureau	RIN or OMB Control Number	Title	Summary
FWS	1018-0022	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0022; Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Applications and Reports—Migratory Birds and Eagles	
FWS	1018-0093	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0093; Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Applications and Reports—Management Authority	
FWS	1018-0123	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0123; International Conservation Grant Programs	
FWS	1018-0095	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0095; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, Experimental Populations	The Notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 1018-0095. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to establish experimental populations of endangered or threatened species in 50 CFR 17.84. Individuals of experimental populations are protected under the ESA. This control number authorizes the Service to collect important information necessary to monitor the success of reintroduction and recovery efforts.
FWS	1018-0023	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0023; Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program and Migratory Bird Surveys	

FWS	1018-0066	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0066; Marine Mammal Marking, Tagging, and Reporting Certificates, and Registration of Certain Dead Marine Mammal Hard Parts	
FWS	1018-0102	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0102; National Wildlife Refuge Special Use Permit Applications and Reports	
FWS		Giant garter snake; Notice of Availability of Second Revised Draft Recovery Plan	This document describes the strategy, objectives, and actions necessary for achieving recovery of the giant garter snake, along with criteria that, when met, signify that the Service may be able to remove the species from the list of threatened and endangered species. The plan focuses on establishing and protecting self-sustaining populations throughout the range of the species, restoring and conserving healthy wetland ecosystems that will support the species, and ameliorating or eliminating the threats that caused the species to be listed.
FWS	1018-BB54	Listing Determination for the I'iwi	This final rule lists the I'iwi (Drepanis coccinea), a forest bird endemic to Hawaii, as threatened under the Endangered Species Act
FWS		Stock Assessment Reports for Southern Beaufort Sea and Chukchi-Bering Seas; Opening 90-day Public Comment Period	The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is publishing a Federal Register Notice of Availability on draft revised Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) for the Southern Beaufort and the Chukchi Seas stocks of polar bears. This notice opens a 90-day public comment period to request input on these draft revisions.

FWS		Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for Betteravia Farms, LLC /Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project, Santa Barbara County, California	
FWS		Draft Recovery Plan for the Pima Pineapple Cactus	We announce that our Pima pineapple cactus draft recovery plan is available. The cactus is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. This plant species is currently found in southern Arizona and in northern Sonora, Mexico. The draft recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to enable us to remove this species from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants. A proposed border wall is not anticipated to impede the recovery of the Pima pineapple cactus. We request that local, State, and Federal agencies, Tribes, and the public review and comment. We will also accept any new species status information throughout its range to assist with recovery plan finalization.
FWS		Batched permit notice: receipt of ES permit applications (ERO Resources Corp/ TE040510 and others)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for ESA recovery permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.

FWS	1018-BB34	Reopening of the Comment Period and Announcement of Two Public Hearings for Texas Hornshell	We received several requests for public hearings on the proposed rule to list the Texas hornshell (*Popenaias popeii*) as an endangered species. We are reopening the comment period on the proposed listing rule for 30 days and announcing the dates and locations of these public hearings. The additional comment period will allow the public another opportunity to comment on the proposed rule as well as allow us to take into consideration input we receive during the two public hearings. The public information sessions, to be held immediately before both public hearings, will give us an opportunity to interact with the public, hear their concerns, and provide information on what listing is and does.The Texas hornshell was part of the Multi District Litigation settlement agreement. The public hearings must occur in enough time to revise the final listing rule as appropriate and publish our final listing determination in the Federal Register by August 10, 2017.

FWS		Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities; Proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization for Pacific Walruses and Polar Bears in Alaska and Associated Federal Waters; Quintillion	In response to a request from Quintillion Subsea Operation, LLC (Quintillion), we propose to authorize the incidental taking by harassment of small numbers of Pacific walruses and polar bears from July 1, 2017, through November 15, 2017, under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA), as amended. Quintillion has requested this incidental harassment authorization (IHA) for its planned cable-laying activities in the northern Bering, Chukchi, and southwestern Beaufort Seas, the marine waters of the State of Alaska, and coastal land adjacent to Nome, Kotzebue, Point Hope, Wainwright, Utqiagvik, and Oliktok Point. We anticipate no take (as defined in the MMPA) by injury or death and include none in this proposed authorization, which, if finalized, would be for non-lethal, non-injurious, take by harassment only. The Quintillion project will provide for improved broadband internet service in northern Alaska. The project is a continuation of work begun in 2016.
FWS	1018-BA41	Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	
FWS		Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Associated Documents for LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan, TX	

FWS	1018-BB74	Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly in Northwestern Oregon	
FWS	1018-BA74, 1018-BB89, 1018-BB90, and 1018-BB87	Reopening of Comment Period on Proposed Rules: Listing & Critical Habitat (G. Fescue, 1018-BA74), Downlist from Endangered to Threatened (Cactuses, 1018-BB89 and 1018-BB90), Delist (Wild-Buckwheat, 1018-BB87)	We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce that we are reopening the comment periods for our proposed rules to list *Festuca ligulata* (Guadalupe fescue) as an endangered species; to designate *Festuca ligulata* critical habitat ; to reclassify *Sclerocactus brevihamatus* ssp. *tobuschii* (Tobusch fishhook cactus) from endangered to threatened; to reclassify *Echinocereus fendleri* var. *kuenzleri* (Kuenzler hedgehog cactus) from endangered to threatened; and to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants. We are reopening the comment period for each of these proposed rules for 30 days in order to publish a legal notice and to give all interested parties further opportunity to comment on the proposed rules. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted, as they will be fully considered in preparing the final listing determinations.
FWS		Louisiana Pinesnake; Notice of Availability for the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances	

FWS		Yolo Habitat Conservancy, CA; Counties of Yolo and Cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland; draft Joint Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan and draft Joint Natural Community Conservation Plan	
FWS		Initiation of a 5-Year Review of the Aleutian Shield Fern, AK	This notice alerts the public that we are initiating a 5-year status review for the Aleutian shield fern under the ESA and provides an opportunity for the public to provide information they may have on the species. A 5-year status review results in a recommendation on whether the species should be classified differently or delisted. The species is only known to occur on one island in the Aleutian Island chain.
FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications (first applicant: Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, Little Rock, AR)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits for Region 4 and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments.
FWS		Draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District Habitat Conservation Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Barton Springs salamander and Austin blind salamander, Texas	This is a Federal Register Notice of Availability for the draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District HCP and dEIS for take of the Barton Springs salamander (Eurycea sosorum) and the Austin blind salamander (Eurycea waterlooensis) in Travis and Hays Counties, Texas.

FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications; Region 6	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for ESA recovery permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.
FWS		Notice of availability; joint Draft Environmental Impact Statement And Draft Environmental Impact Report; receipt of permit application, Draft Habitat Conservation Plan; South Sacramento County, California	The proposed permit would authorize the incidental take of 28 covered-species by the construction and operation of new urban development, transportation, infrastructure, and other projects that would be implemented or authorized by five permit applicants over a 50-year period, within a 317,656-acre planning area located in south Sacramento County, California.
FWS		Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Availability of Proposed Low-Effect Lakes at St. Sebastian Preserve Habitat Conservation Plan, Brevard County, FL / Atlantic Coast Paladin Estates, LLC and Micco Road Investments, LLC c/o the Kelsey Group	The applicant is requesting take of approximately 99.85 acres of Audubon's Crested Caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*) nesting and foraging habitat incidental to the construction of a residential development project in Brevard County, Florida. The Audubon's Crested Caracara is federally listed as threatened. Impacts to the species will be offset by conservation of 20 acres of caracara habitat and a $10,000 management endowment.

FWS		NOA: Draft Texas Coastal Bend Shortgrass Prairie Multi-Species Recovery Plan, including Slender Rush-Pea and South Texas Ambrosia	This is a notice of availability for the draft recovery plan that includes slender rush-pea and South Texas ambrosia. The recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria that, when achieved, will enable us to remove both species from the list of endangered and threatened plants. We are requesting review and comment on the recovery plan from the public; tribes; and local, State, and Federal agencies.
FWS	1018-AX99	Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	
FWS		Recovery Permits (Kiernan, first)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery permits, requests public comment on the permits, and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.
FWS		ES Recovery Permit Applications (First Preserve District of Will County, Plainfield, IL, and others)	
FWS		Initiation of 5-Year Status Reviews of 23 Southeastern Species	

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Maire Malone, first) FWS-HQ-IA-2017-0019	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued nine permits under the ESA and two under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Nature Conservation Trust, first applicant)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Tony Goldberg, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, first applicant)	

FWS		Endangered Species; Notice of Issuance (Foreign Species Permits; Michael Rohweder, first permittee)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Feld Entertainment, Inc., first applicant)	This is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, to notify the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act (ESA) permits. This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on sixteen(16) (ESA) applications and one (1) Marine Mammal application that were received by the Service requesting authorization to conduct otherwise prohibited activities within the United States or to import biological specimens for research purposes. There are no decisions announced in these notices, but we cannot finalize the review of these permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period under the ESA.
FWS		Exemption from Threatened Species Permits for a Qualifying Beluga Sturgeon Aquaculture Facility	
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Dallas World Aquarium, first applicant)	
FWS		Meeting Notice; Service Regulations Committee Meeting	
FWS		Meeting Notice; North American Wetlands Council Meeting	
FWS	1018-BB24	Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale	

FWS	1018-AZ69	Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls)	
FWS		Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement; Hycroft Mining Company; Request for Take Permits Under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	
FWS	1018-AY30	Eagle Permits: Revision to Regulations for Eagle Incidental Take and Take of Nests; Correction	
FWS	1018-BB06	Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting	
FWS	1018-BB73	2018–19 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations	
FWS	1018-BB40	Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season	
FWS		Notice of Availability for the Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge and Black River Unit of Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Grays Harbor and Thurston Counties, WA; Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	

FWS		Notice of intent to implement annual hunting fees, annual fishing fees, and special permit fees; Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge, KY [FWS–R4–R–2016–N141]	Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge proposes to implement annual hunting and fishing fees and special permit fees for commercial recreational activities. The proposed cost for the annual access permit is $15 (free for youth under 16, and $5 for seniors 65 and over); there would be a $50 minimum fee for annual Recreational Special Use Permit authorizing commercial recreational activities to be conducted on the Refuge.
FWS	1018-BB75	Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18	
FWS		Notice of Intent to Re-open the Planning Process for the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Enivironmental Assessment at Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge	
FWS		NOA: Camas National Wildlife Refuge, Jefferson County, ID; Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	A Finding of No Significant Impact was signed on March 10, 2017, and the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) was completed for Camas National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), located in Jefferson County, Idaho. The CCP will guide management of the Refuge for 15 years or until it is revised, and actions will be implemented as funding becomes available. We are informing the Secretary of our intent to publish the Notice of Availability for the Camas National Wildlife Refuge CCP and the Finding of No Significant Impact for the Environmental Assessment (EA).

FWS	1018-BA31	Disapproval of Final Rule: Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska	The final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (P.L. 115-20). This action conforms to P.L. 115-20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the effective date of the final rule that was nullified under the Congressional Review Act.
FWS	1018-BA33	Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4	The proposed rule:• Is in response to requests from States to revise and simplify the rules for license certification. The Service worked closely with DOI solicitors and AFWA attorneys in developing the new language. • Includes changes that were reviewed by Regional and State representatives, and interested stakeholders, during pre-rulemaking comment periods and were developed considering the comments we received. • Includes definitions and additions to the rule that will clarify the rule and improve national consistency. • Was developed in coordination with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Federal Aid Coordinators Working Group, Regional WSFR offices, State representatives, and members of interest organizations.

Type	Estimated Date for DOI Clearance	Current Status	Has Been at Current Status Since (Date)
ICR Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/16/17

ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/17/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/08/17
Notice	5/4/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/15/17
Final Rule	5/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/20/17
Notice	5/12/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/11/17

Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Communications clearance	05/03/17
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Proposed Rule	5/18/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17

Notice	5/18/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Final Rule	5/22/2017	Drafting	
Notice	5/26/2017	Drafting	

Final Rule	5/26/2017	Drafting	
Proposed Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	02/24/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/04/17
Final Rule	6/2/2017	Drafting	
Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Notice	6/19/2017	Drafting	

Notice	5/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/12/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	
Notice	5/18/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	
Notice	5/24/2017	Pending Bureau clearance (with CCU)	
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/12/17
Notice	5/19/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/15/17
Final Rule	5/20/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/18/17

Final Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	04/26/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Final Rule	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/18/17
Proposed Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/03/17
Proposed Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17
Final Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Proposed Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	

Final Rule	6/2/2017	Pending Solicitor clearance	
Proposed Rule	5/19/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	03/01/17

Must be at Exec Sec no later than	DCN (Optional)	Program (Optional)	Critical Date (Judicial, Statutory, or Other)
Wednesday, May 3, 2017	2945	ABHC	
Wednesday, May 3, 2017	2946	ABHC	
Monday, May 22, 2017	2948	ABHC	
Monday, May 22, 2017	2943	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2970	ABHC	

Thursday, June 1, 2017	2968	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2969	ABHC	
Thursday, April 27, 2017	2839	ES	
Monday, April 24, 2017	2902	ES	Statutory, 9/20/2017
Friday, May 5, 2017	2782	ES	

Monday, May 8, 2017	2931	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2808	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2922	ES	

Thursday, May 4, 2017	2959	ES	

Thursday, May 11, 2017	2949	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017		ES	Statutory, 3/11/2017
Friday, May 19, 2017	2962	ES	

Friday, May 12, 2017	2940	ES	
Tuesday, May 16, 2017	2897	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2870	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2954	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2931	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2917	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2785	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2922	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2925	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2933	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2821	ES	
Friday, May 19, 2017	2795	ES	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2964	ES	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2956	ES	
Monday, June 12, 2017	2952	ES	

Friday, April 28, 2017	2905	IA	

Friday, May 5, 2017	2924	IA	
Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2925	IA	

Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2927	IA	

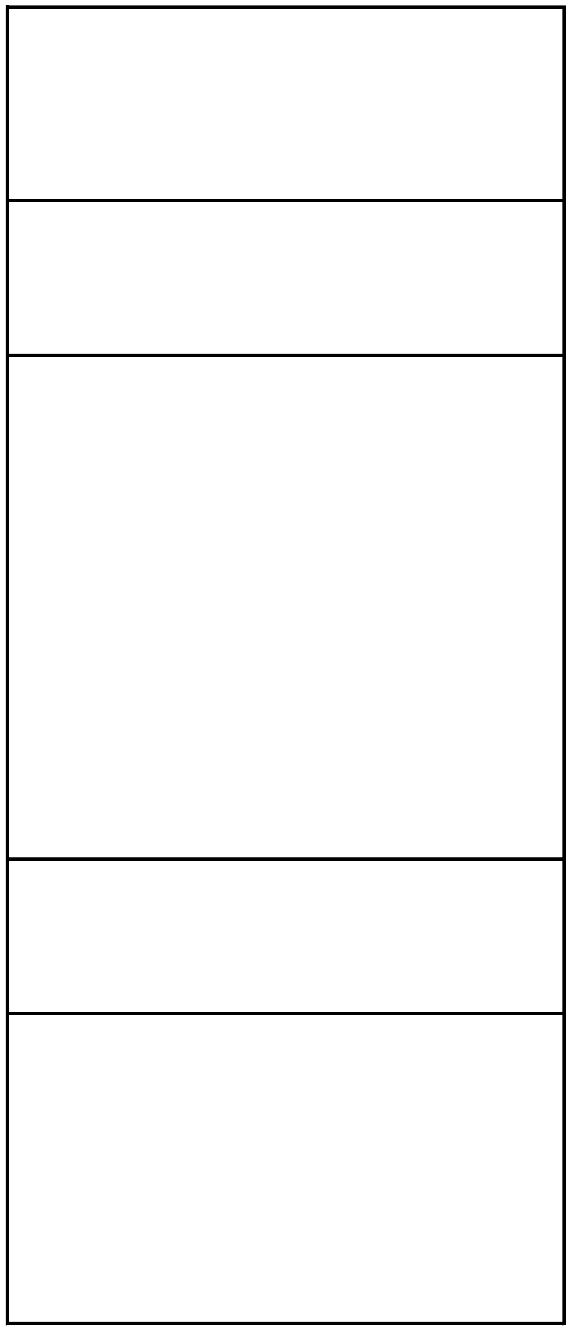
Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2934	IA	
Thursday, May 11, 2017	2953	IA	
Wednesday, May 17, 2017	2942	IA	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2941	MB	Other, 6/6/2017
Friday, May 12, 2017	2906	MB	Other, 5/26/2017
Monday, May 8, 2017	2763	MB	

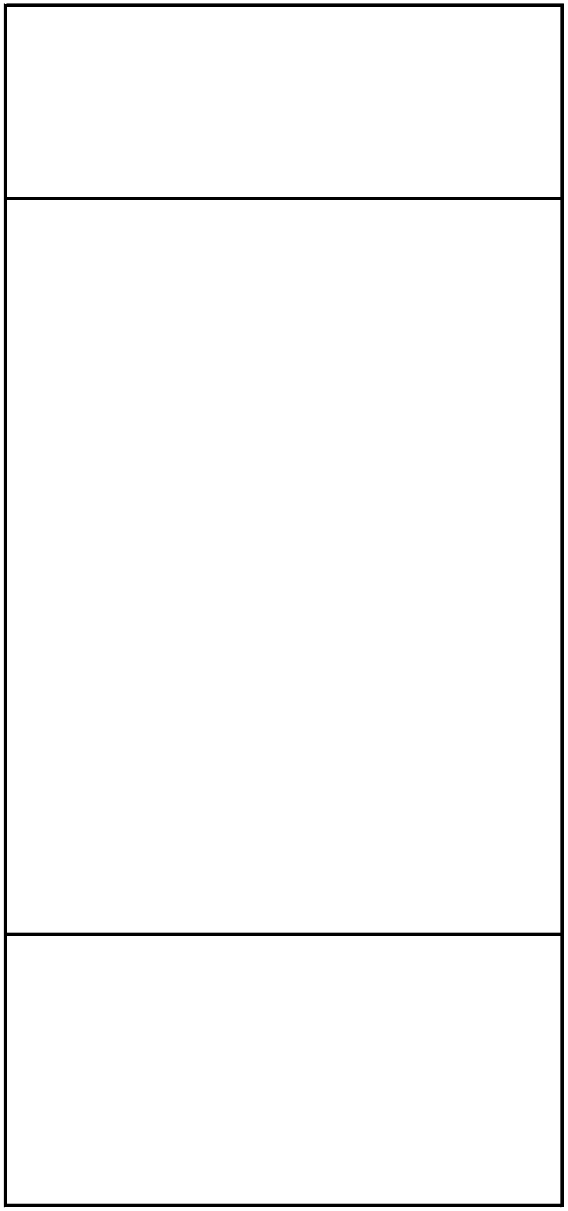
Tuesday, May 16, 2017	1426	MB	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2938	MB	
Thursday, May 25, 2017	2944	MB	
Friday, June 2, 2017	2278	MB	
Friday, June 2, 2017		MB	Other, 7/31/2017
Friday, June 2, 2017		MB	Other, 8/31/2017
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2914	NWRS	

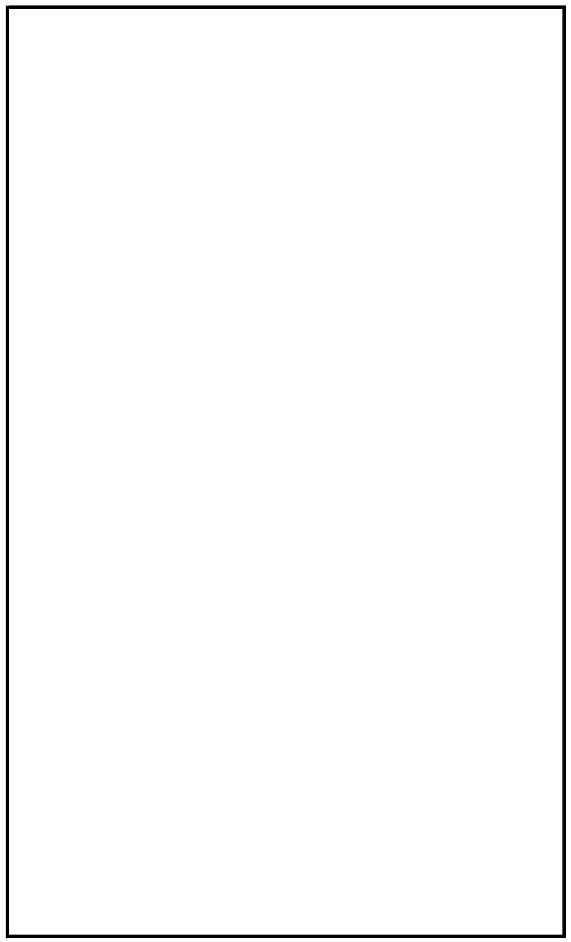
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2867	NWRS	Other, 8/15/2017
Tuesday, May 16, 2017		NWRS	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2881	NWRS	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2915	NWRS	

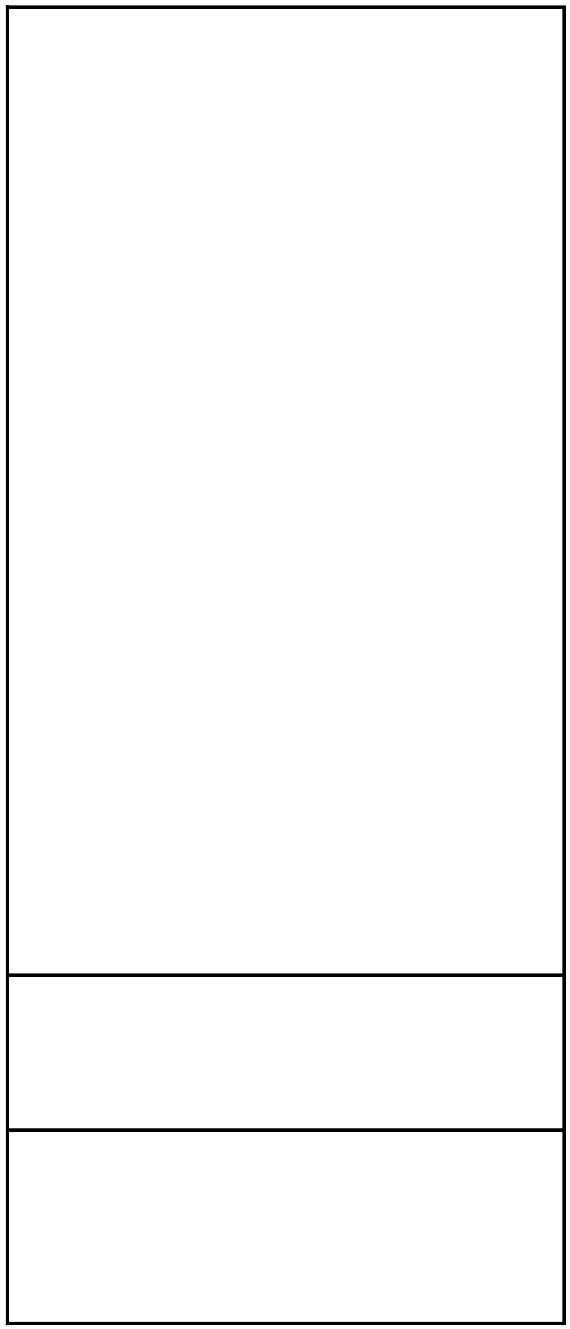
Friday, May 19, 2017		NWRS	
Friday, May 5, 2017	2841	WSFR	

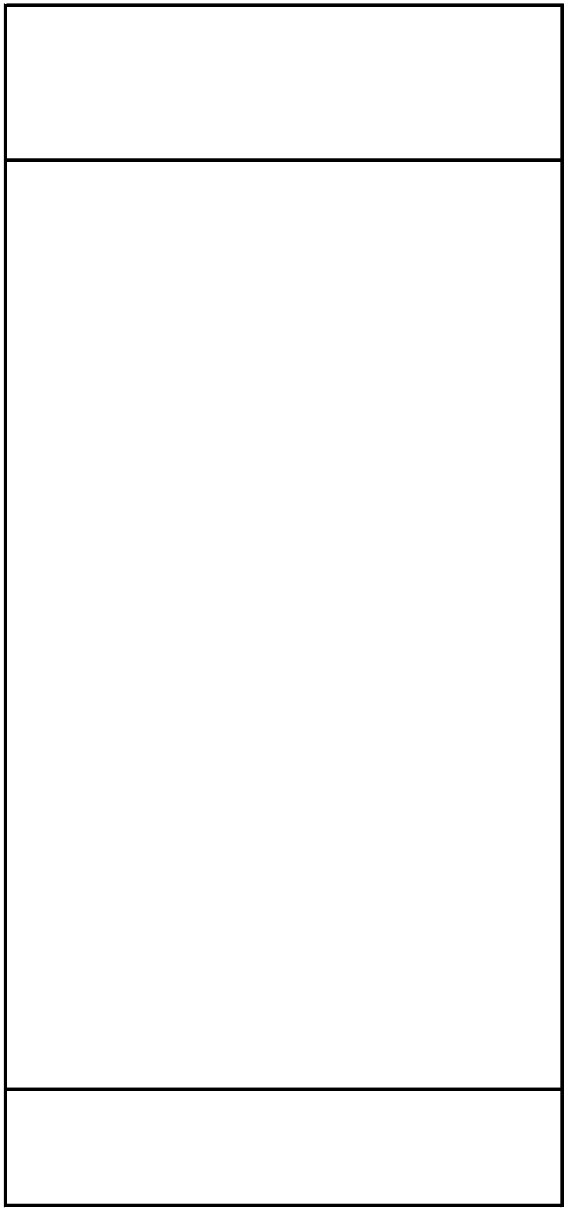
Explain Critical Date if "Other"

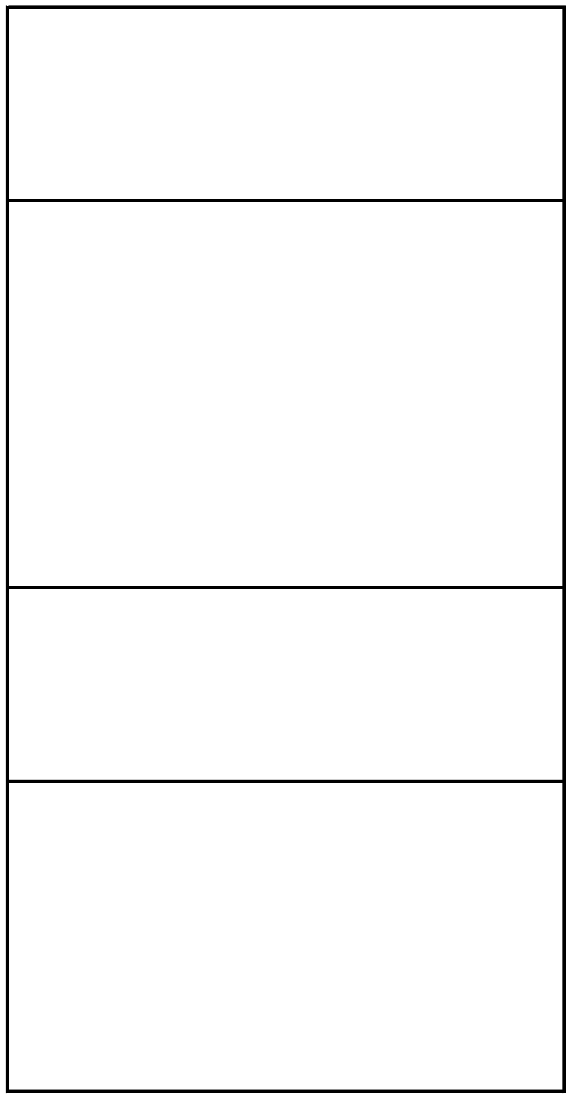


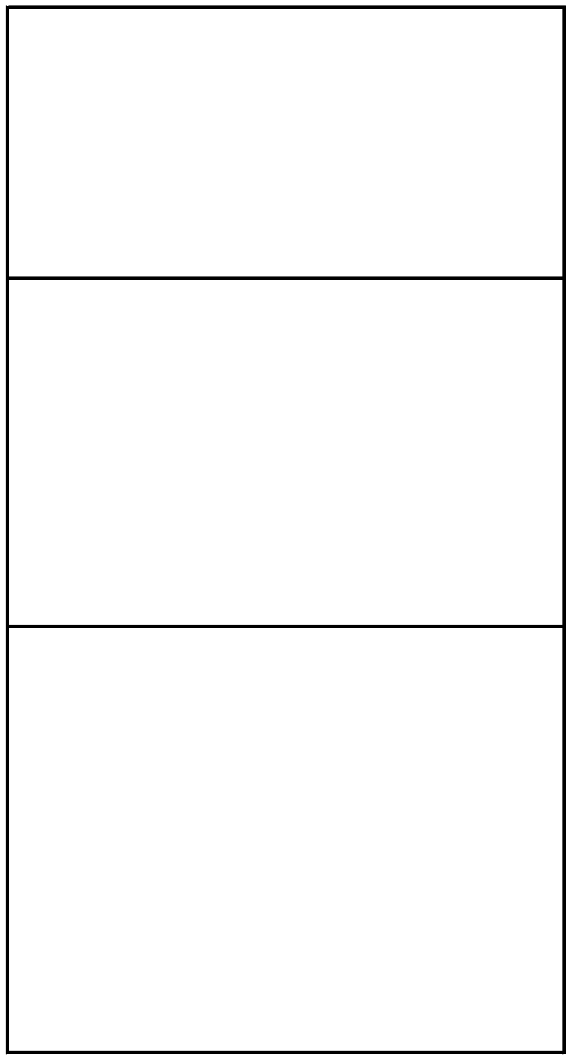


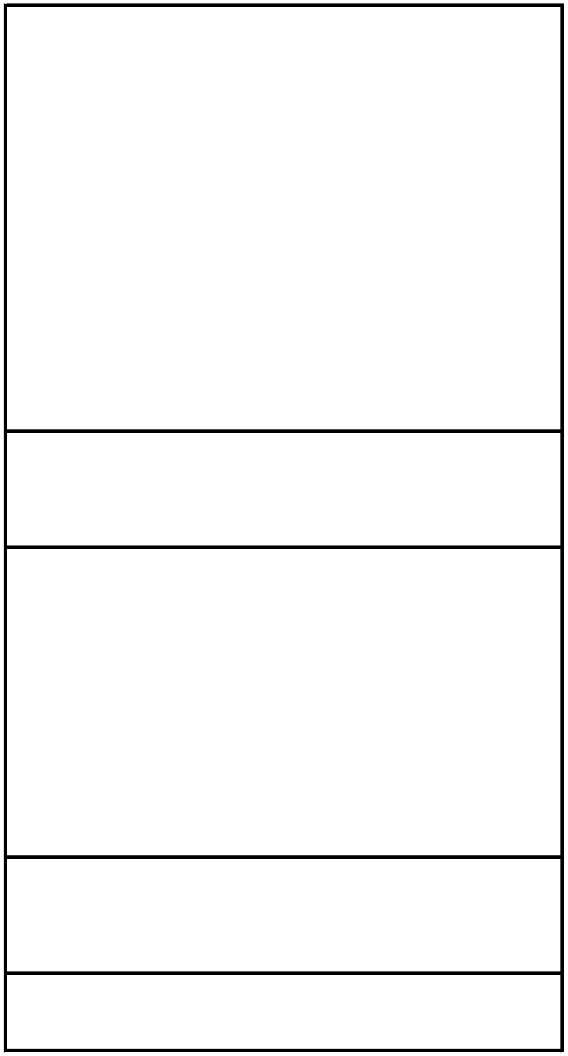


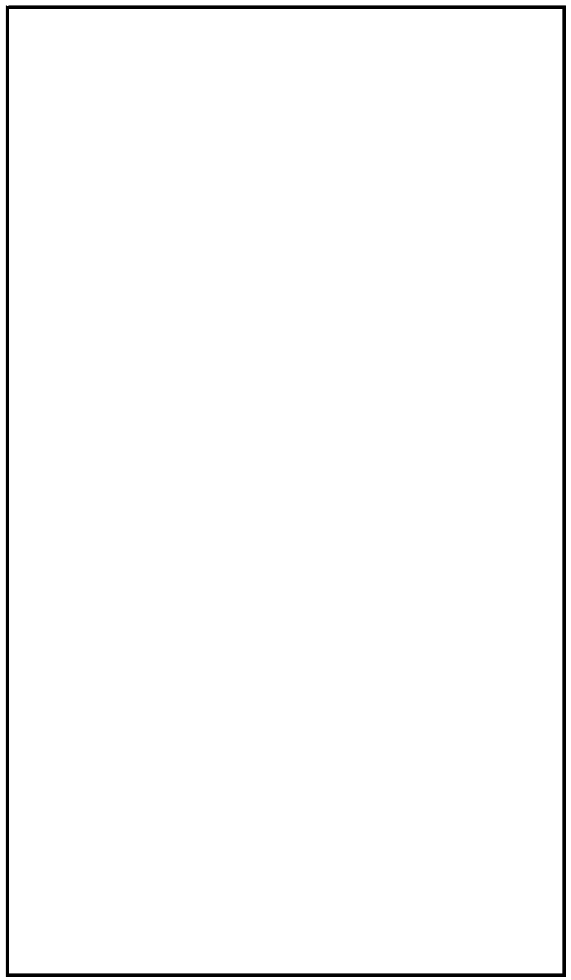


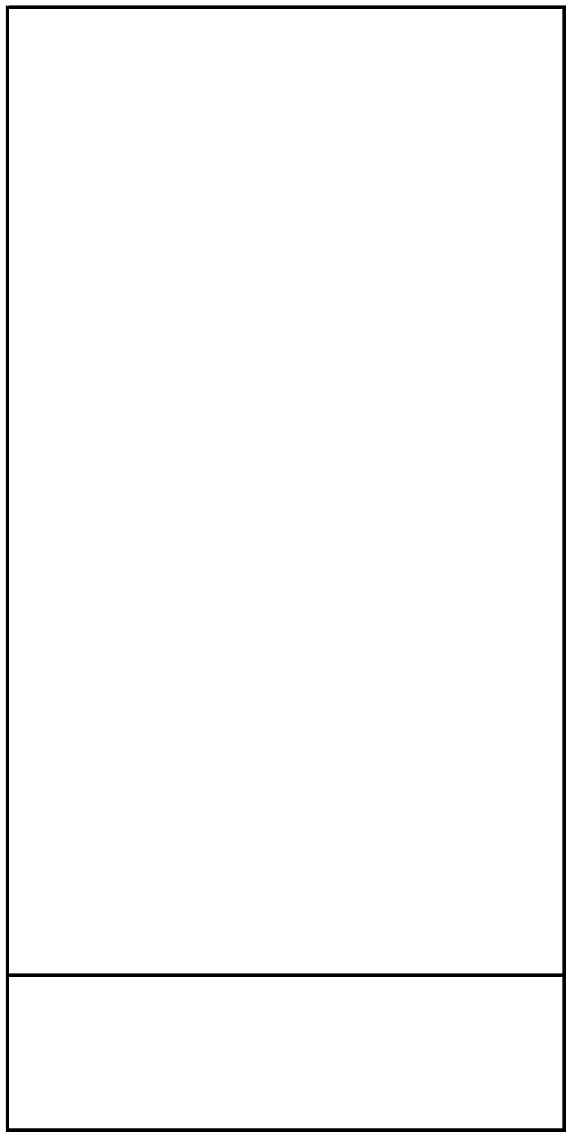


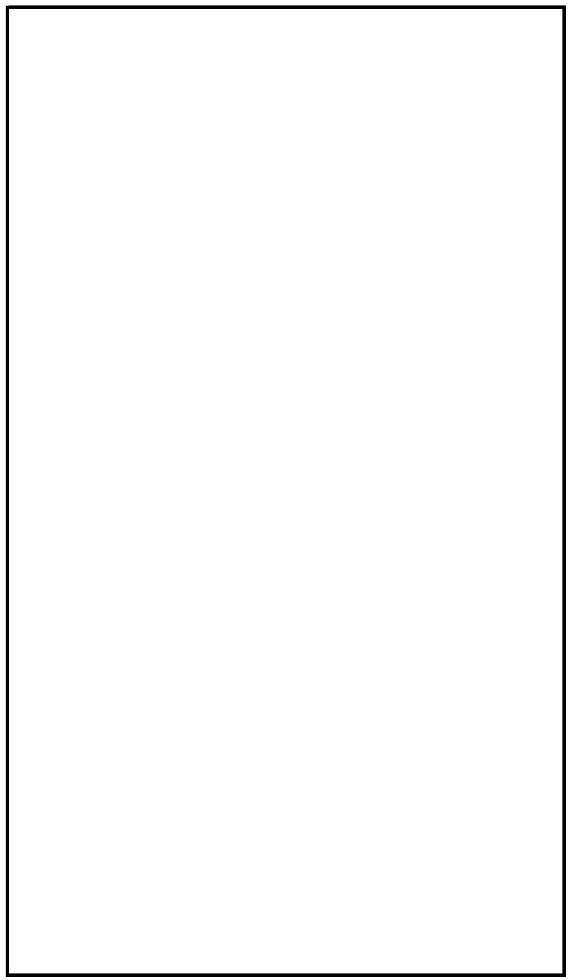








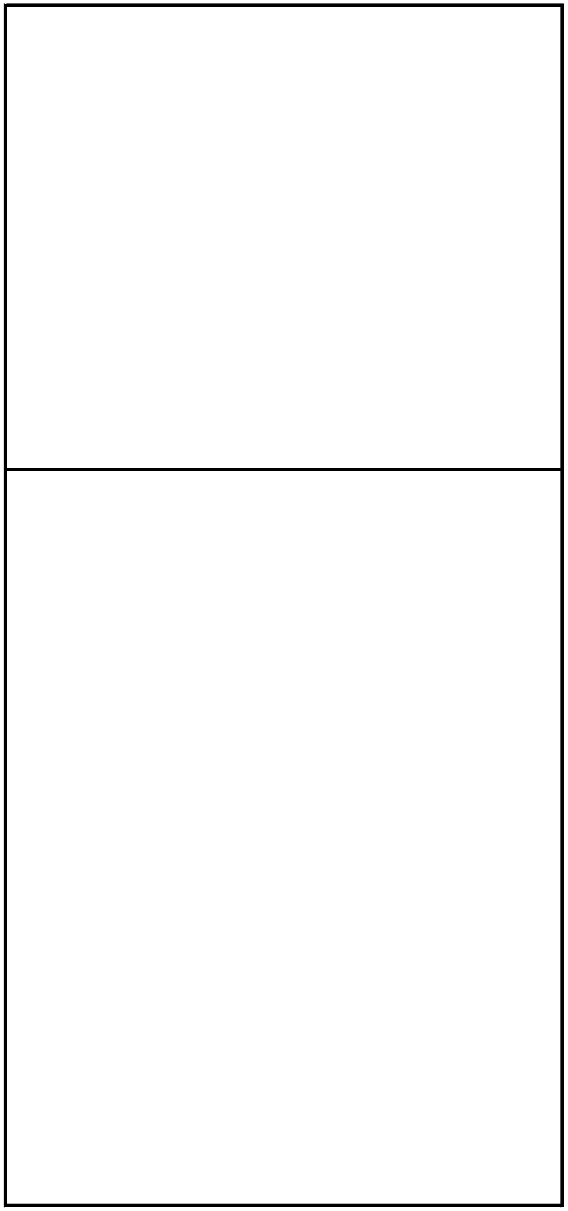




This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date, which is June 21, 2017.
This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date, which is June 13, 2017.

Must be published prior to Flyway Council meetings, which begin in August.
This is the drop-dead date to legally open 2017/2018 hunting seasons.

This date is necessary to enable us to initiate the recreational fee program.



From:	Frazer, Gary
To:	Morris, Charisa
Subject:	Re: FWS weekly submission of 30-day projection spreadsheet for FR docs (5/19/17)
Date:	Tuesday, May 23, 2017 1:47:49 PM
Attachments:	FWS entries, 30 day spreadsheet for May 23 2017_MASTER.xlsx

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I am not receiving them, but guess I need to, since Julie Lillie advised today that nothing is clearing the Dept unless it's on this 30 day report.

Pls also add Gina Shultz, Jeff Newman, Bridget Fahey, and Kayla Miller to the distribution. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 11:54 AM, Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> Good morning! Are you receiving these 30 day reports? If not, did you want to?
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Prigan, Sara** <sara_prigan@fws.gov>
> Date: Fri, May 19, 2017 at 5:49 PM
> Subject: FWS weekly submission of 30-day projection spreadsheet for FR docs (5/19/17)
> To: Mark Lawyer <mark_lawyer@ios.doi.gov>, Megan Apgar <megan_apgar@ios.doi.gov>, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
> Cc: Tina Campbell <tina_campbell@fws.gov>, Anissa Craghead <Anissa_Craghead@fws.gov>, "Wilkinson, Susan" <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>
>
> Hi, Mark and Megan,
>
> Here is the weekly 30-day-out report.
>
> If you have any questions, please let me know.
>
> Thank you,
>
> *Sara Prigan*
> *Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs*
> *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> *5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC*
> *Falls Church, VA 22041-3808*
> *Telephone: 703-358-2508*
> Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520
>
> --
> Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife

Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

Report Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Bureau	RIN or OMB Control Number	Title	Summary
FWS	1018-0022	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0022; Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Applications and Reports—Migratory Birds and Eagles	
FWS	1018-0093	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0093; Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Applications and Reports—Management Authority	
FWS	1018-0123	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0123; International Conservation Grant Programs	
FWS	1018-0095	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0095; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, Experimental Populations	The Notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 1018-0095. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to establish experimental populations of endangered or threatened species in 50 CFR 17.84. Individuals of experimental populations are protected under the ESA. This control number authorizes the Service to collect important information necessary to monitor the success of reintroduction and recovery efforts.
FWS	1018-0023	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0023; Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program and Migratory Bird Surveys	

FWS	1018-0066	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0066; Marine Mammal Marking, Tagging, and Reporting Certificates, and Registration of Certain Dead Marine Mammal Hard Parts	
FWS	1018-0102	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0102; National Wildlife Refuge Special Use Permit Applications and Reports	
FWS		Giant garter snake; Notice of Availability of Second Revised Draft Recovery Plan	This document describes the strategy, objectives, and actions necessary for achieving recovery of the giant garter snake, along with criteria that, when met, signify that the Service may be able to remove the species from the list of threatened and endangered species. The plan focuses on establishing and protecting self-sustaining populations throughout the range of the species, restoring and conserving healthy wetland ecosystems that will support the species, and ameliorating or eliminating the threats that caused the species to be listed.
FWS	1018-BB54	Listing Determination for the I'iwi	This final rule lists the I'iwi (Drepanis coccinea), a forest bird endemic to Hawaii, as threatened under the Endangered Species Act
FWS		Stock Assessment Reports for Southern Beaufort Sea and Chukchi-Bering Seas; Opening 90-day Public Comment Period	The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is publishing a Federal Register Notice of Availability on draft revised Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) for the Southern Beaufort and the Chukchi Seas stocks of polar bears. This notice opens a 90-day public comment period to request input on these draft revisions.

FWS		Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for Betteravia Farms, LLC /Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project, Santa Barbara County, California	
FWS		Draft Recovery Plan for the Pima Pineapple Cactus	We announce that our Pima pineapple cactus draft recovery plan is available. The cactus is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. This plant species is currently found in southern Arizona and in northern Sonora, Mexico. The draft recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to enable us to remove this species from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants. A proposed border wall is not anticipated to impede the recovery of the Pima pineapple cactus. We request that local, State, and Federal agencies, Tribes, and the public review and comment. We will also accept any new species status information throughout its range to assist with recovery plan finalization.
FWS		Batched permit notice: receipt of ES permit applications (ERO Resources Corp/ TE040510 and others)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for ESA recovery permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.

FWS	1018-BB34	Reopening of the Comment Period and Announcement of Two Public Hearings for Texas Hornshell	We received several requests for public hearings on the proposed rule to list the Texas hornshell (*Popenaias popeii*) as an endangered species. We are reopening the comment period on the proposed listing rule for 30 days and announcing the dates and locations of these public hearings. The additional comment period will allow the public another opportunity to comment on the proposed rule as well as allow us to take into consideration input we receive during the two public hearings. The public information sessions, to be held immediately before both public hearings, will give us an opportunity to interact with the public, hear their concerns, and provide information on what listing is and does.The Texas hornshell was part of the Multi District Litigation settlement agreement. The public hearings must occur in enough time to revise the final listing rule as appropriate and publish our final listing determination in the Federal Register by August 10, 2017.

FWS		Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities; Proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization for Pacific Walruses and Polar Bears in Alaska and Associated Federal Waters; Quintillion	In response to a request from Quintillion Subsea Operation, LLC (Quintillion), we propose to authorize the incidental taking by harassment of small numbers of Pacific walruses and polar bears from July 1, 2017, through November 15, 2017, under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA), as amended. Quintillion has requested this incidental harassment authorization (IHA) for its planned cable-laying activities in the northern Bering, Chukchi, and southwestern Beaufort Seas, the marine waters of the State of Alaska, and coastal land adjacent to Nome, Kotzebue, Point Hope, Wainwright, Utqiagvik, and Oliktok Point. We anticipate no take (as defined in the MMPA) by injury or death and include none in this proposed authorization, which, if finalized, would be for non-lethal, non-injurious, take by harassment only. The Quintillion project will provide for improved broadband internet service in northern Alaska. The project is a continuation of work begun in 2016.
FWS	1018-BA41	Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	
FWS		Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Associated Documents for LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan, TX	

FWS	1018-BB74	Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly in Northwestern Oregon	
FWS	1018-BA74, 1018-BB89, 1018-BB90, and 1018-BB87	Reopening of Comment Period on Proposed Rules: Listing & Critical Habitat (G. Fescue, 1018-BA74), Downlist from Endangered to Threatened (Cactuses, 1018-BB89 and 1018-BB90), Delist (Wild-Buckwheat, 1018-BB87)	We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce that we are reopening the comment periods for our proposed rules to list *Festuca ligulata* (Guadalupe fescue) as an endangered species; to designate *Festuca ligulata* critical habitat ; to reclassify *Sclerocactus brevihamatus* ssp. *tobuschii* (Tobusch fishhook cactus) from endangered to threatened; to reclassify *Echinocereus fendleri* var. *kuenzleri* (Kuenzler hedgehog cactus) from endangered to threatened; and to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants. We are reopening the comment period for each of these proposed rules for 30 days in order to publish a legal notice and to give all interested parties further opportunity to comment on the proposed rules. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted, as they will be fully considered in preparing the final listing determinations.
FWS		Louisiana Pinesnake; Notice of Availability for the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances	

FWS		Yolo Habitat Conservancy, CA; Counties of Yolo and Cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland; draft Joint Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan and draft Joint Natural Community Conservation Plan	
FWS		Initiation of a 5-Year Review of the Aleutian Shield Fern, AK	This notice alerts the public that we are initiating a 5-year status review for the Aleutian shield fern under the ESA and provides an opportunity for the public to provide information they may have on the species. A 5-year status review results in a recommendation on whether the species should be classified differently or delisted. The species is only known to occur on one island in the Aleutian Island chain.
FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications (first applicant: Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, Little Rock, AR)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits for Region 4 and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments.
FWS		Draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District Habitat Conservation Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Barton Springs salamander and Austin blind salamander, Texas	This is a Federal Register Notice of Availability for the draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District HCP and dEIS for take of the Barton Springs salamander (Eurycea sosorum) and the Austin blind salamander (Eurycea waterlooensis) in Travis and Hays Counties, Texas.

FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications; Region 6	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for ESA recovery permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.
FWS		Notice of availability; joint Draft Environmental Impact Statement And Draft Environmental Impact Report; receipt of permit application, Draft Habitat Conservation Plan; South Sacramento County, California	The proposed permit would authorize the incidental take of 28 covered-species by the construction and operation of new urban development, transportation, infrastructure, and other projects that would be implemented or authorized by five permit applicants over a 50-year period, within a 317,656-acre planning area located in south Sacramento County, California.
FWS		Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Availability of Proposed Low-Effect Lakes at St. Sebastian Preserve Habitat Conservation Plan, Brevard County, FL / Atlantic Coast Paladin Estates, LLC and Micco Road Investments, LLC c/o the Kelsey Group	The applicant is requesting take of approximately 99.85 acres of Audubon's Crested Caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*) nesting and foraging habitat incidental to the construction of a residential development project in Brevard County, Florida. The Audubon's Crested Caracara is federally listed as threatened. Impacts to the species will be offset by conservation of 20 acres of caracara habitat and a $10,000 management endowment.

FWS		NOA: Draft Texas Coastal Bend Shortgrass Prairie Multi-Species Recovery Plan, including Slender Rush-Pea and South Texas Ambrosia	This is a notice of availability for the draft recovery plan that includes slender rush-pea and South Texas ambrosia. The recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria that, when achieved, will enable us to remove both species from the list of endangered and threatened plants. We are requesting review and comment on the recovery plan from the public; tribes; and local, State, and Federal agencies.
FWS	1018-AX99	Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	
FWS		Recovery Permits (Kiernan, first)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery permits, requests public comment on the permits, and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.
FWS		ES Recovery Permit Applications (First Preserve District of Will County, Plainfield, IL, and others)	
FWS		Initiation of 5-Year Status Reviews of 23 Southeastern Species	

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Maire Malone, first) FWS-HQ-IA-2017-0019	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued nine permits under the ESA and two under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Nature Conservation Trust, first applicant)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Tony Goldberg, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, first applicant)	

FWS		Endangered Species; Notice of Issuance (Foreign Species Permits; Michael Rohweder, first permittee)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Feld Entertainment, Inc., first applicant)	This is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, to notify the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act (ESA) permits. This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on sixteen(16) (ESA) applications and one (1) Marine Mammal application that were received by the Service requesting authorization to conduct otherwise prohibited activities within the United States or to import biological specimens for research purposes. There are no decisions announced in these notices, but we cannot finalize the review of these permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period under the ESA.
FWS		Exemption from Threatened Species Permits for a Qualifying Beluga Sturgeon Aquaculture Facility	
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Dallas World Aquarium, first applicant)	
FWS		Meeting Notice; Service Regulations Committee Meeting	
FWS		Meeting Notice; North American Wetlands Council Meeting	
FWS	1018-BB24	Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale	

FWS	1018-AZ69	Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls)	
FWS		Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement; Hycroft Mining Company; Request for Take Permits Under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	
FWS	1018-AY30	Eagle Permits: Revision to Regulations for Eagle Incidental Take and Take of Nests; Correction	
FWS	1018-BB06	Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting	
FWS	1018-BB73	2018–19 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations	
FWS	1018-BB40	Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season	
FWS		Notice of Availability for the Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge and Black River Unit of Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Grays Harbor and Thurston Counties, WA; Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	

FWS		Notice of intent to implement annual hunting fees, annual fishing fees, and special permit fees; Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge, KY [FWS–R4–R–2016–N141]	Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge proposes to implement annual hunting and fishing fees and special permit fees for commercial recreational activities. The proposed cost for the annual access permit is $15 (free for youth under 16, and $5 for seniors 65 and over); there would be a $50 minimum fee for annual Recreational Special Use Permit authorizing commercial recreational activities to be conducted on the Refuge.
FWS	1018-BB75	Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18	
FWS		Notice of Intent to Re-open the Planning Process for the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Enivironmental Assessment at Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge	
FWS		NOA: Camas National Wildlife Refuge, Jefferson County, ID; Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	A Finding of No Significant Impact was signed on March 10, 2017, and the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) was completed for Camas National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), located in Jefferson County, Idaho. The CCP will guide management of the Refuge for 15 years or until it is revised, and actions will be implemented as funding becomes available. We are informing the Secretary of our intent to publish the Notice of Availability for the Camas National Wildlife Refuge CCP and the Finding of No Significant Impact for the Environmental Assessment (EA).

FWS	1018-BA31	Disapproval of Final Rule: Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska	The final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (P.L. 115-20). This action conforms to P.L. 115-20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the effective date of the final rule that was nullified under the Congressional Review Act.
FWS	1018-BA33	Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4	The proposed rule:• Is in response to requests from States to revise and simplify the rules for license certification. The Service worked closely with DOI solicitors and AFWA attorneys in developing the new language. • Includes changes that were reviewed by Regional and State representatives, and interested stakeholders, during pre-rulemaking comment periods and were developed considering the comments we received. • Includes definitions and additions to the rule that will clarify the rule and improve national consistency. • Was developed in coordination with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Federal Aid Coordinators Working Group, Regional WSFR offices, State representatives, and members of interest organizations.

Type	Estimated Date for DOI Clearance	Current Status	Has Been at Current Status Since (Date)
ICR Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/16/17

ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/17/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/08/17
Notice	5/4/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/15/17
Final Rule	5/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/20/17
Notice	5/12/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/11/17

Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Communications clearance	05/03/17
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Proposed Rule	5/18/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17

Notice	5/18/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Final Rule	5/22/2017	Drafting	
Notice	5/26/2017	Drafting	

Final Rule	5/26/2017	Drafting	
Proposed Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	02/24/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/04/17
Final Rule	6/2/2017	Drafting	
Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Notice	6/19/2017	Drafting	

Notice	5/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/12/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	
Notice	5/18/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	
Notice	5/24/2017	Pending Bureau clearance (with CCU)	
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/12/17
Notice	5/19/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/15/17
Final Rule	5/20/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/18/17

Final Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	04/26/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Final Rule	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/18/17
Proposed Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/03/17
Proposed Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17
Final Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Proposed Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	

Final Rule	6/2/2017	Pending Solicitor clearance	
Proposed Rule	5/19/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	03/01/17

Must be at Exec Sec no later than	DCN (Optional)	Program (Optional)	Critical Date (Judicial, Statutory, or Other)
Wednesday, May 3, 2017	2945	ABHC	
Wednesday, May 3, 2017	2946	ABHC	
Monday, May 22, 2017	2948	ABHC	
Monday, May 22, 2017	2943	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2970	ABHC	

Thursday, June 1, 2017	2968	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2969	ABHC	
Thursday, April 27, 2017	2839	ES	
Monday, April 24, 2017	2902	ES	Statutory, 9/20/2017
Friday, May 5, 2017	2782	ES	

Monday, May 8, 2017	2931	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2808	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2922	ES	

Thursday, May 4, 2017	2959	ES	

Thursday, May 11, 2017	2949	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017		ES	Statutory, 3/11/2017
Friday, May 19, 2017	2962	ES	

Friday, May 12, 2017	2940	ES	
Tuesday, May 16, 2017	2897	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2870	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2954	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2931	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2917	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2785	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2922	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2925	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2933	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2821	ES	
Friday, May 19, 2017	2795	ES	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2964	ES	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2956	ES	
Monday, June 12, 2017	2952	ES	

Friday, April 28, 2017	2905	IA	

Friday, May 5, 2017	2924	IA	
Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2925	IA	

Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2927	IA	

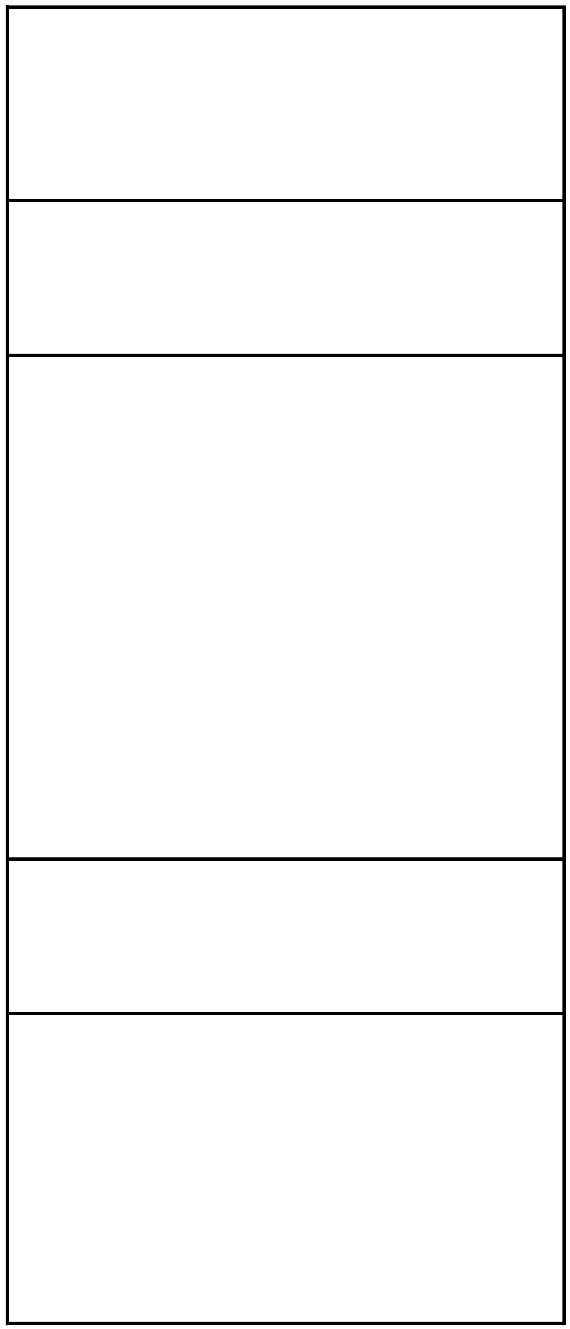
Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2934	IA	
Thursday, May 11, 2017	2953	IA	
Wednesday, May 17, 2017	2942	IA	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2941	MB	Other, 6/6/2017
Friday, May 12, 2017	2906	MB	Other, 5/26/2017
Monday, May 8, 2017	2763	MB	

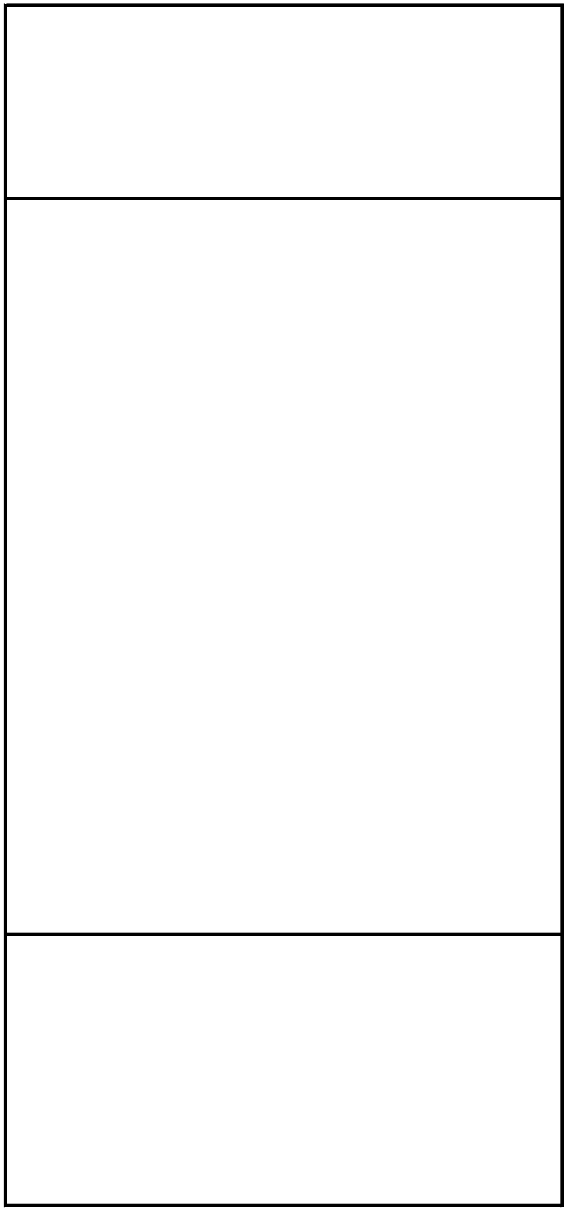
Tuesday, May 16, 2017	1426	MB	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2938	MB	
Thursday, May 25, 2017	2944	MB	
Friday, June 2, 2017	2278	MB	
Friday, June 2, 2017		MB	Other, 7/31/2017
Friday, June 2, 2017		MB	Other, 8/31/2017
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2914	NWRS	

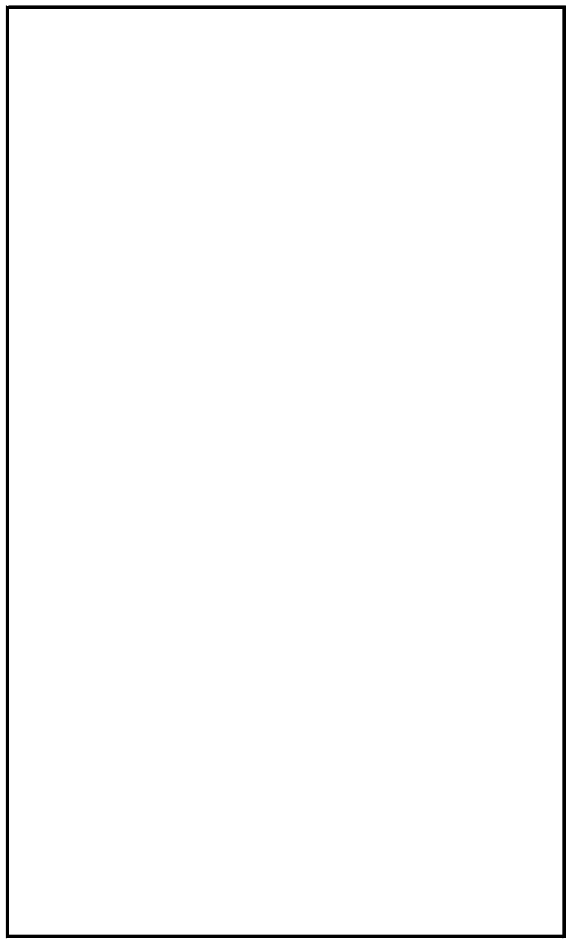
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2867	NWRS	Other, 8/15/2017
Tuesday, May 16, 2017		NWRS	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2881	NWRS	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2915	NWRS	

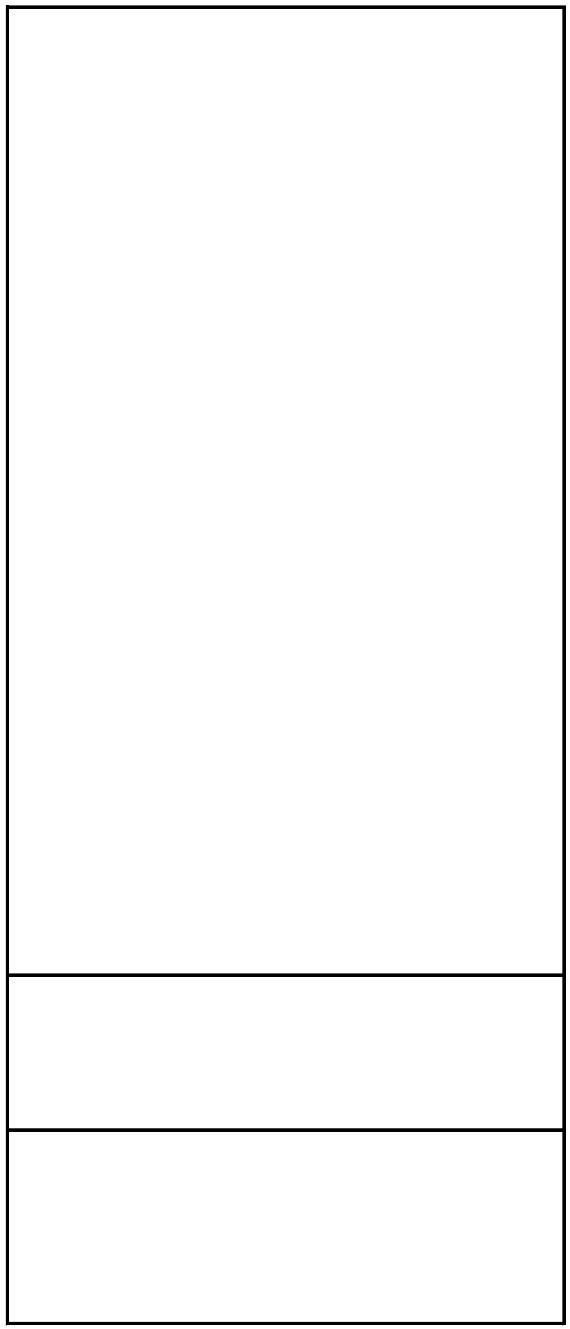
Friday, May 19, 2017		NWRS	
Friday, May 5, 2017	2841	WSFR	

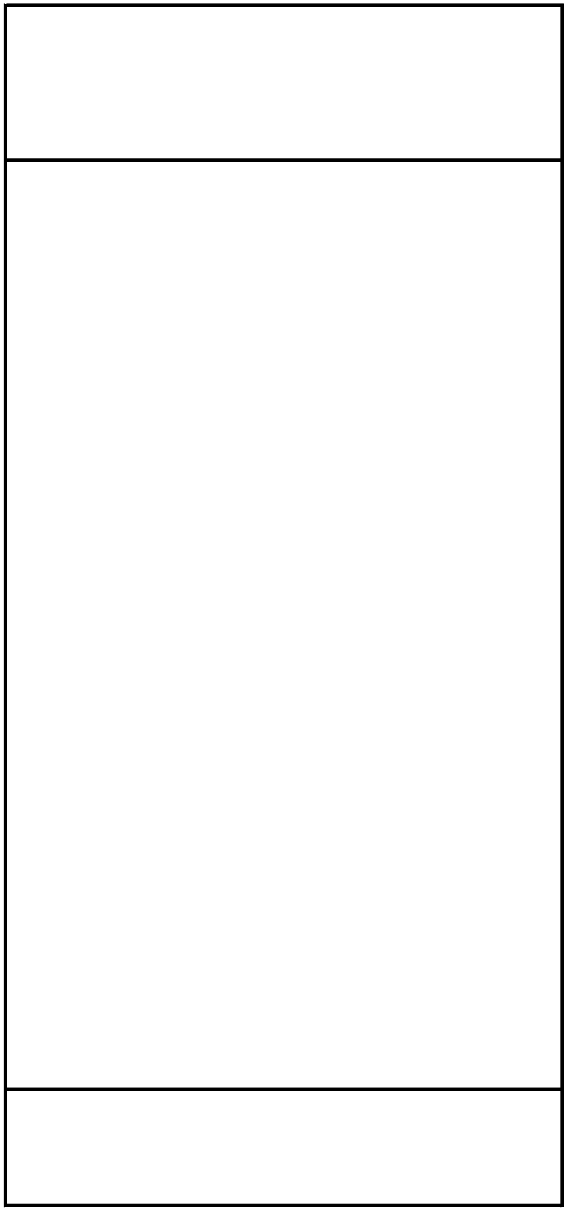
Explain Critical Date if "Other"

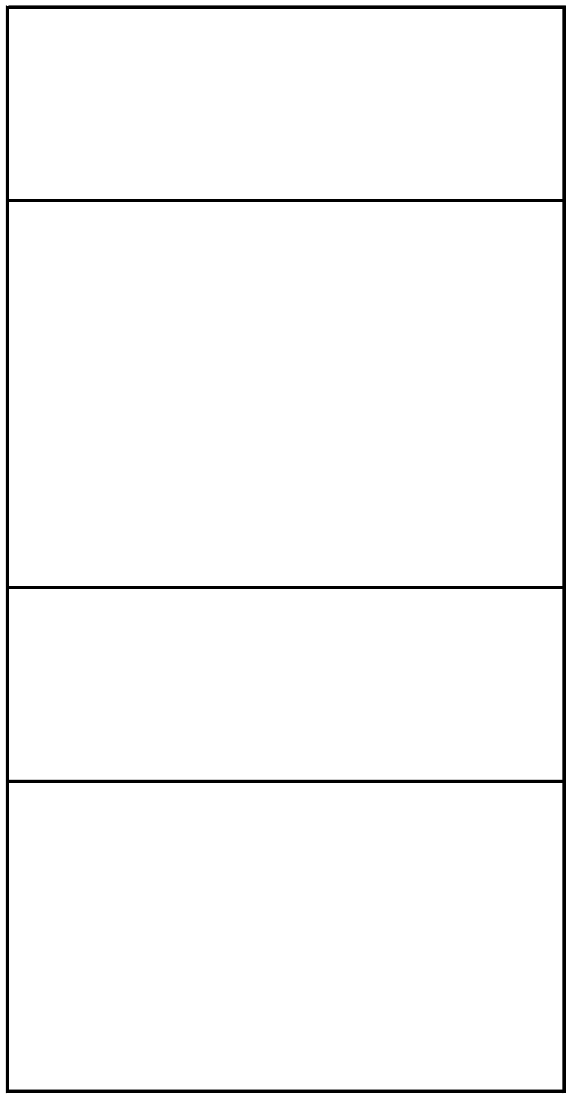


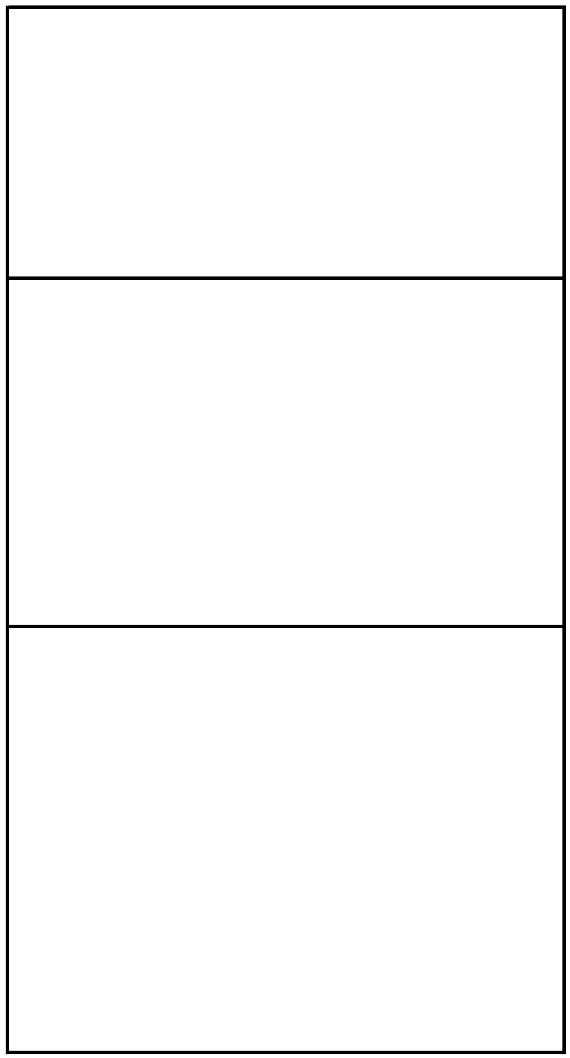


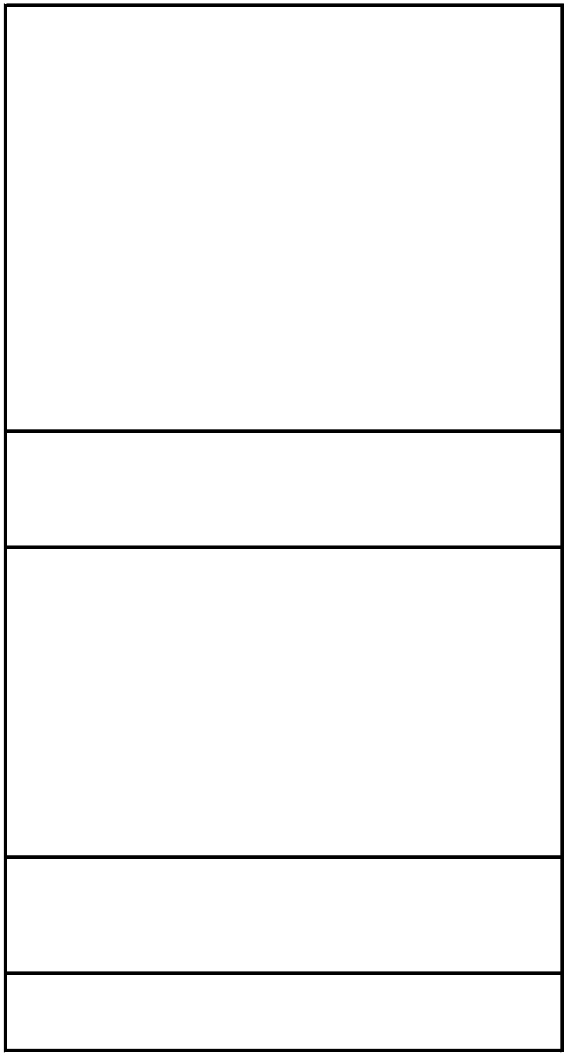


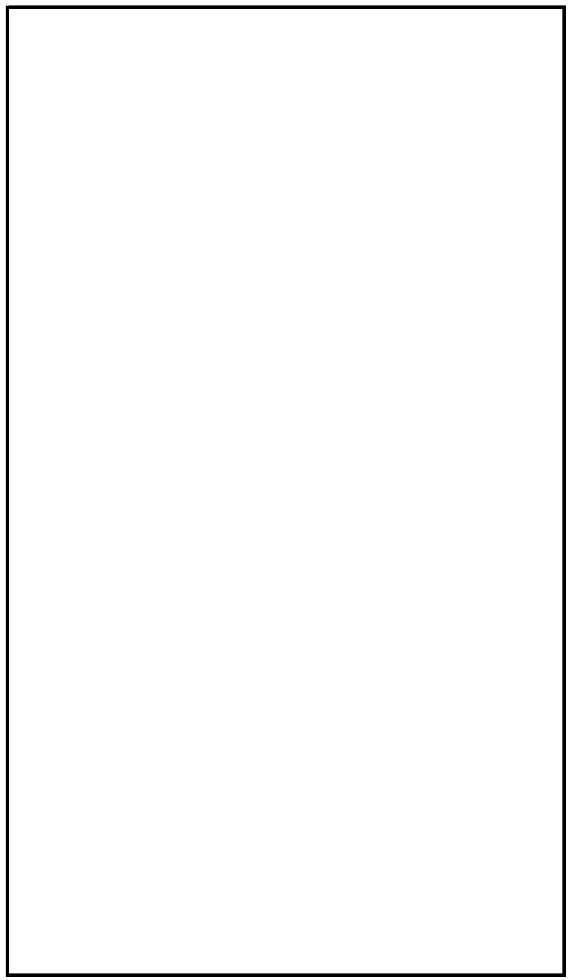


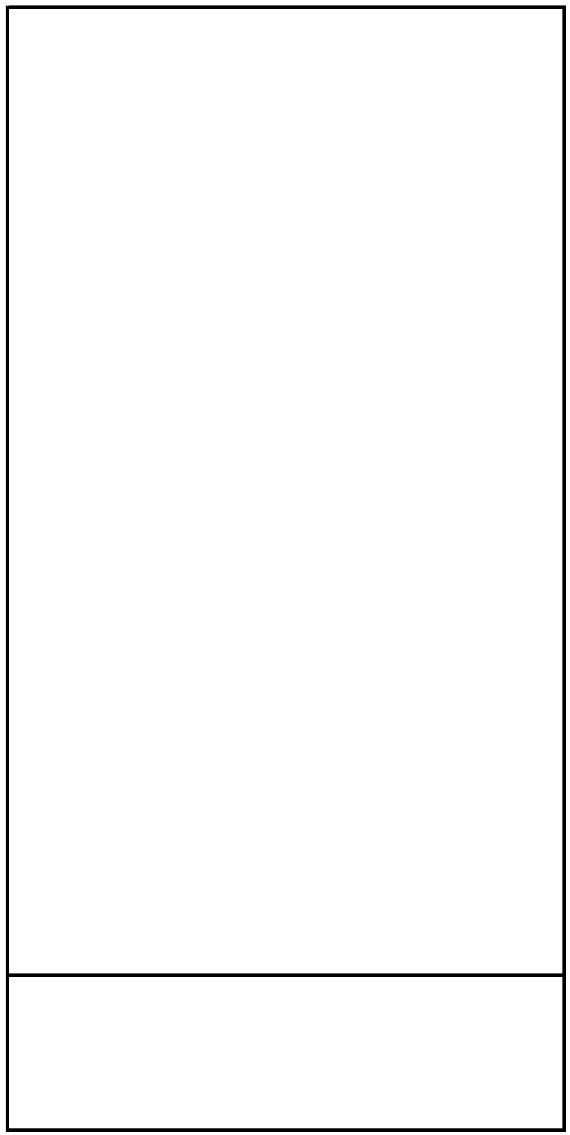


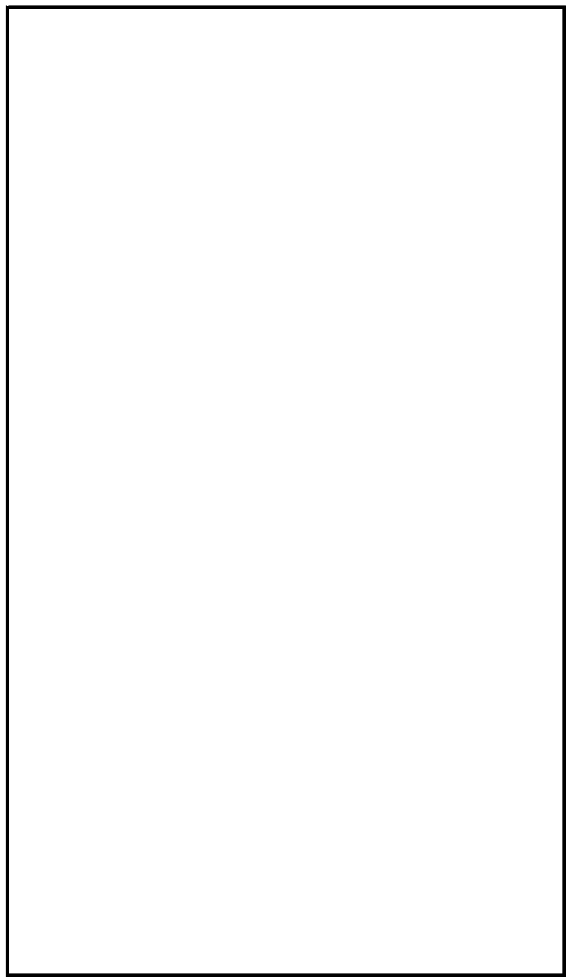








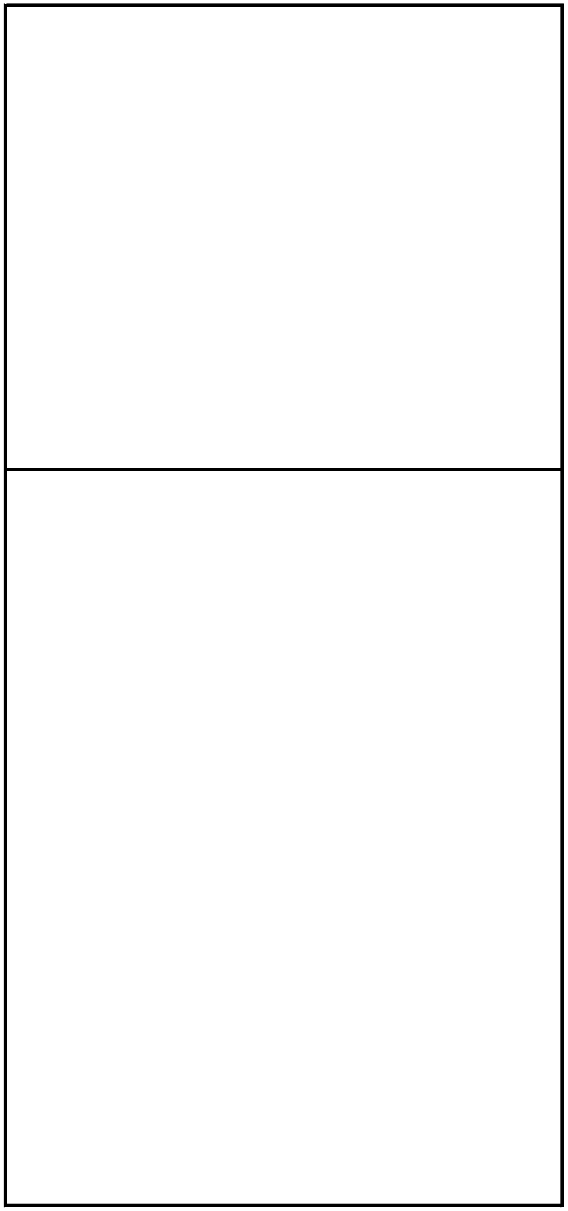




This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date, which is June 21, 2017.
This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date, which is June 13, 2017.

Must be published prior to Flyway Council meetings, which begin in August.
This is the drop-dead date to legally open 2017/2018 hunting seasons.

This date is necessary to enable us to initiate the recreational fee program.



From:	Morris, Charisa
To:	Tina Campbell
Subject:	Fwd: FWS weekly submission of 30-day projection spreadsheet for FR docs (5/19/17)
Date:	Tuesday, May 23, 2017 2:09:06 PM
Attachments:	FWS entries, 30 day spreadsheet for May 23 2017_MASTER.xlsx

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Hi Tina!

Please add the names below (including Gary) to the distribution of the 30 day list. Also, Julie noted that there were quite a few items missing. Her ask is that we err on the side of inclusion. I'm thinking as soon as an item is on your radar (week 1 of our 6-8 week process LOL), we get it on this list.

How's your week coming along? Want to check in tomorrow, especially if it was a surprise the 30 day had items missing?

:-)
Charisa
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Frazer, Gary** <gary_frazer@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, May 23, 2017 at 4:47 PM
Subject: Re: FWS weekly submission of 30-day projection spreadsheet for FR docs (5/19/17)
To: "Morris, Charisa" <charisa_morris@fws.gov>

I am not receiving them, but guess I need to, since Julie Lillie advised today that nothing is clearing the Dept unless it's on this 30 day report.

Pls also add Gina Shultz, Jeff Newman, Bridget Fahey, and Kayla Miller to the distribution. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 11:54 AM, Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> Good morning! Are you receiving these 30 day reports? If not, did you want to?
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Prigan, Sara** <sara_prigan@fws.gov>
> Date: Fri, May 19, 2017 at 5:49 PM
> Subject: FWS weekly submission of 30-day projection spreadsheet for FR docs (5/19/17)
> To: Mark Lawyer <mark_lawyer@ios.doi.gov>, Megan Apgar <megan_apgar@ios.doi.gov>, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
> Cc: Tina Campbell <tina_campbell@fws.gov>, Anissa Craghead <Anissa_Craghead@fws.gov>, "Wilkinson, Susan" <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>

Hi, Mark and Megan,

Here is the weekly 30-day-out report.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

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Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

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Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

Report Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Bureau	RIN or OMB Control Number	Title	Summary
FWS	1018-0022	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0022; Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Applications and Reports—Migratory Birds and Eagles	
FWS	1018-0093	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0093; Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Applications and Reports—Management Authority	
FWS	1018-0123	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0123; International Conservation Grant Programs	
FWS	1018-0095	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0095; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, Experimental Populations	The Notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 1018-0095. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to establish experimental populations of endangered or threatened species in 50 CFR 17.84. Individuals of experimental populations are protected under the ESA. This control number authorizes the Service to collect important information necessary to monitor the success of reintroduction and recovery efforts.
FWS	1018-0023	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0023; Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program and Migratory Bird Surveys	

FWS	1018-0066	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0066; Marine Mammal Marking, Tagging, and Reporting Certificates, and Registration of Certain Dead Marine Mammal Hard Parts	
FWS	1018-0102	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0102; National Wildlife Refuge Special Use Permit Applications and Reports	
FWS		Giant garter snake; Notice of Availability of Second Revised Draft Recovery Plan	This document describes the strategy, objectives, and actions necessary for achieving recovery of the giant garter snake, along with criteria that, when met, signify that the Service may be able to remove the species from the list of threatened and endangered species. The plan focuses on establishing and protecting self-sustaining populations throughout the range of the species, restoring and conserving healthy wetland ecosystems that will support the species, and ameliorating or eliminating the threats that caused the species to be listed.
FWS	1018-BB54	Listing Determination for the I'iwi	This final rule lists the I'iwi (Drepanis coccinea), a forest bird endemic to Hawaii, as threatened under the Endangered Species Act
FWS		Stock Assessment Reports for Southern Beaufort Sea and Chukchi-Bering Seas; Opening 90-day Public Comment Period	The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is publishing a Federal Register Notice of Availability on draft revised Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) for the Southern Beaufort and the Chukchi Seas stocks of polar bears. This notice opens a 90-day public comment period to request input on these draft revisions.

FWS		Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for Betteravia Farms, LLC /Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project, Santa Barbara County, California	
FWS		Draft Recovery Plan for the Pima Pineapple Cactus	We announce that our Pima pineapple cactus draft recovery plan is available. The cactus is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. This plant species is currently found in southern Arizona and in northern Sonora, Mexico. The draft recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to enable us to remove this species from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants. A proposed border wall is not anticipated to impede the recovery of the Pima pineapple cactus. We request that local, State, and Federal agencies, Tribes, and the public review and comment. We will also accept any new species status information throughout its range to assist with recovery plan finalization.
FWS		Batched permit notice: receipt of ES permit applications (ERO Resources Corp/ TE040510 and others)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for ESA recovery permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.

FWS	1018-BB34	Reopening of the Comment Period and Announcement of Two Public Hearings for Texas Hornshell	We received several requests for public hearings on the proposed rule to list the Texas hornshell (*Popenaias popeii*) as an endangered species. We are reopening the comment period on the proposed listing rule for 30 days and announcing the dates and locations of these public hearings. The additional comment period will allow the public another opportunity to comment on the proposed rule as well as allow us to take into consideration input we receive during the two public hearings. The public information sessions, to be held immediately before both public hearings, will give us an opportunity to interact with the public, hear their concerns, and provide information on what listing is and does.The Texas hornshell was part of the Multi District Litigation settlement agreement. The public hearings must occur in enough time to revise the final listing rule as appropriate and publish our final listing determination in the Federal Register by August 10, 2017.

FWS		Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities; Proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization for Pacific Walruses and Polar Bears in Alaska and Associated Federal Waters; Quintillion	In response to a request from Quintillion Subsea Operation, LLC (Quintillion), we propose to authorize the incidental taking by harassment of small numbers of Pacific walruses and polar bears from July 1, 2017, through November 15, 2017, under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA), as amended. Quintillion has requested this incidental harassment authorization (IHA) for its planned cable-laying activities in the northern Bering, Chukchi, and southwestern Beaufort Seas, the marine waters of the State of Alaska, and coastal land adjacent to Nome, Kotzebue, Point Hope, Wainwright, Utqiagvik, and Oliktok Point. We anticipate no take (as defined in the MMPA) by injury or death and include none in this proposed authorization, which, if finalized, would be for non-lethal, non-injurious, take by harassment only. The Quintillion project will provide for improved broadband internet service in northern Alaska. The project is a continuation of work begun in 2016.
FWS	1018-BA41	Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	
FWS		Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Associated Documents for LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan, TX	

FWS	1018-BB74	Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly in Northwestern Oregon	
FWS	1018-BA74, 1018-BB89, 1018-BB90, and 1018-BB87	Reopening of Comment Period on Proposed Rules: Listing & Critical Habitat (G. Fescue, 1018-BA74), Downlist from Endangered to Threatened (Cactuses, 1018-BB89 and 1018-BB90), Delist (Wild-Buckwheat, 1018-BB87)	We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce that we are reopening the comment periods for our proposed rules to list *Festuca ligulata* (Guadalupe fescue) as an endangered species; to designate *Festuca ligulata* critical habitat ; to reclassify *Sclerocactus brevihamatus* ssp. *tobuschii* (Tobusch fishhook cactus) from endangered to threatened; to reclassify *Echinocereus fendleri* var. *kuenzleri* (Kuenzler hedgehog cactus) from endangered to threatened; and to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants. We are reopening the comment period for each of these proposed rules for 30 days in order to publish a legal notice and to give all interested parties further opportunity to comment on the proposed rules. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted, as they will be fully considered in preparing the final listing determinations.
FWS		Louisiana Pinesnake; Notice of Availability for the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances	

FWS		Yolo Habitat Conservancy, CA; Counties of Yolo and Cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland; draft Joint Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan and draft Joint Natural Community Conservation Plan	
FWS		Initiation of a 5-Year Review of the Aleutian Shield Fern, AK	This notice alerts the public that we are initiating a 5-year status review for the Aleutian shield fern under the ESA and provides an opportunity for the public to provide information they may have on the species. A 5-year status review results in a recommendation on whether the species should be classified differently or delisted. The species is only known to occur on one island in the Aleutian Island chain.
FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications (first applicant: Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, Little Rock, AR)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits for Region 4 and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments.
FWS		Draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District Habitat Conservation Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Barton Springs salamander and Austin blind salamander, Texas	This is a Federal Register Notice of Availability for the draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District HCP and dEIS for take of the Barton Springs salamander (Eurycea sosorum) and the Austin blind salamander (Eurycea waterlooensis) in Travis and Hays Counties, Texas.

FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications; Region 6	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for ESA recovery permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.
FWS		Notice of availability; joint Draft Environmental Impact Statement And Draft Environmental Impact Report; receipt of permit application, Draft Habitat Conservation Plan; South Sacramento County, California	The proposed permit would authorize the incidental take of 28 covered-species by the construction and operation of new urban development, transportation, infrastructure, and other projects that would be implemented or authorized by five permit applicants over a 50-year period, within a 317,656-acre planning area located in south Sacramento County, California.
FWS		Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Availability of Proposed Low-Effect Lakes at St. Sebastian Preserve Habitat Conservation Plan, Brevard County, FL / Atlantic Coast Paladin Estates, LLC and Micco Road Investments, LLC c/o the Kelsey Group	The applicant is requesting take of approximately 99.85 acres of Audubon's Crested Caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*) nesting and foraging habitat incidental to the construction of a residential development project in Brevard County, Florida. The Audubon's Crested Caracara is federally listed as threatened. Impacts to the species will be offset by conservation of 20 acres of caracara habitat and a $10,000 management endowment.

FWS		NOA: Draft Texas Coastal Bend Shortgrass Prairie Multi-Species Recovery Plan, including Slender Rush-Pea and South Texas Ambrosia	This is a notice of availability for the draft recovery plan that includes slender rush-pea and South Texas ambrosia. The recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria that, when achieved, will enable us to remove both species from the list of endangered and threatened plants. We are requesting review and comment on the recovery plan from the public; tribes; and local, State, and Federal agencies.
FWS	1018-AX99	Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	
FWS		Recovery Permits (Kiernan, first)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery permits, requests public comment on the permits, and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.
FWS		ES Recovery Permit Applications (First Preserve District of Will County, Plainfield, IL, and others)	
FWS		Initiation of 5-Year Status Reviews of 23 Southeastern Species	

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Maire Malone, first) FWS-HQ-IA-2017-0019	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued nine permits under the ESA and two under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Nature Conservation Trust, first applicant)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Tony Goldberg, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, first applicant)	

FWS		Endangered Species; Notice of Issuance (Foreign Species Permits; Michael Rohweder, first permittee)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Feld Entertainment, Inc., first applicant)	This is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, to notify the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act (ESA) permits. This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on sixteen(16) (ESA) applications and one (1) Marine Mammal application that were received by the Service requesting authorization to conduct otherwise prohibited activities within the United States or to import biological specimens for research purposes. There are no decisions announced in these notices, but we cannot finalize the review of these permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period under the ESA.
FWS		Exemption from Threatened Species Permits for a Qualifying Beluga Sturgeon Aquaculture Facility	
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Dallas World Aquarium, first applicant)	
FWS		Meeting Notice; Service Regulations Committee Meeting	
FWS		Meeting Notice; North American Wetlands Council Meeting	
FWS	1018-BB24	Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale	

FWS	1018-AZ69	Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls)	
FWS		Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement; Hycroft Mining Company; Request for Take Permits Under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	
FWS	1018-AY30	Eagle Permits: Revision to Regulations for Eagle Incidental Take and Take of Nests; Correction	
FWS	1018-BB06	Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting	
FWS	1018-BB73	2018–19 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations	
FWS	1018-BB40	Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season	
FWS		Notice of Availability for the Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge and Black River Unit of Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Grays Harbor and Thurston Counties, WA; Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	

FWS		Notice of intent to implement annual hunting fees, annual fishing fees, and special permit fees; Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge, KY [FWS–R4–R–2016–N141]	Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge proposes to implement annual hunting and fishing fees and special permit fees for commercial recreational activities. The proposed cost for the annual access permit is $15 (free for youth under 16, and $5 for seniors 65 and over); there would be a $50 minimum fee for annual Recreational Special Use Permit authorizing commercial recreational activities to be conducted on the Refuge.
FWS	1018-BB75	Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18	
FWS		Notice of Intent to Re-open the Planning Process for the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Enivironmental Assessment at Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge	
FWS		NOA: Camas National Wildlife Refuge, Jefferson County, ID; Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	A Finding of No Significant Impact was signed on March 10, 2017, and the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) was completed for Camas National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), located in Jefferson County, Idaho. The CCP will guide management of the Refuge for 15 years or until it is revised, and actions will be implemented as funding becomes available. We are informing the Secretary of our intent to publish the Notice of Availability for the Camas National Wildlife Refuge CCP and the Finding of No Significant Impact for the Environmental Assessment (EA).

FWS	1018-BA31	Disapproval of Final Rule: Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska	The final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (P.L. 115-20). This action conforms to P.L. 115-20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the effective date of the final rule that was nullified under the Congressional Review Act.
FWS	1018-BA33	Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4	The proposed rule:• Is in response to requests from States to revise and simplify the rules for license certification. The Service worked closely with DOI solicitors and AFWA attorneys in developing the new language. • Includes changes that were reviewed by Regional and State representatives, and interested stakeholders, during pre-rulemaking comment periods and were developed considering the comments we received. • Includes definitions and additions to the rule that will clarify the rule and improve national consistency. • Was developed in coordination with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Federal Aid Coordinators Working Group, Regional WSFR offices, State representatives, and members of interest organizations.

Type	Estimated Date for DOI Clearance	Current Status	Has Been at Current Status Since (Date)
ICR Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/16/17

ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/17/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/08/17
Notice	5/4/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/15/17
Final Rule	5/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/20/17
Notice	5/12/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/11/17

Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Communications clearance	05/03/17
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Proposed Rule	5/18/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17

Notice	5/18/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Final Rule	5/22/2017	Drafting	
Notice	5/26/2017	Drafting	

Final Rule	5/26/2017	Drafting	
Proposed Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	02/24/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/04/17
Final Rule	6/2/2017	Drafting	
Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/10/17
Notice	6/19/2017	Drafting	

Notice	5/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/12/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	

Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	
Notice	5/18/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	
Notice	5/24/2017	Pending Bureau clearance (with CCU)	
Notice	5/15/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/12/17
Notice	5/19/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/15/17
Final Rule	5/20/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/18/17

Final Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	04/26/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Final Rule	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/18/17
Proposed Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/03/17
Proposed Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17
Final Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Proposed Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	

Final Rule	6/2/2017	Pending Solicitor clearance	
Proposed Rule	5/19/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	03/01/17

Must be at Exec Sec no later than	DCN (Optional)	Program (Optional)	Critical Date (Judicial, Statutory, or Other)
Wednesday, May 3, 2017	2945	ABHC	
Wednesday, May 3, 2017	2946	ABHC	
Monday, May 22, 2017	2948	ABHC	
Monday, May 22, 2017	2943	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2970	ABHC	

Thursday, June 1, 2017	2968	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2969	ABHC	
Thursday, April 27, 2017	2839	ES	
Monday, April 24, 2017	2902	ES	Statutory, 9/20/2017
Friday, May 5, 2017	2782	ES	

Monday, May 8, 2017	2931	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2808	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2922	ES	

Thursday, May 4, 2017	2959	ES	

Thursday, May 11, 2017	2949	ES	
Monday, May 8, 2017		ES	Statutory, 3/11/2017
Friday, May 19, 2017	2962	ES	

Friday, May 12, 2017	2940	ES	
Tuesday, May 16, 2017	2897	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2870	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2954	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2931	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2917	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2785	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2922	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2925	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2933	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2821	ES	
Friday, May 19, 2017	2795	ES	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2964	ES	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2956	ES	
Monday, June 12, 2017	2952	ES	

Friday, April 28, 2017	2905	IA	

Friday, May 5, 2017	2924	IA	
Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2925	IA	

Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2927	IA	

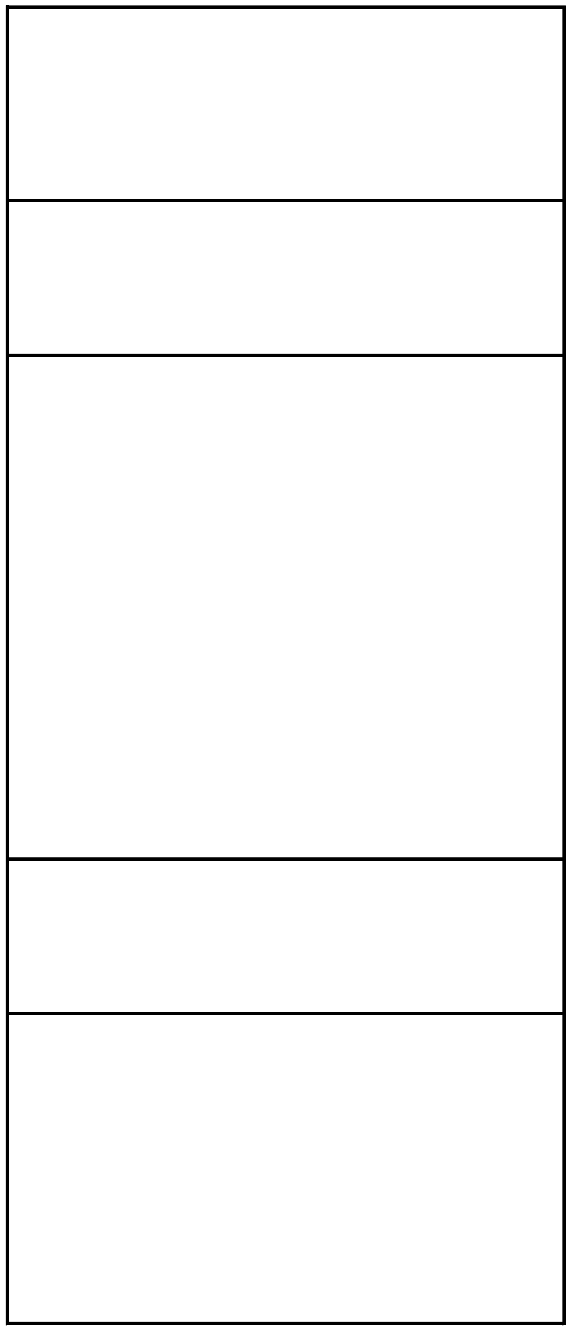
Wednesday, May 10, 2017	2934	IA	
Thursday, May 11, 2017	2953	IA	
Wednesday, May 17, 2017	2942	IA	
Monday, May 8, 2017	2941	MB	Other, 6/6/2017
Friday, May 12, 2017	2906	MB	Other, 5/26/2017
Monday, May 8, 2017	2763	MB	

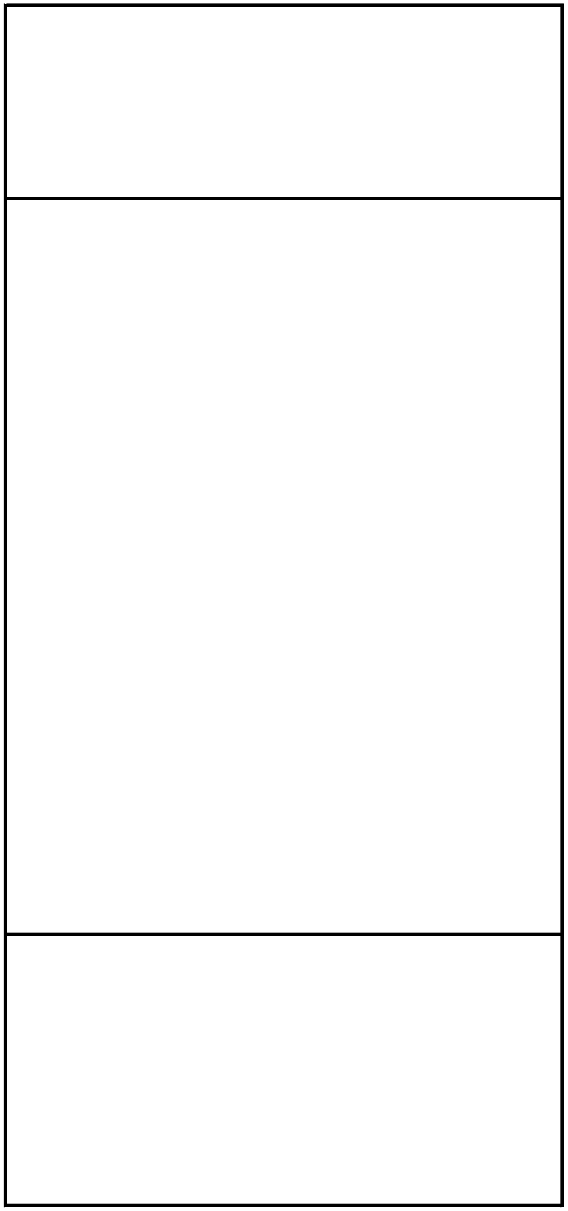
Tuesday, May 16, 2017	1426	MB	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2938	MB	
Thursday, May 25, 2017	2944	MB	
Friday, June 2, 2017	2278	MB	
Friday, June 2, 2017		MB	Other, 7/31/2017
Friday, June 2, 2017		MB	Other, 8/31/2017
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2914	NWRS	

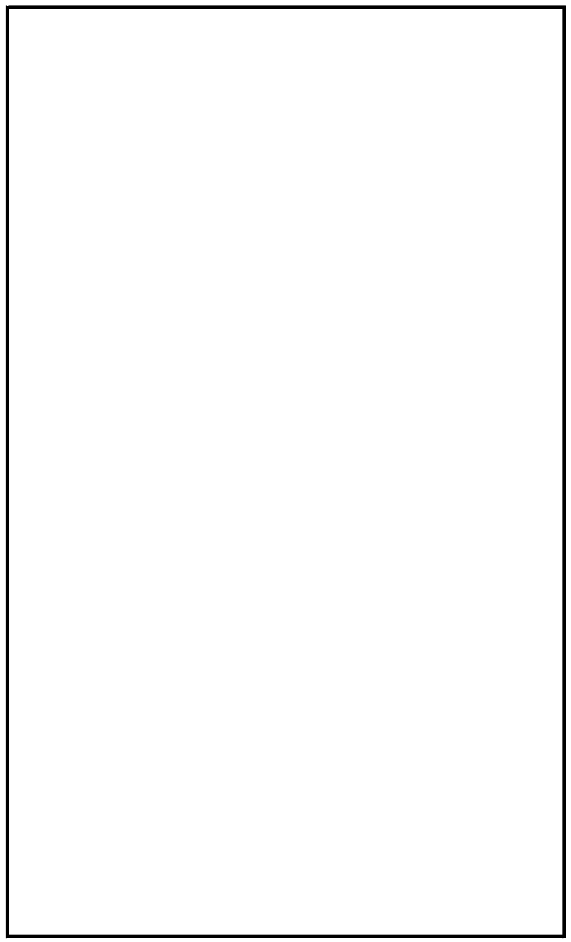
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2867	NWRS	Other, 8/15/2017
Tuesday, May 16, 2017		NWRS	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2881	NWRS	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2915	NWRS	

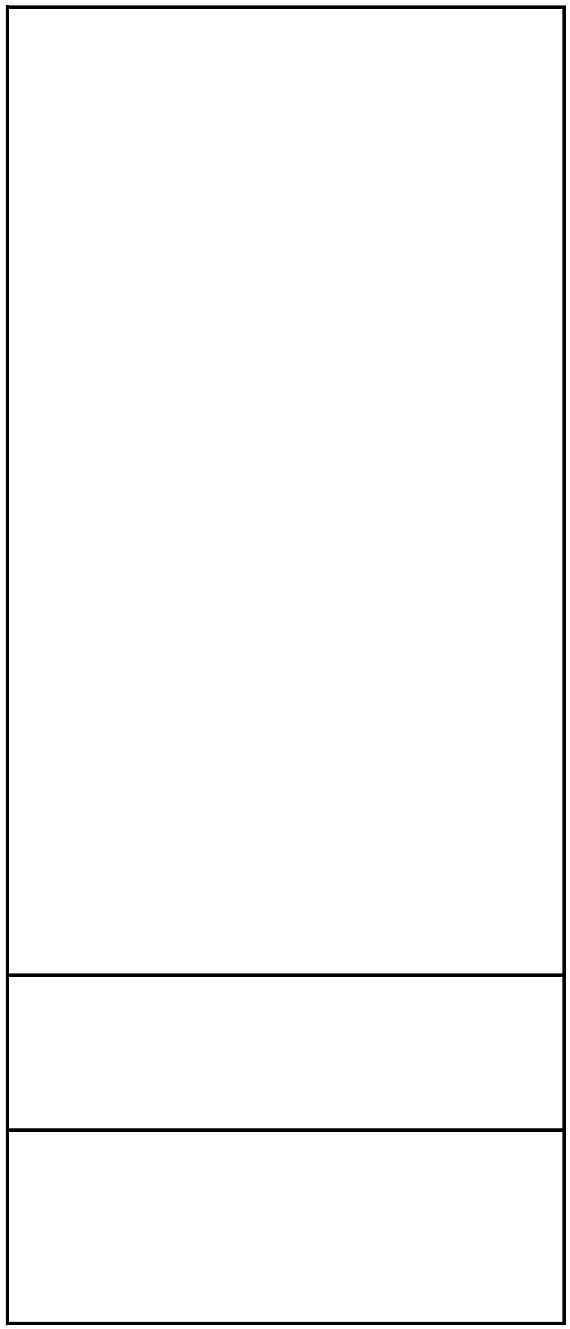
Friday, May 19, 2017		NWRS	
Friday, May 5, 2017	2841	WSFR	

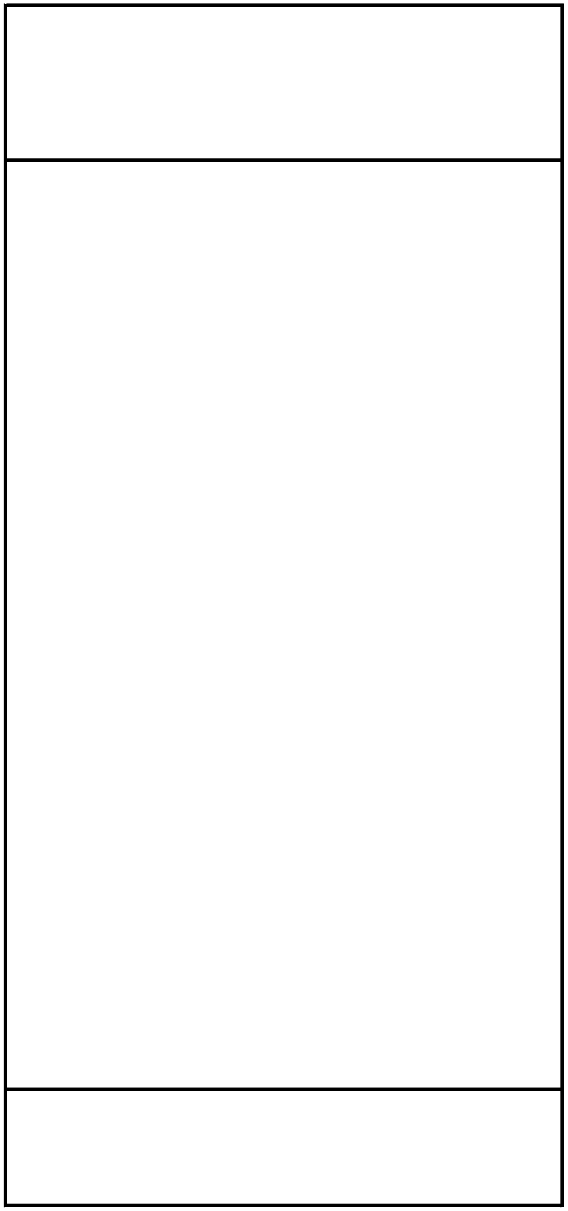
Explain Critical Date if "Other"

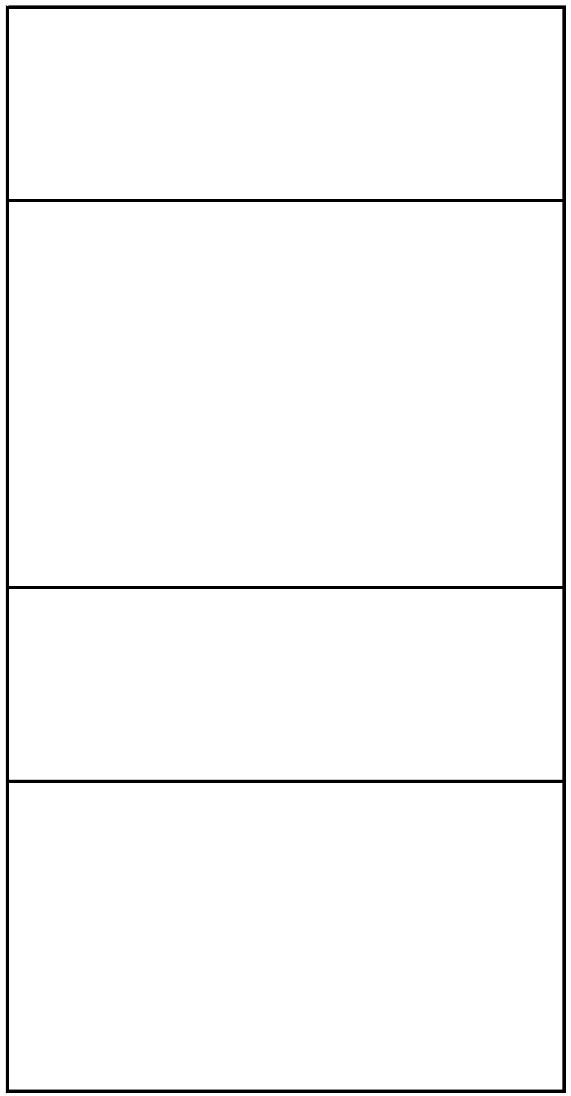


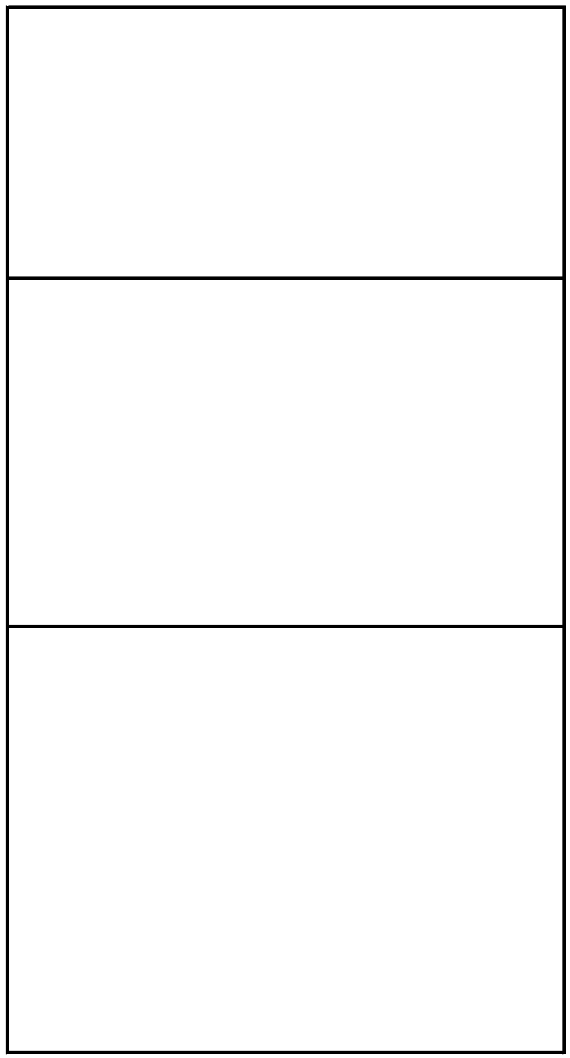


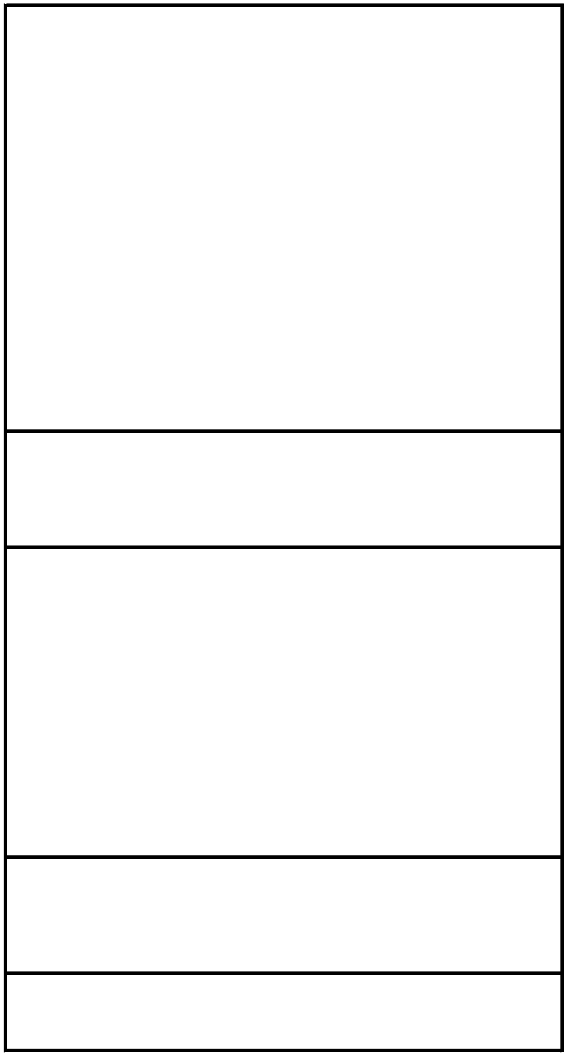


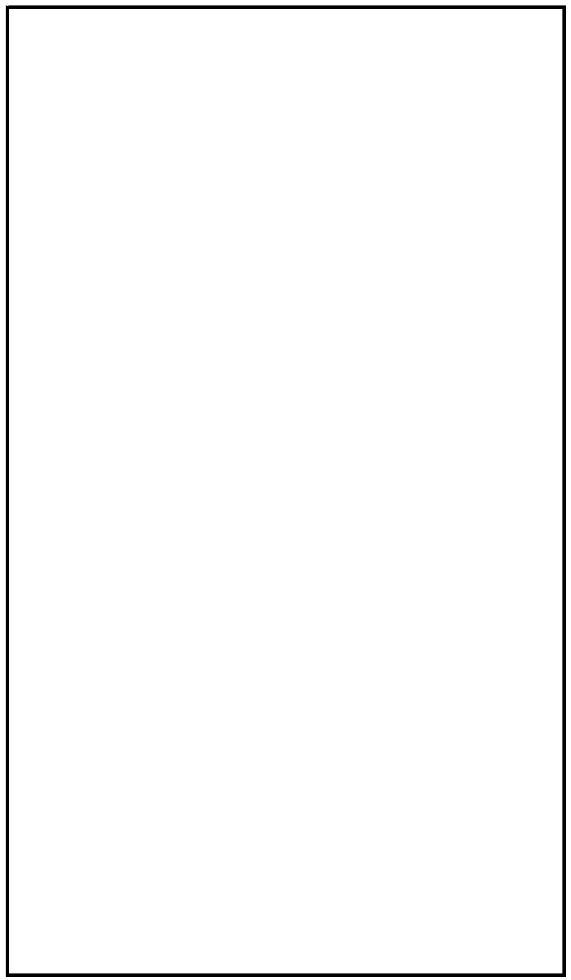


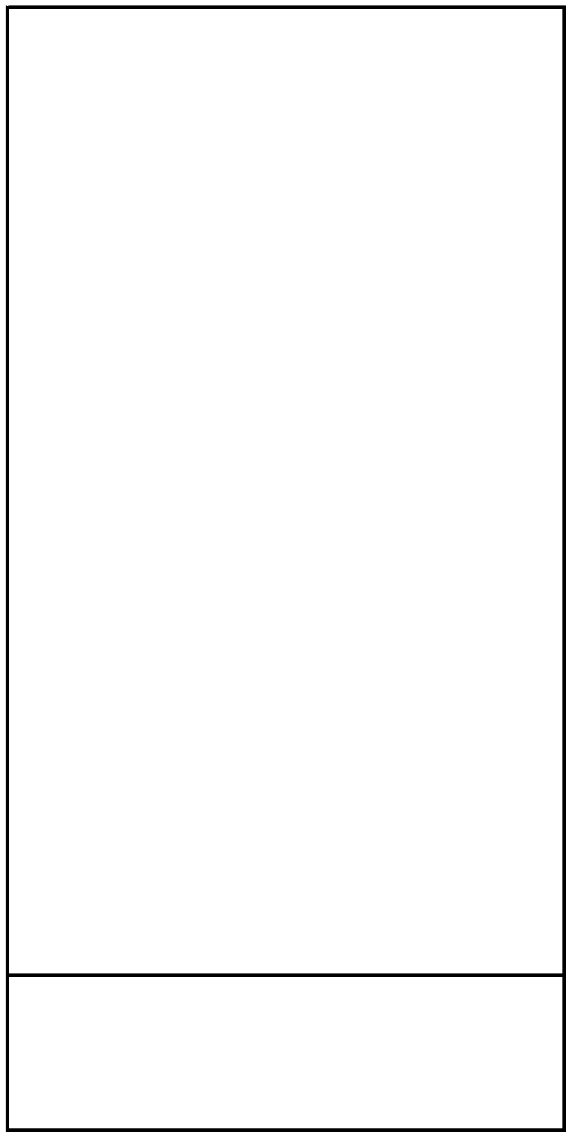


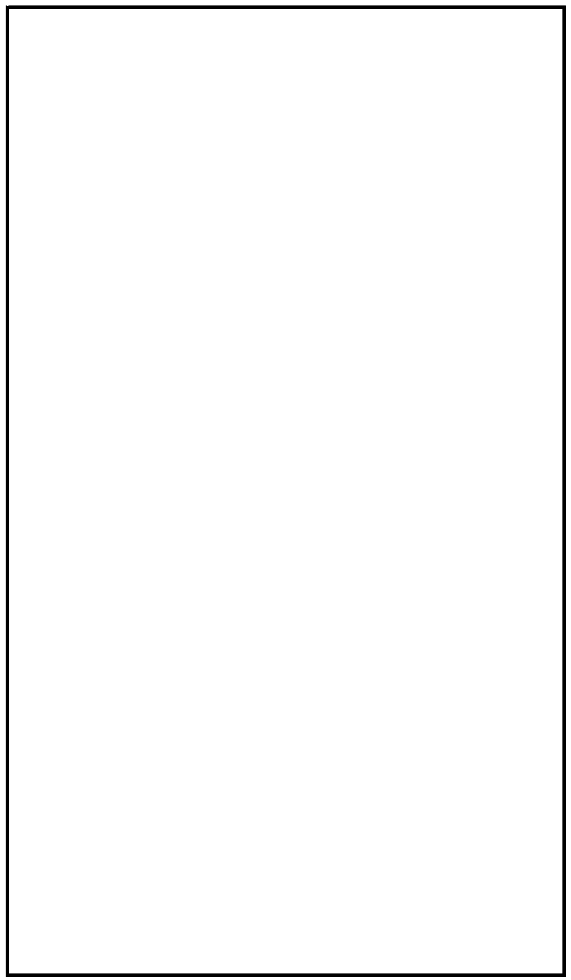








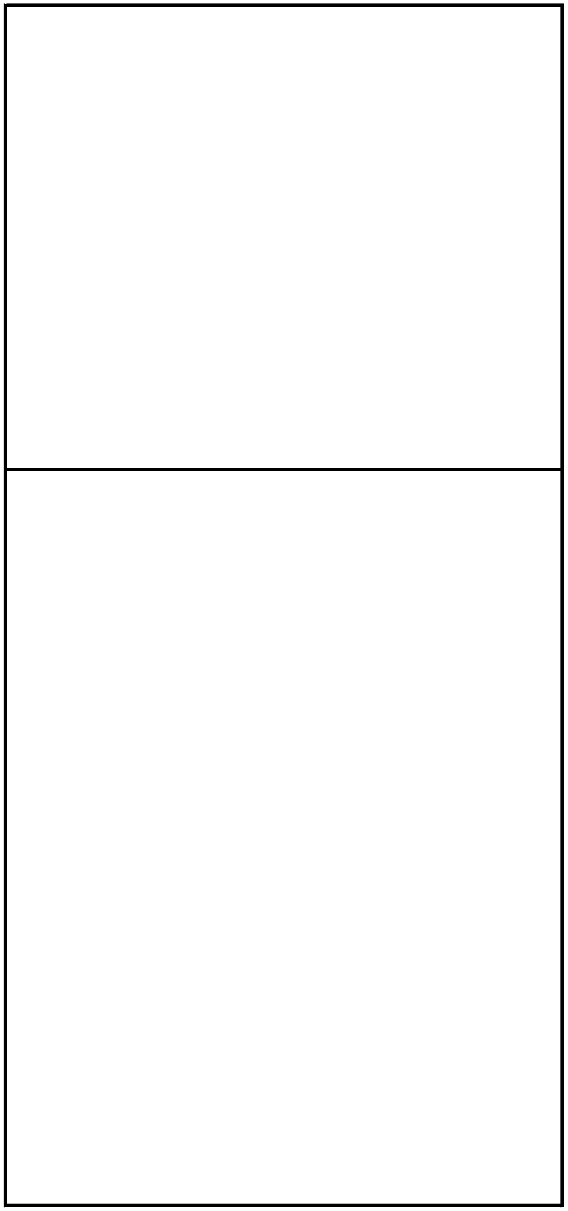




This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date, which is June 21, 2017.
This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date, which is June 13, 2017.

Must be published prior to Flyway Council meetings, which begin in August.
This is the drop-dead date to legally open 2017/2018 hunting seasons.

This date is necessary to enable us to initiate the recreational fee program.



From:	Campbell, Tina
To:	Gary Frazer; Shultz, Gina; Bridget Fahey; Jeff Newman; Miller, Kayla
Cc:	Craghead, Anissa; Prigan, Sara; Susan Wilkinson; Charisa Morris
Subject:	30-day List Submission
Date:	Thursday, May 25, 2017 10:10:50 AM
Attachments:	FWS entries, 30 day spreadsheet for May 30 2017_MASTER.xlsx

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Hi All,

Here is the 30-day list we compiled for this week based on the input provided to us. It is due to Exec Sec by COB today, so please let us know if you have any changes asap.

Thank you,

Tina

Tina A. Campbell
Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Telephone: 703-358-2676
Fax: 703-358-1997

Bureau	RIN or OMB Control Number	Title	Summary	Type	Estimated Date for DOI Clearance	Current Status	Has Been at Current Status Since (Date)	Must be at Exec Sec no later than	DCN (Optional)	Program (Optional)	Critical Date (Judicial Statutory or Other)	Explain Critical Date if "Other"
FWS	1018-0123	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0123; International Conservation Grant Programs	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0123. This control number authorizes the Service to solicit proposals for funding and implement reporting requirements in response to Notices of Funding Opportunity published by the Service on Grants.gov.	ICR Notice	6/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17	Monday May 22 2017	2948	ABHC		
FWS	1018-0066	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0066; Marine Mammal Marking Tagging and Reporting Certificates and Registration of Certain Dead Marine Mammal Hard Parts	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0066. OMB Control No. 1018-0066 authorizes the monitoring of the take of polar bears northern sea otters and Pacific walruses by Alaska Natives under 50 CFR 18.23(f). This collection of information also provides important data to the Service regarding Alaska Native subsistence and handicraft harvest and on the mammals' biology to determine what effect the harvests may have on their populations.	ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/19/17	Thursday June 1 2017	2968	ABHC		
FWS	1018-0102	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0102; National Wildlife Refuge Special Use Permit Applications and Reports	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0102. OMB Control No. 1018-0102 authorizes the Service to collect information needed to issue special use permits in the National Wildlife Refuge system for a specific period as determined by the type and location of the management activity or visitor service provided. Without approval by OMB we will have no other mechanism to allow research facilitated recreation and commercial uses on national wildlife refuges which will impact thousands of projects every year.	ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/08/17	Thursday June 1 2017	2969	ABHC		
FWS	1018-0023	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0023; Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program and Migratory Bird Surveys	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0023. OMB Control No. 1018-0023 authorizes the Service to gather data on various characteristics of migratory bird harvest through the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) and through Migratory Bird Hunter Surveys.	ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/19/17	Thursday June 1 2017	2970	ABHC		
FWS		Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 90-Day Findings on Two Petitions (Florida black bear and Mojave population of the desert tortoise) (February batch)	The U.S. Fish and W ldlife Service has completed initial findings ("90-day findings") on petitions under the Endangered Species Act to list or reclassify two species. We find that a petition to list the Florida black bear as a threatened or endangered species does not present substantial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted. The Florida black bear inhabits mostly forested habitat in parts of Florida and Georgia. We find that the petition to reclassify the Mojave population of the desert tortoise from a threatened to endangered species does not present substantial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted. The Mojave desert tortoise inhabits the Mojave desert in the southwestern United States including the states of Arizona California Nevada and Utah.	Notice	4/12/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	4/11/2017	Wednesday April 5 2017	2923	ES		

FWS		Giant garter snake; Notice of Availability of Second Revised Draft Recovery Plan	This document describes the strategy objectives and actions necessary for achieving recovery of the giant garter snake along with criteria that when met signify that the Service may be able to remove the species from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. The plan focuses on establishing and protecting self-sustaining populations throughout the range of the species restoring and conserving healthy wetland ecosystems that will support the species and ameliorating or eliminating the threats that caused the species to be listed.	Notice	5/4/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/15/17	Thursday April 27 2017	2839	ES		
FWS	1018-BB54	Listing Determination for the I'iwi	This final rule lists the i'iwi (*Drepanis coccinea*) a forest bird endemic to Hawaii as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.	Final Rule	5/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/20/17	Monday April 24 2017	2902	ES	Statutory 9/20/2017	
FWS		Stock Assessment Reports for Southern Beaufort Sea and Chukchi-Bering Seas; Opening 90-day Public Comment Period	Thi s is a notice of availability for draft revised Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) for the Southern Beaufort and the Chukchi Seas stocks of polar bears. This notice opens a 90-day public comment period to request input on these draft revisions.	Notice	5/12/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/11/17	Friday May 5 2017	2782	ES		
FWS		Draft Recovery Plan for the Pima Pineapple Cactus	We announce that our Pima pineapple cactus draft recovery plan is available. The cactus is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended. This plant species is currently found in southern Arizona and in northern Sonora Mexico. The draft recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to enable us to remove this species from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants. A proposed border wall is not anticipated to impede the recovery of the Pima pineapple cactus. We request that local State and Federal agencies Tribes and the public review and comment. We will also accept any new species status information throughout its range to assist with recovery plan finalization.	Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17	Monday May 8 2017	2808	ES		
FWS		Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for Betteravia Farms LLC /Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project Santa Barbara County California	This is a notice that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has received an application for incidental take associated with a low-effect habitat conservation plan for a housing project.The Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project will provide much needed housing for seasonal farmworkers. These workers have been staying in low-income housing in the surrounding community thus displacing other residents that would benefit greatly from low-income housing. The proposed project would provide housing for up to 600 workers (da ly average occupancy of approximately 450 workers).	Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Communications clearance	05/03/17	Monday May 8 2017	2895	ES		
FWS		Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities; Proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization for Pacific Walruses and Polar Bears in Alaska and Associated Federal Waters; Quintillion	In response to a request from Quintillion Subsea Operation LLC (Quintillion) we propose to authorize the incidental taking by harassment of small numbers of Pacific walruses and polar bears from July 1 2017 through November 15 2017 under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA) as amended. Quinti lion has requested this incidental harassment authorization (IHA) for its planned cable-laying activities in the northern Bering Chukchi and southwestern Beaufort Seas the marine waters of the State of Alaska and coastal land adjacent to Nome Kotzebue Point Hope Wainwright Utqiagvik and Oliktok Point. We anticipate no take (as defined in the MMPA) by injury or death and include none in this proposed authorization which if finalized would be for non-lethal non-injurious take by harassment only. The Quinti lion project will provide for improved broadband internet service in northern Alaska. The project is a continuation of work begun in 2016.	Notice	5/18/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/18/17	Thursday May 11 2017	2949	ES		

FWS	1018-BA41	Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	The U.S. Fish and W ldlife Service is issuing a final rule to establish the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) grizzly bear as a Distinct Population Segment (DPS) and remove (delist) the GYE population of grizzly bears from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife under the Endangered Species Act.	Final Rule	5/22/2017	Drafting		Monday May 8 2017	2972	ES	Statutory 3/11/2017	
FWS	1018-BB74	Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly in Northwestern Oregon	The U.S. Fish and W ldlife Service with the support of the State of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (the agency with responsibility for conservation of invertebrate species in Oregon) wants to reestablish the Oregon silverspot butterfly a federally listed threatened species within its historical range at two sites in northwestern Oregon: Saddle Mountain State Natural Area in Clatsop County and Nestucca Bay National Wildlife Refuge in Tillamook County. We would reestablish the Oregon silverspot butterfly under the authority of section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended and classify the populations reintroduced to these two areas as part of the nonessential experimental population identified in this rule.	Final Rule	5/26/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17	Friday May 12 2017	2940	ES		
FWS		Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Associated Documents for LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan TX	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is announcing that it will prepare a draft environmental impact statement on the proposed Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Services Corporation's (LCRA TSC; applicant's) habitat conservation plan (HCP). The publication of this notice is required by the National Environmental Policy Act. Included in the notice is information about the proposed HCP and opportunities for the public to provide information that may be relevant to the proposed action and alternatives to consider. LCRA TSC has scheduled public scoping meetings for the week of June 19 2017.	Notice	5/26/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/23/17	Friday May 19 2017	2962	ES		
FWS		Draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District Habitat Conservation Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Barton Springs salamander and Austin blind salamander Texas	This is a notice of availability for the draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District habitat conservation plan and draft environmental impact statement for take of the Barton Springs salamander (*Eurycea sosorum*) and the Austin blind salamander (*Eurycea waterlooens s*) in Travis and Hays Counties Texas.	Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17	Tuesday May 23 2017	2785	ES		
FWS		Louisiana Pinesnake; Notice of Availability for the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances	The programmatic Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) which would be between the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will allow LDWF to issue certificates of inclusion to elig ble non-federal landowners in Bienville Beauregard Jackson Natchitoches Rapides Sabin Vernon Winn Grant and Allen Parishes Louisiana whose conservation management agreements are approved. Landowners who enroll through the CCAA will receive assurances against take liability for incidental take of the Louisiana pinesnake from their conservation actions.	Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	02/24/17	Tuesday May 23 2017	2870	ES		

FWS	1018-BA74 1018-BB89 1018-BB90 and 1018-BB87	Reopening of Comment Period on Proposed Rules: Listing & Critical Habitat (G. Fescue 1018-BA74) Downlist from Endangered to Threatened (Cactuses 1018-BB89 and 1018-BB90) Delist (Wild-Buckwheat 1018-BB87)	This document announces the reopening of the comment periods for our proposed rules to list *Festuca ligulata* (Guadalupe fescue) as an endangered species; to designate *Festuca ligulata* critical habitat ; to reclassify *Sclerocactus brevihamatus* ssp. *tobuschii* (Tobusch fishhook cactus) from endangered to threatened; to reclassify *Echinocereus fendleri* var. *kuenzleri* (Kuenzler hedgehog cactus) from endangered to threatened; and to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild buckwheat) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants. We are reopening the comment period for each of these proposed rules for 30 days in order to publish a legal notice and to give all interested parties further opportunity to comment on the proposed rules. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted as they will be fully considered in preparing the final listing determinations.	Proposed Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17	Tuesday May 16 2017	2897	ES		
FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications (first applicant: Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department Little Rock AR)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits for Region 4 and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments.	Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17	Tuesday May 23 2017	2917	ES		
FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications; Region 6 (ERO Resources Corp first applicant)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.	Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17	Tuesday May 23 2017	2922	ES		
FWS		Initiation of a 5-Year Review of the Aleutian Shield Fern AK	This notice alerts the public that we are initiating a 5-year status review for the Aleutian shield fern under the Endangered Species Act and provides an opportunity for the public to provide information they may have on the species. A 5-year status review results in a recommendation on whether the species should be classified differently or delisted. The species is only known to occur on one island in the Aleutian Island chain.	Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17	Tuesday May 23 2017	2931	ES		
FWS		Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Availability of Proposed Low-Effect Lakes at St. Sebastian Preserve Habitat Conservation Plan Brevard County FL / Atlantic Coast Paladin Estates LLC and Micco Road Investments LLC c/o the Kelsey Group	The applicant is requesting take of approximately 99.85 acres of Audubon's crested caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*) nesting and foraging habitat incidental to the construction of a residential development project in Brevard County Florida. The Audubon's crested caracara is federally listed as threatened. Impacts to the species w ll be offset by conservation of 20 acres of caracara habitat and a $10 000 management endowment.	Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17	Tuesday May 23 2017	2933	ES		
FWS	1018-AX99	Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	We the Service are removing the Hualapai Mexican vole from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recent data indicating that the original classification is now erroneous. This action is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information which indicates that the currently listed subspecies is not a valid taxonomic entity.	Final Rule	6/2/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/23/17	Friday May 19 2017	2693	ES		
FWS		ES Recovery Permit Applications (First Preserve District of Will County Plainfield IL and others)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits requests public comment on the permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.	Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/15/17	Thursday June 1 2017	2956	ES		
FWS		Recovery Permits (Kiernan first)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits requests public comment on the permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.	Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/16/17	Thursday June 1 2017	2964	ES		
FWS		Endangered and Threatened Wildlife & Plants Permit Applications (Northern Research Station--USFS and others)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits in Region 3 and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments.	Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/23/17	Thursday June 8 2017	2926	ES		

FWS		NOA: Application to Participate in American Burying-Beetle Amended Industry Conservation Plan (Council Oak Resources LLC and Corterra Energy Operating LLC apps)	This is a notice of availability for incidental take permit applications under the American Burying Beetle amended Industry Conservation Plan (ICP); the two applicants are Council Oak Resources LLC and Corterra Energy Operating LLC. The app icants request a permit for oil and gas upstream and midstream production including activities associated with oil and gas well field and pipeline infrastructure (gathering transmission and distribution) including geophysical exploration (seismic) construction maintenance operation repair decommissioning and reclamation in Oklahoma. Required by section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act this notice alerts the public that the incidental take permit applications are available for public review and comment.	Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/23/17	Thursday June 8 2017	2955	ES		
FWS		Initiation of 5-Year Status Reviews of 23 Southeastern Species	The Fish and Wildlife Service will announce the initiation of 5-year status reviews of 23 Southeastern Species under the Endangered Species Act (Act). This notice announces our active review of 22 endangered species and 1 threatened species.	Notice	6/19/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/23/17	Monday June 12 2017	2952	ES		
FWS		Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Deschutes Basin Habitat Conservation Plan in Oregon	The U.S. Fish and W ldlife Service Service) has been leading a large scale multi-party planning effort to address irrigation infrastructure improvements that will benefit the conservation of endangered and threatened species in the Deschutes River Basin in Central Oregon. This effort has spanned many years and has involved eight Central Oregon irrigation districts (constituting the Deschutes Basin Board of Control) the City of Prineville and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation as well as other parties. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act we are providing notice to all interested parties that the Service intends to prepare a draft environmental impact statement to evaluate the impacts of alternatives relating to the potential issuance of Endangered Species Act incidental take permits to the City of Prineville and to the eight irrigation districts represented by the Deschutes Basin Board of Control in central Oregon. We are also announcing the initiation of a public scoping period for this effort to engage Federal Tribal State and local governments and the public in the identification of issues and concerns potential impacts and possible alternatives to the	Notice	6/20/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/23/17	Tuesday June 13 2017	2939	ES		
FWS		June 2017 Batched 12-Month Findings for Two Species (Kirtland's snake and Mohave shoulderband snail)	We have completed 12-month findings on petitions requesting listing of two species under the Endangered Species Act and determined that the Kirtland's snake (found in the Midwestern United States) and the Mohave shoulderband snail (found in the western Mojave Desert in California) are not warranted for listing.	Notice	6/20/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/23/17	Tuesday June 13 2017	2973	ES		
FWS		Notice of Availability of a Draft Candidate Conservation Agreement Draft Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances and Draft Environmental Assessment for Activities within Eddy County New Mexico and Culberson County Texas; Includes Texas Hornshell (Proposed for Listing)	This is a notice of availability for a draft candidate conservation agreement a draft candidate conservation agreement with assurances with the Center of Excellence in Hazardous Material Management a draft candidate conservation agreement with assurances with the New Mexico State Lands Office (co lectively referred to as the agreements) a draft environmental assessment and two applications (one for each applicant) for Endangered Species Act section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permits (permit) for the Texas hornshell in Texas and New Mexico. This notice required by section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act alerts the public that the draft agreements draft EA and applications for the permits are available for public review and comment.	Notice	6/23/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/23/2017	Friday June 16 2017	2980	ES		

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Maire Malone first) FWS-HQ-IA-2017-0019	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice the Division of Management Authority has issued nine permits under the ESA and two under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.	Notice	5/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	04/27/17	Friday April 28 2017	2905	IA		
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Nature Conservation Trust first applicant)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.	Notice	5/12/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/17/17	Friday May 5 2017	2924	IA		
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Tony Goldberg University of Wisconsin Madison WI first applicant)	This is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act (ESA) permits. This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on four applications that were received by the Service requesting authorization to conduct otherwise prohibited activities within the United States or to import biological specimens for research purposes. There are no decisions announced in these notices but we cannot finalize the review of these permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period under the ESA.	Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17	Wednesday May 10 2017	2896	IA		

FWS		Endangered Species; Notice of Issuance (Foreign Species Permits; Michael Rohweder first permittee)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.	Notice	5/17/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17	Wednesday May 10 2017	2927	IA		
FWS		Exemption from Threatened Species Permits for a Qualifying Beluga Sturgeon Aquaculture Facility	The U.S. Fish and W ldlife Service (Service) is providing notice of an exemption to permit requirements granted under our regulations to carry out the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended (Act). The Service in June 2016 granted an exemption for beluga sturgeon (*Huso huso*) reared in an aquaculture facility Sturgeon AquaFarms in Bascom Florida that meets the criteria under our regulations. The exemption authorizes the facility to take beluga sturgeon from its aquacultured stock for the purpose of harvesting aquacultured beluga sturgeon meat and also authorizes the fac lity to engage in interstate commerce and export of beluga sturgeon meat harvested from the faci ity's aquacultured stock subject to certain conditions.	Notice	6/16/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/22/17	Friday June 9 2017	2953	IA		
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Dallas World Aquarium first applicant)	This notice is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the receipt and issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on eight (8) permits under the ESA and three (4) under the MMPA. There are no decisions announced in these weekly notices but we cannot finalize the review of the permit applications unt l the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period.	Notice	5/24/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/09/17	Wednesday May 17 2017	2942	IA		
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign Species Permits: Morani River Ranch first applicant)	This notice is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the receipt and issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on ESA and MMPA permits. There are no decisions announced in these weekly notices but we cannot finalize the review of the permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period.	Notice	6/20/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/22/2017	Tuesday June 13 2017	2982	IA		
FWS		Foreign Endangered Species; Notice of Issuance of Permits (Charles Waibel first)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This notice only informs the public that after going through a complete review of the submitted app ications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA have been meet.	Notice	6/22/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/23/2017	Thursday June 15 2017	2985	IA		
FWS		Meeting Notice; Service Regulations Committee Meeting	This is a notice that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will conduct an open meeting in June 2017 to identify and discuss preliminary issues concerning the 2018-19 migratory bird hunting regulations.	Notice	5/15/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/12/17	Monday May 8 2017	2941	MB	Other 6/6/2017	This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date which is June 21 2017.

FWS		Meeting Notice; North American Wetlands Council Meeting	This notice announces a meeting of the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council). The Council will meet to consider wetland acquisition restoration and enhancement projects for recommendation to and final funding approval by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission.	Notice	5/19/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/15/17	Friday May 12 2017	2906	MB	Other 5/26/2017	This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date which is June 13 2017.
FWS	1018-BB24	Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale	The U.S. Fish and W ldloife Service is amending the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska. This rule enables Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. The rule was developed under a co-management process involving the Service the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Alaska Native representatives.	Final Rule	5/20/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/18/17	Monday May 8 2017	2763	MB		
FWS	1018-AZ69	Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls)	Introduced nonnative alien and invasive species in Hawaii displace compete with and consume native species some of which are endangered threatened or otherwise in need of additional protection in order to increase or maintain viable populations. To protect native species a control order is established for cattle egrets and barn owls two invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii under the direction of Executive Order 13112.	Final Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	04/26/17	Tuesday May 16 2017	2913	MB		
FWS		Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement; Hycroft Mining Company; Request for Take Permits Under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	The U.S. Fish and W ldlife Service (Service) is considering the issuance of eagle take permits under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). We intend to prepare a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). We are a cooperating agency with the BLM on the development of this EIS. The BLM will be analyzing potential impacts of their decision regarding Hycroft Resource and Development Incorporated's (Hycroft/App icant) proposed expansion as described in BLM's Notice of Intent published in December 2014 (79 FR 78469). This EIS will also analyze impacts associated with the Service's eagle take permit decisions.	Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17	Tuesday May 23 2017	2938	MB		
FWS	1018-AY30	Eagle Permits: Revision to Regulations for Eagle Incidental Take and Take of Nests; Correction	In 2016 the Service finalized revisions to permit regulations regarding permits that we issue for some activities involving eagles. In that final rule we updated a table that includes permit app ication fees. Because of a formatting error in the rule the revisions were not able to be incorporated into the Code of Federal Regulations. With this document we correct the formatting error. This rule is purely an administrative action and does not affect the provisions of the rule in any substantive way.	Final Rule	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/18/17	Thursday May 25 2017	2944	MB		
FWS	1018-BB06	Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting	The Service proposes to approve corrosion-inhibited copper shot for hunting waterfowl and coots. We have concluded that the shot is unlikely to adversely affect fish wildlife or their habitats. We propose to change the regulation at 50 CFR 20.21(j) accordingly.	Proposed Rule	6/23/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/03/17	Friday June 9 2017	2278	MB		
FWS	1018-BB73	2018–19 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations	This proposed rule is the first in the series to establish the 2018-19 annual migratory bird hunting regulations.	Proposed Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17	Friday June 2 2017	2992	MB	Other 7/31/2017	Must be published prior to Flyway Council meetings which begin in August.
FWS	1018-BB40	Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season	This rule establishes the seasons and bag and possession limits for the 2017-18 migratory game bird hunting season.	Final Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/19/17	Friday June 2 2017	2991	MB	Other 8/31/2017	This is the drop-dead date to legally open 2017/2018 hunting seasons.
FWS		Notice of intent to implement annual hunting fees annual fishing fees and special permit fees; Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge KY [FWS–R4–R–2016–N141]	Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge proposes to implement annual hunting and fishing fees and special permit fees for commercial recreational activities. The proposed cost for the annual access permit is $15 (free for youth under 16 and $5 for seniors 65 and over); there would be a $50 minimum fee for annual Recreational Special Use Permit authorizing commercial recreational activities to be conducted on the Refuge.	Notice	6/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/08/17	Friday June 23 2017	2867	NWRS	Other 8/15/2017	This date is necessary to enable us to initiate the recreational fee program.

FWS		Notice of Intent to Reopen the Planning Process for the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Enivironmental Assessment at Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge	The Fish and Wildlife Service is submitting a notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan for Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Citrus County Florida. The planning process for Crystal River NWR began in 2008. The planning process was delayed when rulemaking for the Kings Bay Manatee Protection Area (Manatee Protection Area) was initiated in 2010 and completed in 2012.	Notice	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance		Friday June 23 2017	2881	NWRS		
FWS		Notice of Availability for the Grays Harbor National Wildl fe Refuge and Black River Unit of Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge Grays Harbor and Thurston Counties WA; Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	The U.S. Fish and W ldlife Service will announce the availability of our comprehensive conservation plans and finding of no significant impact (signed on March 10 2017) for Grays Harbor NWR located in Grays Harbor County Washington and the Black River Unit (Unit) of Billy Frank Jr. Nisqua ly NWR located in Thurston County Washington.	Notice	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance		Friday June 23 2017	2914	NWRS		
FWS		NOA: Camas National Wildlife Refuge Jefferson County ID; Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	A finding of no significant impact (FONSI) was signed on March 10 2017 and the comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) was completed for Camas National Wildlife Refuge located in Jefferson County Idaho. The CCP will guide management of the Refuge for 15 years or until it is revised and actions w ll be implemented as funding becomes available. We are informing the Secretary of our intent to publish the notice of availabi ity for the Camas National Wildlife Refuge CCP and the FONSI for the environmental assessment.	Notice	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance		Friday June 23 2017	2915	NWRS		
FWS	1018-BB75	Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations 2017–18	This proposed rule begins the annual process of updating refuge-specific regulations for National Wildlife Refuges.	Proposed Rule	6/1/2017	Pending Bureau clearance		Thursday May 18 2017		NWRS		
FWS	1018-BA31	Disapproval of Final Rule: Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife and Public Participation and Closure Procedures on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska	The final rule published August 5 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act signed by the President on April 3 2017 (P.L. 115-20). This action conforms to P.L. 115-20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the effective date of the final rule that was nullified under the Congressional Review Act.	Final Rule	6/2/2017	Pending Solicitor clearance		Friday May 19 2017		NWRS		
FWS		Lower Klamath Clear Lake Tule Lake Upper Klamath and Bear Valley National Wildlife Refuges Klamath County OR; Siskiyou and Modoc Counties CA; Record of Decision for Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement	The notice informs the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has signed a Record of Decision on January 13 2017 for the Final CCP/EIS for the Klamath Refuges. The Final CCP/EIS evaluated alternatives for managing the Klamath Refuges over the next 15 years. The Record of Decision includes a statement of the decisions made the basis for the decisions a description of the alternatives considered a description of the environmentally preferable alternative an overview of the measures to minimize environmental impacts and a summary of public involvement in the decisionmaking process. The Service can now begin implementing the CCP.	Notice	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/4/2017	Friday June 23 2017	2828	NWRS		
FWS		Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge; Record of Decision for Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement	The U.S. Fish and W ldlife Service announces the availability of the record of decision (ROD) on the final comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and environmental impact statement (EIS) for Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge (NFWR). We prepared the ROD pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. The Service is furnishing this notice to advise the public and other agencies of our decision and of the availability of the ROD.	Notice	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	4/25/2017	Friday June 23 2017	2836	NWRS		

FWS		Draft Alaska Native Relations Policy	The Service together with Tribes Alaska Native Organizations (ANO) and Alaska Native Corporations (ANC) has drafted this Alaska Native Relations Policy which is supplemental to the Native American Policy (510 FW 1). The Native American Policy is the foundational policy which applies to agency personnel across the country as it guides the trust responsibility to and relationships with federally recognized tribes. The Alaska Native Relations Policy provides clarity and consistency for our work in Alaska and specifically explains the unique relationship the Service has with Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act corporations and describes the subsistence opportunities afforded by several Acts. We are seeking public comment on the draft policy.	Notice	5/15/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/2/2017	Monday May 8 2017	2937	R7 (Alaska Native Affairs)		
FWS	1018-BA33	Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4	The proposed rule:• Is in response to requests from States to revise and simplify the rules for license certification. The Service worked closely with DOI solicitors and Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) attorneys in developing the new language. • Includes changes that were reviewed by Regional and State representatives and interested stakeholders during pre-rulemaking comment periods and were developed considering the comments we received. • Includes definitions and additions to the rule that will clarify the rule and improve national consistency. • Was developed in coordination with the AFWA the Federal Aid Coordinators Working Group Regional WSFR offices State representatives and members of interest organizations.	Proposed Rule	6/2/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	03/01/17	Friday May 19 2017	2841	WSFR		

From: Prigan, Sara
To: Campbell, Tina; Charisa Morris; Megan Apgar
Subject: Re: Quarterly Report (90-day List) and 30-day List
Date: Friday, May 26, 2017 7:18:47 AM
Attachments: DRAFT Qtrly Rept FWS Jul-Sep (Q417) (sorted by RIN) (5-26-17).docx

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Here's the longer version -- shows changes from last time. I'll send the shorter version in a few minutes.

Thank you,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 10:09 AM, Campbell, Tina <tina_campbell@fws.gov> wrote:

> Sara,
>
> Thanks - I thought you were on leave today. Let me know what you do with the list because we have to get a new hard copy in the package - and get ES to surname it.
>
> Tina
>
> *Tina A. Campbell*
> *Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs*
> *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> *5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC*
> *Falls Church, VA 22041-3803*
> *Telephone: 703-358-2676*
> *Fax: 703-358-1997*
>
> On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 9:08 AM, Prigan, Sara <sara_prigan@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Looking at this now.
> >
> > Thank you,
> >
> > *Sara Prigan*
> > *Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs*
> > *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> > *5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC*
> > *Falls Church, VA 22041-3808*
> > *Telephone: 703-358-2508*
> > Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from ~~April through June~~ JUL—SEP 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	(b)(5) DPP	(b)(5)	(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP	8/1/17 Was on Q316
~~ES~~	~~1018-AX99 Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will remove the Hualapai Mexican vole, restricted to the Hualapai Mountains located in Arizona, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to the fact that the original classification is no longer appropriate. The best available science no longer supports the recognition of a separate Hualapai Mexican vole subspecies. Therefore, based on the best available scientific and commercial information at this time, FWS finds that the original data for classification were in error, and FWS is removing the Hualapai Mexican vole as a listed entity under the ESA.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~Not subject to OMB review~~ Was on Q3 same stage; will publish before Q4

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from ~~April through June~~ JUL—SEP 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/1/17
WSFR	1018-AY75 Multi-Year Hunting and Fishing License Certification for the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program 50 CFR 80	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS proposes to make technical changes to FWS regulations that implement the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. The updates would align the regulations' language with terms used at 2 CFR 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards," and include other clarifying changes.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies as well as other partners support this proposed rule and have been closely involved in its development.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.~~	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3; program says remove
ES	1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review When was PR on?

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/7/17 Was on Q1 in same stage
IA	1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350.	9/29/17 Was not on Q3; was on Q217 (Q2 didn't go to OMB)

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from ~~April through June~~ JUL—SEP 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-AZ69 Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls) 50 CFR 21	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Jerry Thompson (703) 358-2016.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~4/21/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because this is currently in Exec Sec and we expect it to clear prior to Q4
LE	1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Retrospective Regulatory Review action.** **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3; pushing to Q4

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from ~~April through June~~ JUL—SEP 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
NWRS	1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771. Can we get a briefing/briefing paper (BP) on what the regulations will return to with the overturning of this rule via the Congressional Review Act?" 5/23/17—Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.	~~4/28/17~~ Was on Q3; will stay on Q4—date? *Depends on when template for nullification is ready; SW asking OES*
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~4/25/17~~ With Exec Sec since Mar 1 Was on Q317; pushing to 7/5/17

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from ~~April through June~~ JUL—SEP 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q317; pushing to 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA41, Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination its March 11, 2016, proposal to identify the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) grizzly bear population of Montana, Idaho and Wyoming as a distinct population segment (DPS) and revise the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife by removing grizzly bears within the GYE DPS.~~ ~~**Controversy:** The ESA listing status of grizzly bears in the GYE will continue to garner a high level of interest from States and non-governmental organizations with opposing views on delisting. Some in the environmental community and dozens of Tribes have expressed concern over the State regulated harvest (hunting) that will occur after delisting. National and local media interest is high.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; expected to publish before Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~6/30/17~~ 8/18/17 Was on Q3 at same stage (CH under BA75); date pushed ahead

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from ~~April through June~~ JUL—SEP 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q316 – PR 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	8/31/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—pushing to 7/14/17
AK Sub	1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.~~	~~6/15/17~~ Was on Q3 same stage; will publish before Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB24 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale 50 CFR 92	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will amend the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska to enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3; this is currently pending Asst Sec clearance and likely to clear Exec Sec prior to Q4. If this is pushed to Q4, it would require a July 2017 date
ES	1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703 358-1796,	7/27/17 Was on Q316 – PR New stage

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from ~~April through June~~ JUL—SEP 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS proposes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without two accompanying deregulatory actions.~~	~~5/12/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because we expect it to clear prior to Q4
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is establishing the 2017–18 season hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. FWS annually prescribes frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur, and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow State selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without two accompanying deregulatory actions.~~	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—Removing because this cleared OMB for publication

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2017–18 season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967.~~ ~~Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.~~	~~6/1/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because we expect it to clear prior to Q4
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3—Pushing ahead to 8/30/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 – PR Not subject to OMB review New stage
ES	1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 –PR New Stage Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3
ES	1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review
~~MB~~	~~1018-BB71~~ ~~Migratory Bird Subsistence in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska during the 2017 Season~~ ~~50 CFR 92~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS promulgates subsistence harvest regulations for migratory birds for the 2017 season in Alaska. These regulations enable the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. These regulations are developed under a co-management process involving the FWS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~	~~4/21/17~~ Removed; FR published April 4, 2017 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-06592.pdf

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. FWS annually prescribes outside limits (frameworks) within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018–19 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2019 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~	~~6/1/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because this is currently in SOL for review and we expect it to clear prior to Q4
MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	8/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
NWRS	1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is proposing to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678.~~ ~~**OMB's comment on Q317 list:** "We would like additional information on what the additional costs there may be for the FWS associated with opening additional refuges for fishing and hunting." 5/23/17—Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.~~	~~5/19/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because we except it to go to FR before Q4
ES	1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report

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ES	1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
WSFR	1018-BB84 Administrative Requirements; Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 2 of 4 50 CFR 80	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS continues the process of directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax revenues and fuel taxes. This is the second phase of a four-phase rulemaking. This phase will possibly include response to pending bills before Congress, include some more difficult topics through an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR), and propose changes to more settled topics, including definitions, topics related to the continued Federal connection to the project, audits, third-party labor, and contact information on coordination grants in the proposed rule (PR). FWS will publish the ANPR with the PR. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.~~	~~5/3/17~~ Was on Q3; Pushing ahead to Q118; remove

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ES	1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	~~NPRM Q117~~ Not subject to OMB review On Q117 as PR
LE	1018-BB88 Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use 50 CFR 22	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358–1949.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
WSFR	1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~6/9/17~~ Was on Q3; pushing ahead to 8/1/17
ES	1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB98 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Nonessential Experimental Population of Red Wolves in North Carolina 50 CFR 17	~~AN~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will prepare a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) in conjunction with development of a revised rule for the nonessential experimental population (NEP) of red wolves (*Canis rufus*) in North Carolina. Improved management of the NEP is needed to benefit the species, so FWS plans to change the NEP's size, scope, and management. FWS will initiate a public scoping process to engage governments, stakeholders, and the public in developing a proposed rule and associated EIS.~~ ~~**Controversy:** FWS anticipates both support and opposition to the proposed revisions. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission recognizes the need to improve management of the NEP, and FWS will engage the Commission in drafting the proposed rule and EIS. FWS anticipates opposition from several members of Congress, nongovernmental organizations, and the public due to a perceived abandonment of management of red wolves in the wild.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~	~~4/30/17~~ Was on Q3; ANPR published 5/23/17 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-10551.pdf
AK Sub	1018-BB99 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet of Alaska. This action would also reorganize specific regulations addressing the Kenai River, which would provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking. (This is a joint rulemaking between DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service.)~~ ~~**Controversy:** Senator Murkowski and Representative Young have expressed interest in this issue in the past; however, they have not recently contacted FWS about this issue.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.~~	~~5/15/17~~ Was on Q3 same stage; will publish before Q4

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ES	1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
~~ES~~	~~1018-BC04~~ ~~Reinstatement of Removal of the Gray Wolf in Wyoming from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife,~~ ~~50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will publish a final rule removing gray wolves in Wyoming from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. Pursuant to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia order dated March 3, 2017, and court mandate, which FWS expects the court to issue on April 24, 2017, this rule removes gray wolves in Wyoming from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Although this action is being taken as a result of a court mandate, the ESA listing status of gray wolves in Wyoming will continue to garner a high level of interest from the state, agricultural and producer groups, and non-governmental organizations with opposing views on delisting. FWS expects some members of the environmental community, including plaintiffs (i.e., Defenders of Wildlife et al.) will strongly oppose this final rule as they did when FWS delisted gray wolves in Wyoming in 2012.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~Not subject to OMB review~~ Was on Q3; FR published May 1, 2017 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-08720.pdf

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ES	1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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ES	1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for bifid duct pyrg, flag pyrg, hardy pyrg, and Lake Valley pyrg.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Was Info in table fmt sent to OMB between Q3 and Q4 of FY17? 7/6/17

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From: Prigan, Sara
To: Campbell, Tina; Charisa Morris; Megan Apgar
Subject: Re: Quarterly Report (90-day List) and 30-day List
Date: Friday, May 26, 2017 7:34:50 AM
Attachments: DRAFT Qtrly Rept FWS Jul-Sep (Q417) streamlined (sorted by RIN) (5-26-17).docx

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Shorter version -- just has what is going forward.

Thank you,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 10:18 AM, Prigan, Sara <sara_prigan@fws.gov> wrote:

> Here's the longer version -- shows changes from last time. I'll send the shorter version in a few minutes.
>
> Thank you,
>
> *Sara Prigan*
> *Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs*
> *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> *5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC*
> *Falls Church, VA 22041-3808*
> *Telephone: 703-358-2508*
> Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520
>
> On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 10:09 AM, Campbell, Tina <tina_campbell@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Sara,
> >
> > Thanks - I thought you were on leave today. Let me know what you do with the list because we have to get a new hard copy in the package - and get ES to surname it.
> >
> > Tina
> >
> > *Tina A. Campbell*
> > *Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs*
> > *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> > *5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC*
> > *Falls Church, VA 22041-3803*
> > *Telephone: 703-358-2676*
> > *Fax: 703-358-1997*
> >
> > On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 9:08 AM, Prigan, Sara <sara_prigan@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Looking at this now.

Thank you,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-358-2508
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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-AW51 (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP	8/1/17 Was on Q316
ES	1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/1/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review When was PR on?
ES	1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/7/17 Was on Q1 in same stage
IA	1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350.	9/29/17 Was not on Q3; was on Q217 (Q2 didn't go to OMB)

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
LE	1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Retrospective Regulatory Review action.** **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3; pushing to Q4
NWRS	1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771. Can we get a briefing/briefing paper (BP) on what the regulations will return to with the overturning of this rule via the Congressional Review Act?" 5/23/17—Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.	~~4/28/17~~ Was on Q3; will stay on Q4—date? *Depends on when template for nullification is ready; SW asking OES*

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~4/25/17~~ With Exec Sec since Mar 1 Was on Q317; pushing to 7/5/17
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q317; pushing to 9/15/17

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~6/30/17~~ 8/18/17 Was on Q3 at same stage (CH under BA75); date pushed ahead

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q316 – PR 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	8/31/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—pushing to 7/14/17
ES	1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703 358-1796,	7/27/17 Was on Q316 – PR New stage

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3—Pushing ahead to 8/30/17
ES	1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 – PR Not subject to OMB review New stage

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 –PR New Stage Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review

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Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	8/15/17
ES	1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	~~NPRM Q117~~ Not subject to OMB review On Q117 as PR

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
LE	1018-BB88 Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use 50 CFR 22	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358–1949.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~6/9/17~~ Was on Q3; pushing ahead to 8/1/17
ES	1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for bifid duct pyrg, flag pyrg, hardy pyrg, and Lake Valley pyrg.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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ES	1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Was Info in table fmt already sent to OMB between Q3 and Q4 of FY17? 7/6/17

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From:	Campbell, Tina
To:	Charisa Morris; Nikki Randolph; Donnise Hancock
Cc:	Lois Wellman; Prigan, Sara
Subject:	Need a Favor - Revised 90-day List
Date:	Friday, May 26, 2017 9:49:22 AM
Attachments:	DRAFT Qtrly Rept FWS Jul-Sep (Q417) streamlined (sorted by RIN) (5-26-17).docx

Hi Everyone,

We received updates from ES this morning on the 90-day list and have incorporated them in the attached version which has also been uploaded to DTS. It should be ready for ES' surname once the updated list has been printed and placed in the hard copy package.

Would someone mind printing out the new version and including it in the package? Thank you very much!

As a reminder, Exec Sec wants this by COB on Tuesday. I know that isn't likely to happen, but the sooner we get it moving, the less likely Julie is to yell at you, Charisa.

Tina

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MB	(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review When was PR on?
ES	1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/7/17 Was on Q1 in same stage
IA	1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350.	9/29/17 Was not on Q3; was on Q217 (Q2 didn't go to OMB)

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LE	1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Retrospective Regulatory Review action.** **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3; pushing to Q4
NWRS	1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771. Can we get a briefing/briefing paper (BP) on what the regulations will return to with the overturning of this rule via the Congressional Review Act?" 5/23/17—Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.	~~4/28/17~~ Was on Q3; will stay on Q4—date? *Depends on when template for nullification is ready; SW asking OES*

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~4/25/17~~ With Exec Sec since Mar 1 Was on Q317; pushing to 7/5/17
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q317; pushing to 9/15/17

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~6/30/17~~ 8/18/17 Was on Q3 at same stage (CH under BA75); date pushed ahead

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q316 – PR 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	8/31/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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MB	1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—pushing to 7/14/17
ES	1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703 358-1796,	7/27/17 Was on Q316 – PR New stage

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3—Pushing ahead to 8/30/17
ES	1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 – PR Not subject to OMB review New stage

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ES	1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 –PR New Stage Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3

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ES	1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review

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MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	8/15/17
ES	1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report

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ES	1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	~~NPRM Q117~~ Not subject to OMB review On Q117 as PR

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LE	1018-BB88 Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use 50 CFR 22	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358–1949.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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WSFR	1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~6/9/17~~ Was on Q3; pushing ahead to 8/1/17
ES	1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report

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ES	1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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ES	1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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ES	1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for bifid duct pyrg, flag pyrg, hardy pyrg, and Lake Valley pyrg.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Was Info in table fmt already sent to OMB between Q3 and Q4 of FY17? 7/6/17

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From: Campbell, Tina
To: Charisa Morris; Nikki Randolph; Donnise Hancock; Lois Wellman
Cc: Prigan, Sara
Subject: Re: Need a Favor - Revised 90-day List
Date: Friday, May 26, 2017 11:16:20 AM
Attachments: DRAFT Qtrly Rept FWS Jul-Sep (Q417) streamlined (sorted by RIN) (5-26-17).docx

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Here is the latest (and hopefully the last) version of the 4th quarter 90-day list. I added BA-54 based on a request from Don Morgan and Jeff Newman - that is the only change from the version I sent you a little while ago. I have uploaded this version to DTS as well. It is the file identified at Streamlined.

I hope everyone has a good weekend.

Tina

Tina A. Campbell
Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Telephone: 703-358-2676
Fax: 703-358-1997

On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 2:06 PM, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> Lol at the yelling comment hahaha, and thank you to Donnise in case this is ready to print off before she leaves today. Otherwise, we can pull the package together on Tuesday am.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On May 26, 2017, at 1:40 PM, Campbell, Tina <tina_campbell@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hold on everyone. I just heard from Jeff and Don and they have another item to add to the list. I will send you a new version as soon as I get their new item.
> >
> > *Tina A. Campbell*
> > *Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs*
> > *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> > *5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC*
> > *Falls Church, VA 22041-3803*
> > *Telephone: 703-358-2676*
> > *Fax: 703-358-1997*
> >
> > On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Campbell, Tina <tina_campbell@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Hi Everyone,
> > >
> > > We received updates from ES this morning on the 90-day list and have incorporated them in the attached version which has also been uploaded to DTS. It should be ready for ES' surname once the updated list has been printed and placed in the hard copy package.

Would someone mind printing out the new version and including it in the package? Thank you very much!

As a reminder, Exec Sec wants this by COB on Tuesday. I know that isn't likely to happen, but the sooner we get it moving, the less likely Julie is to yell at you, Charisa.

Tina

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review When was PR on?
ES	1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/7/17 Was on Q1 in same stage
IA	1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350.	9/29/17 Was not on Q3; was on Q217 (Q2 didn't go to OMB)

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
LE	1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Retrospective Regulatory Review action.** **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3; pushing to Q4
NWRS	1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771. Can we get a briefing/briefing paper (BP) on what the regulations will return to with the overturning of this rule via the Congressional Review Act?" 5/23/17—Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.	~~4/28/17~~ Was on Q3; will stay on Q4—date? *Depends on when template for nullification is ready; SW asking OES*

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~4/25/17~~ With Exec Sec since Mar 1 Was on Q317; pushing to 7/5/17
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q317; pushing to 9/15/17

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA54	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is updating the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, to correct errors on the List for eight species of wildlife in the "Where Listed" column. The CFR incorrectly identifies some species as being listed only in the U.S. or only outside the U.S, even though the species were originally listed in their entirety and no subsequent rulemaking has altered those original listings. These revisions are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage, pushed to Q4 9/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~6/30/17~~ 8/18/17 Was on Q3 at same stage (CH under BA75); date pushed ahead
ES	1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q316 – PR 9/15/17

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	8/31/17 First appearance on quarterly report
MB	1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—pushing to 7/14/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703 358-1796,	7/27/17 Was on Q316 – PR New stage
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3—Pushing ahead to 8/30/17
ES	1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 – PR Not subject to OMB review New stage
ES	1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 –PR New Stage Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3
ES	1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review
MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	8/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	~~NPRM Q117~~ Not subject to OMB review On Q117 as PR
LE	1018-BB88 Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use 50 CFR 22	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358–1949.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
WSFR	1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~6/9/17~~ Was on Q3; pushing ahead to 8/1/17
ES	1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for bifid duct pyrg, flag pyrg, hardy pyrg, and Lake Valley pyrg.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Was Info in table fmt already sent to OMB between Q3 and Q4 of FY17? 7/6/17

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From:	Prigan, Sara
To:	Charisa Morris
Cc:	Campbell, Tina; Nikki Randolph; Donnise Hancock; Lois Wellman
Subject:	Re: Need a Favor - Revised 90-day List
Date:	Friday, May 26, 2017 7:36:02 PM
Attachments:	DRAFT Qtrly Rept FWS Jul-Sep (Q417) streamlined (sorted by RIN) (5-26-17) (v2).docx

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I just noticed that the title for the newly added RIN is missing, so I added this title and attached a new file to this email. I'll see if I can get into DTS right now and upload it.

1018-BA54

Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Corrections of Errors for Descriptions of Listing Locations for Wildlife Species Listed in the United States and Foreign Countries
50 CFR 17

Thank you,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 3:33 PM, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> Thank you, Tina! I'll make sure it gets in motion Tuesday am, as I think most folks may have left already.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On May 26, 2017, at 2:16 PM, Campbell, Tina <tina_campbell@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Here is the latest (and hopefully the last) version of the 4th quarter 90-day list. I added BA-54 based on a request from Don Morgan and Jeff Newman - that is the only change from the version I sent you a little while ago. I have uploaded this version to DTS as well. It is the file identified at Streamlined.
> >
> > I hope everyone has a good weekend.
> >
> > Tina
> >
> > *Tina A. Campbell*
> > *Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs*
> > *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> > *5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC*
> > *Falls Church, VA 22041-3803*
> > *Telephone: 703-358-2676*

Fax: 703-358-1997

On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 2:06 PM, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> Lol at the yelling comment hahaha, and thank you to Donnise in case this is ready to print off before she leaves today. Otherwise, we can pull the package together on Tuesday am.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On May 26, 2017, at 1:40 PM, Campbell, Tina <tina_campbell@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hold on everyone. I just heard from Jeff and Don and they have another item to add to the list. I will send you a new version as soon as I get their new item.
> >
> > *Tina A. Campbell*
> > *Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs*
> > *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> > *5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC*
> > *Falls Church, VA 22041-3803*
> > *Telephone: 703-358-2676*
> > *Fax: 703-358-1997*
> >
> > On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Campbell, Tina <tina_campbell@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Hi Everyone,
> > >
> > > We received updates from ES this morning on the 90-day list and have incorporated them in the attached version which has also been uploaded to DTS. It should be ready for ES' surname once the updated list has been printed and placed in the hard copy package.
> > >
> > > Would someone mind printing out the new version and including it in the package? Thank you very much!
> > >
> > > As a reminder, Exec Sec wants this by COB on Tuesday. I know that isn't likely to happen, but the sooner we get it moving, the less likely Julie is to yell at you, Charisa.
> > >
> > > Tina
> > >
> > > *Tina A. Campbell*
> > > *Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs*
> > > *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
> > > *5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC*
> > > *Falls Church, VA 22041-3803*
> > > *Telephone: 703-358-2676*

Fax: 703-358-1997

<DRAFT Qtrly Rept FWS Jul-Sep (Q417) streamlined (sorted by RIN) (5-26-17).docx>

Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review When was PR on?
ES	1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/7/17 Was on Q1 in same stage
IA	1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350.	9/29/17 Was not on Q3; was on Q217 (Q2 didn't go to OMB)

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
LE	1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Retrospective Regulatory Review action.** **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3; pushing to Q4
NWRS	1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771. Can we get a briefing/briefing paper (BP) on what the regulations will return to with the overturning of this rule via the Congressional Review Act?" 5/23/17—Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.	~~4/28/17~~ Was on Q3; will stay on Q4—date? *Depends on when template for nullification is ready; SW asking OES*

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~4/25/17~~ With Exec Sec since Mar 1 Was on Q317; pushing to 7/5/17
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q317; pushing to 9/15/17

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA54 Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Corrections of Errors for Descriptions of Listing Locations for Wildlife Species Listed in the United States and Foreign Countries 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is updating the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, to correct errors on the List for eight species of wildlife in the "Where Listed" column. The CFR incorrectly identifies some species as being listed only in the U.S. or only outside the U.S, even though the species were originally listed in their entirety and no subsequent rulemaking has altered those original listings. These revisions are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage, pushed to Q4 9/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~6/30/17~~ 8/18/17 Was on Q3 at same stage (CH under BA75); date pushed ahead
ES	1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q316 – PR 9/15/17

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	8/31/17 First appearance on quarterly report
MB	1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—pushing to 7/14/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703 358-1796,	7/27/17 Was on Q316 – PR New stage
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3—Pushing ahead to 8/30/17
ES	1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 – PR Not subject to OMB review New stage
ES	1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 –PR New Stage Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3
ES	1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review
MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	8/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	~~NPRM Q117~~ Not subject to OMB review On Q117 as PR
LE	1018-BB88 Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use 50 CFR 22	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358–1949.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
WSFR	1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~6/9/17~~ Was on Q3; pushing ahead to 8/1/17
ES	1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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ES	1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for bifid duct pyrg, flag pyrg, hardy pyrg, and Lake Valley pyrg.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Was Info in table fmt already sent to OMB between Q3 and Q4 of FY17? 7/6/17

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

From:	Nikki_Randolph@fws.gov
To:	charisa_morris@fws.gov
Subject:	DCN: 065756 - Quarterly Regulatory Report to OMB for Fourth Quarter of FY17, July through September 2017 (aka OMB 90-day list)
Date:	Tuesday, May 30, 2017 6:43:50 AM
Attachments:	DRAFT Qtrly Rept FWS Jul-Sep (Q417) (sorted by RIN) (5-26-17) (v2).docx

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The file was given to AES on May 25th via Charisa. I have printed out the new printout to add to file once file is found. I searched AES and the record does not appear to be in that office.

Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from ~~April through June~~ JUL—SEP 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP	8/1/17 Was on Q316
~~ES~~	~~1018-AX99 Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will remove the Hualapai Mexican vole, restricted to the Hualapai Mountains located in Arizona, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to the fact that the original classification is no longer appropriate. The best available science no longer supports the recognition of a separate Hualapai Mexican vole subspecies. Therefore, based on the best available scientific and commercial information at this time, FWS finds that the original data for classification were in error, and FWS is removing the Hualapai Mexican vole as a listed entity under the ESA.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~Not subject to OMB review~~ Was on Q3 same stage; will publish before Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/1/17
WSFR	1018-AY75 Multi-Year Hunting and Fishing License Certification for the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program 50 CFR 80	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS proposes to make technical changes to FWS regulations that implement the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. The updates would align the regulations' language with terms used at 2 CFR 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards," and include other clarifying changes.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies as well as other partners support this proposed rule and have been closely involved in its development.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.~~	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3; program says remove
ES	1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review When was PR on?

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/7/17 Was on Q1 in same stage
IA	1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350.	9/29/17 Was not on Q3; was on Q217 (Q2 didn't go to OMB)

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-AZ69 Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls) 50 CFR 21	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Jerry Thompson (703) 358-2016.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~4/21/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because this is currently in Exec Sec and we expect it to clear prior to Q4
LE	1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Retrospective Regulatory Review action.** **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3; pushing to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
NWRS	1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771. Can we get a briefing/briefing paper (BP) on what the regulations will return to with the overturning of this rule via the Congressional Review Act?" 5/23/17—Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.	~~4/28/17~~ Was on Q3; will stay on Q4—date? *Depends on when template for nullification is ready; SW asking OES*
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~4/25/17~~ With Exec Sec since Mar 1 Was on Q317; pushing to 7/5/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q317; pushing to 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA41, Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination its March 11, 2016, proposal to identify the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) grizzly bear population of Montana, Idaho and Wyoming as a distinct population segment (DPS) and revise the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife by removing grizzly bears within the GYE DPS.~~ ~~**Controversy:** The ESA listing status of grizzly bears in the GYE will continue to garner a high level of interest from States and non-governmental organizations with opposing views on delisting. Some in the environmental community and dozens of Tribes have expressed concern over the State regulated harvest (hunting) that will occur after delisting. National and local media interest is high.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; expected to publish before Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA54 Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Corrections of Errors for Descriptions of Listing Locations for Wildlife Species Listed in the United States and Foreign Countries 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is updating the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, to correct errors on the List for eight species of wildlife in the "Where Listed" column. The CFR incorrectly identifies some species as being listed only in the U.S. or only outside the U.S, even though the species were originally listed in their entirety and no subsequent rulemaking has altered those original listings. These revisions are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~6/30/17~~ 8/18/17 Was on Q3 at same stage (CH under BA75); date pushed ahead
ES	1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q316 – PR 9/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	8/31/17 First appearance on quarterly report
MB	1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—pushing to 7/14/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
AK Sub	1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.~~	~~6/15/17~~ Was on Q3 same stage; will publish before Q4
MB	1018-BB24 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale 50 CFR 92	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will amend the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska to enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~ **~~OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:~~** ~~"Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3; this is currently pending Asst Sec clearance and likely to clear Exec Sec prior to Q4. If this is pushed to Q4, it would require a July 2017 date

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703 358-1796,	7/27/17 Was on Q316 – PR New stage
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS proposes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without two accompanying deregulatory actions.~~	~~5/12/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because we expect it to clear prior to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is establishing the 2017–18 season hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. FWS annually prescribes frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur, and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow State selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without two accompanying deregulatory actions.~~	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—Removing because this cleared OMB for publication
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2017–18 season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967.~~ ~~Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.~~	~~6/1/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because we expect it to clear prior to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3—Pushing ahead to 8/30/17
ES	1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 – PR Not subject to OMB review New stage

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 –PR New Stage Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review

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~~MB~~	~~1018-BB71~~ ~~Migratory Bird Subsistence in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska during the 2017 Season~~ ~~50 CFR 92~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS promulgates subsistence harvest regulations for migratory birds for the 2017 season in Alaska. These regulations enable the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. These regulations are developed under a co-management process involving the FWS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~	~~4/21/17~~ Removed; FR published April 4, 2017 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-06592.pdf
MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. FWS annually prescribes outside limits (frameworks) within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018–19 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2019 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~	~~6/1/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because this is currently in SOL for review and we expect it to clear prior to Q4

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MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	8/15/17
NWRS	1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is proposing to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678.~~ ~~**OMB's comment on Q317 list:** "We would like additional information on what the additional costs there may be for the FWS associated with opening additional refuges for fishing and hunting." 5/23/17 – Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.~~	~~5/19/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because we except it to go to FR before Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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WSFR	1018-BB84 Administrative Requirements; Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 2 of 4 50 CFR 80	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS continues the process of directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax revenues and fuel taxes. This is the second phase of a four-phase rulemaking. This phase will possibly include response to pending bills before Congress, include some more difficult topics through an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR), and propose changes to more settled topics, including definitions, topics related to the continued Federal connection to the project, audits, third-party labor, and contact information on coordination grants in the proposed rule (PR). FWS will publish the ANPR with the PR. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.~~	~~5/3/17~~ Was on Q3; Pushing ahead to Q118; remove
ES	1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	~~NPRM Q117~~ Not subject to OMB review On Q117 as PR

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
LE	1018-BB88 Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use 50 CFR 22	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358–1949.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~6/9/17~~ Was on Q3; pushing ahead to 8/1/17
ES	1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB98 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Nonessential Experimental Population of Red Wolves in North Carolina 50 CFR 17	~~AN~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will prepare a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) in conjunction with development of a revised rule for the nonessential experimental population (NEP) of red wolves (*Canis rufus*) in North Carolina. Improved management of the NEP is needed to benefit the species, so FWS plans to change the NEP's size, scope, and management. FWS will initiate a public scoping process to engage governments, stakeholders, and the public in developing a proposed rule and associated EIS.~~ ~~**Controversy:** FWS anticipates both support and opposition to the proposed revisions. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission recognizes the need to improve management of the NEP, and FWS will engage the Commission in drafting the proposed rule and EIS. FWS anticipates opposition from several members of Congress, nongovernmental organizations, and the public due to a perceived abandonment of management of red wolves in the wild.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~	~~4/30/17~~ Was on Q3; ANPR published 5/23/17 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-10551.pdf
AK Sub	1018-BB99 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet of Alaska. This action would also reorganize specific regulations addressing the Kenai River, which would provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking. (This is a joint rulemaking between DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service.)~~ ~~**Controversy:** Senator Murkowski and Representative Young have expressed interest in this issue in the past; however, they have not recently contacted FWS about this issue.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.~~	~~5/15/17~~ Was on Q3 same stage; will publish before Q4

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
~~ES~~	~~1018-BC04~~ ~~Reinstatement of Removal of the Gray Wolf in Wyoming from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife,~~ ~~50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will publish a final rule removing gray wolves in Wyoming from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. Pursuant to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia order dated March 3, 2017, and court mandate, which FWS expects the court to issue on April 24, 2017, this rule removes gray wolves in Wyoming from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Although this action is being taken as a result of a court mandate, the ESA listing status of gray wolves in Wyoming will continue to garner a high level of interest from the state, agricultural and producer groups, and non-governmental organizations with opposing views on delisting. FWS expects some members of the environmental community, including plaintiffs (i.e., Defenders of Wildlife et al.) will strongly oppose this final rule as they did when FWS delisted gray wolves in Wyoming in 2012.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~Not subject to OMB review~~ Was on Q3; FR published May 1, 2017 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-08720.pdf

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for bifid duct pyrg, flag pyrg, hardy pyrg, and Lake Valley pyrg.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Was Info in table fmt sent to OMB between Q3 and Q4 of FY17? 7/6/17

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From:	Morris, Charisa
To:	Gary Frazer
Subject:	Fwd: DCN: 065756 - Quarterly Regulatory Report to OMB for Fourth Quarter of FY17, July through September 2017 (aka OMB 90-day list)
Date:	Tuesday, May 30, 2017 9:35:02 AM
Attachments:	DRAFT Qtrly Rept FWS Jul-Sep (Q417) (sorted by RIN) (5-26-17) (v2).docx

Hi Gary-

Do you have the 90 day list with you? We have an update for the package (attached).

Thanks!
Charisa

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: <Nikki_Randolph@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, May 30, 2017 at 9:43 AM
Subject: DCN: 065756 - Quarterly Regulatory Report to OMB for Fourth Quarter of FY17, July through September 2017 (aka OMB 90-day list)
To: charisa_morris@fws.gov

The file was given to AES on May 25th via Charisa. I have printed out the new printout to add to file once file is found. I searched AES and the record does not appear to be in that office.

--
Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/1/17
WSFR	1018-AY75 Multi-Year Hunting and Fishing License Certification for the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program 50 CFR 80	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS proposes to make technical changes to FWS regulations that implement the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. The updates would align the regulations' language with terms used at 2 CFR 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards," and include other clarifying changes.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies as well as other partners support this proposed rule and have been closely involved in its development.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.~~	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3; program says remove
ES	1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review When was PR on?

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/7/17 Was on Q1 in same stage
IA	1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350.	9/29/17 Was not on Q3; was on Q217 (Q2 didn't go to OMB)

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-AZ69 Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls) 50 CFR 21	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Jerry Thompson (703) 358-2016.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~4/21/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because this is currently in Exec Sec and we expect it to clear prior to Q4
LE	1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Retrospective Regulatory Review action.** **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3; pushing to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
NWRS	1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771. Can we get a briefing/briefing paper (BP) on what the regulations will return to with the overturning of this rule via the Congressional Review Act?" 5/23/17—Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.	~~4/28/17~~ Was on Q3; will stay on Q4—date? *Depends on when template for nullification is ready; SW asking OES*
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~4/25/17~~ With Exec Sec since Mar 1 Was on Q317; pushing to 7/5/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q317; pushing to 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA41, Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination its March 11, 2016, proposal to identify the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) grizzly bear population of Montana, Idaho and Wyoming as a distinct population segment (DPS) and revise the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife by removing grizzly bears within the GYE DPS.~~ ~~**Controversy:** The ESA listing status of grizzly bears in the GYE will continue to garner a high level of interest from States and non-governmental organizations with opposing views on delisting. Some in the environmental community and dozens of Tribes have expressed concern over the State regulated harvest (hunting) that will occur after delisting. National and local media interest is high.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; expected to publish before Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA54 Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Corrections of Errors for Descriptions of Listing Locations for Wildlife Species Listed in the United States and Foreign Countries 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is updating the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, to correct errors on the List for eight species of wildlife in the "Where Listed" column. The CFR incorrectly identifies some species as being listed only in the U.S. or only outside the U.S, even though the species were originally listed in their entirety and no subsequent rulemaking has altered those original listings. These revisions are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~6/30/17~~ 8/18/17 Was on Q3 at same stage (CH under BA75); date pushed ahead
ES	1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q316 – PR 9/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	8/31/17 First appearance on quarterly report
MB	1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—pushing to 7/14/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
AK Sub	1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.~~	~~6/15/17~~ Was on Q3 same stage; will publish before Q4
MB	1018-BB24 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale 50 CFR 92	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will amend the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska to enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~ **~~OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:~~** ~~"Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3; this is currently pending Asst Sec clearance and likely to clear Exec Sec prior to Q4. If this is pushed to Q4, it would require a July 2017 date

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703 358-1796,	7/27/17 Was on Q316 – PR New stage
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS proposes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without two accompanying deregulatory actions.~~	~~5/12/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because we expect it to clear prior to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is establishing the 2017–18 season hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. FWS annually prescribes frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur, and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow State selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without two accompanying deregulatory actions.~~	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—Removing because this cleared OMB for publication
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2017–18 season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967.~~ ~~Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.~~	~~6/1/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because we expect it to clear prior to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3—Pushing ahead to 8/30/17
ES	1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 – PR Not subject to OMB review New stage

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 –PR New Stage Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3

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ES	1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review

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~~MB~~	~~1018-BB71~~ ~~Migratory Bird Subsistence in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska during the 2017 Season~~ ~~50 CFR 92~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS promulgates subsistence harvest regulations for migratory birds for the 2017 season in Alaska. These regulations enable the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. These regulations are developed under a co-management process involving the FWS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~	~~4/21/17~~ Removed; FR published April 4, 2017 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-06592.pdf
MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. FWS annually prescribes outside limits (frameworks) within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018–19 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2019 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~	~~6/1/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because this is currently in SOL for review and we expect it to clear prior to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	8/15/17
NWRS	1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is proposing to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678.~~ ~~**OMB's comment on Q317 list:** "We would like additional information on what the additional costs there may be for the FWS associated with opening additional refuges for fishing and hunting." 5/23/17 – Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.~~	~~5/19/17~~ Was on Q3—removing because we except it to go to FR before Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BB84 Administrative Requirements; Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 2 of 4 50 CFR 80	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS continues the process of directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax revenues and fuel taxes. This is the second phase of a four-phase rulemaking. This phase will possibly include response to pending bills before Congress, include some more difficult topics through an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR), and propose changes to more settled topics, including definitions, topics related to the continued Federal connection to the project, audits, third-party labor, and contact information on coordination grants in the proposed rule (PR). FWS will publish the ANPR with the PR. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.~~	~~5/3/17~~ Was on Q3; Pushing ahead to Q118; remove
ES	1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	~~NPRM Q117~~ Not subject to OMB review On Q117 as PR

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
LE	1018-BB88 Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use 50 CFR 22	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely [redacted]. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358–1949.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~6/9/17~~ Was on Q3; pushing ahead to 8/1/17
ES	1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB98 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Nonessential Experimental Population of Red Wolves in North Carolina 50 CFR 17	~~AN~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will prepare a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) in conjunction with development of a revised rule for the nonessential experimental population (NEP) of red wolves (*Canis rufus*) in North Carolina. Improved management of the NEP is needed to benefit the species, so FWS plans to change the NEP's size, scope, and management. FWS will initiate a public scoping process to engage governments, stakeholders, and the public in developing a proposed rule and associated EIS.~~ ~~**Controversy:** FWS anticipates both support and opposition to the proposed revisions. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission recognizes the need to improve management of the NEP, and FWS will engage the Commission in drafting the proposed rule and EIS. FWS anticipates opposition from several members of Congress, nongovernmental organizations, and the public due to a perceived abandonment of management of red wolves in the wild.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~	~~4/30/17~~ Was on Q3; ANPR published 5/23/17 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-10551.pdf
AK Sub	1018-BB99 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet of Alaska. This action would also reorganize specific regulations addressing the Kenai River, which would provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking. (This is a joint rulemaking between DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service.)~~ ~~**Controversy:** Senator Murkowski and Representative Young have expressed interest in this issue in the past; however, they have not recently contacted FWS about this issue.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.~~	~~5/15/17~~ Was on Q3 same stage; will publish before Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
~~ES~~	~~1018-BC04~~ ~~Reinstatement of Removal of the Gray Wolf in Wyoming from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife,~~ ~~50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will publish a final rule removing gray wolves in Wyoming from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. Pursuant to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia order dated March 3, 2017, and court mandate, which FWS expects the court to issue on April 24, 2017, this rule removes gray wolves in Wyoming from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Although this action is being taken as a result of a court mandate, the ESA listing status of gray wolves in Wyoming will continue to garner a high level of interest from the state, agricultural and producer groups, and non-governmental organizations with opposing views on delisting. FWS expects some members of the environmental community, including plaintiffs (i.e., Defenders of Wildlife et al.) will strongly oppose this final rule as they did when FWS delisted gray wolves in Wyoming in 2012.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~Not subject to OMB review~~ Was on Q3; FR published May 1, 2017 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-08720.pdf

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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ES	1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for bifid duct pyrg, flag pyrg, hardy pyrg, and Lake Valley pyrg.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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ES	1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Was Info in table fmt sent to OMB between Q3 and Q4 of FY17? 7/6/17

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From:	Morris, Charisa
To:	Gary Frazer
Subject:	Fwd: Need a Favor - Revised 90-day List
Date:	Tuesday, May 30, 2017 9:46:03 AM
Attachments:	DRAFT Qtrly Rept FWS Jul-Sep (Q417) streamlined (sorted by RIN) (5-26-17).docx

FYI - this thread makes the attachment appear to be an attempt at a final (Tina added BA-54 based on a request from Don Morgan and Jeff Newman).

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Campbell, Tina** <tina_campbell@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, May 26, 2017 at 1:40 PM
Subject: Re: Need a Favor - Revised 90-day List
To: Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>, Nikki Randolph <nikki_randolph@fws.gov>, Donnise Hancock <donnise_hancock@fws.gov>
Cc: Lois Wellman <lois_wellman@fws.gov>, "Prigan, Sara" <sara_prigan@fws.gov>

Hold on everyone. I just heard from Jeff and Don and they have another item to add to the list. I will send you a new version as soon as I get their new item.

Tina A. Campbell
Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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Fax: 703-358-1997

On Fri, May 26, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Campbell, Tina <tina_campbell@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hi Everyone,
>
> We received updates from ES this morning on the 90-day list and have incorporated them in the attached version which has also been uploaded to DTS. It should be ready for ES' surname once the updated list has been printed and placed in the hard copy package.
>
> Would someone mind printing out the new version and including it in the package? Thank you very much!
>
> As a reminder, Exec Sec wants this by COB on Tuesday. I know that isn't likely to happen, but the sooner we get it moving, the less likely Julie is to yell at you, Charisa.
>
> Tina
>
> *Tina A. Campbell*
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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
(b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP	(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP	8/1/17 Was on Q316
ES	1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/1/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review When was PR on?
ES	1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/7/17 Was on Q1 in same stage
IA	1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350.	9/29/17 Was not on Q3; was on Q217 (Q2 didn't go to OMB)

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
LE	1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Retrospective Regulatory Review action.** **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3; pushing to Q4
NWRS	1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771. Can we get a briefing/briefing paper (BP) on what the regulations will return to with the overturning of this rule via the Congressional Review Act?" 5/23/17—Got Director's Office clearance to send OES the BP requested by OMB.	~~4/28/17~~ Was on Q3; will stay on Q4—date? *Depends on when template for nullification is ready; SW asking OES*

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~4/25/17~~ With Exec Sec since Mar 1 Was on Q317; pushing to 7/5/17
WSFR	1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q317; pushing to 9/15/17

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4 9/15/17
ES	1018-BA54	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is updating the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, to correct errors on the List for eight species of wildlife in the "Where Listed" column. The CFR incorrectly identifies some species as being listed only in the U.S. or only outside the U.S, even though the species were originally listed in their entirety and no subsequent rulemaking has altered those original listings. These revisions are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage, pushed to Q4 9/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~6/30/17~~ 8/18/17 Was on Q3 at same stage (CH under BA75); date pushed ahead
ES	1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q316 – PR 9/15/17

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	8/31/17 First appearance on quarterly report
MB	1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~5/1/17~~ Was on Q3—pushing to 7/14/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703 358-1796,	7/27/17 Was on Q316 – PR New stage
MB	1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. Note: 1018-BB40, at the stage of the proposed frameworks (proposed rule), received an exemption from OMB under 4(C) of EO 13711 to publish without 2 accompanying deregulatory actions.	~~6/30/17~~ Was on Q3—Pushing ahead to 8/30/17
ES	1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 – PR Not subject to OMB review New stage
ES	1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 Not subject to OMB review
ES	1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q416 –PR New Stage Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3
ES	1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4
ES	1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on previously, but only as PR? Q416 Not subject to OMB review
MB	1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	8/15/17

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	~~NPRM Q117~~ Not subject to OMB review On Q117 as PR
LE	1018-BB88 Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use 50 CFR 22	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358–1949.	~~6/30/17~~ 9/29/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
WSFR	1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~6/9/17~~ Was on Q3; pushing ahead to 8/1/17
ES	1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Was on Q3 in same stage; pushed to Q4

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for bifid duct pyrg, flag pyrg, hardy pyrg, and Lake Valley pyrg.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report

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Department of the Interior / U.S. FWS
Regulations Ready for Review from July through September 2017 (FY17 Q4)

Program	RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for Review
ES	1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 First appearance on quarterly report
ES	1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Was Info in table fmt already sent to OMB between Q3 and Q4 of FY17? 7/6/17

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From:	Campbell, Tina
To:	Megan Apgar; Mark Lawyer
Cc:	Gary Frazer; Shultz, Gina; Bridget Fahey; Jeff Newman; Craig Aubrey; Craghead, Anissa; Prigan, Sara; Susan Wilkinson; Charisa Morris
Subject:	FWS 30-day Projection List
Date:	Friday, June 2, 2017 11:39:32 AM
Attachments:	FWS entries, 30 day spreadsheet for June 6 2017 6-2-17 submitted.xlsx

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Hi everyone,

Here is FWS' updated 30-day projection list for the period covering June 6 through July 6. Let me know if you have any questions.

Tina

Tina A. Campbell
Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
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Bureau	RIN or OMB Control Number	Title	Summary
FWS	1018-0123	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0123; International Conservation Grant Programs	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0123. This control number authorizes the Service to solicit proposals for funding and implement reporting requirements in response to Notices of Funding Opportunity published by the Service on Grants.gov.
FWS	1018-0066	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0066; Marine Mammal Marking, Tagging, and Reporting Certificates, and Registration of Certain Dead Marine Mammal Hard Parts	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0066. OMB Control No. 1018-0066 authorizes the monitoring of the take of polar bears, northern sea otters, and Pacific walruses by Alaska Natives under 50 CFR 18.23(f). This collection of information also provides important data to the Service regarding Alaska Native subsistence and handicraft harvest and on the mammals' biology to determine what effect the harvests may have on their populations.

FWS	1018-0102	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0102; National Wildlife Refuge Special Use Permit Applications and Reports	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0102. OMB Control No. 1018-0102 authorizes the Service to collect information needed to issue special use permits in the National Wildlife Refuge system for a specific period as determined by the type and location of the management activity or visitor service provided. Without approval by OMB, we will have no other mechanism to allow research, facilitated recreation, and commercial uses on national wildlife refuges, which will impact thousands of projects every year.
FWS	1018-0023	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0023; Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program and Migratory Bird Surveys	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0023. OMB Control No. 1018-0023 authorizes the Service to gather data on various characteristics of migratory bird harvest through the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) and through Migratory Bird Hunter Surveys.

FWS	1018-0146	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0146; Annual Report - Depredation Order for Blackbirds, Grackles, Cowbirds, Magpies, and Crows	The notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the Service's intention to renew OMB Control No. 1018-0146 authorized by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). This information collection is associated with our regulations that implement a depredation order that authorizes take of blackbirds, cowbirds, grackles, crows, and magpies "when found committing or about to commit depredations upon ornamental or shade trees, agricultural crops, livestock, or wildlife, or when concentrated in such numbers and manner as to constitute a health hazard or other nuisance."
FWS		Draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District Habitat Conservation Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Barton Springs salamander and Austin blind salamander, Texas	This is a notice of availability for the draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District habitat conservation plan and draft environmental impact statement for take of the Barton Springs salamander (*Eurycea sosorum*) and the Austin blind salamander (*Eurycea waterlooensis*) in Travis and Hays Counties, Texas.

FWS	1018-BA74, 1018-BB89, 1018-BB90, and 1018-BB87	Reopening of Comment Period on Proposed Rules: Listing & Critical Habitat (G. Fescue, 1018-BA74), Downlist from Endangered to Threatened (Cactuses, 1018-BB89 and 1018-BB90), Delist (Wild-Buckwheat, 1018-BB87)	This document announces the reopening of the comment periods for our proposed rules to list *Festuca ligulata* (Guadalupe fescue) as an endangered species; to designate *Festuca ligulata* critical habitat ; to reclassify *Sclerocactus brevihamatus* ssp. *tobuschii* (Tobusch fishhook cactus) from endangered to threatened; to reclassify *Echinocereus fendleri* var. *kuenzleri* (Kuenzler hedgehog cactus) from endangered to threatened; and to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants. We are reopening the comment period for each of these proposed rules for 30 days in order to publish a legal notice and to give all interested parties further opportunity to comment on the proposed rules. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted, as they will be fully considered in preparing the final listing determinations.
FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications (first applicant: Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, Little Rock, AR)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits for Region 4 and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments.

FWS		U.S. Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications; Region 6 (ERO Resources Corp, first applicant)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.
FWS		Initiation of a 5-Year Review of the Aleutian Shield Fern, AK	This notice alerts the public that we are initiating a 5-year status review for the Aleutian shield fern under the Endangered Species Act and provides an opportunity for the public to provide information they may have on the species. A 5-year status review results in a recommendation on whether the species should be classified differently or delisted. The species is only known to occur on one island in the Aleutian Island chain.
FWS		Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Availability of Proposed Low-Effect Lakes at St. Sebastian Preserve Habitat Conservation Plan, Brevard County, FL / Atlantic Coast Paladin Estates, LLC and Micco Road Investments, LLC c/o the Kelsey Group	The applicant is requesting take of approximately 99.85 acres of Audubon's crested caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*) nesting and foraging habitat incidental to the construction of a residential development project in Brevard County, Florida. The Audubon's crested caracara is federally listed as threatened. Impacts to the species will be offset by conservation of 20 acres of caracara habitat and a $10,000 management endowment.

FWS		Stock Assessment Reports for Southern Beaufort Sea and Chukchi-Bering Seas; Opening 90-day Public Comment Period	Thi s is a notice of availability for draft revised Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) for the Southern Beaufort and the Chukchi Seas stocks of polar bears. This notice opens a 90-day public comment period to request input on these draft revisions.
FWS		Draft Recovery Plan for the Pima Pineapple Cactus	We announce that our Pima pineapple cactus draft recovery plan is available. The cactus is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. This plant species is currently found in southern Arizona and in northern Sonora, Mexico. The draft recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to enable us to remove this species from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants. A proposed border wall is not anticipated to impede the recovery of the Pima pineapple cactus. We request that local, State, and Federal agencies, Tribes, and the public review and comment. We will also accept any new species status information throughout its range to assist with recovery plan finalization.

FWS		Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for Betteravia Farms, LLC /Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project, Santa Barbara County, California	This is a notice that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has received an application for incidental take associated with a low-effect habitat conservation plan for a housing project.The Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project will provide much needed housing for seasonal farmworkers. These workers have been staying in low-income housing in the surrounding community, thus displacing other residents that would benefit greatly from low-income housing. The proposed project would provide housing for up to 600 workers (daily average occupancy of approximately 450 workers).
FWS	1018-AX99	Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	We, the Service, are removing the Hualapai Mexican vole from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recent data indicating that the original classification is now erroneous. This action is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the currently listed subspecies is not a valid taxonomic entity.
FWS		ES Recovery Permit Applications (First Preserve District of Will County, Plainfield, IL, and others)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits, requests public comment on the permits, and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.

FWS		Recovery Permits (Kiernan, first)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of multiple applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits, requests public comment on the permits, and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments. Numerous species are affected by this notice.
FWS	1018-BB74	Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly in Northwestern Oregon	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with the support of the State of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (the agency with responsibility for conservation of invertebrate species in Oregon), wants to reestablish the Oregon silverspot butterfly, a federally listed threatened species, within its historical range at two sites in northwestern Oregon: Saddle Mountain State Natural Area in Clatsop County, and Nestucca Bay National Wildlife Refuge in Tillamook County. We would reestablish the Oregon silverspot butterfly under the authority of section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and classify the populations reintroduced to these two areas as part of the nonessential experimental population identified in this rule.
FWS		Endangered and Threatened Wildlife & Plants, Permit Applications (Northern Research Station--USFS and others)	This notice informs the public of the receipt of applications for Endangered Species Act recovery permits in Region 3 and provides them with the opportunity to receive copies of the applications and submit comments.

FWS		NOA: Application to Participate in American Burying-Beetle Amended Industry Conservation Plan (Council Oak Resources, LLC and Corterra Energy Operating, LLC, apps)	This is a notice of availability for incidental take permit applications under the American Burying Beetle amended Industry Conservation Plan (ICP); the two applicants are Council Oak Resources, LLC and Corterra Energy Operating, LLC. The applicants request a permit for oil and gas upstream and midstream production, including activities associated with oil and gas well field and pipeline infrastructure (gathering, transmission, and distribution), including geophysical exploration (seismic), construction, maintenance, operation, repair, decommissioning, and reclamation in Oklahoma. Required by section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act, this notice alerts the public that the incidental take permit applications are available for public review and comment.
FWS		Giant garter snake; Notice of Availability of Second Revised Draft Recovery Plan	This document describes the strategy, objectives, and actions necessary for achieving recovery of the giant garter snake, along with criteria that, when met, signify that the Service may be able to remove the species from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. The plan focuses on establishing and protecting self-sustaining populations throughout the range of the species, restoring and conserving healthy wetland ecosystems that will support the species, and ameliorating or eliminating the threats that caused the species to be listed.

FWS	1018-BB54	Listing Determination for the I'iwi	This final rule lists the i'iwi (*Drepanis coccinea*), a forest bird endemic to Hawaii, as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.
FWS	1018-BA41	Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is issuing a final rule to establish the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) grizzly bear as a Distinct Population Segment (DPS) and remove (delist) the GYE population of grizzly bears from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife under the Endangered Species Act.
FWS		Initiation of 5-Year Status Reviews of 23 Southeastern Species	The Fish and Wildlife Service will announce the initiation of 5-year status reviews of 23 Southeastern Species under the Endangered Species Act (Act). This notice announces our active review of 22 endangered species and 1 threatened species.

FWS		Louisiana Pinesnake; Notice of Availability for the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances	The programmatic Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA), which would be between the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will allow LDWF to issue certificates of inclusion to eligible non-federal landowners in Bienville, Beauregard, Jackson, Natchitoches, Rapides, Sabin, Vernon, Winn, Grant, and Allen Parishes, Louisiana, whose conservation management agreements are approved. Landowners who enroll through the CCAA will receive assurances against take liability for incidental take of the Louisiana pinesnake from their conservation actions.

FWS		Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Deschutes Basin Habitat Conservation Plan in Oregon	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Service) has been leading a large scale, multi-party planning effort to address irrigation infrastructure improvements that will benefit the conservation of endangered and threatened species in the Deschutes River Basin in Central Oregon. This effort has spanned many years and has involved eight Central Oregon irrigation districts (constituting the Deschutes Basin Board of Control), the City of Prineville, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation as well as other parties. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, we are providing notice to all interested parties that the Service intends to prepare a draft environmental impact statement to evaluate the impacts of alternatives relating to the potential issuance of Endangered Species Act incidental take permits to the City of Prineville and to the eight irrigation districts represented by the Deschutes Basin Board of Control in central Oregon. We are also announcing the initiation of a public scoping period for this effort to engage Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments and the public in the identification of issues and concerns, potential impacts, and possible alternatives to the proposed action for consideration in the draft

FWS		June 2017 Batched 12-Month Findings for Three Species (Kirtland's snake, Mohave shoulderband snail, and San Felipe gambusia)	We have completed 12-month findings on petitions requesting listing of three species under the Endangered Species Act, and determined that the Kirtland's snake (found in the Midwestern United States), the Mohave shoulderband snail (found in the western Mojave Desert in California), and the San Felipe gambusia (found in Texas waters) are not warranted for listing.
FWS		Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Associated Documents for LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan, TX	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is announcing that it will prepare a draft environmental impact statement on the proposed Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Services Corporation's (LCRA TSC; applicant's) habitat conservation plan (HCP). The publication of this notice is required by the National Environmental Policy Act. Included in the notice is information about the proposed HCP and opportunities for the public to provide information that may be relevant to the proposed action and alternatives to consider. LCRA TSC has scheduled public scoping meetings for the week of June 19, 2017.

FWS		Notice of Availability of a Draft Candidate Conservation Agreement, Draft Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances, and Draft Environmental Assessment for Activities within Eddy County, New Mexico and Culberson County, Texas; Includes Texas Hornshell (Proposed for Listing)	This is a notice of availability for a draft candidate conservation agreement, a draft candidate conservation agreement with assurances with the Center of Excellence in Hazardous Material Management, a draft candidate conservation agreement with assurances with the New Mexico State Lands Office (collectively referred to as the agreements), a draft environmental assessment, and two applications (one for each applicant) for Endangered Species Act section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permits (permit) for the Texas hornshell in Texas and New Mexico. This notice, required by section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act, alerts the public that the draft agreements, draft EA, and applications for the permits are available for public review and comment.
FWS		Lost Hills Solar Project, Kern County, California; Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Habitat Conservation Plan	CED Lost Hills Solar, LLC (applicant) has applied for an incidental take permit under the Endangered Species Act for a habitat conservation plan (HCP) for the Lost Hills Solar Project in Kern County, California. The permit would authorize the take of the federally endangered San Joaquin kit fox incidental to the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the solar project. This notice, required by section 10(c) of the ESA, alerts the public that the draft HCP and draft Environmental Impact Statement are available for public review and comment.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Nature Conservation Trust, first applicant)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; Dallas World Aquarium, first applicant)	This notice is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the receipt and issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on eight (8) permits under the ESA and three (4) under the MMPA. There are no decisions announced in these weekly notices, but we cannot finalize the review of the permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period.

FWS		Foreign Endangered Species; Notice of issuance of Permits (Maire Malone, first) FWS-HQ-IA-2017-0019	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued nine permits under the ESA and two under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Endangered Species; Notice of Issuance (Foreign Species Permits; Michael Rohweder, first permittee)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Since the last issuance notice, the Division of Management Authority has issued four permits under the ESA and one under the MMPA that require notification to the public. This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA or MMPA have been meet. Under the MMPA, there is a statutory requirement to notify the public within 10 days of issuing a permit of the issuance. While the ESA also has a statutory requirement to notify the public of the issuance of permits involving endangered species, there is no statutory time frame established under the ESA.

FWS		Exemption from Threatened Species Permits for a Qualifying Beluga Sturgeon Aquaculture Facility	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is providing notice of an exemption to permit requirements granted under our regulations to carry out the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Service, in June 2016, granted an exemption for beluga sturgeon (*Huso huso*) reared in an aquaculture facility, Sturgeon AquaFarms, in Bascom, Florida that meets the criteria under our regulations. The exemption authorizes the facility to take beluga sturgeon from its aquacultured stock for the purpose of harvesting aquacultured beluga sturgeon meat and also authorizes the facility to engage in interstate commerce and export of beluga sturgeon meat harvested from the facility's aquacultured stock, subject to certain conditions.
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign Species Permits: Morani River Ranch, first applicant)	This notice is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the receipt and issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on ESA and MMPA permits. There are no decisions announced in these weekly notices, but we cannot finalize the review of the permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period.

FWS		Foreign Endangered Species; Notice of Issuance of Permits (Charles Waibel, first)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA have been meet.
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign Species Permits: Philadelphia Zoo, first applicant)	This notice is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the receipt and issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on ESA and MMPA permits. There are no decisions announced in these weekly notices, but we cannot finalize the review of the permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period.

FWS	1018-AZ69	Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls)	Introduced, nonnative, alien, and invasive species in Hawaii displace, compete with, and consume native species, some of which are endangered, threatened, or otherwise in need of additional protection in order to increase or maintain viable populations. To protect native species, a control order is established for cattle egrets and barn owls, two invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii, under the direction of Executive Order 13112.
FWS		Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement; Hycroft Mining Company; Request for Take Permits Under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is considering the issuance of eagle take permits under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). We intend to prepare a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). We are a cooperating agency with the BLM on the development of this EIS. The BLM will be analyzing potential impacts of their decision regarding Hycroft Resource and Development Incorporated's (Hycroft/Applicant) proposed expansion as described in BLM's Notice of Intent published in December, 2014 (79 FR 78469). This EIS will also analyze impacts associated with the Service's eagle take permit decisions.
FWS		Meeting Notice; Service Regulations Committee Meeting	This is a notice that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will conduct an open meeting in June 2017 to identify and discuss preliminary issues concerning the 2018-19 migratory bird hunting regulations.

FWS	1018-AY30	Eagle Permits: Revision to Regulations for Eagle Incidental Take and Take of Nests; Correction	In 2016, the Service finalized revisions to permit regulations regarding permits that we issue for some activities involving eagles. In that final rule, we updated a table that includes permit application fees. Because of a formatting error in the rule, the revisions were not able to be incorporated into the Code of Federal Regulations. With this document, we correct the formatting error. This rule is purely an administrative action and does not affect the provisions of the rule in any substantive way.
FWS	1018-BB24	Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale	The U.S. Fish and Wildloife Service is amending the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska. This rule enables Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. The rule was developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.
FWS	1018-BB73	2018–19 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations	This proposed rule is the first in the series to establish the 2018-19 annual migratory bird hunting regulations.
FWS	1018-BB40	Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season	This rule establishes the seasons and bag and possession limits for the 2017-18 migratory game bird hunting season.

FWS	1018-BB06	Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting	The Service proposes to approve corrosion-inhibited copper shot for hunting waterfowl and coots. We have concluded that the shot is unlikely to adversely affect fish, wildlife, or their habitats. We propose to change the regulation at 50 CFR 20.21(j) accordingly.
FWS	1018-BB75	Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18	This proposed rule begins the annual process of updating refuge-specific regulations for National Wildlife Refuges.
FWS	1018-BA31	Disapproval of Final Rule: Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska	The final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (P.L. 115-20). This action conforms to P.L. 115-20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the effective date of the final rule that was nullified under the Congressional Review Act.
FWS		Notice of intent to implement annual hunting fees, annual fishing fees, and special permit fees; Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge, KY [FWS–R4–R–2016–N141]	Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge proposes to implement annual hunting and fishing fees and special permit fees for recreational activities. The proposed cost for the annual access permit is $15 (free for youth under 16, and $5 for seniors 65 and over); there would be a $50 minimum fee for annual Recreational Special Use Permit authorizing commercial recreational activities to be conducted on the Refuge.

FWS		Notice of Intent to Reopen the Planning Process for the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment at Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge	The Fish and Wildlife Service is submitting a notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan for Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Citrus County, Florida. The planning process for Crystal River NWR began in 2008. The planning process was delayed when rulemaking for the Kings Bay Manatee Protection Area (Manatee Protection Area) was initiated in 2010 and completed in 2012.
FWS		Notice of Availability for the Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge and Black River Unit of Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Grays Harbor and Thurston Counties, WA; Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will announce the availability of our comprehensive conservation plans and finding of no significant impact (signed on March 10, 2017) for Grays Harbor NWR, located in Grays Harbor County, Washington, and the Black River Unit (Unit) of Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually NWR, located in Thurston County, Washington.
FWS		NOA: Camas National Wildlife Refuge, Jefferson County, ID; Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	A finding of no significant impact (FONSI) was signed on March 10, 2017, and the comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) was completed for Camas National Wildlife Refuge, located in Jefferson County, Idaho. The CCP will guide management of the Refuge for 15 years or until it is revised, and actions will be implemented as funding becomes available. We are informing the Secretary of our intent to publish the notice of availability for the Camas National Wildlife Refuge CCP and the FONSI for the environmental assessment.

FWS		Lower Klamath, Clear Lake, Tule Lake, Upper Klamath, and Bear Valley National Wildlife Refuges, Klamath County, OR; Siskiyou and Modoc Counties, CA; Record of Decision for Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement	The notice informs the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has signed a Record of Decision on January 13, 2017, for the Final CCP/EIS for the Klamath Refuges. The Final CCP/EIS evaluated alternatives for managing the Klamath Refuges over the next 15 years. The Record of Decision includes a statement of the decisions made, the basis for the decisions, a description of the alternatives considered, a description of the environmentally preferable alternative, an overview of the measures to minimize environmental impacts, and a summary of public involvement in the decisionmaking process. The Service can now begin implementing the CCP.
FWS		Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge; Record of Decision for Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces the availability of the record of decision (ROD) on the final comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and environmental impact statement (EIS) for Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge (NFWR). We prepared the ROD pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. The Service is furnishing this notice to advise the public and other agencies of our decision and of the availability of the ROD.

FWS	1018-BA33	Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4	The proposed rule:• Is in response to requests from States to revise and simplify the rules for license certification. The Service worked closely with DOI solicitors and Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) attorneys in developing the new language. • Includes changes that were reviewed by Regional and State representatives, and interested stakeholders, during pre-rulemaking comment periods and were developed considering the comments we received. • Includes definitions and additions to the rule that will clarify the rule and improve national consistency. • Was developed in coordination with the AFWA, the Federal Aid Coordinators Working Group, Regional WSFR offices, State representatives, and members of interest organizations.

Type	Estimated Date for DOI Clearance	Current Status	Has Been at Current Status Since (Date)
ICR Notice	6/5/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/01/17

ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/01/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/31/17

ICR Notice	6/23/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/31/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17

Proposed Rule	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	5/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Notice	5/31/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/22/17
Notice	6/2/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17

Notice	6/2/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/22/17
Final Rule	6/2/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/30/17
Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/23/17

Notice	6/8/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/23/17
Final Rule	6/15/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/23/17
Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/23/17

Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/31/17
Notice	6/16/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/15/17

Final Rule	6/17/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/20/17
Final Rule	6/19/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	06/01/17
Notice	6/19/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/23/17

Notice	6/20/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/23/17

Notice	6/20/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/31/17

Notice	6/20/2017	Drafting	05/23/17
Notice	6/21/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/31/17

Notice	6/23/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/31/2017
Notice	6/23/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/31/2017

Notice	6/20/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	6/1//2017

Notice	6/9/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/22/17

Notice	6/9/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	04/27/17

Notice	6/9/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Notice	6/16/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/22/17
Notice	6/20/2017	Pending Office f the Secretary clearance	6/1/2017

Notice	6/22/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/23/2017
Notice	6/29/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/24/2017

Final Rule	6/6/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	04/26/17
Notice	6/6/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
Notice	6/6/2017	Pending meeting waiver clearance	05/19/17

Final Rule	6/8/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/18/17
Final Rule	6/15/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/23/17
Proposed Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/31/17
Final Rule	6/16/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/31/17

Proposed Rule	7/6/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/03/17
Proposed Rule	7/7/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Final Rule	6/15/2017	Pending Solicitor clearance	
Notice	6/29/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/08/17

Notice	6/29/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	03/22/17
Notice	6/29/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	
Notice	6/29/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	

Notice	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/4/2017
Notice	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	4/25/2017

Proposed Rule	6/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	03/01/17

Must be at Exec Sec no later than	DCN (Optional)	Program (Optional)	Critical Date (Judicial, Statutory, or Other)
Monday, May 22, 2017	2948	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2968	ABHC	

Thursday, June 1, 2017	2969	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2970	ABHC	

Friday, June 9, 2017	2974	ABHC	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2785	ES	

Tuesday, May 16, 2017	2897	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2917	ES	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2922	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2931	ES	
Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2933	ES	

Wednesday, May 24, 2017	2782	ES	
Friday, May 26, 2017	2808	ES	

Friday, May 26, 2017	2895	ES	
Friday, May 19, 2017	2693	ES	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2956	ES	

Thursday, June 1, 2017	2964	ES	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2940	ES	
Thursday, June 8, 2017	2926	ES	

Thursday, June 8, 2017	2955	ES	
Friday, June 9, 2017	2839	ES	Judicial, 9/29/2017

Monday, June 5, 2017	2902	ES	Statutory, 9/20/2017
Monday, June 5, 2017	2972	ES	Statutory, 3/11/2017
Monday, June 12, 2017	2952	ES	

Tuesday, June 13, 2017	2870	ES	Other, 7/31/2017

Tuesday, June 13, 2017	2939	ES	

Tuesday, June 13, 2017	2973	ES	
Wednesday, June 14, 2017	2962	ES	

Friday, June 16, 2017	2980	ES	
Friday, June 16, 2017		ES	

Tuesday, June 13, 2017	2924	IA	

Friday, June 2, 2017	2942	IA	

Friday, June 2, 2017	2905	IA	

Friday, June 2, 2017	2927	IA	

Friday, June 9, 2017	2953	IA	
Tuesday, June 13, 2017	2982	IA	

Thursday, June 15, 2017	2985	IA	
Thursday, June 22, 2017	2987	IA	

Tuesday, May 23, 2017	2913	MB	
Tuesday, May 30, 2017	2938	MB	
Tuesday, May 30, 2017	2941	MB	Other, 6/6/2017

Thursday, May 25, 2017	2944	MB	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2763	MB	
Friday, June 2, 2017	2992	MB	Other, 7/31/2017
Friday, June 2, 2017	2991	MB	Other, 8/31/2017

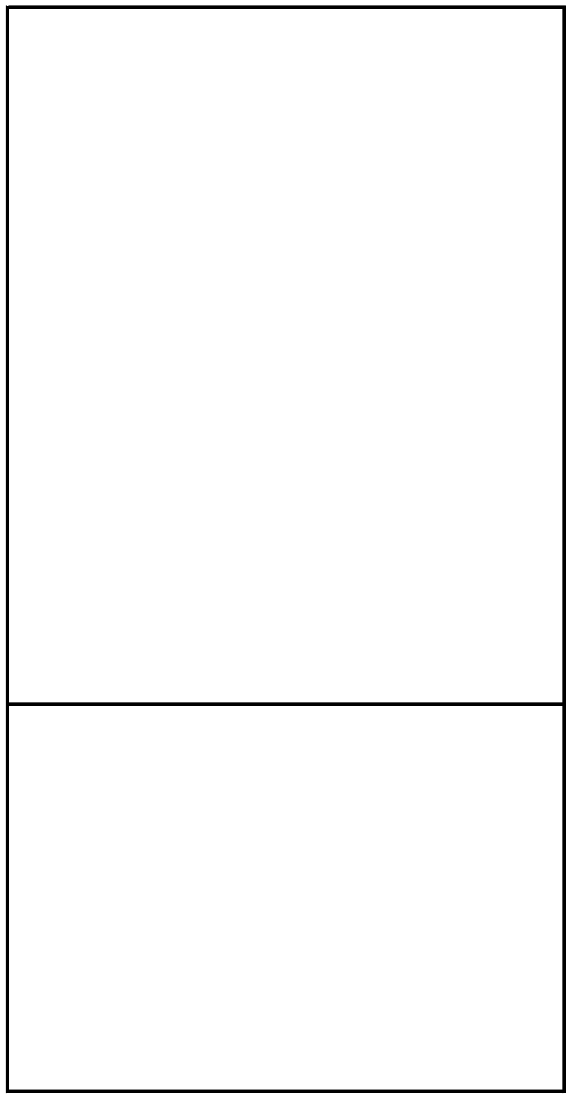
Thursday, June 22, 2017	2278	MB	
Friday, June 23, 2017		NWRS	
Thursday, June 1, 2017		NWRS	
Thursday, June 22, 2017	2867	NWRS	

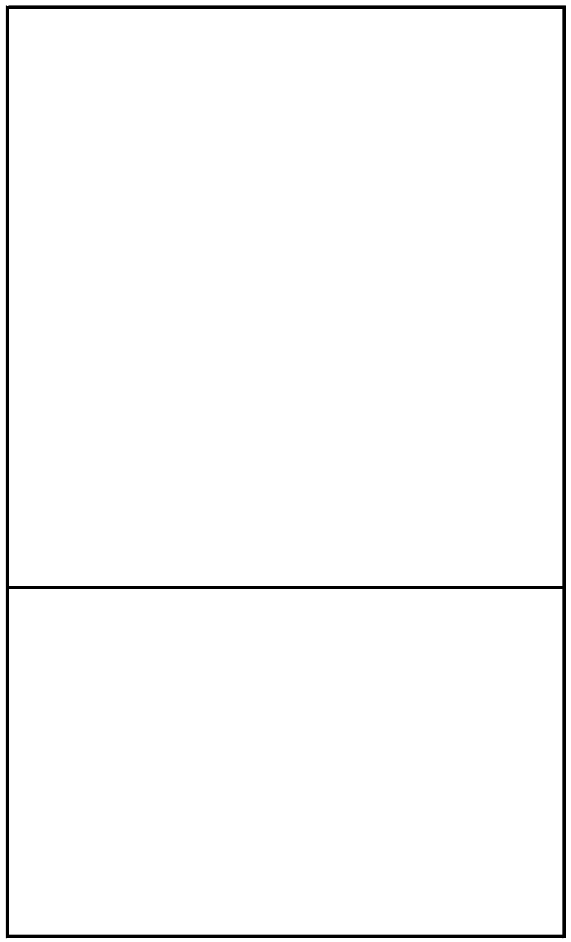
Thursday, June 22, 2017	2881	NWRS	
Thursday, June 22, 2017	2914	NWRS	
Thursday, June 22, 2017	2915	NWRS	

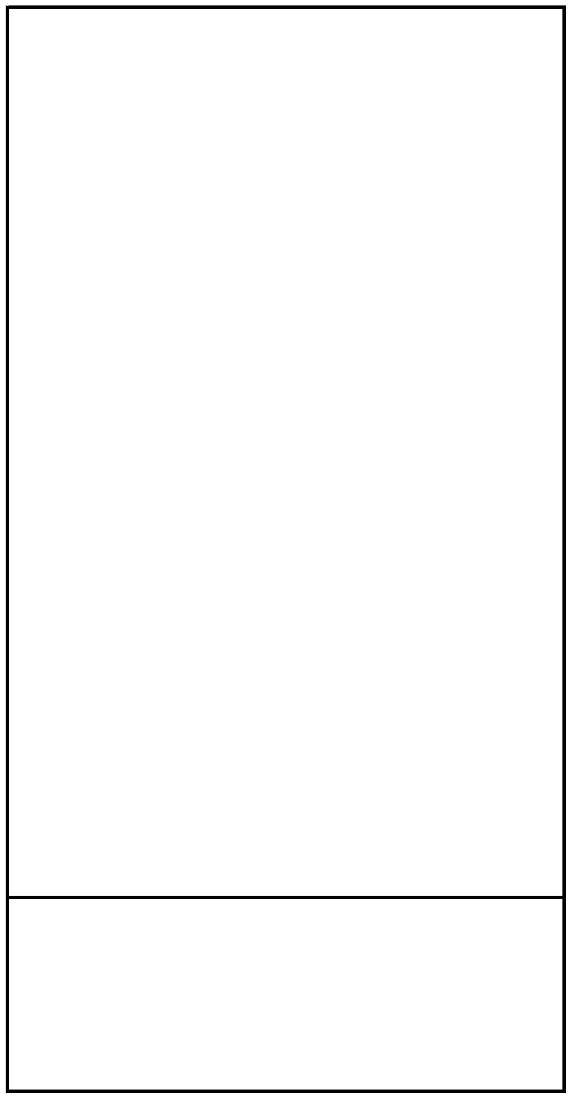
Friday, June 23, 2017	2828	NWRS	
Friday, June 23, 2017	2836	NWRS	

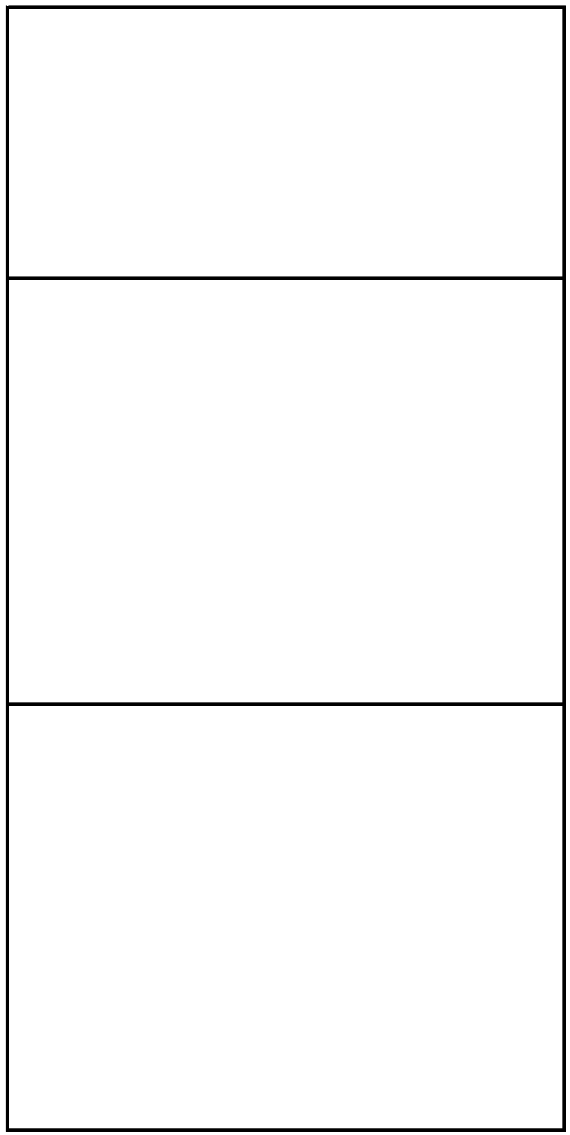
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2841	WSFR	

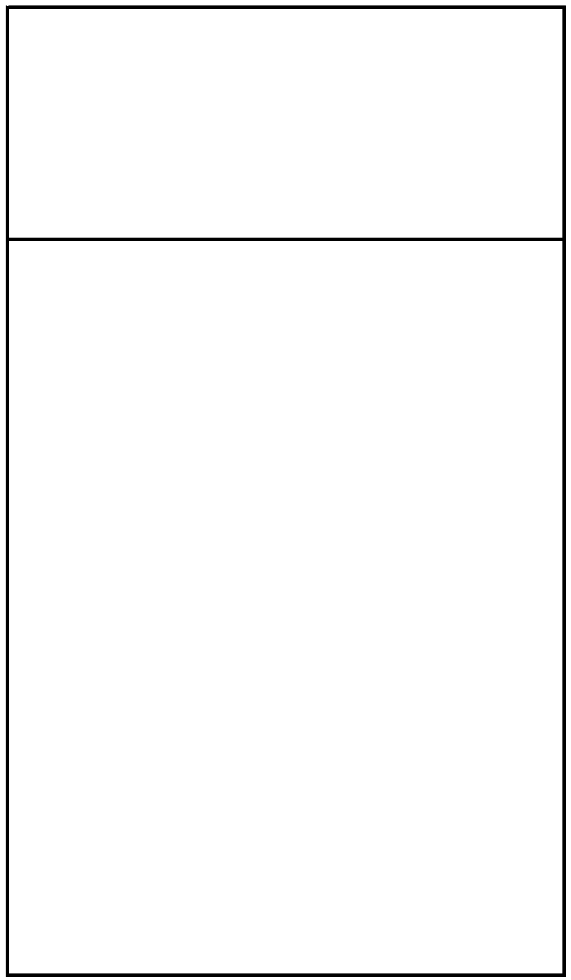
Explain Critical Date if "Other"

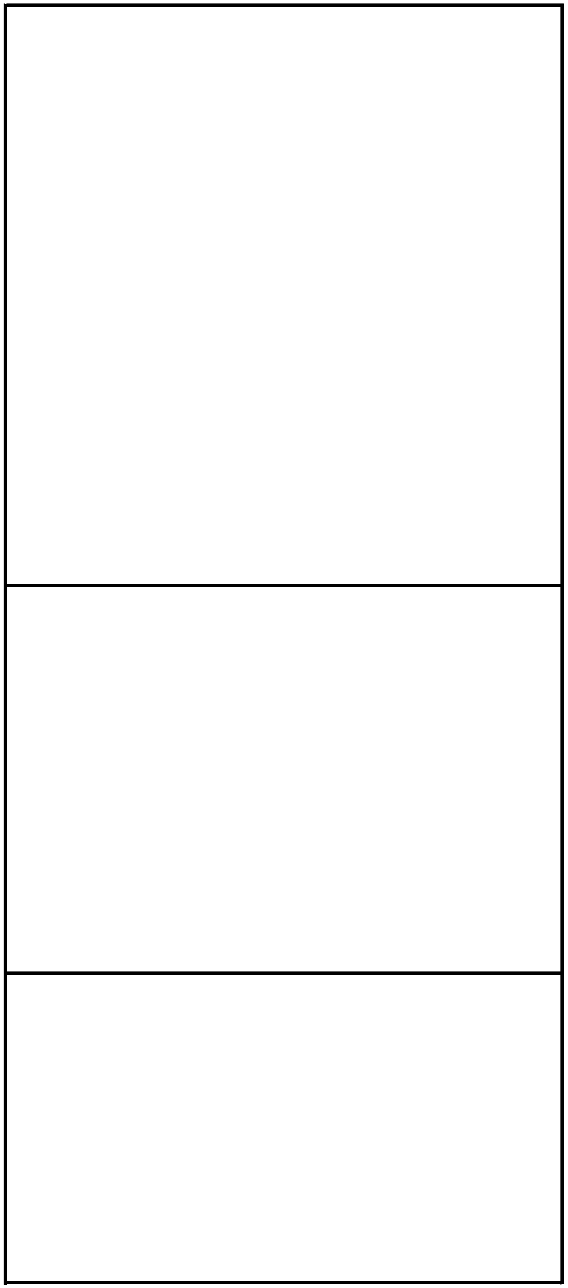


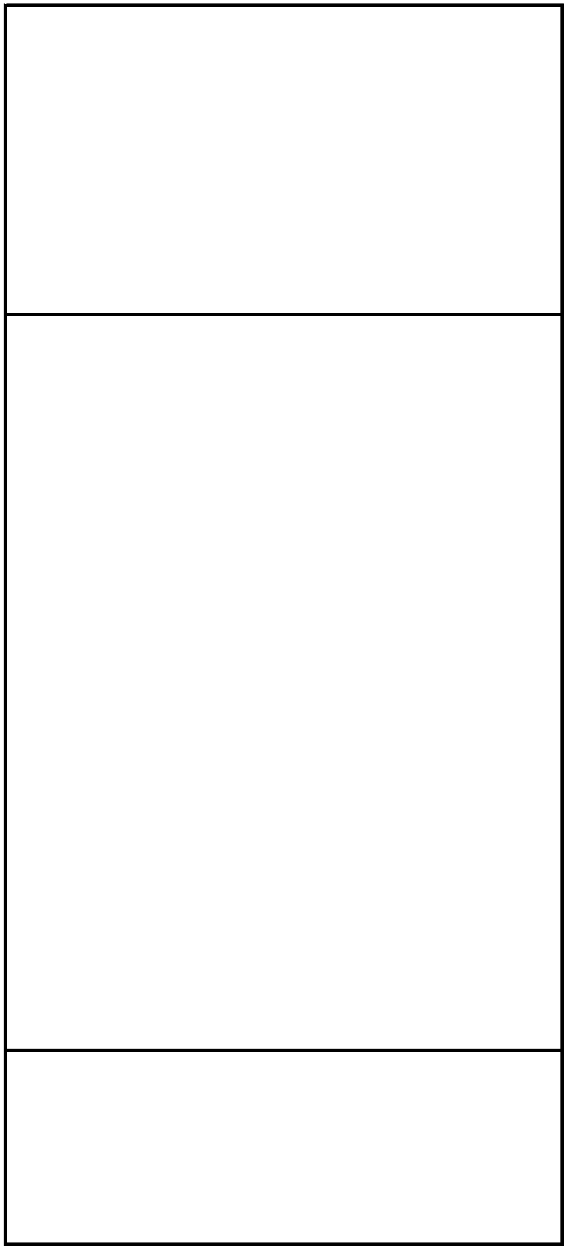


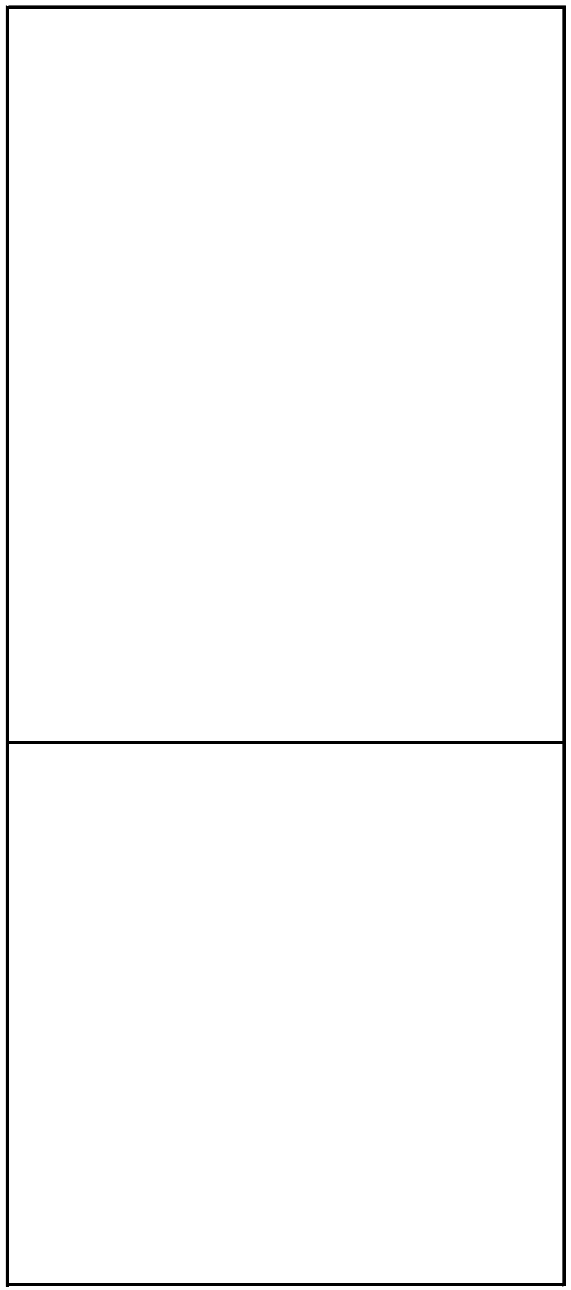


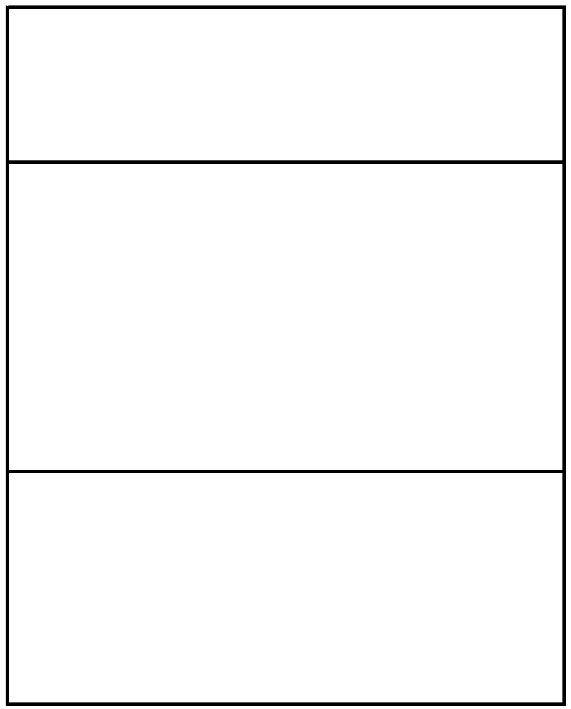




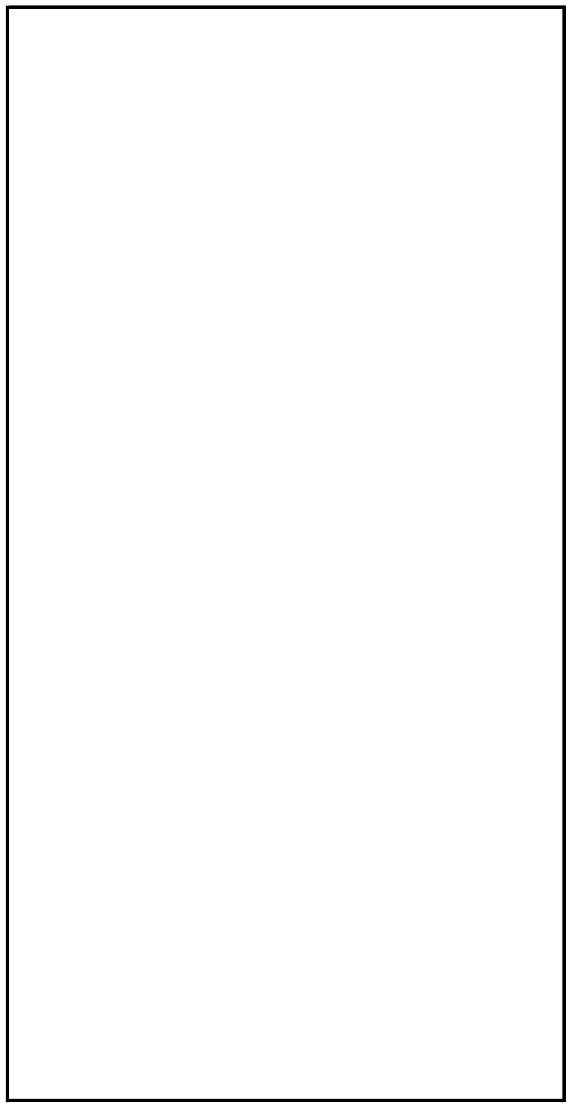


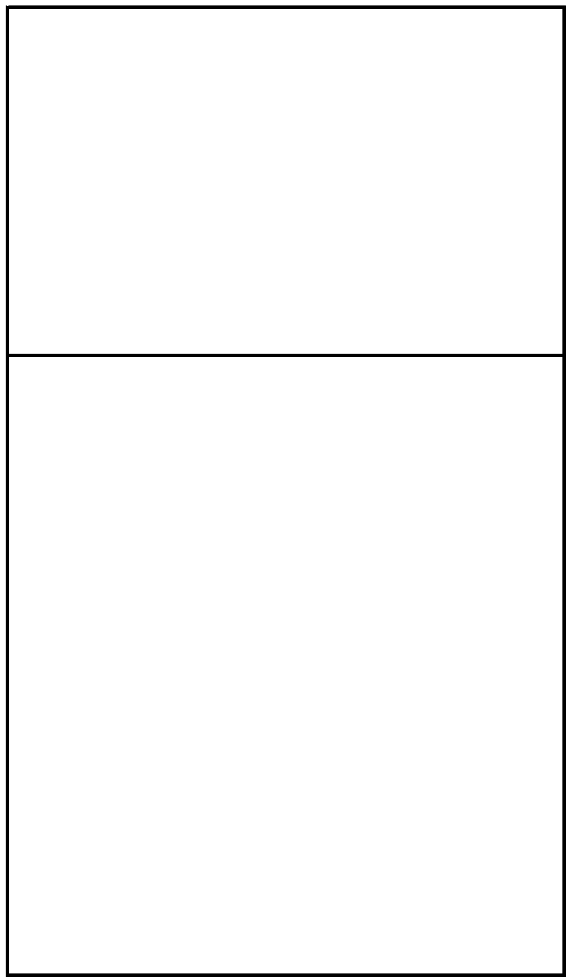


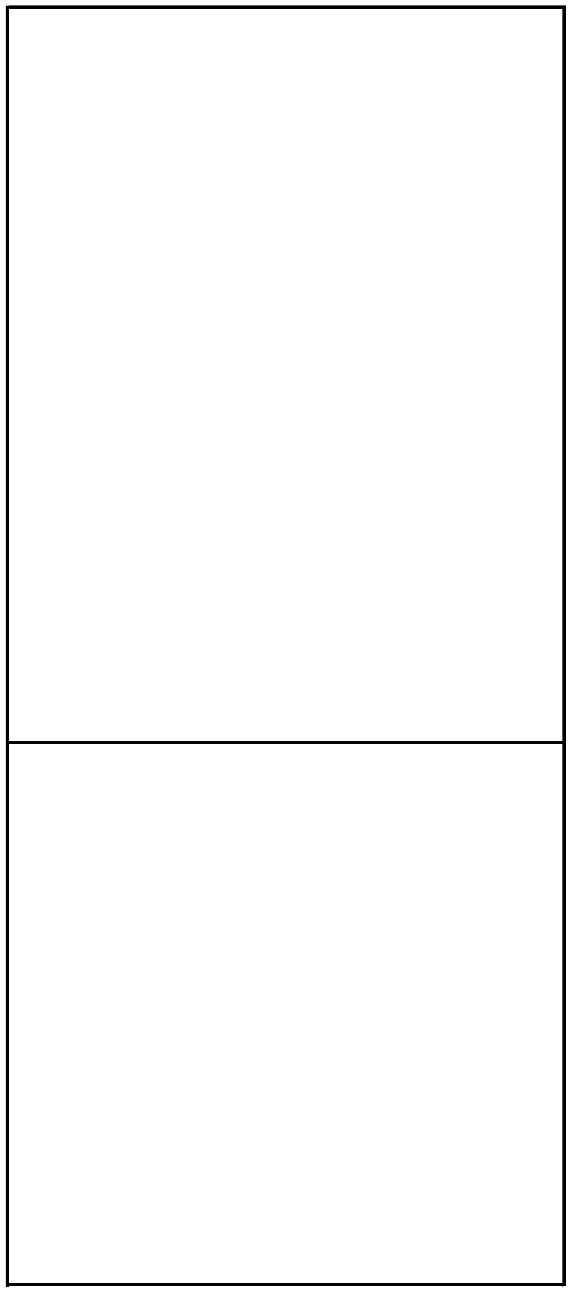


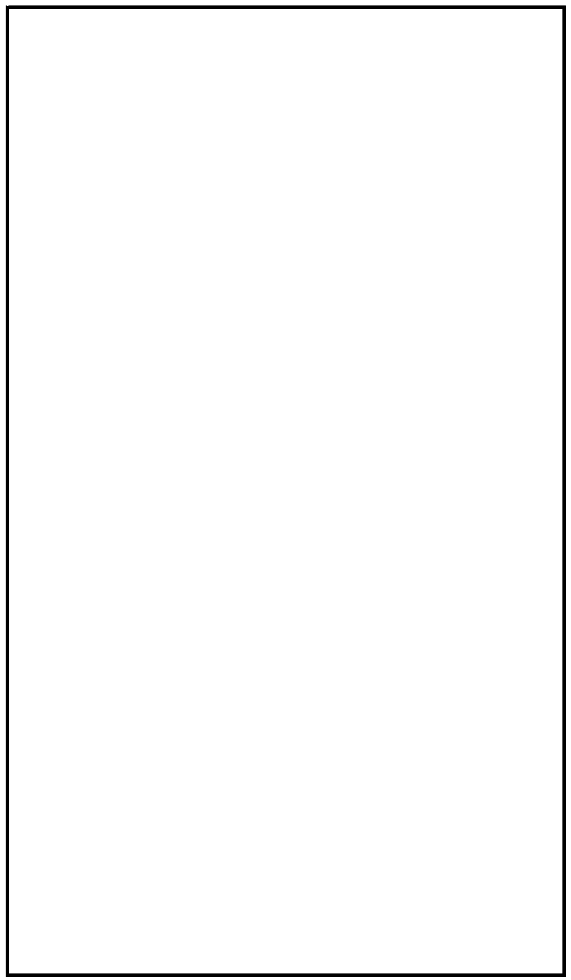


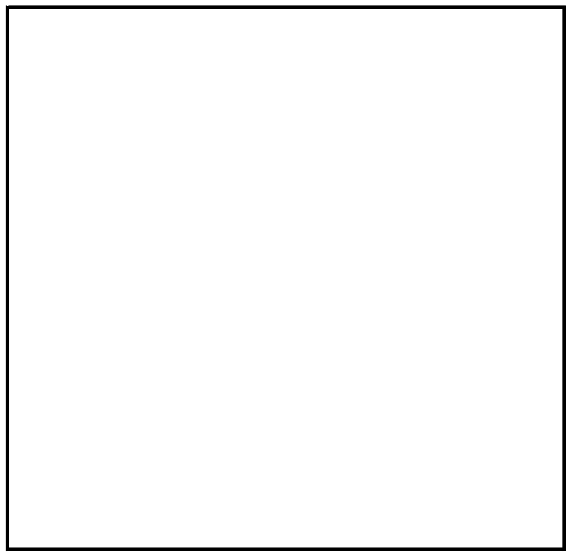
The Louisiana pinesnake was proposed for listing as threatened on October 6, 2016. A final decision on listing the Louisiana pinesnake must be made by October 6, 2017. Private landowners have requested to have opportunities to voluntarily enroll and receive assurances prior to the final listing action. After the listing is final, landowners will no longer be able to enroll in the CCAA.

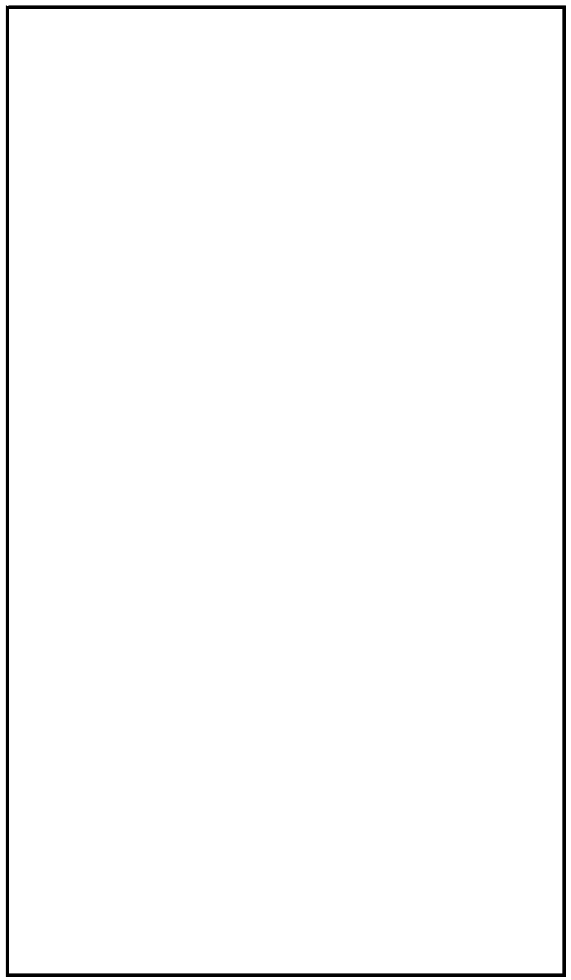


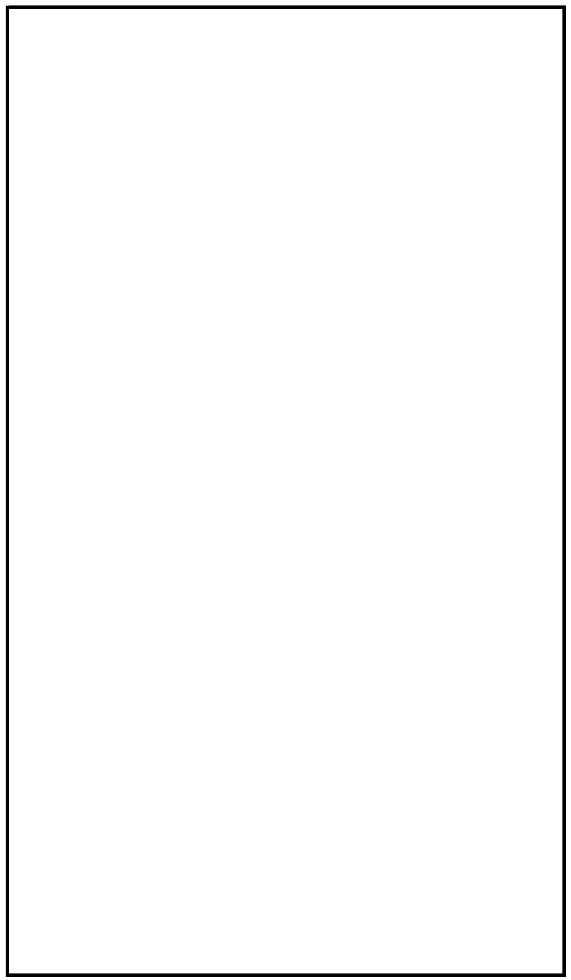


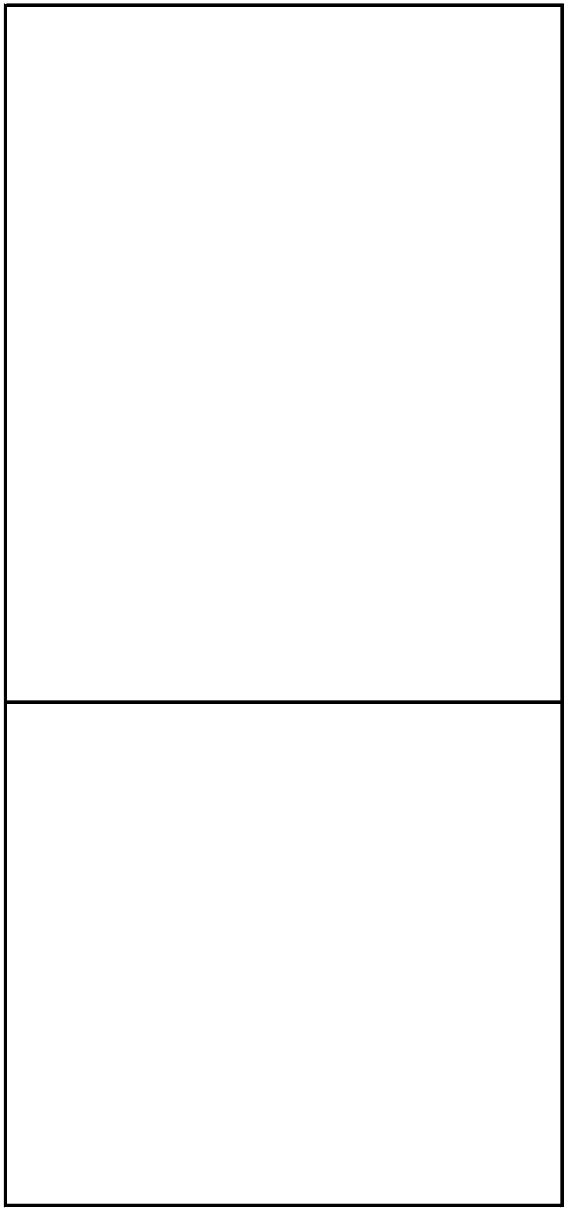


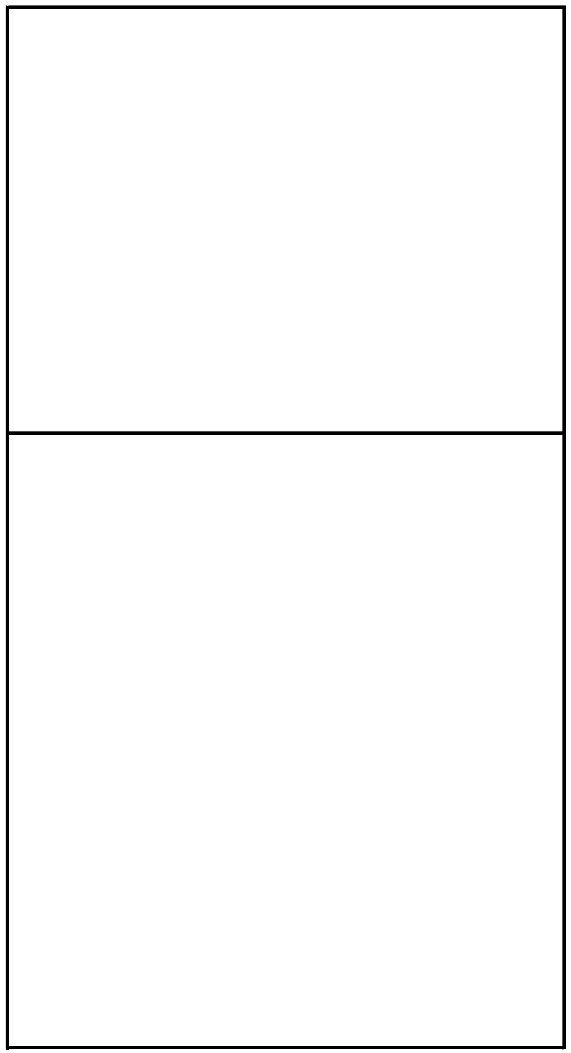






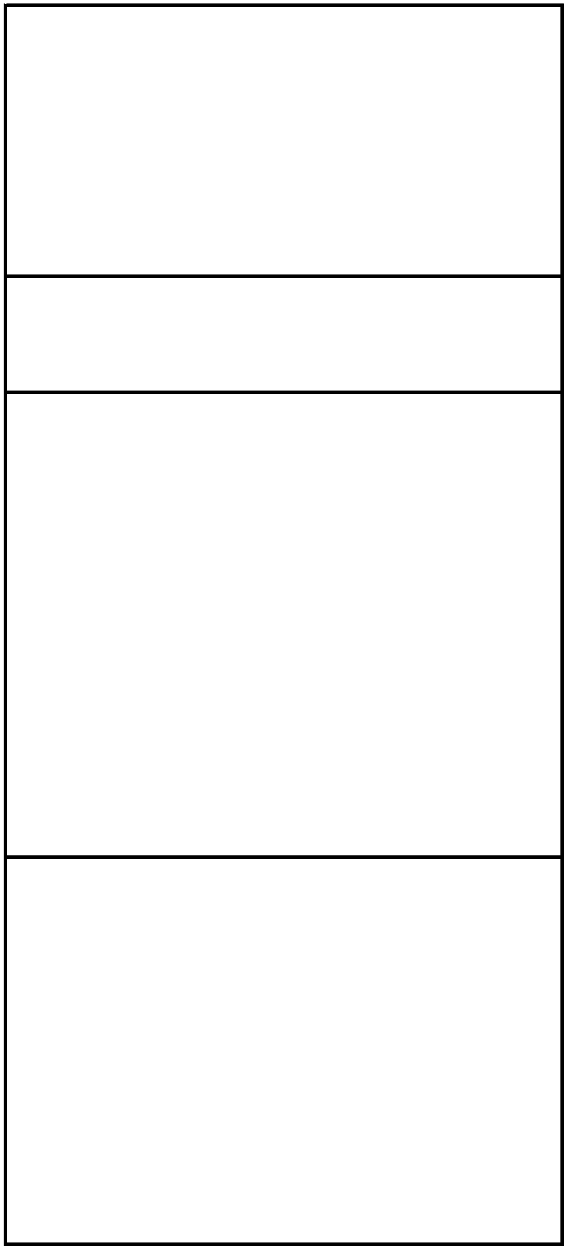


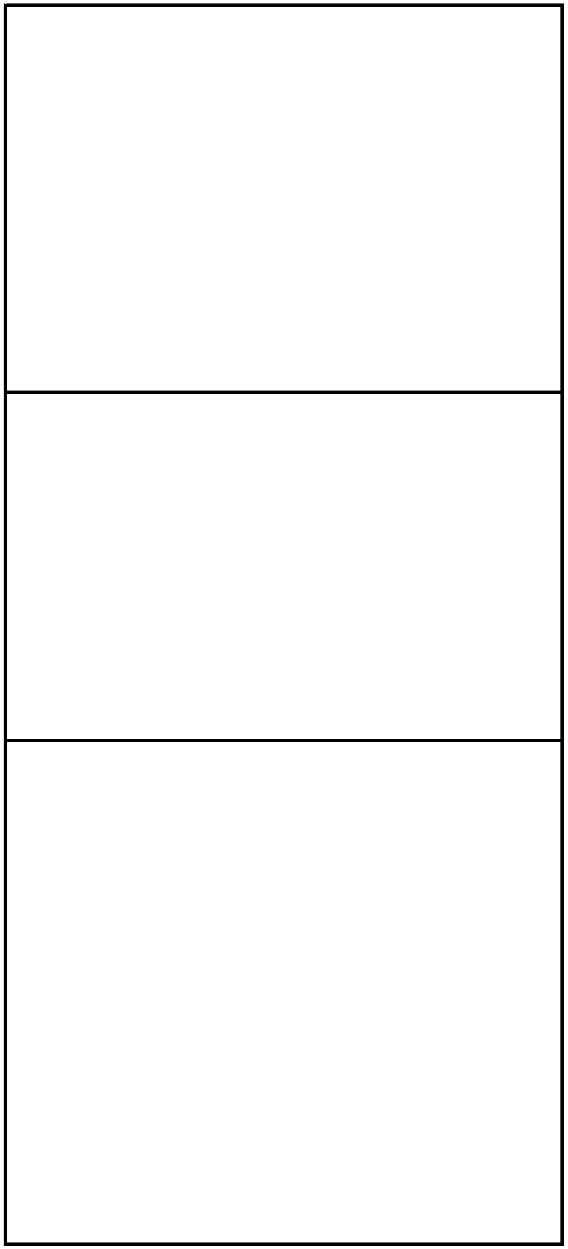


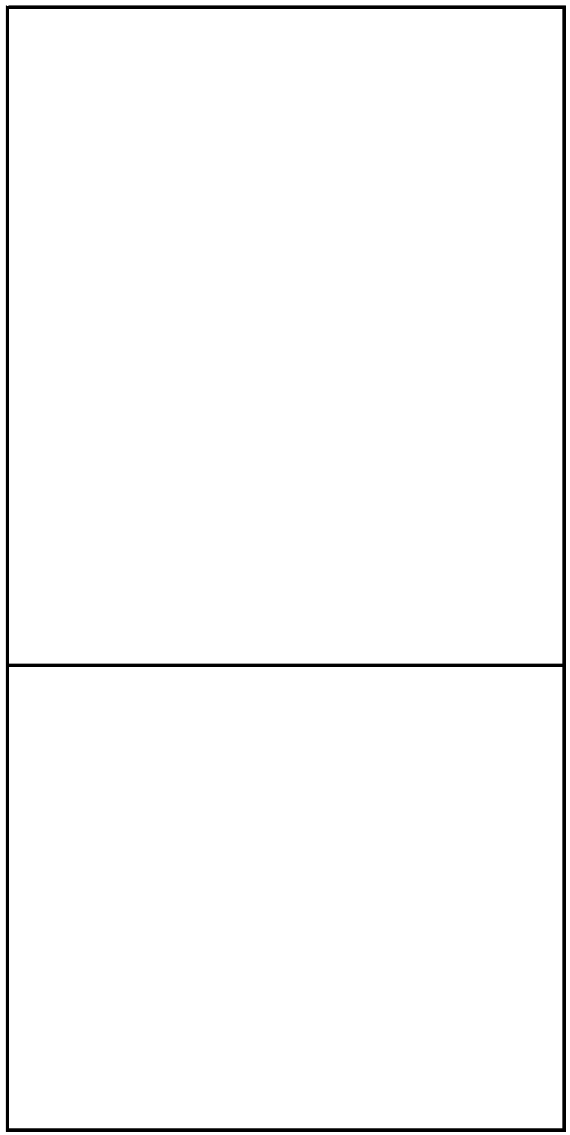


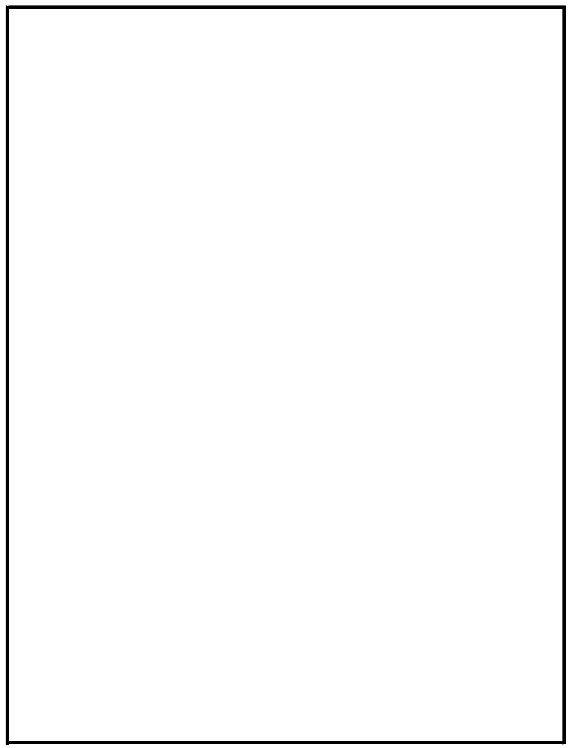
This notice must publish two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date, which is June 21, 2017.

Must be published prior to Flyway Council meetings, which begin in August.
This is the drop-dead date to legally open 2017/2018 hunting seasons.









From:	Rauch, Paul
To:	Charisa Morris; Delores Bigby
Cc:	Robert Curry; Tom Busiahn
Subject:	Fwd: Three delayed items: SWG apportionment, C-SWG and license certification
Date:	Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:33:04 AM
Attachments:	FWS entries, 30 day spreadsheet for June 20 2017_MASTER (1).xlsx

Charisa/Delores,

I have previously asked about status of the SWG packages but I am not finding any response back. Do we know what the status is? Also, see Tom's note on the license certification revision. Any info you can provide would be helpful.

Thanks

Paul
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Busiahn, Tom** <tom_busiahn@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Jun 14, 2017 at 9:05 AM
Subject: Three delayed items: SWG apportionment, C-SWG and license certification
To: Paul Rauch <paul_rauch@fws.gov>, Robert Curry <robert_curry@fws.gov>

Paul & Bob-

Would you see if there is a way to move these long-delayed packages to completion?

Two State Wildlife Grants packages have been in the Director's office nearly a month awaiting action. SWG apportionment (**DCN 065699**) and Competitive SWG grants (**DCN 065561**) both reached the Director's office on May 17. States depend on the apportioned funds to support their wildlife diversity programs, just as they do PR/DJ. Presumably all of the SWG grants that exceed $100K will also have to undergo DOI review after Director's signature, so this is a double delay adversely affecting State agencies.

Our proposed revision of 50 CFR 80 that includes the long-awaited license certification method has been hung up in the Department for months. We have met all requirements and followed all procedures. Every week they simply change the date for "Estimated Date for DOI Clearance". Our item is now the "oldest" on the Service's list of projected Federal Register documents. This is a priority for States, and will simplify and streamline the onerous methods of counting licenses for apportionment of PR/DJ funds. Some States will have to enact legislation to match the new procedures, so timeliness is crucial. And this is just the proposed rule, not the final. FYI, I've attached the most recent list of projected FR documents. Our item is on line 49 at the bottom of the list.

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Tom Busiahn
Chief, Division of Policy & Programs
Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
tom_busiahn@fws.gov
Phone: 703-358-2231
Mobile: 202-577-6206

Bureau	RIN or OMB Control Number	Title	Summary
FWS	1018-0123	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0123; International Conservation Grant Programs	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0123. This control number authorizes the Service to solicit proposals for funding and implement reporting requirements in response to Notices of Funding Opportunity published by the Service on Grants.gov.
FWS	1018-0066	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0066; Marine Mammal Marking, Tagging, and Reporting Certificates, and Registration of Certain Dead Marine Mammal Hard Parts	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0066. OMB Control No. 1018-0066 authorizes the monitoring of the take of polar bears, northern sea otters, and Pacific walruses by Alaska Natives under 50 CFR 18.23(f). This collection of information also provides important data to the Service regarding Alaska Native subsistence and handicraft harvest and on the mammals' biology to determine what effect the harvests may have on their populations.

FWS	1018-0102	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0102; National Wildlife Refuge Special Use Permit Applications and Reports	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0102. OMB Control No. 1018-0102 authorizes the Service to collect information needed to issue special use permits in the National Wildlife Refuge system for a specific period as determined by the type and location of the management activity or visitor service provided. Without approval by OMB, we will have no other mechanism to allow research, facilitated recreation, and commercial uses on national wildlife refuges, which will impact thousands of projects every year.
FWS	1018-0023	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0023; Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program and Migratory Bird Surveys	This notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget Control No. 1018-0023. OMB Control No. 1018-0023 authorizes the Service to gather data on various characteristics of migratory bird harvest through the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) and through Migratory Bird Hunter Surveys.

FWS	1018-0146	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0146; Annual Report - Depredation Order for Blackbirds, Grackles, Cowbirds, Magpies, and Crows	The notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the Service's intention to renew OMB Control No. 1018-0146 authorized by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). This information collection is associated with our regulations that implement a depredation order that authorizes take of blackbirds, cowbirds, grackles, crows, and magpies "when found committing or about to commit depredations upon ornamental or shade trees, agricultural crops, livestock, or wildlife, or when concentrated in such numbers and manner as to constitute a health hazard or other nuisance."
FWS	1018-0115	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018-0115; Application for Training, National Conservation Training Center	The notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) intention to renew Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control No. 1018-0115 (expiring February 28, 2018). This control number authorizes the Service to utilize FWS Form 3–2193 to register non-DOI students for classes at the National Conservation Training Center.

FWS	1018-0103	Agency Information Collection Activities: OMB Control Number 1018–0103; Conservation Order for Light Geese	The notice provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the Service's intention to renew OMB Control No. 1018-0103, which authorizes the Service to collect information necessary to administer a light goose conservation order. The conservation order allows States to reduce the number of light geese (greater and lesser snow geese and Ross's geese), which have become overabundant and are damaging arctic and migration habitat. If this collection is not renewed, the Service would be unable to fulfill its obligation under 50 CFR 21.60 to annually monitor the number of light geese taken under conservation order regulations in the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Central Flyways.
FWS		Initiation of a 5-Year Review of the Aleutian Shield Fern, AK	This notice alerts the public that we are initiating a 5-year status review for the Aleutian shield fern under the Endangered Species Act and provides an opportunity for the public to provide information they may have on the species. A 5-year status review results in a recommendation on whether the species should be classified differently or delisted. The species is only known to occur on one island in the Aleutian Island chain.

FWS		Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Availability of Proposed Low-Effect Lakes at St. Sebastian Preserve Habitat Conservation Plan, Brevard County, FL / Atlantic Coast Paladin Estates, LLC and Micco Road Investments, LLC c/o the Kelsey Group	The applicant is requesting take of approximately 99.85 acres of Audubon's crested caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*) nesting and foraging habitat incidental to the construction of a residential development project in Brevard County, Florida. The Audubon's crested caracara is federally listed as threatened. Impacts to the species will be offset by conservation of 20 acres of caracara habitat and a $10,000 management endowment.
FWS		Stock Assessment Reports for Southern Beaufort Sea and Chukchi-Bering Seas; Opening 90-day Public Comment Period	Thi s is a notice of availability for draft revised Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) for the Southern Beaufort and the Chukchi Seas stocks of polar bears. This notice opens a 90-day public comment period to request input on these draft revisions.
FWS		Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit; Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for Betteravia Farms, LLC /Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project, Santa Barbara County, California	This is a notice that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has received an application for incidental take associated with a low-effect habitat conservation plan for a housing project.The Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project will provide much needed housing for seasonal farmworkers. These workers have been staying in low-income housing in the surrounding community, thus displacing other residents that would benefit greatly from low-income housing. The proposed project would provide housing for up to 600 workers (daily average occupancy of approximately 450 workers).

FWS		Draft Recovery Plan for the Pima Pineapple Cactus	We announce that our Pima pineapple cactus draft recovery plan is available. The cactus is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. This plant species is currently found in southern Arizona and in northern Sonora, Mexico. The draft recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to enable us to remove this species from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants. A proposed border wall is not anticipated to impede the recovery of the Pima pineapple cactus. We request that local, State, and Federal agencies, Tribes, and the public review and comment. We will also accept any new species status information throughout its range to assist with recovery plan finalization.
FWS	1018-AX99	Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	We, the Service, are removing the Hualapai Mexican vole from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recent data indicating that the original classification is now erroneous. This action is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the currently listed subspecies is not a valid taxonomic entity.

FWS		Draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District Habitat Conservation Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Barton Springs salamander and Austin blind salamander, Texas	This is a notice of availability for the draft Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District habitat conservation plan and draft environmental impact statement for take of the Barton Springs salamander (*Eurycea sosorum*) and the Austin blind salamander (*Eurycea waterlooensis*) in Travis and Hays Counties, Texas.
FWS		NOA: Application to Participate in American Burying-Beetle Amended Industry Conservation Plan (Council Oak Resources, LLC and Corterra Energy Operating, LLC, apps)	This is a notice of availability for incidental take permit applications under the American Burying Beetle amended Industry Conservation Plan (ICP); the two applicants are Council Oak Resources, LLC and Corterra Energy Operating, LLC. The applicants request a permit for oil and gas upstream and midstream production, including activities associated with oil and gas well field and pipeline infrastructure (gathering, transmission, and distribution), including geophysical exploration (seismic), construction, maintenance, operation, repair, decommissioning, and reclamation in Oklahoma. Required by section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act, this notice alerts the public that the incidental take permit applications are available for public review and comment.

FWS		Mexican Wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*) Draft Recovery Plan	A notice of availability of the Mexican Wolf Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision will be published in the Federal Register. The purpose of the notice is to request review and comment on the draft revised recovery plan from local, State, and Federal agencies, Tribes, and the public in both the United States and Mexico.
FWS		Giant Garter Snake; Notice of Availability of Second Revised Draft Recovery Plan	This document describes the strategy, objectives, and actions necessary for achieving recovery of the giant garter snake, along with criteria that, when met, signify that the Service may be able to remove the species from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. The plan focuses on establishing and protecting self-sustaining populations throughout the range of the species, restoring and conserving healthy wetland ecosystems that will support the species, and ameliorating or eliminating the threats that caused the species to be listed.
FWS	1018-BB54	Listing Determination for the I'iwi	This final rule lists the i'iwi (*Drepanis coccinea*), a forest bird endemic to Hawaii, as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.
FWS		Initiation of 5-Year Status Reviews of 23 Southeastern Species	The Fish and Wildlife Service will announce the initiation of 5-year status reviews of 23 Southeastern Species under the Endangered Species Act (Act). This notice announces our active review of 22 endangered species and 1 threatened species.

FWS	1018-BB74	Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly in Northwestern Oregon	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with the support of the State of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (the agency with responsibility for conservation of invertebrate species in Oregon), wants to reestablish the Oregon silverspot butterfly, a federally listed threatened species, within its historical range at two sites in northwestern Oregon: Saddle Mountain State Natural Area in Clatsop County, and Nestucca Bay National Wildlife Refuge in Tillamook County. We would reestablish the Oregon silverspot butterfly under the authority of section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and classify the populations reintroduced to these two areas as part of the nonessential experimental population identified in this rule.

FWS		Louisiana Pinesnake; Notice of Availability for the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances	The programmatic Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA), which would be between the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will allow LDWF to issue certificates of inclusion to eligible non-federal landowners in Bienville, Beauregard, Jackson, Natchitoches, Rapides, Sabin, Vernon, Winn, Grant, and Allen Parishes, Louisiana, whose conservation management agreements are approved. Landowners who enroll through the CCAA will receive assurances against take liability for incidental take of the Louisiana pinesnake from their conservation actions.

FWS		Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Deschutes Basin Habitat Conservation Plan in Oregon	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Service) has been leading a large scale, multi-party planning effort to address irrigation infrastructure improvements that will benefit the conservation of endangered and threatened species in the Deschutes River Basin in Central Oregon. This effort has spanned many years and has involved eight Central Oregon irrigation districts (constituting the Deschutes Basin Board of Control), the City of Prineville, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation as well as other parties. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, we are providing notice to all interested parties that the Service intends to prepare a draft environmental impact statement to evaluate the impacts of alternatives relating to the potential issuance of Endangered Species Act incidental take permits to the City of Prineville and to the eight irrigation districts represented by the Deschutes Basin Board of Control in central Oregon. We are also announcing the initiation of a public scoping period for this effort to engage Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments and the public in the identification of issues and concerns, potential impacts, and possible alternatives to the proposed action for consideration in the draft

FWS		June 2017 Batched 12-Month Findings for Three Species (Kirtland's snake, Mohave shoulderband snail, and San Felipe gambusia)	We have completed 12-month findings on petitions requesting listing of three species under the Endangered Species Act, and determined that the Kirtland's snake (found in the Midwestern United States), the Mohave shoulderband snail (found in the western Mojave Desert in California), and the San Felipe gambusia (found in Texas waters) are not warranted for listing.
FWS		Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Associated Documents for LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan, TX	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is announcing that it will prepare a draft environmental impact statement on the proposed Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Services Corporation's (LCRA TSC; applicant's) habitat conservation plan (HCP). The publication of this notice is required by the National Environmental Policy Act. Included in the notice is information about the proposed HCP and opportunities for the public to provide information that may be relevant to the proposed action and alternatives to consider. LCRA TSC has scheduled public scoping meetings for the week of June 19, 2017.

FWS		Notice of Availability of a Draft Candidate Conservation Agreement, Draft Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances, and Draft Environmental Assessment for Activities within Eddy County, New Mexico and Culberson County, Texas; Includes Texas Hornshell (Proposed for Listing)	This is a notice of availability for a draft candidate conservation agreement, a draft candidate conservation agreement with assurances with the Center of Excellence in Hazardous Material Management, a draft candidate conservation agreement with assurances with the New Mexico State Lands Office (collectively referred to as the agreements), a draft environmental assessment, and two applications (one for each applicant) for Endangered Species Act section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permits (permit) for the Texas hornshell in Texas and New Mexico. This notice, required by section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act, alerts the public that the draft agreements, draft EA, and applications for the permits are available for public review and comment.
FWS		Lost Hills Solar Project, Kern County, California; Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Habitat Conservation Plan	CED Lost Hills Solar, LLC (applicant) has applied for an incidental take permit under the Endangered Species Act for a habitat conservation plan (HCP) for the Lost Hills Solar Project in Kern County, California. The permit would authorize the take of the federally endangered San Joaquin kit fox incidental to the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the solar project. This notice, required by section 10(c) of the ESA, alerts the public that the draft HCP and draft Environmental Impact Statement are available for public review and comment.

FWS	1018-BA41	Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is issuing a final rule to establish the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) grizzly bear as a Distinct Population Segment (DPS) and remove (delist) the GYE population of grizzly bears from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife under the Endangered Species Act.
FWS	1018-BB64	San Fernando Valley Spineflower 6-mo Extension on Final Listing	The Service announces a 6-month extension of the final determination of whether to list the the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant species from southern California, as a threatened species. We also are reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days. We are taking this action based on substantial disagreement regarding the potential impact of Argentine ant invasion on the pollination ecology of the San Fernando Valley spineflower and scientific uncertainty related to establishment of this species by seeding suitable, unoccupied areas.

FWS		General Conservation Plan Oil and Gas Activities in Santa Barbara County, CA	The Service is seeking input from the public to identify potential issues and concerns, potential impacts, and possible alternatives to be considered in development of either an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act, as amended, for a proposed General Conservation Plan for oil and gas activities in Santa Barbara County. The proposed General Conservation Plan is a collaborative and comprehensive strategy that will allow the Service to work more efficiently and effectively with project proponents to ensure compliance with the ESA. Through this collaborative approach, the Service will work with oil and gas companies to implement conservation measures that minimize and mitigate for take of covered species.

FWS		Exemption from Threatened Species Permits for a Qualifying Beluga Sturgeon Aquaculture Facility	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is providing notice of an exemption to permit requirements granted under our regulations to carry out the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Service, in June 2016, granted an exemption for beluga sturgeon (*Huso huso*) reared in an aquaculture facility, Sturgeon AquaFarms, in Bascom, Florida that meets the criteria under our regulations. The exemption authorizes the facility to take beluga sturgeon from its aquacultured stock for the purpose of harvesting aquacultured beluga sturgeon meat and also authorizes the facility to engage in interstate commerce and export of beluga sturgeon meat harvested from the facility's aquacultured stock, subject
FWS		Foreign Endangered Species; Notice of Issuance of Permits (Charles Waibel, first)	This notice is a periodic action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This notice only informs the public that, after going through a complete review of the submitted applications and considering any comments from the public or outside experts, the Service has determined that all of the issuance criteria of the ESA have been meet.

FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign Species Permits: Philadelphia Zoo, first applicant)	This notice is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the receipt and issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on ESA and MMPA permits. There are no decisions announced in these weekly notices, but we cannot finalize the review of the permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period.
FWS		Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permits (Foreign species applications; University of Texas-Austin, first applicant)	This notice is a weekly action taken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority to notify the public of the receipt and issuance of permits under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). This notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on 17 permits under the ESA and none under the MMPA. There are no decisions announced in these weekly notices, but we cannot finalize the review of the permit applications until the conclusion of a mandatory 30-day comment period.

FWS		Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement; Hycroft Mining Company; Request for Take Permits Under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is considering the issuance of eagle take permits under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). We intend to prepare a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). We are a cooperating agency with the BLM on the development of this EIS. The BLM will be analyzing potential impacts of their decision regarding Hycroft Resource and Development Incorporated's (Hycroft/Applicant) proposed expansion as described in BLM's Notice of Intent published in December, 2014 (79 FR 78469). This EIS will also analyze impacts associated with the Service's eagle take permit decisions.
FWS	1018-AZ69	Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls)	Introduced, nonnative, alien, and invasive species in Hawaii displace, compete with, and consume native species, some of which are endangered, threatened, or otherwise in need of additional protection in order to increase or maintain viable populations. To protect native species, a control order is established for cattle egrets and barn owls, two invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii, under the direction of Executive Order 13112.

FWS	1018-BB24	Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale	The U.S. Fish and Wildloife Service is amending the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska. This rule enables Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. The rule was developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.
FWS	1018-BB73	2018–19 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations	This proposed rule is the first in the series to establish the 2018-19 annual migratory bird hunting regulations.
FWS	1018-BB40	Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season	This rule establishes the seasons and bag and possession limits for the 2017-18 migratory game bird hunting season.
FWS	1018-BB06	Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting	The Service proposes to approve corrosion-inhibited copper shot for hunting waterfowl and coots. We have concluded that the shot is unlikely to adversely affect fish, wildlife, or their habitats. We propose to change the regulation at 50 CFR 20.21(j) accordingly.

FWS	1018-AY30	Eagle Permits: Revision to Regulations for Eagle Incidental Take and Take of Nests; Correction	In 2016, the Service finalized revisions to permit regulations regarding permits that we issue for some activities involving eagles. In that final rule, we updated a table that includes permit application fees. Because of a formatting error in the rule, the revisions were not able to be incorporated into the Code of Federal Regulations. With this document, we correct the formatting error. This rule is purely an administrative action and does not affect the provisions of the rule in any substantive way.
FWS		Notice of intent to implement annual hunting fees, annual fishing fees, and special permit fees; Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge, KY [FWS–R4–R–2016–N141]	Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge proposes to implement annual hunting and fishing fees and special permit fees for recreational activities. The proposed cost for the annual access permit is $15 (free for youth under 16, and $5 for seniors 65 and over); there would be a $50 minimum fee for annual Recreational Special Use Permit authorizing commercial recreational activities to be conducted on the Refuge.

FWS		Notice of Intent to Reopen the Planning Process for the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment at Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge	The Fish and Wildlife Service is submitting a notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan for Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Citrus County, Florida. The planning process for Crystal River NWR began in 2008. The planning process was delayed when rulemaking for the Kings Bay Manatee Protection Area (Manatee Protection Area) was initiated in 2010 and completed in 2012.
FWS		Notice of Availability for the Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge and Black River Unit of Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Grays Harbor and Thurston Counties, WA; Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will announce the availability of our comprehensive conservation plans and finding of no significant impact (signed on March 10, 2017) for Grays Harbor NWR, located in Grays Harbor County, Washington, and the Black River Unit (Unit) of Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually NWR, located in Thurston County, Washington.
FWS		NOA: Camas National Wildlife Refuge, Jefferson County, ID; Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment	A finding of no significant impact (FONSI) was signed on March 10, 2017, and the comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) was completed for Camas National Wildlife Refuge, located in Jefferson County, Idaho. The CCP will guide management of the Refuge for 15 years or until it is revised, and actions will be implemented as funding becomes available. We are informing the Secretary of our intent to publish the notice of availability for the Camas National Wildlife Refuge CCP and the FONSI for the environmental assessment.

FWS		Lower Klamath, Clear Lake, Tule Lake, Upper Klamath, and Bear Valley National Wildlife Refuges, Klamath County, OR; Siskiyou and Modoc Counties, CA; Record of Decision for Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement	The notice informs the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has signed a Record of Decision on January 13, 2017, for the Final CCP/EIS for the Klamath Refuges. The Final CCP/EIS evaluated alternatives for managing the Klamath Refuges over the next 15 years. The Record of Decision includes a statement of the decisions made, the basis for the decisions, a description of the alternatives considered, a description of the environmentally preferable alternative, an overview of the measures to minimize environmental impacts, and a summary of public involvement in the decisionmaking process. The Service can now begin implementing the CCP.
FWS		Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge; Record of Decision for Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces the availability of the record of decision (ROD) on the final comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and environmental impact statement (EIS) for Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge (NFWR). We prepared the ROD pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. The Service is furnishing this notice to advise the public and other agencies of our decision and of the availability of the ROD.
FWS	1018-BB75	Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18	This proposed rule begins the annual process of updating refuge-specific regulations for National Wildlife Refuges.

FWS	1018-BA33	Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4	The proposed rule:• Is in response to requests from States to revise and simplify the rules for license certification. The Service worked closely with DOI solicitors and Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) attorneys in developing the new language. • Includes changes that were reviewed by Regional and State representatives, and interested stakeholders, during pre-rulemaking comment periods and were developed considering the comments we received. • Includes definitions and additions to the rule that will clarify the rule and improve national consistency. • Was developed in coordination with the AFWA, the Federal Aid Coordinators Working Group, Regional WSFR offices, State representatives, and members of interest organizations.

Type	Estimated Date for DOI Clearance	Current Status	Has Been at Current Status Since (Date)
ICR Notice	6/13/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/01/17

ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/01/17
ICR Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/31/17

ICR Notice	6/23/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	06/13/17
ICR Notice	7/14/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	06/13/17

ICR Notice	7/14/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	06/13/17
Notice	6/14/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17

Notice	6/14/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/09/17
Notice	6/16/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/22/17
Notice	6/12/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/22/17

Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17
Final Rule	6/12/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/05/17

NEPA notice	6/13/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/03/17
Notice	6/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/01/17

Notice	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	6/12/2017
Notice	6/16/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/25/17
Final Rule	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/04/17
Notice	6/19/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/08/17

Final Rule	6/27/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance (On 6/12/17, this note was added to DTS: Acting FWP has requested a meeting with Directors to discuss this issue)	05/23/17

Notice	6/20/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/01/17

NEPA notice	6/20/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/01/17

Notice	6/20/2017	Drafting	06/09/17
NEPA notice	6/21/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/01/17

NEPA notice	6/23/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	6/13/2017
NEPA notice	6/23/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	6/13/2017

Final Rule	6/27/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	06/08/17
Notice	7/14/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	6/8/2017

Notice	7/17/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	6/8/2017

Notice	6/16/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/22/17
Notice	6/22/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	6/8/2017

Notice	6/29/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	6/13/2017
Notice	7/13/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	6/12/2017

NEPA notice	6/16/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/10/17
Final Rule	6/30/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	04/26/17

Final Rule	6/27/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	05/23/17
Proposed Rule	6/30/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary clearance	06/02/17
Final Rule	6/30/2017	Pending Assistant Secretary signature	06/12/17
Proposed Rule	7/6/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	06/04/17

Final Rule	7/10/2017	Pending Solicitor clearance	06/07/17
Notice	6/29/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	05/08/17

NEPA notice	6/29/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	03/22/17
NEPA notice	6/29/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	04/05/17
NEPA notice	6/29/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	03/30/17

NEPA notice	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	5/4/2017
NEPA notice	6/30/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	6/5/2017
Proposed Rule	7/7/2017	Pending Bureau clearance	05/24/17

Proposed Rule	6/15/2017	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance	03/01/17

Must be at Exec Sec no later than	DCN (Optional)	Program (Optional)	Critical Date (Judicial, Statutory, or Other)
Tuesday, May 30, 2017	2948	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2968	ABHC	

Thursday, June 1, 2017	2969	ABHC	
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2970	ABHC	

Friday, June 9, 2017	2974	ABHC	
Friday, June 30, 2017	2990	ABHC	

Friday, June 30, 2017	2989	ABHC	
Wednesday, June 7, 2017	2931	ES	

Wednesday, June 7, 2017	2933	ES	
Friday, June 9, 2017	2782	ES	
Monday, June 5, 2017	2895	ES	

Thursday, June 8, 2017	2808	ES	
Monday, May 29, 2017	2693	ES	

Tuesday, May 30, 2017	2785	ES	
Thursday, June 8, 2017	2955	ES	

Thursday, June 08, 2017	2963	ES	Other, 6/30/2017
Friday, June 9, 2017	2839	ES	Judicial, 9/29/2017
Friday, June 16, 2017	2902	ES	Statutory, 9/20/2017
Monday, June 12, 2017	2952	ES	

Tuesday, June 13, 2017	2940	ES	

Tuesday, June 13, 2017	2870	ES	Other, 7/31/2017

Tuesday, June 6, 2017	2939	ES	

Tuesday, June 13, 2017	2973	ES	
Wednesday, June 7, 2017	2962	ES	

Friday, June 16, 2017	2980	ES	
Friday, June 16, 2017	2971	ES	

Tuesday, June 13, 2017	2972	ES	Statutory, 3/11/2017
Friday, July 07, 2017	2978	ES	Statutory, 9/15/2017

Monday, July 10, 2017	2999	ES	

Friday, June 9, 2017	2953	IA	
Thursday, June 15, 2017	2985	IA	

Thursday, June 22, 2017	2987	IA	
Thursday, July 06, 2017	3001	IA	

Friday, June 2, 2017	2938	MB	
Friday, June 16, 2017	2913	MB	

Tuesday, June 13, 2017	2763	MB	
Friday, June 16, 2017	2992	MB	Other, 7/31/2017
Friday, June 16, 2017	2991	MB	Other, 8/31/2017
Thursday, June 22, 2017	2278	MB	

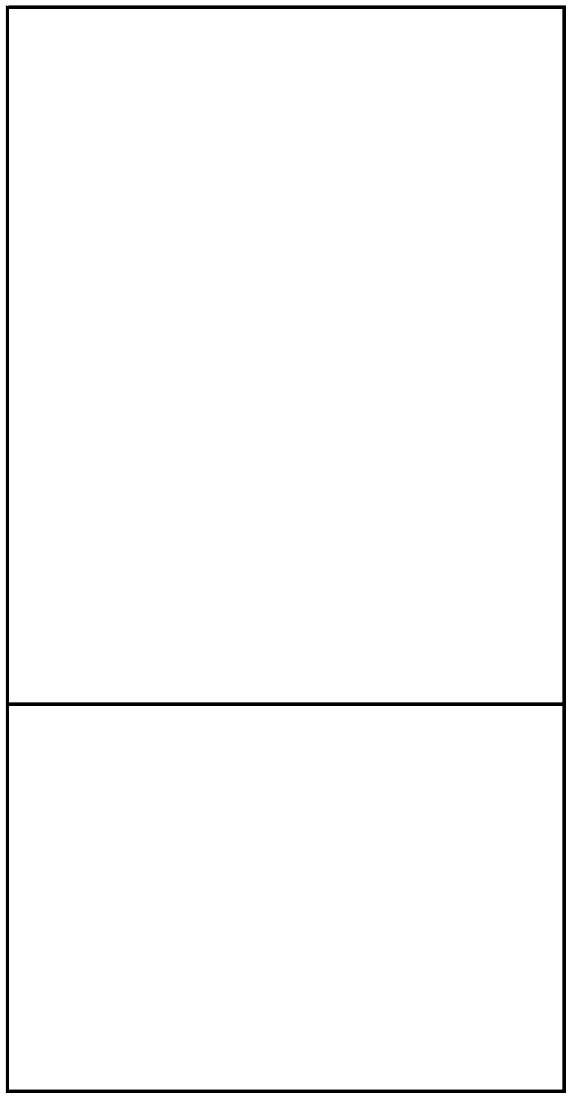
Monday, June 26, 2017	2944	MB	
Thursday, June 22, 2017	2867	NWRS	

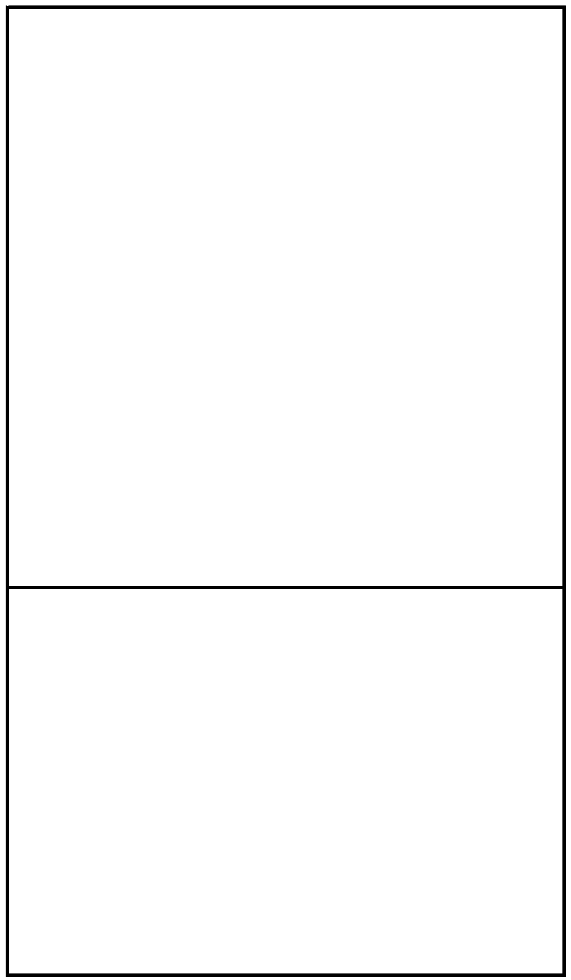
Thursday, June 15, 2017	2881	NWRS	
Thursday, June 15, 2017	2914	NWRS	
Thursday, June 15, 2017	2915	NWRS	

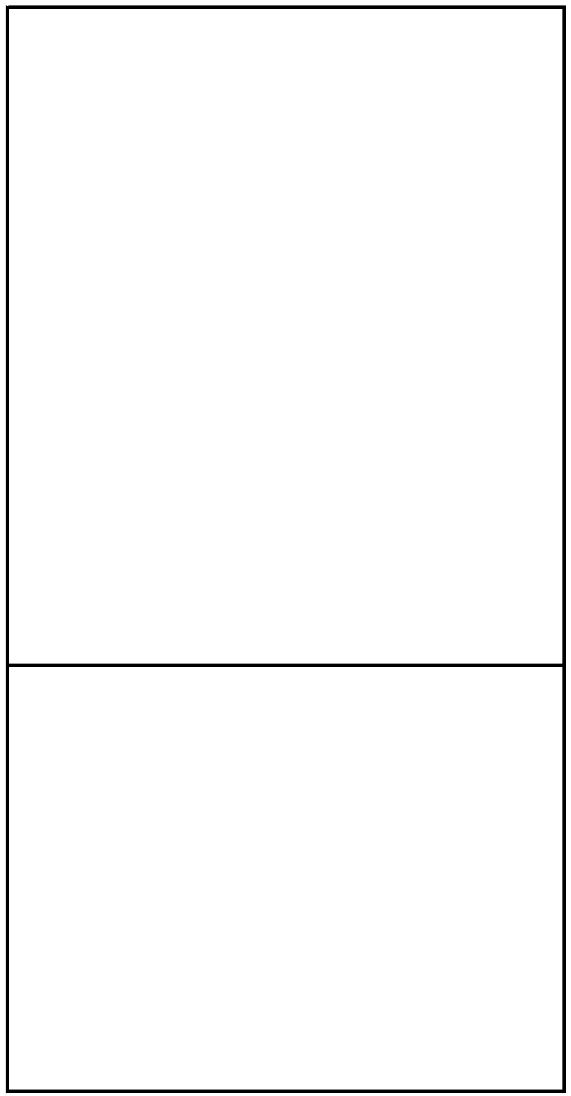
Friday, June 23, 2017	2828	NWRS	
Friday, June 23, 2017	2836	NWRS	
Friday, June 23, 2017	2965	NWRS	

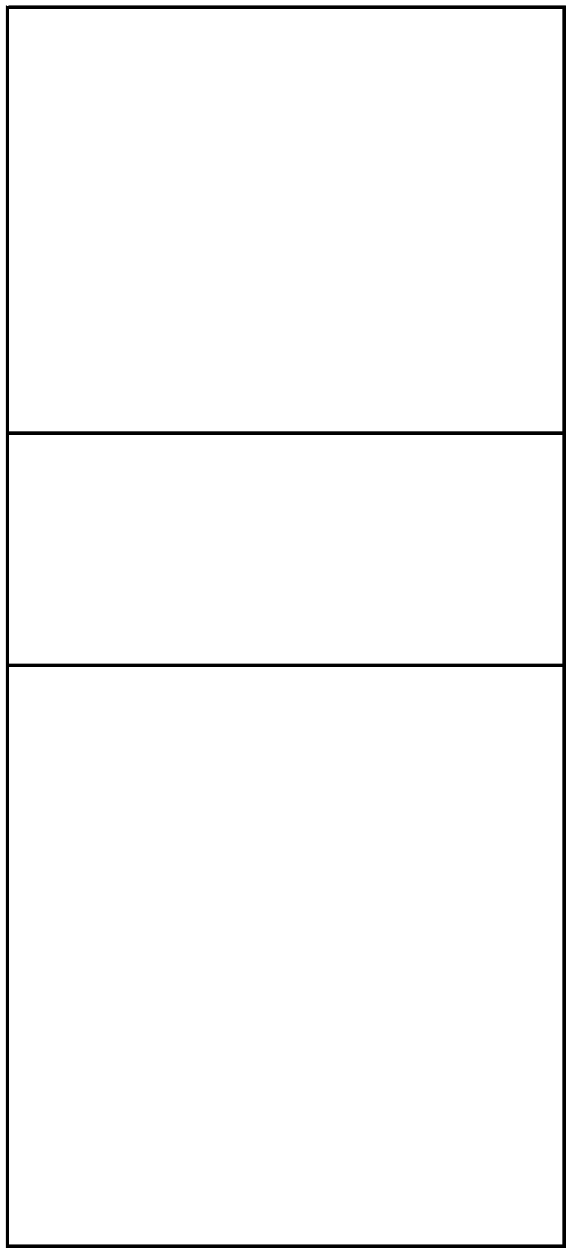
Thursday, June 1, 2017	2841	WSFR	

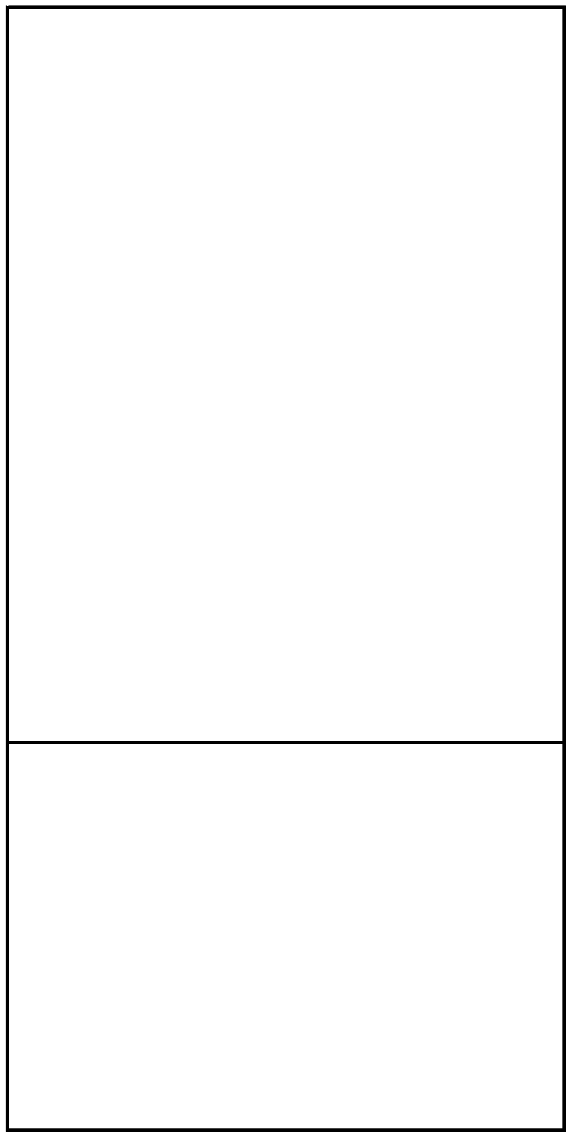
Explain Critical Date if "Other"

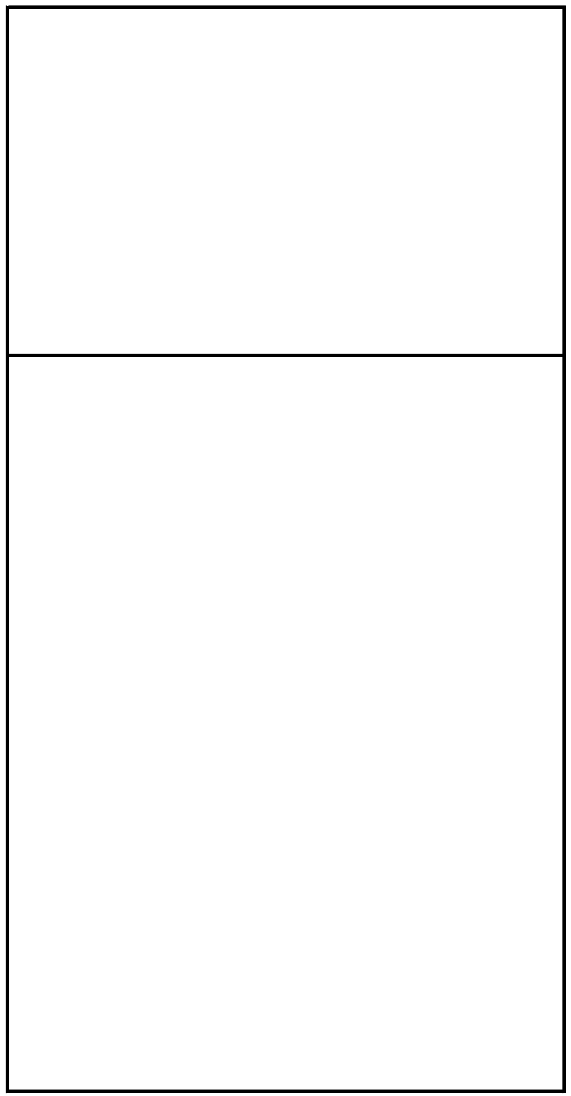




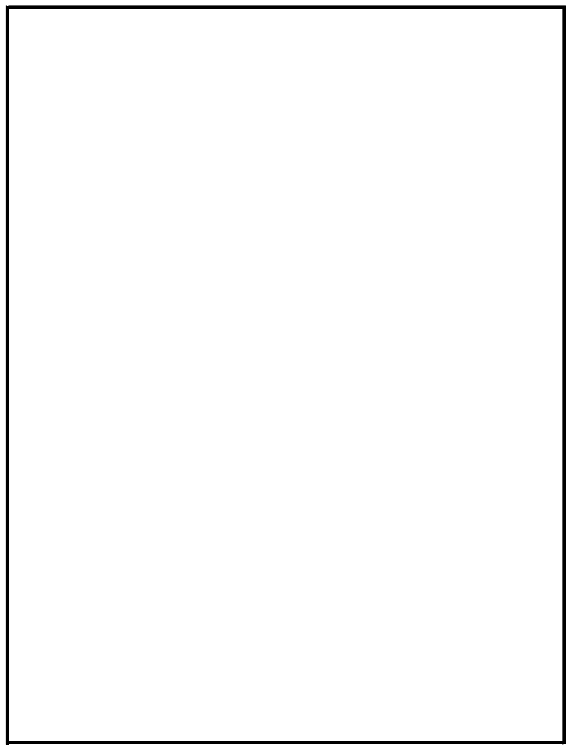




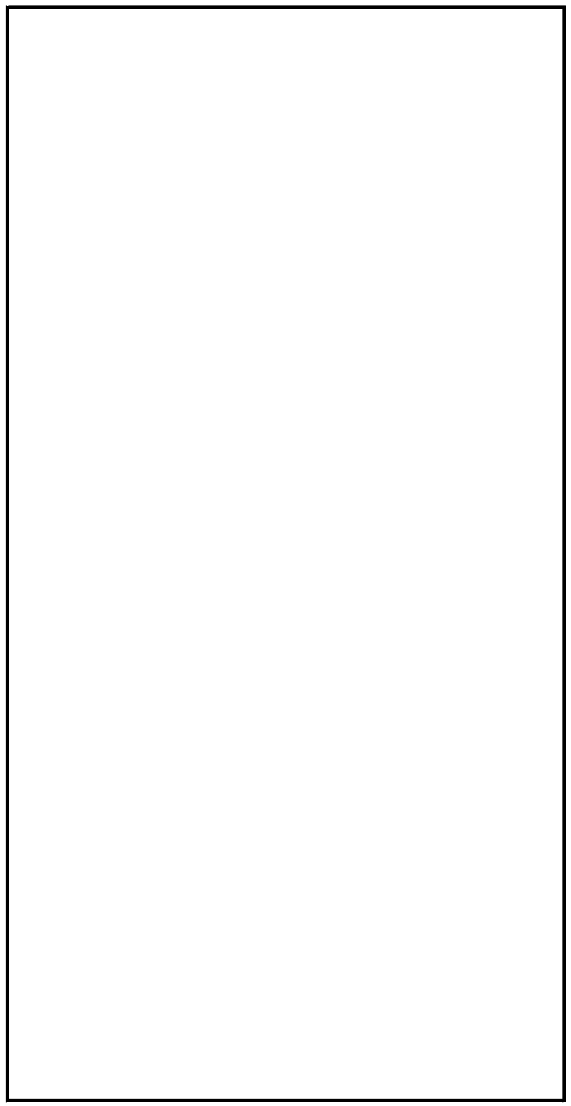


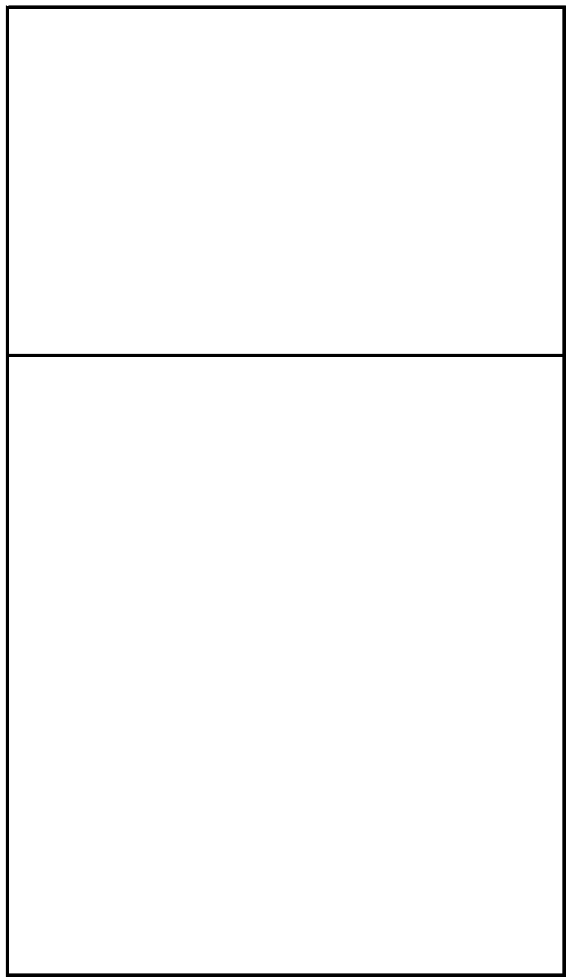


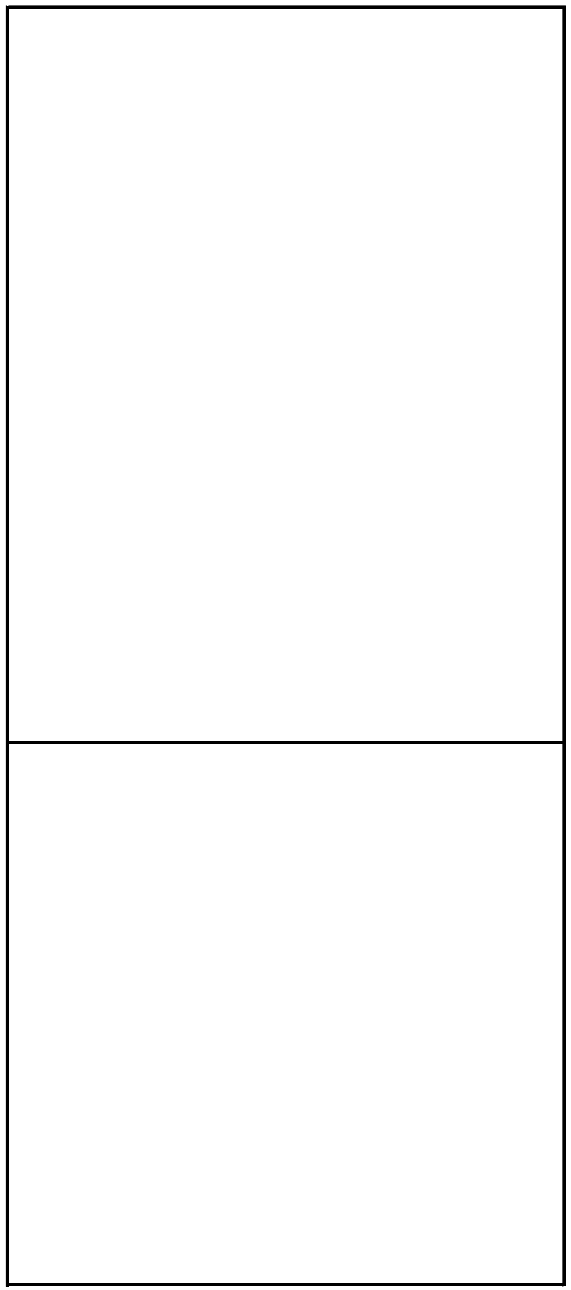
Judicial date for final plan 11/30/2017; draft needs 60-day public comment period and time for incorporation of public comments

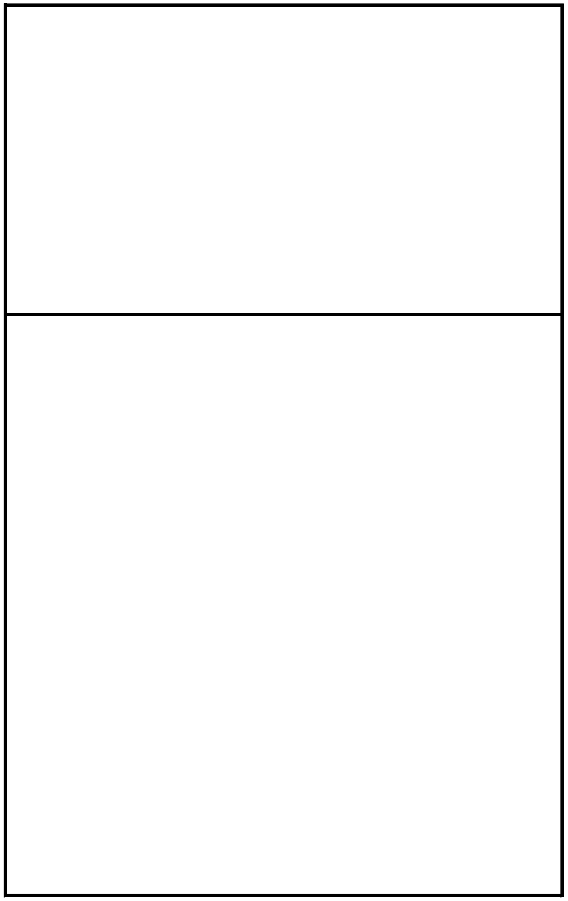


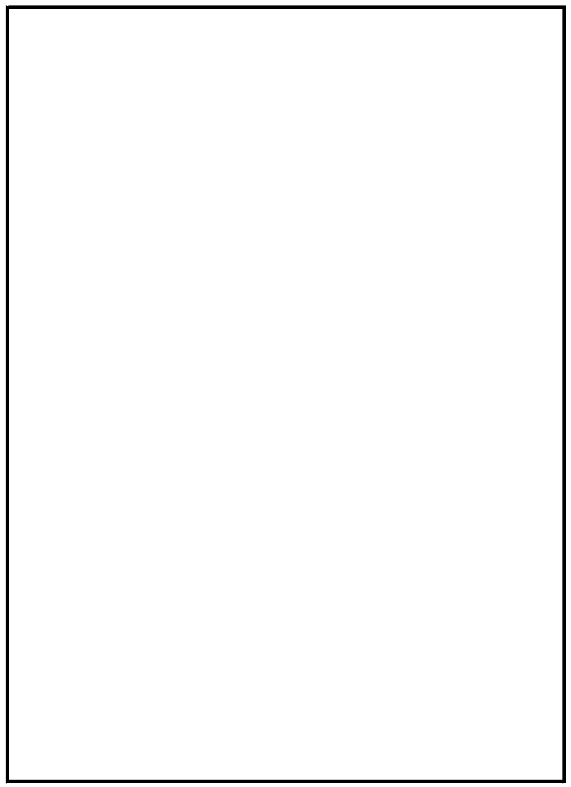
The Louisiana pinesnake was proposed for listing as threatened on October 6, 2016. A final decision on listing the Louisiana pinesnake must be made by October 6, 2017. Private landowners have requested to have opportunities to voluntarily enroll and receive assurances prior to the final listing action. After the listing is final, landowners will no longer be able to enroll in the CCAA.

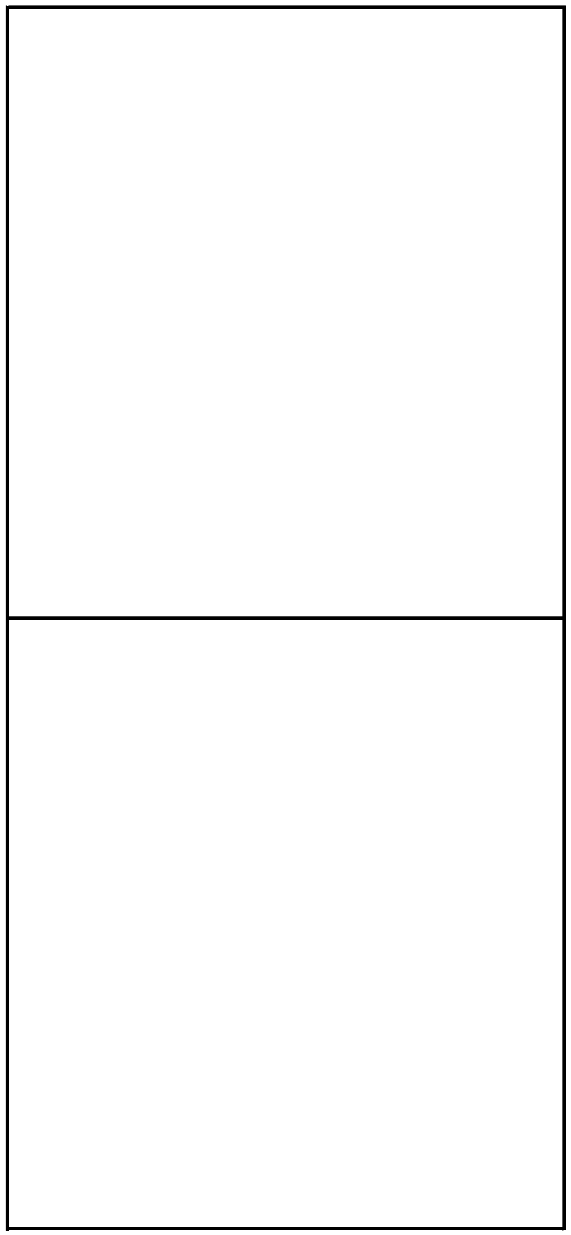


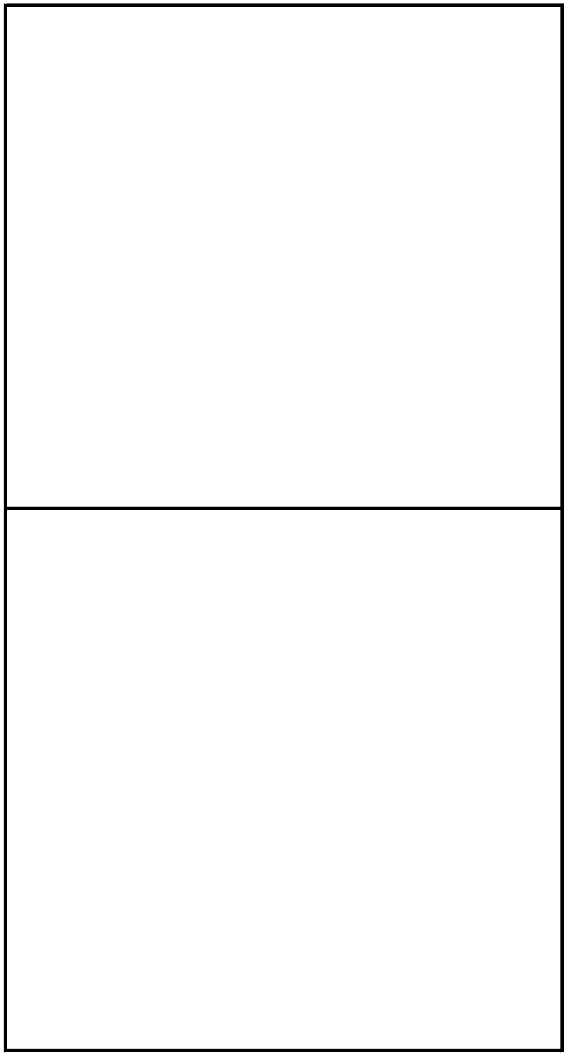


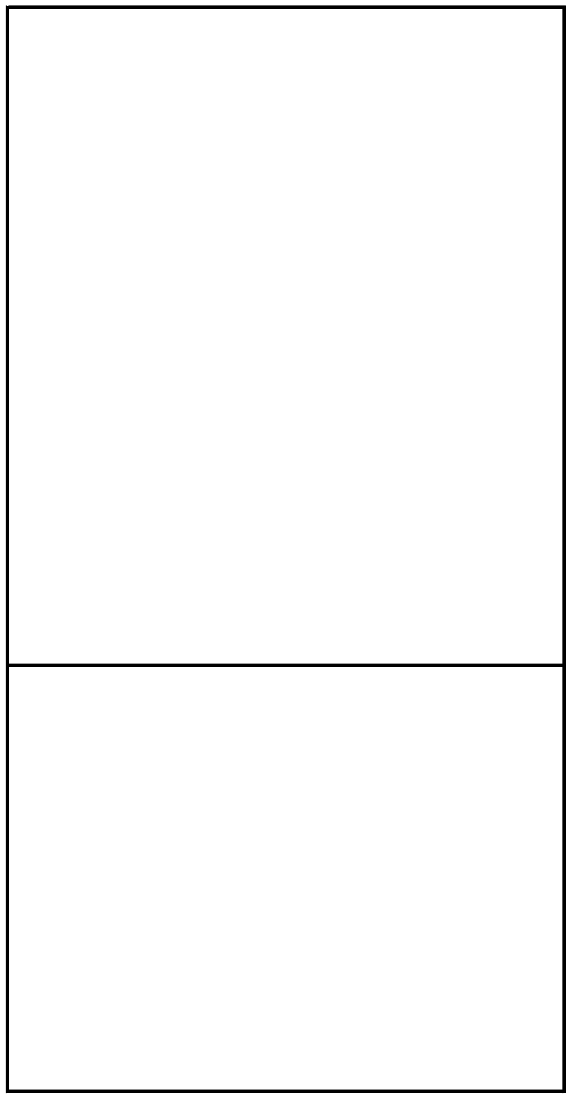




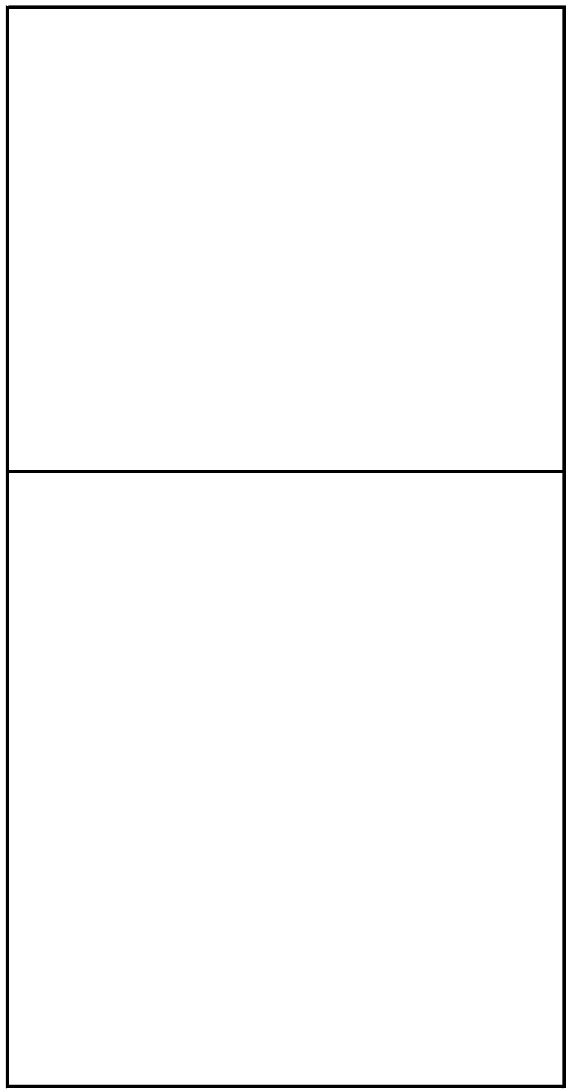


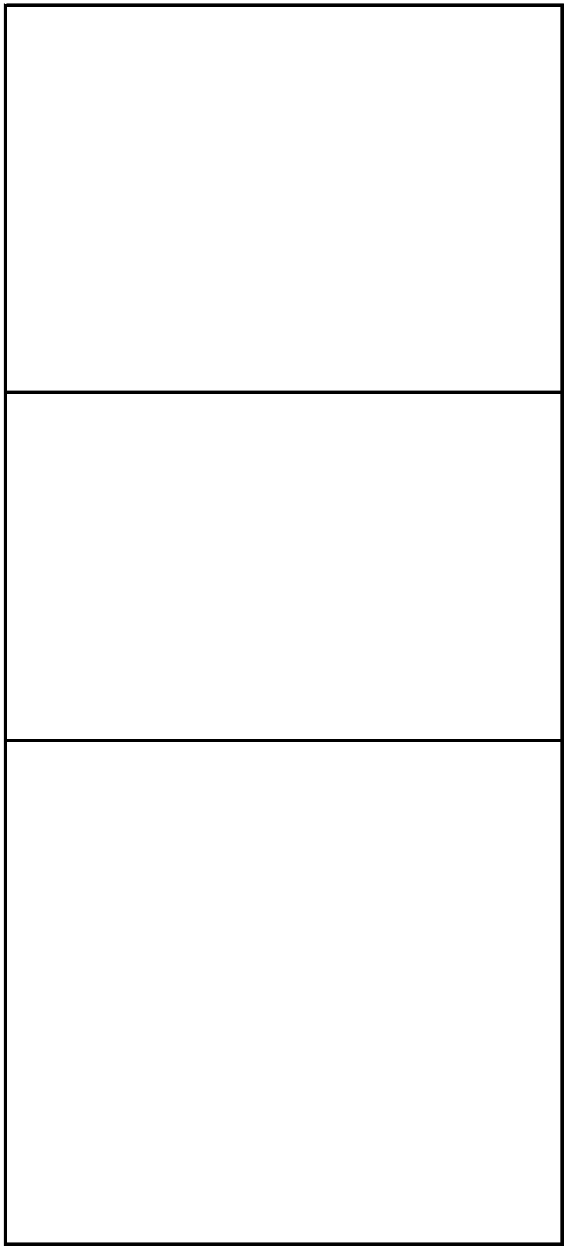


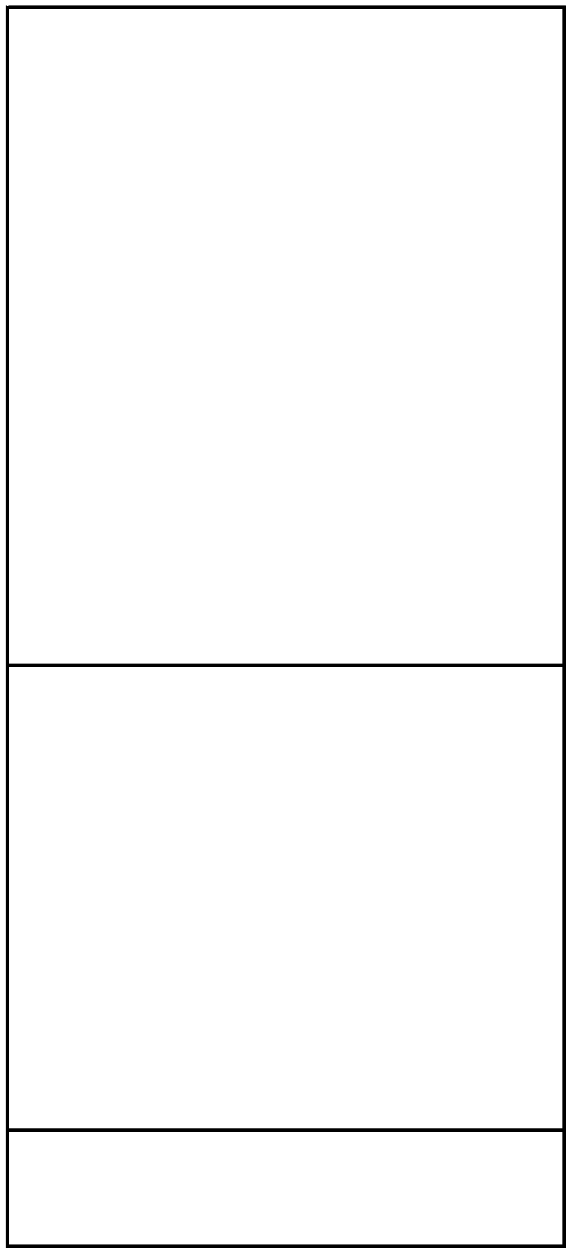


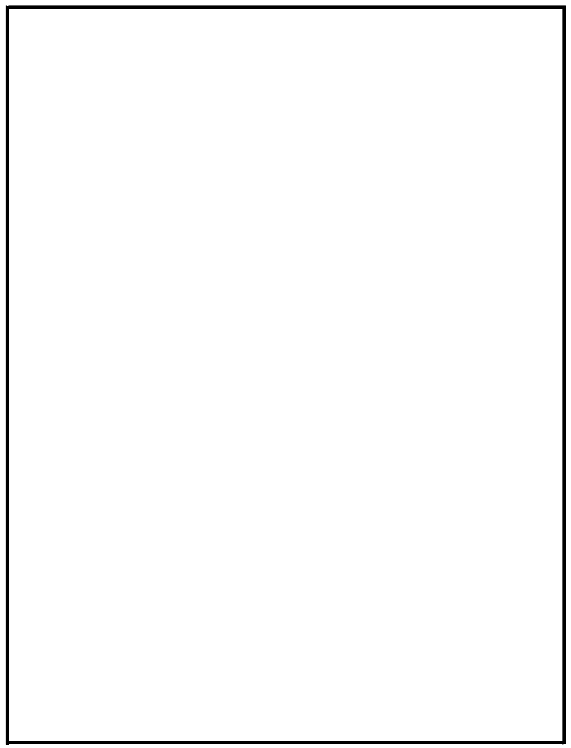


Must be published prior to Flyway Council meetings, which begin in August.
This is the drop-dead date to legally open 2017/2018 hunting seasons.









From:	Wilkinson, Susan
To:	Gina Shultz; Kayla Miller; Stephanie Brady; Kevin Garlick; Lisa Van Alstyne; Mark Phillips; Ronald Kokel; Theo Matuskowitz; Tim Vannorman; Barlow, Peter; Jerry Thompson; Aaron Mize; Jillian Cohen; Paul Beiriger; Paul Padding; Sarah Quamme; Don Morgan; Carey Galst; Janine Van Norman; Kershner, Eric
Cc:	Charisa Morris; Tina Campbell; Sara Prigan; Anissa Craghead
Subject:	Data Call for Exec Sec: Response needed by noon, Friday, August 4
Date:	Wednesday, August 2, 2017 9:11:42 AM
Attachments:	2017 Q4 90-Day List - status update August 2017.docx

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Good afternoon, all.

Exec Sec needs to report soon to the Regulatory Reform Task Force. One of the topics for discussion is the current status of regulatory actions included on the Q4 FY2017 report to OMB.

Attached to this message is the FWS portion of that report. I have changed the last column to provide space for a status update. I have attempted to fill in that column with information from the 30-day-out report and other sources.

Please update and revise this information as best you can. **DES:** For those actions with a not-warranted finding, we will still need to publish a document, so please provide a status update on its development.

I'm sorry for the short deadline; PPM just got this assignment.

Thank you and best regards,

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

DRAFT

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Q4 FY2017 Regulatory Report to OMB
Status Update as of August 4, 2017

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP	(b) (5) D P P	(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	
1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	
1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350.	

Commented [A1]: Propose OMB RMO review since addressing fee increases

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-AZ69 Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls) 50 CFR 21	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Jerry Thompson (703) 358-2016. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Published 7/25/17

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.	

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1705.	

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	Pending Office of the Secretary clearance

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	
1018-BA76 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish 50 CFR 100; 50 CFR 242	FR	Not Significant. Not Major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Cleared DOI 8/1/17; sent to OFR 8/3/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.** **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB24 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale 50 CFR 92	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will amend the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska to enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Published 7/24/17
1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703 358-1796,	

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2017–18 season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	Published 7/26/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	
‡1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Pending AS/FWP clearance

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	
1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	
‡1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Back with the Bureau for revision following Office of the Secretary review

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Pending Bureau clearance
1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** The Service will announce a 6-month extension of the final determination of whether to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant species from southern California, as a threatened species. We also are reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days. We are taking this action based on substantial disagreement regarding the potential impact of Argentine ant invasion on the pollination ecology of the San Fernando Valley spineflower and scientific uncertainty related to establishment of this species by seeding suitable, unoccupied areas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Published 7/19/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. FWS annually prescribes outside limits (frameworks) within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018–19 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2019 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	Published 8/3/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is proposing to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities. **Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678. **OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	Delivered to OFR 7/31/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB88 Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use 50 CFR 22	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358–1949.	

Commented [A2]: Given tribal connection, OMB requests a briefing paper

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 5/0 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	
‡1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
‡1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	
‡1018-BB99 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet of Alaska. This action would also reorganize specific regulations addressing the Kenai River, which would provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking. (This is a joint rulemaking between DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service.) **Controversy:** Senator Murkowski and Representative Young have expressed interest in this issue in the past; however, they have not recently contacted FWS about this issue. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	

Commented [A3]: How would this reorganize the regulations and what regulations would it reorganize?

How will this impact seasons, means and harvest limits for subsistence taking of fish?

What are the regulatory conflicts?

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	
1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	
1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Critical habitat is not being proposed for these species at this time. If prudent and determinable, the critical habitat will be proposed under this RIN at a later stage.
1018-BC20 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Blackfin Sucker	PR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does**: We will make a listing determination for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. The blackfin sucker is a fish found in Kentucky. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703 358-1796	

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	No longer applicable. A preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species; thus we will not proceed with rulemaking.
1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	No longer applicable. A preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species; thus we will not proceed with rulemaking.

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC32 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Eastern Population of the Boreal Toad	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does**: The purpose of this action under the Endangered Species Act was, if found to be prudent and determinable, to propose to designate critical habitat for the Boreal toad, which is found in New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, and Utah. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703 358-1796	No longer applicable. A preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species; thus we will not proceed with rulemaking.
1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	This information is not available at this time. This action will be delayed to a later quarter.

Commented [A4]: The title of this item does not match the description: Boreal Toad vs Kirtland's Snake

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC36 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Oregon Cascades-California Population of the Black-Backed Woodpecker	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** We will make a listing determination for the Oregon Cascades-California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act. This population is found in California, North Dakota, and Oregon. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Oregon Cascades-California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703 358-1796	No longer applicable. A preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species; thus we will not proceed with rulemaking.

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Pacific Walrus 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** We will make a listing determination for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in Alaska. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** The State of Alaska, the Eskimo Walrus Commission, and many native Alaska communities will be opposed to a listing rule for the walrus. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	No longer applicable. A preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species; thus we will not proceed with rulemaking
1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	No longer applicable. A preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species; thus we will not proceed with rulemaking.

Commented [A5]: Given the level of controversy expected, OMB requests a briefing paper

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC42 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Big Blue Springs Cave Crayfish and Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Big Blue Springs cave crayfish and Woodville Karst cave crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. These species are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for these species under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	
1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	No longer applicable. A preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species; thus we will not proceed with rulemaking.
1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	No longer applicable. A preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species; thus we will not proceed with rulemaking.

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	This action will be withdrawn or delayed to a later quarter.
1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	

Commented [A6]: OMB requests a briefing paper given that this species was delisted in 2004, its relisting may generate public interest

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Current Status; Next Step
1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	
1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Pending Bureau clearance

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re EO 12866 significance determination.

From:	Prigan, Sara
To:	Morris, Charisa
Cc:	Garrity, Katherine; Tina Campbell; Susan Wilkinson; Anissa Craghead; Nikki Randolph; Donnise Hancock
Subject:	Re: On it"s way to you - DCN 066327
Date:	Wednesday, September 6, 2017 2:24:22 PM
Attachments:	FY18Q1 qtrly reg report D R A F T 9.6.17 marked up.docx FY18Q1 qtrly reg report D R A F T 9.6.17 streamlined.docx

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Yes.

I sent you all the docs in a separate message, but attached see:

Marked up 90-d list
Streamlined 90-d list

Print both of those and put in place of the earlier marked up 90-d list that is in the package.

On Wed, Sep 6, 2017 at 5:12 PM, Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> So swap out?
>
> On Wed, Sep 6, 2017 at 4:38 PM, Prigan, Sara <sara_prigan@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > About to send you courtesy copies via email. 90-d list has changed.
> >
> > On Wed, Sep 6, 2017 at 4:35 PM, Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > You guys just made my day. :-)
> > >
> > > And Greg has signed the RIN package (all but three, which he is holding for [I don't know how long])!
> > >
> > > On Wed, Sep 6, 2017 at 2:32 PM, Garrity, Katherine <katherine_garrity@fws.gov> wrote:
> > >
> > > > Charisa,
> > > >
> > > > The package is on its way to you - we got it on the 2:25 shuttle:
> > > >
> > > > 1. Regulatory Report to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2018;
> > > > 2. Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, Fall 2017;
> > > > 3. FWS portion of the DOI Regulatory Plan; and
> > > > 4. List of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, Fall 2017
> > > >
> > > > Please let us know if you need anything else.
> > > >
> > > > Thanks,
> > > > Kathy
> > > >
> > > > Katherine Garrity
> > > > Deputy Division Chief
> > > > Audit Liaison Officer and Internal Control Coordinator
> > > > Division of Policy. Performance and Management Programs
> > > > US Fish and Wildlife Service MS BPHC

> > 5275 Leesburg Pike
> > Falls Church, VA 22041
> > 703.358.2551
>
> --
> Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

--
Thanks,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

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Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

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Thanks,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118) / Marked Up

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-AW66 Clean Vessel Act Grant Program, 50 CFR 85	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule gives State agencies requirements for receiving Federal financial assistance for this competitive grant program (Clean Vessel Act of 1992, Sec. 5604) that supports installing waste reception/removal facilities for vessel septic waste, and associated education. This rule update would combine three *Federal Register* documents into one document at 50 CFR 85. We published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking in September 2015 (80 FR 55078) and established a Federal/State team to assist FWS with appropriate updates to clarify and simplify the program, placing more emphasis on clean water. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS is leading a Federal/State team to develop approaches to update the rule to reduce administrative burdens, offer services to a larger user group, and expand clean water opportunities. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703.358.1942.	11/10/17
‡1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417 and Q317 as FR; pushing to 10/2/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~This species occurs near the U.S. Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Was on Q417 in FR stage; Will be completed before Q118; remove. Not subject to OMB review
‡1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q417 in FR stage; pushing to 10/4/2017

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350. OMB comment on Q417: Propose OMB RMO review since addressing fee increases. (Megan suggested we send a briefing paper.)	~~9/29/17~~ Pushed to 10/26/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-AZ69 Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls) 50 CFR 21~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Jerry Thompson (703) 358-2016.~~ **~~OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:~~** ~~"Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/7/17~~ Published 7/25/17; remove https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-25/pdf/2017-15471.pdf

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741. Note: If this rule leads to a reduction in paperwork burden then it would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771. If this rule leads to a reduction in paperwork burden then it would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	~~9/29/17~~ ~~On Q317 and Q417~~ 12/15/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115-20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115-20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448.~~ ~~**OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** 13771~~ ~~Can we get a briefing/briefing paper on what the regulations will return to with the overturning of this rule via CRA? BP sent to Exec Sec 5/23/17.~~	~~7/01/17~~ Was on Q317 and Q417 in FR stage; remove because will be out before Q1

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR (ANPR and NPRM)	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for updating requirements for State fish and wildlife agencies to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would update definitions for clarity, propose new requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance to reflect the desires of State Directors, clarify program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~7/5/17~~ On Q317 and Q417 in PR stage; Pushed to Q118 10/2/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for updating requirements for State fish and wildlife agencies to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would update definitions for clarity, propose new requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance to reflect the desires of State Directors, clarify program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	9/15/17 Proposed rule has yet to publish, so the final rule is being pushed back beyond Q1; remove.

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q4; pushing to Q1 11/11/17
~~‡1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Was on Q3 and Q4 list; will be completed in Q4; remove

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA76 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish 50 CFR 100; 50 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	~~8/30/17~~ Pushed to Q1 10/2/17
~~‡1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Was on Q417 list and will complete review in Q4; remove

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources by reducing the cost of printing the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	~~8/31/17~~ Was on Q417; pushed to 10/2/17
1018-BA81 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Wildlife (50 CFR 17.95)	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule removes the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.95 (wildlife) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the Code of Federal Regulations and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	12/15/17 Not on previous list

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	7/14/17 Cleared DOI 8/1/17; will be sent to OFR week of 8/7/17 Published 8/15/17; remove https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-17175.pdf

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‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. OMB's comment in response to Q317 list: "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~10/15/17~~ 12/15/17 PR was on list Q3 and Q4, but this is the first time for FR
1018-BB21 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections of Taxonomy and Nomenclature for Wildlife and Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is updating the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants in accordance with the Endangered Species Act by making taxonomic corrections to the scientific names and other corrections for approximately 40 species that occur primarily in California and Nevada. The corrections are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	10/15/17

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‡1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.** **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	~~8/15/17~~ Was on Q317 and Q417; pushed to Q118 10/2/17
‡1018-BB23 Revision of Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) Contest Regulations 50 CFR 91	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** In 2016, FWS proposed to revise the regulations governing the annual Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Contest (also known as the Federal Duck Stamp Contest). We are revising that proposed rule based on comments we received, the need to make technical corrections (updates), and the need to incorporate administration priorities. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Mott 703-358-1910	NEW ITEM on list 10/2/17

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‡1018-BB24 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale 50 CFR 92	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will amend the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska to enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/01/17~~ Published 7/24/17; remove https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-24/pdf/2017-15465.pdf

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‡1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703 358 1796,~~	~~8/15/17~~ ~~Prop. Rule/6 month extension published 8/10/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR 2017 08 10/pdf/2017 16887.pdf~~ Final rule moved to February 2018; remove from list

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017-18 Season 50 CFR 20~~	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2017-18 season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 7/26/17; remove https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-26/pdf/2017-15472.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	~~8/30/17~~ On Q3 and Q4 10/15/17
‡1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q317 and Q417 10/2/17

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417; Pursuing a 6-month extension, to publish September 29; final rule moved to March 2018; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Final, 4/06/18, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also revise the proposed rule to include specific specific prohibitions. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review PR published 10/6/16 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2016/2016-24113.pdf
‡1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417 Will complete in Q4; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact~~**~~: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Was om Q417 Will complete in Q4; remove
~~‡1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q317 and Q417 remove

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review; On Q417 report; We are pursuing a 6-month extension that should publish in FY17 Q4. The final rule should now be in FY18 Q2
~~‡1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Will complete review in Q4. Remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Will complete review in Q4. Remove.
~~‡1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~The Service will announce a 6-month extension of the final determination of whether to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant species from southern California, as a threatened species. We also are reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days. We are taking this action based on substantial disagreement regarding the potential impact of Argentine ant invasion on the pollination ecology of the San Fernando Valley spineflower and scientific uncertainty related to establishment of this species by seeding suitable, unoccupied areas.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Remove; published 7/19/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-19/pdf/2017-15126.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018-19 50 CFR 20~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018-19 hunting season. FWS annually prescribes outside limits (frameworks) within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018-19 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2019 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/15/17~~ Was on Q317 and Q417 Published 8/3/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-03/pdf/2017-16353.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018-19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018-19 hunting season. FWS proposed in an earlier document (8/3/17) to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018-19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to E.O. 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities.~~	~~8/15/17~~ Expected to publish in September 2017; remove
1018 BB73 Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Frameworks for Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations for the 2018–19 Hunting Season 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule proposes the 2018–19 season hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. We annually prescribe frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur, and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow State selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	12/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB75~~ ~~Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017-18~~ ~~50 CFR 32~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is proposing to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017-18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678.~~ ~~**OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 8/10/17; remove https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-10/pdf/2017-16374.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will finalize a proposal to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities. **Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678. **OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	First appearance on OMB report in FR stage 10/1/17
‡1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito Gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. FWS will also make available a draft post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. OMB response to Q417?: This is a deregulatory action under 13771.	Not subject to OMB review On Q417; Pushed to 12/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BB77 Migratory Bird Permits; Removing a Depredation Order for Scrub Jays and Steller's Jays in Washington and Oregon 50 CFR 21	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is withdrawing a proposed rule to remove 50 CFR 21.46, a regulation that sets forth a depredation order for scrub jays and Steller's jays in Oregon and Washington. FWS had proposed to remove this regulation, as we had received no reports of activities undertaken under the provisions of section 21.46 in the last 10 years. However, we have recently received several reports under this depredation order, so we are now withdrawing the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Jerry Thompson, 703-358-2217.	12/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) a Was on Q417 nd monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Pushed from Q4 to Q118

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR; NOA~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a reopen the comment period on its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a New Mexico plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~	Not subject to OMB review Published 6/13/17; remove https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-06-13/pdf/2017-11968.pdf
‡1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a New Mexico plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review 12/15/17

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB88~~ ~~Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use~~ ~~50 CFR 22~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely.~~ (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** OMB comment on Q417: Requested BP, which we sent mid-July.~~ ~~**Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358-1949.~~ ~~This is a deregulatory action under 13771.~~ ~~Given tribal connection, OMB requests a briefing paper~~ ~~BP sent to Exec Sec 7/18/17~~	~~9/29/17~~ Was on Q317 and Q417 Remove from list; bureau is in consultation with Tribes and does not plan to move forward with this action soon

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BB89 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Kuenzler Hedgehog Cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to remove the Kuenzler hedgehog cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. The Kuenzler hedgehog cactus is found in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
‡1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417; pushing to Q118

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942. Note: If there is a reduction in paperwork burden, then this would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	10/19/17
‡1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ 10/6/17 On Q317 and Q417; pushed to Q1

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BB98 Revision to the Nonessential Experimental Population Designation of Red Wolf in North Carolina 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will publish a proposed rule to revise the existing nonessential experimental population designation of red wolves in North Carolina under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** We anticipate both support and opposition to the revision of the 10(j) rule. North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) supports a revision of the current 10(j) rule, because NCWRC has recognized, along with FWS, that improved management of the nonessential experimental population of the Red wolf is needed. The FWS will engage NCWRC in the drafting of a proposed 10(j) rule. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Not on Q4

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB99 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet of Alaska. This action would also reorganize specific regulations addressing the Kenai River, which would provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking. (This is a joint rulemaking between DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service.) **Controversy:** Senator Murkowski and Representative Young have expressed interest in this issue in the past; however, they have not recently contacted FWS about this issue. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs, which we answered. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	12/01/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC01 Reclassification of the Kirtland's Warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened (downlist), due to the positive effect of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The downlisting rule is accompanied with an Endangered Species Act section 4(d) rule. The Kirtland's warbler breeds in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Eastern Canada. Migration may span most of the eastern United States as far west as the Mississippi River, with occurrences concentrated around the Great Lakes, Appalachia, and the Atlantic Ocean coastline. The Kirtland's warbler winters almost exclusively in the Bahamas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. OMB Q417 comment: If accompanied by a 4(d) rule, this would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q317 Pushed to Q118
1018-BC05 Civil Procedures; Inflation Adjustments for Civil Monetary Penalties 50 CFR 11	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will establish inflation adjustments for civil monetary penalties for 2018. The inflation adjustments will be updated after using the 2018 inflation adjustment multiplier provided in OMB guidance. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	12/31/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC06 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2019–20 and 2020–21 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish Regulations	PR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2019–20 and 2020–21 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	12/15/17 First appearance on list
‡1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish endemic to Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. We will also make available a draft post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. Q417 comment: This is a deregulatory action under 13771.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417 Pushed to Q118

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC10 Reclassification of the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review Not on Q4
1018-BC12 Depredation Orders for Double-Crested Cormorants; Removal of Regulations 50 CFR 21	FR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven. **What the rule does:** On May 25, 2016, the District Court for the District of Columbia ordered that both the Aquaculture Depredation Order and the Public Resources Depredation Order for double-crested cormorants be vacated until FWS performs a new and legally adequate environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for national cormorant management orders in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The court concluded that FWS did not take careful enough consideration of the effects of the depredation orders on cormorant populations and other affected resources (fisheries, vulnerable species, and habitats) and failed to consider a range of reasonable alternatives in the remanded 2014 environmental assessment. Therefore, this rule removes the regulations setting forth the provisions of the orders at 50 CFR 21.47 and 21.48. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Jerry Thompson, 703-358-2217.	12/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Should be final during Q4; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs. We responded that critical habitat is not being proposed for these species at this time. If prudent and determinable, the critical habitat will be proposed under this RIN at a later stage. The requested information will be made available at that time. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Pushing to Q118 11/14/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC20 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Blackfin Sucker~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ ~~**What the rule does**: We will make a listing determination for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. The blackfin sucker is a fish found in Kentucky. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant.** Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant.** Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Was on Q417 Pushed forward to FY18 Q2; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC32 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Eastern Population of the Boreal Toad~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does~~**~~:The purpose of this action under the Endangered Species Act was, if found to be prudent and determinable, to propose to designate critical habitat for the Kirtland's snake. The Kirtland's snake is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. However, this agenda item is being withdrawn as it has been combined with the listing determination for this species under RIN 1018-BC22.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact~~**~~: Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Was on Q417 Pushing to Q118 Ready for OMB Review 12/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC36 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Oregon Cascades California Population of the Black-Backed Woodpecker~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~We will make a listing determination for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act. This population is found in California, North Dakota, and Oregon. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact~~**~~: Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Pacific Walrus 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~We will make a listing determination for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in Alaska. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~The State of Alaska, the Eskimo Walrus Commission, and many native Alaska communities will be opposed to a listing rule for the walrus.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC42 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Big Blue Springs Cave Crayfish and Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the Big Blue Springs cave crayfish and Woodville Karst cave crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. These species are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for these species under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Will be complete in Q4; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796. OMB comment on Q417: OMB requests a briefing paper given that this species was delisted in 2004, its relisting may generate public interest. Response sent to Exec Sec 7/18/17	~~9/15/17~~ Moved to Q118 Ready for OMB Review 12/1/17
~~‡1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q2; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ On Q417 Moved to FY18 Q2; remove
1018-xxxx Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Beaver Pond Marstonia 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 12/31/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Beaver Pond marstonia under the Endangered Species Act. This freshwater snail species is found in Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Beaver Pond marstonia under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	12/15/17 Submitting RIN request

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC52 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Barren's Topminnow 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 12/31/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Barrens topminnow under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Barrens topminnow under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	12/15/17
~~‡1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-Nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370~~	~~7/6/17~~ Scheduled to publish in the Federal Register on 9/6/17; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC54 Notice of Taxonomic Correction for Orangutan 50 CFR 17	PD	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a taxonomic change for the orangutan. The orangutan was originally listed as a single entity under the ESA: *Pongo pygmaeu*s, which included orangutans from Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei. However, the orangutan is currently only found in northern Sumatra (Indonesia) and Borneo (Indonesia and Malaysia). Since the original listing, taxonomic reviews by the scientific community support Pongo abelii in Sumatra (Indonesia) as being a separate species from Pongo pygmaeus in Borneo (Indonesia and Malaysia). Because both species are considered part of the original listed entity, the revised taxonomy does not change the endangered status of either species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Not subject to OMB review Pushed from Q4 to Q1
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Gila chub from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants and Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** The Service will propose to remove the Gila chub, a fish found in Arizona and New Mexico**,** from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to a recent taxonomic revision. This taxonomic revision indicates that the Gila chub is no longer a separate species that is a listable entity under the ESA. **Controversy:** There may be some organizations that disagree with this taxonomic revision. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AW04 Removal of Eureka Dunes Evening Primrose and Eureka Valley Dunegrass from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the Eureka Dunes evening primrose and Eureka Valley dunegrass, two plant species found in Death Valley National Park in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
1018-BA21 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections of Taxonomy and Nomenclature for 40 Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will correct scientific names and common names on the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants for approximately 40 species through a direct final rule. The corrections are administrative in nature and involve no substantive changes to the Lists, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA54 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections for Eight Wildlife Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will revise the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in accordance with the Endangered Species Act to correct errors for several species of wildlife in the "Vertebrate population where endangered or threatened" column. The CFR incorrectly identifies some wildlife species as being listed only in the United States, and others as being listed only outside the United States, even though the species were originally listed in their entirety both inside and outside the United States, and no subsequent rulemakings have altered the original listings. These revisions are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or to any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 12-Month Finding on a Petition/Proposal to List the Yangtze Sturgeon (*Acipenser dabryanus*) as an Endangered Species 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to list the Yangtze Sturgeon (*Acipenser dabryanus*) as endangered under the ESA. This fish species is found in China. **Controversy:** While there is no controversy for this species, China is concerned that the potential listing of this species will have an impact on other species that are traded internationally, such as the Amur sturgeon. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request; PR would be pub Oct 31 2017
1018-xxxx Proposed Rule to Establish a Nonessential Experimental Population of the California Condor in the Pacific Northwest 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to designate an area in the Pacific Northwest as a nonessential experimental population area for reintroduction of California condors. This action is being taken in partnership with the National Park Service and the Yurok Tribe in support of recovery goals for the species. **Controversy:** ???? **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Submitting RIN request; 12/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Amending the Listing for the Southern Selkirk Mountains Population of Woodland Caribou 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to amend the current listing of the endangered southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, to define a distinct population segment (DPS) consistent with the 1996 DPS Policy. FWS will make a final determination on the proposal to list as threatened the Southern Mountain Caribou DPS, which includes the southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, a trans-boundary species between British Columbia, Canada, and northern Idaho and northeastern Washington. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Submitting RIN request; 12/15/17
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Hyacinth Macaw 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the hyacinth macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*) as an threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS is also proposing a 4(d) rule that will exempt interstate trade. This bird species is found in Bolivia, Brazil, and Paraguay **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request; FR would pub Nov 2017

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx; Endangered Species Status for Five Tarantula Species from Sri Lanka 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Under the Endangered Species Act, FWS will list as endangered the following five tarantula species from Sri Lanka: Poecilotheria fasciata, P. ornata, P.smithi, P. subfusca, and P. vittata. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2376.	Submitting RIN request; FR would publish Oct 2017
1018-xxxx General Provisions; Revised List of Migratory Birds 50 CFR 10.13	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** The purpose of this rule making is administrative in nature and meant to inform the public of the species protected by the MBTA. This rule is required to update the current list of migratory birds protected by the MBTA as published in 50 CFR 10.13. This proposed rule will update the list based on scientific changes to bird taxonomy (i.e., common names, scientific names, families, etc.). Without updating this list, the public will be unaware of current avian taxonomy and how it relates to birds protected by law. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376	Was on previous lists (?), but then RIN withdrawn 12/15/17 Submitting RIN request
1018-xxxx Regulations for Managing Resident Canada Goose Populations 50 CFR 21	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to amend the regulations governing control of resident Canada geese by removing the date restrictions on authorized destruction of resident Canada goose nests and eggs. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Padding, 301-497-5851.	12/1/17 Submitting RIN request

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Migratory Bird Subsistence in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska during the 2018 Season 50 CFR 92	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS promulgates subsistence harvest regulations for migratory birds for the 2018 season in Alaska. These regulations enable the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. These regulations are developed under a co-management process involving the FWS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.	12/15/17 Submitting RIN request
1018-BB39 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants**;** Removal of Hidden Lake Bluecurls from the List of Threatened and Endangered Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to remove Hidden Lake bluecurls from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. The species is endemic to an alpine lake in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	12/15/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-AW66 Clean Vessel Act Grant Program, 50 CFR 85	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule gives State agencies requirements for receiving Federal financial assistance for this competitive grant program (Clean Vessel Act of 1992, Sec. 5604) that supports installing waste reception/removal facilities for vessel septic waste, and associated education. This rule update would combine three *Federal Register* documents into one document at 50 CFR 85. We published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking in September 2015 (80 FR 55078) and established a Federal/State team to assist FWS with appropriate updates to clarify and simplify the program, placing more emphasis on clean water. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS is leading a Federal/State team to develop approaches to update the rule to reduce administrative burdens, offer services to a larger user group, and expand clean water opportunities. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703.358.1942.	11/10/17
‡1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417 and Q317 as FR; pushing to 10/2/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q417 in FR stage; pushing to 10/4/2017
‡1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350. OMB comment on Q417: Propose OMB RMO review since addressing fee increases. (Megan suggested we send a briefing paper.)	~~9/29/17~~ Pushed to 10/26/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741. Note: If this rule leads to a reduction in paperwork burden then it would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771. If this rule leads to a reduction in paperwork burden then it would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	~~9/29/17~~ ~~On Q317 and Q417~~ 12/15/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR (ANPR and NPRM)	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for updating requirements for State fish and wildlife agencies to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would update definitions for clarity, propose new requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance to reflect the desires of State Directors, clarify program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~7/5/17~~ On Q317 and Q417 in PR stage; Pushed to Q118 10/2/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q4; pushing to Q1 11/11/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA76 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish 50 CFR 100; 50 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	~~8/30/17~~ Pushed to Q1 10/2/17
‡1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources by reducing the cost of printing the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	~~8/31/17~~ Was on Q417; pushed to 10/2/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BA81 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Wildlife (50 CFR 17.95)	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule removes the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.95 (wildlife) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the Code of Federal Regulations and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	12/15/17 Not on previous list

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. OMB's comment in response to Q317 list: "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~10/15/17~~ 12/15/17 PR was on list Q3 and Q4, but this is the first time for FR
1018-BB21 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections of Taxonomy and Nomenclature for Wildlife and Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is updating the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants in accordance with the Endangered Species Act by making taxonomic corrections to the scientific names and other corrections for approximately 40 species that occur primarily in California and Nevada. The corrections are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	10/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.** **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	~~8/15/17~~ Was on Q317 and Q417; pushed to Q118 10/2/17
‡1018-BB23 Revision of Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) Contest Regulations 50 CFR 91	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** In 2016, FWS proposed to revise the regulations governing the annual Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Contest (also known as the Federal Duck Stamp Contest). We are revising that proposed rule based on comments we received, the need to make technical corrections (updates), and the need to incorporate administration priorities. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Mott 703-358-1910	10/2/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	~~8/30/17~~ On Q3 and Q4 10/15/17
‡1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q317 and Q417 10/2/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018 BB73 Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Frameworks for Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations for the 2018–19 Hunting Season 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule proposes the 2018–19 season hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. We annually prescribe frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur, and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow State selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	12/1/17
‡1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will finalize a proposal to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities. **Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678. **OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	First appearance on OMB report in FR stage 10/1/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito Gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. FWS will also make available a draft post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. OMB response to Q417?: This is a deregulatory action under 13771.	Not subject to OMB review On Q417; Pushed to 12/15/17
1018-BB77 Migratory Bird Permits; Removing a Depredation Order for Scrub Jays and Steller's Jays in Washington and Oregon 50 CFR 21	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is withdrawing a proposed rule to remove 50 CFR 21.46, a regulation that sets forth a depredation order for scrub jays and Steller's jays in Oregon and Washington. FWS had proposed to remove this regulation, as we had received no reports of activities undertaken under the provisions of section 21.46 in the last 10 years. However, we have recently received several reports under this depredation order, so we are now withdrawing the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Jerry Thompson, 703-358-2217.	12/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) a Was on Q417 nd monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Pushed from Q4 to Q118
‡1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a New Mexico plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review 12/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BB89 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Kuenzler Hedgehog Cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to remove the Kuenzler hedgehog cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. The Kuenzler hedgehog cactus is found in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
‡1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417; pushing to Q118

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942. Note: If there is a reduction in paperwork burden, then this would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	10/19/17
‡1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ 10/6/17 On Q317 and Q417; pushed to Q1

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BB98 Revision to the Nonessential Experimental Population Designation of Red Wolf in North Carolina 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will publish a proposed rule to revise the existing nonessential experimental population designation of red wolves in North Carolina under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** We anticipate both support and opposition to the revision of the 10(j) rule. North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) supports a revision of the current 10(j) rule, because NCWRC has recognized, along with FWS, that improved management of the nonessential experimental population of the Red wolf is needed. The FWS will engage NCWRC in the drafting of a proposed 10(j) rule. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Not on Q4

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB99 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet of Alaska. This action would also reorganize specific regulations addressing the Kenai River, which would provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking. (This is a joint rulemaking between DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service.) **Controversy:** Senator Murkowski and Representative Young have expressed interest in this issue in the past; however, they have not recently contacted FWS about this issue. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs, which we answered. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	12/1/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC01 Reclassification of the Kirtland's Warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened (downlist), due to the positive effect of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The downlisting rule is accompanied with an Endangered Species Act section 4(d) rule. The Kirtland's warbler breeds in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Eastern Canada. Migration may span most of the eastern United States as far west as the Mississippi River, with occurrences concentrated around the Great Lakes, Appalachia, and the Atlantic Ocean coastline. The Kirtland's warbler winters almost exclusively in the Bahamas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. OMB Q417 comment: If accompanied by a 4(d) rule, this would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q317 Pushed to Q118
1018-BC05 Civil Procedures; Inflation Adjustments for Civil Monetary Penalties 50 CFR 11	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will establish inflation adjustments for civil monetary penalties for 2018. The inflation adjustments will be updated after using the 2018 inflation adjustment multiplier provided in OMB guidance. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	12/31/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC06 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2019–20 and 2020–21 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish Regulations	PR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2019–20 and 2020–21 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	12/15/17 First appearance on list
‡1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish endemic to Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. We will also make available a draft post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. Q417 comment: This is a deregulatory action under 13771.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417 Pushed to Q118

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC10 Reclassification of the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review Not on Q4
1018-BC12 Depredation Orders for Double-Crested Cormorants; Removal of Regulations 50 CFR 21	FR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven. **What the rule does:** On May 25, 2016, the District Court for the District of Columbia ordered that both the Aquaculture Depredation Order and the Public Resources Depredation Order for double-crested cormorants be vacated until FWS performs a new and legally adequate environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for national cormorant management orders in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The court concluded that FWS did not take careful enough consideration of the effects of the depredation orders on cormorant populations and other affected resources (fisheries, vulnerable species, and habitats) and failed to consider a range of reasonable alternatives in the remanded 2014 environmental assessment. Therefore, this rule removes the regulations setting forth the provisions of the orders at 50 CFR 21.47 and 21.48. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Jerry Thompson, 703-358-2217.	12/1/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs. We responded that critical habitat is not being proposed for these species at this time. If prudent and determinable, the critical habitat will be proposed under this RIN at a later stage. The requested information will be made available at that time. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Pushing to Q118 11/14/17
‡1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Was on Q417 Pushing to Q118 Ready for OMB Review 12/1/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796. OMB comment on Q417: OMB requests a briefing paper given that this species was delisted in 2004, its relisting may generate public interest. Response sent to Exec Sec 7/18/17	~~9/15/17~~ Moved to Q118 Ready for OMB Review 12/1/17
1018-xxxx Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Beaver Pond Marstonia 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 12/31/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Beaver Pond marstonia under the Endangered Species Act. This freshwater snail species is found in Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Beaver Pond marstonia under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	12/15/17 Submitting RIN request

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC52 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Barren's Topminnow 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 12/31/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Barrens topminnow under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Barrens topminnow under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	12/15/17
1018-BC54 Notice of Taxonomic Correction for Orangutan 50 CFR 17	PD	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a taxonomic change for the orangutan. The orangutan was originally listed as a single entity under the ESA: *Pongo pygmaeu*s, which included orangutans from Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei. However, the orangutan is currently only found in northern Sumatra (Indonesia) and Borneo (Indonesia and Malaysia). Since the original listing, taxonomic reviews by the scientific community support Pongo abelii in Sumatra (Indonesia) as being a separate species from Pongo pygmaeus in Borneo (Indonesia and Malaysia). Because both species are considered part of the original listed entity, the revised taxonomy does not change the endangered status of either species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Not subject to OMB review Pushed from Q4 to Q1

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Gila chub from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants and Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** The Service will propose to remove the Gila chub, a fish found in Arizona and New Mexico**,** from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to a recent taxonomic revision. This taxonomic revision indicates that the Gila chub is no longer a separate species that is a listable entity under the ESA. **Controversy:** There may be some organizations that disagree with this taxonomic revision. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request
‡1018-AW04 Removal of Eureka Dunes Evening Primrose and Eureka Valley Dunegrass from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the Eureka Dunes evening primrose and Eureka Valley dunegrass, two plant species found in Death Valley National Park in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BA21 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections of Taxonomy and Nomenclature for 40 Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will correct scientific names and common names on the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants for approximately 40 species through a direct final rule. The corrections are administrative in nature and involve no substantive changes to the Lists, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review
‡1018-BA54 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections for Eight Wildlife Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will revise the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in accordance with the Endangered Species Act to correct errors for several species of wildlife in the "Vertebrate population where endangered or threatened" column. The CFR incorrectly identifies some wildlife species as being listed only in the United States, and others as being listed only outside the United States, even though the species were originally listed in their entirety both inside and outside the United States, and no subsequent rulemakings have altered the original listings. These revisions are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or to any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 12-Month Finding on a Petition/Proposal to List the Yangtze Sturgeon (*Acipenser dabryanus*) as an Endangered Species 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to list the Yangtze Sturgeon (*Acipenser dabryanus*) as endangered under the ESA. This fish species is found in China. **Controversy:** While there is no controversy for this species, China is concerned that the potential listing of this species will have an impact on other species that are traded internationally, such as the Amur sturgeon. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request; PR would be pub Oct 31 2017
1018-xxxx Proposed Rule to Establish a Nonessential Experimental Population of the California Condor in the Pacific Northwest 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to designate an area in the Pacific Northwest as a nonessential experimental population area for reintroduction of California condors. This action is being taken in partnership with the National Park Service and the Yurok Tribe in support of recovery goals for the species. **Controversy:** ???? **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Submitting RIN request; 12/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Amending the Listing for the Southern Selkirk Mountains Population of Woodland Caribou 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to amend the current listing of the endangered southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, to define a distinct population segment (DPS) consistent with the 1996 DPS Policy. FWS will make a final determination on the proposal to list as threatened the Southern Mountain Caribou DPS, which includes the southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, a trans-boundary species between British Columbia, Canada, and northern Idaho and northeastern Washington. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Submitting RIN request; 12/15/17
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Hyacinth Macaw 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the hyacinth macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*) as an threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS is also proposing a 4(d) rule that will exempt interstate trade. This bird species is found in Bolivia, Brazil, and Paraguay **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request; FR would publish Nov 2017

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx; Endangered Species Status for Five Tarantula Species from Sri Lanka 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Under the Endangered Species Act, FWS will list as endangered the following five tarantula species from Sri Lanka: Poecilotheria fasciata, P. ornata, P.smithi, P. subfusca, and P. vittata. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2376.	Submitting RIN request; FR would publish Oct 2017
1018-xxxx General Provisions; Revised List of Migratory Birds 50 CFR 10.13	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** The purpose of this rule making is administrative in nature and meant to inform the public of the species protected by the MBTA. This rule is required to update the current list of migratory birds protected by the MBTA as published in 50 CFR 10.13. This proposed rule will update the list based on scientific changes to bird taxonomy (i.e., common names, scientific names, families, etc.). Without updating this list, the public will be unaware of current avian taxonomy and how it relates to birds protected by law. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	12/15/17 Submitting RIN request
1018-xxxx Regulations for Managing Resident Canada Goose Populations 50 CFR 21	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to amend the regulations governing control of resident Canada geese by removing the date restrictions on authorized destruction of resident Canada goose nests and eggs. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Padding, 301-497-5851.	12/1/17 Submitting RIN request

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Migratory Bird Subsistence in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska during the 2018 Season 50 CFR 92	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS promulgates subsistence harvest regulations for migratory birds for the 2018 season in Alaska. These regulations enable the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. These regulations are developed under a co-management process involving the FWS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.	12/15/17 Submitting RIN request
1018-BB39 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants**;** Removal of Hidden Lake Bluecurls from the List of Threatened and Endangered Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to remove Hidden Lake bluecurls from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. The species is endemic to an alpine lake in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	12/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

From:	Prigan, Sara
To:	Apgar, Megan; Mark Lawyer; Charisa Morris
Cc:	Anissa Craghead; Wilkinson, Susan; Tina Campbell; Katherine Garrity
Subject:	DCN 066327 Courtesy copies -- Q118 OMB reg rept, Fall 2017 UA, Fall 2017 Reg Plan, Reg/Dereg action list/table
Date:	Wednesday, September 6, 2017 3:30:59 PM
Attachments:	FY18Q1 qtrly reg report D R A F T 9.6.17 marked up.docx FY18Q1 qtrly reg report D R A F T 9.6.17 streamlined.docx Unified Agenda 9.6.17.pdf 2017 FWS Reg Plan draft 9.5.17.docx FWS UPDATED EO 13771 Worksheet 9.5.2017 locked (1).xlsx draft memo for DTS slw 9.6.17.docx

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Courtesy copies: Each unique document in DCN 066327 is attached to this email:

-- Regulatory Report to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2018 (streamlined AND marked up versions);
-- Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, Fall 2017;
-- FWS portion of the DOI Regulatory Plan; and
-- List of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, Fall 2017
-- Cover memo

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Thanks,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-AW66 Clean Vessel Act Grant Program, 50 CFR 85	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule gives State agencies requirements for receiving Federal financial assistance for this competitive grant program (Clean Vessel Act of 1992, Sec. 5604) that supports installing waste reception/removal facilities for vessel septic waste, and associated education. This rule update would combine three *Federal Register* documents into one document at 50 CFR 85. We published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking in September 2015 (80 FR 55078) and established a Federal/State team to assist FWS with appropriate updates to clarify and simplify the program, placing more emphasis on clean water. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS is leading a Federal/State team to develop approaches to update the rule to reduce administrative burdens, offer services to a larger user group, and expand clean water opportunities. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703.358.1942.	11/10/17
‡1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417 and Q317 as FR; pushing to 10/2/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~This species occurs near the U.S. Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Was on Q417 in FR stage; Will be completed before Q118; remove. Not subject to OMB review
‡1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q417 in FR stage; pushing to 10/4/2017

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350. OMB comment on Q417: Propose OMB RMO review since addressing fee increases. (Megan suggested we send a briefing paper.)	~~9/29/17~~ Pushed to 10/26/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-AZ69 Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls) 50 CFR 21~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Jerry Thompson (703) 358-2016.~~ **~~OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:~~** ~~"Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/7/17~~ Published 7/25/17; remove https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-25/pdf/2017-15471.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741. Note: If this rule leads to a reduction in paperwork burden then it would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771. If this rule leads to a reduction in paperwork burden then it would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	~~9/29/17~~ ~~On Q317 and Q417~~ 12/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115-20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115-20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448.~~ ~~**OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** 13771~~ ~~Can we get a briefing/briefing paper on what the regulations will return to with the overturning of this rule via CRA? BP sent to Exec Sec 5/23/17.~~	~~7/01/17~~ Was on Q317 and Q417 in FR stage; remove because will be out before Q1

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR (ANPR and NPRM)	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for updating requirements for State fish and wildlife agencies to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would update definitions for clarity, propose new requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance to reflect the desires of State Directors, clarify program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~7/5/17~~ On Q317 and Q417 in PR stage; Pushed to Q118 10/2/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for updating requirements for State fish and wildlife agencies to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would update definitions for clarity, propose new requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance to reflect the desires of State Directors, clarify program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.	9/15/17 Proposed rule has yet to publish, so the final rule is being pushed back beyond Q1; remove.

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q4; pushing to Q1 11/11/17
~~‡1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Was on Q3 and Q4 list; will be completed in Q4; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA76 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish 50 CFR 100; 50 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	~~8/30/17~~ Pushed to Q1 10/2/17
~~‡1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Was on Q417 list and will complete review in Q4; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources by reducing the cost of printing the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	~~8/31/17~~ Was on Q417; pushed to 10/2/17
1018-BA81 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Wildlife (50 CFR 17.95)	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule removes the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.95 (wildlife) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the Code of Federal Regulations and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	12/15/17 Not on previous list

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	7/14/17 Cleared DOI 8/1/17; will be sent to OFR week of 8/7/17 Published 8/15/17; remove https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-17175.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. OMB's comment in response to Q317 list: "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~10/15/17~~ 12/15/17 PR was on list Q3 and Q4, but this is the first time for FR
1018-BB21 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections of Taxonomy and Nomenclature for Wildlife and Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is updating the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants in accordance with the Endangered Species Act by making taxonomic corrections to the scientific names and other corrections for approximately 40 species that occur primarily in California and Nevada. The corrections are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	10/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.** **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	~~8/15/17~~ Was on Q317 and Q417; pushed to Q118 10/2/17
‡1018-BB23 Revision of Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) Contest Regulations 50 CFR 91	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** In 2016, FWS proposed to revise the regulations governing the annual Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Contest (also known as the Federal Duck Stamp Contest). We are revising that proposed rule based on comments we received, the need to make technical corrections (updates), and the need to incorporate administration priorities. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Mott 703-358-1910	NEW ITEM on list 10/2/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB24 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale 50 CFR 92	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will amend the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska to enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/01/17~~ Published 7/24/17; remove https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-24/pdf/2017-15465.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703 358 1796,~~	~~8/15/17~~ ~~Prop. Rule/6 month extension published 8/10/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR 2017 08 10/pdf/2017 16887.pdf~~ Final rule moved to February 2018; remove from list

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017-18 Season 50 CFR 20~~	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2017-18 season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 7/26/17; remove https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-26/pdf/2017-15472.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	~~8/30/17~~ On Q3 and Q4 10/15/17
‡1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q317 and Q417 10/2/17

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417; Pursuing a 6-month extension, to publish September 29; final rule moved to March 2018; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Final, 4/06/18, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also revise the proposed rule to include specific specific prohibitions. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review PR published 10/6/16 https://www.fws.gov/policy/library/2016/2016-24113.pdf
‡1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417 Will complete in Q4; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact~~**~~: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Was om Q417 Will complete in Q4; remove
~~‡1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q317 and Q417 remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review; On Q417 report; We are pursuing a 6-month extension that should publish in FY17 Q4. The final rule should now be in FY18 Q2
~~‡1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Will complete review in Q4. Remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Will complete review in Q4. Remove.
~~‡1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~The Service will announce a 6-month extension of the final determination of whether to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant species from southern California, as a threatened species. We also are reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days. We are taking this action based on substantial disagreement regarding the potential impact of Argentine ant invasion on the pollination ecology of the San Fernando Valley spineflower and scientific uncertainty related to establishment of this species by seeding suitable, unoccupied areas.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Remove; published 7/19/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-19/pdf/2017-15126.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018-19 50 CFR 20~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018-19 hunting season. FWS annually prescribes outside limits (frameworks) within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018-19 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2019 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/15/17~~ Was on Q317 and Q417 Published 8/3/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-03/pdf/2017-16353.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018-19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018-19 hunting season. FWS proposed in an earlier document (8/3/17) to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018-19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to E.O. 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities.~~	~~8/15/17~~ Expected to publish in September 2017; remove
1018 BB73 Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Frameworks for Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations for the 2018–19 Hunting Season 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule proposes the 2018–19 season hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. We annually prescribe frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur, and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow State selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	12/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB75~~ ~~Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017-18~~ ~~50 CFR 32~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is proposing to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017-18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678.~~ ~~**OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 8/10/17; remove https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-10/pdf/2017-16374.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will finalize a proposal to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities. **Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678. **OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	First appearance on OMB report in FR stage 10/1/17
‡1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito Gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. FWS will also make available a draft post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. OMB response to Q417?: This is a deregulatory action under 13771.	Not subject to OMB review On Q417; Pushed to 12/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BB77 Migratory Bird Permits; Removing a Depredation Order for Scrub Jays and Steller's Jays in Washington and Oregon 50 CFR 21	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is withdrawing a proposed rule to remove 50 CFR 21.46, a regulation that sets forth a depredation order for scrub jays and Steller's jays in Oregon and Washington. FWS had proposed to remove this regulation, as we had received no reports of activities undertaken under the provisions of section 21.46 in the last 10 years. However, we have recently received several reports under this depredation order, so we are now withdrawing the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Jerry Thompson, 703-358-2217.	12/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) a Was on Q417 nd monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Pushed from Q4 to Q118

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR; NOA~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a reopen the comment period on its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a New Mexico plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~	Not subject to OMB review Published 6/13/17; remove https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-06-13/pdf/2017-11968.pdf
‡1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a New Mexico plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review 12/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BB88~~ ~~Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use~~ ~~50 CFR 22~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will propose revisions to the regulations for eagle permits for Native American religious use. The revisions are intended to add clarity and align the regulations more closely.~~ (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP. ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** OMB comment on Q417: Requested BP, which we sent mid-July.~~ ~~**Contact:** Paul Beiriger, 703-358-1949.~~ ~~This is a deregulatory action under 13771.~~ ~~Given tribal connection, OMB requests a briefing paper~~ ~~BP sent to Exec Sec 7/18/17~~	~~9/29/17~~ Was on Q317 and Q417 Remove from list; bureau is in consultation with Tribes and does not plan to move forward with this action soon

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BB89 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Kuenzler Hedgehog Cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to remove the Kuenzler hedgehog cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. The Kuenzler hedgehog cactus is found in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
‡1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417; pushing to Q118

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942. Note: If there is a reduction in paperwork burden, then this would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	10/19/17
‡1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ 10/6/17 On Q317 and Q417; pushed to Q1

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BB98 Revision to the Nonessential Experimental Population Designation of Red Wolf in North Carolina 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will publish a proposed rule to revise the existing nonessential experimental population designation of red wolves in North Carolina under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** We anticipate both support and opposition to the revision of the 10(j) rule. North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) supports a revision of the current 10(j) rule, because NCWRC has recognized, along with FWS, that improved management of the nonessential experimental population of the Red wolf is needed. The FWS will engage NCWRC in the drafting of a proposed 10(j) rule. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Not on Q4

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB99 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet of Alaska. This action would also reorganize specific regulations addressing the Kenai River, which would provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking. (This is a joint rulemaking between DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service.) **Controversy:** Senator Murkowski and Representative Young have expressed interest in this issue in the past; however, they have not recently contacted FWS about this issue. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs, which we answered. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	12/01/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC01 Reclassification of the Kirtland's Warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened (downlist), due to the positive effect of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The downlisting rule is accompanied with an Endangered Species Act section 4(d) rule. The Kirtland's warbler breeds in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Eastern Canada. Migration may span most of the eastern United States as far west as the Mississippi River, with occurrences concentrated around the Great Lakes, Appalachia, and the Atlantic Ocean coastline. The Kirtland's warbler winters almost exclusively in the Bahamas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. OMB Q417 comment: If accompanied by a 4(d) rule, this would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q317 Pushed to Q118
1018-BC05 Civil Procedures; Inflation Adjustments for Civil Monetary Penalties 50 CFR 11	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will establish inflation adjustments for civil monetary penalties for 2018. The inflation adjustments will be updated after using the 2018 inflation adjustment multiplier provided in OMB guidance. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	12/31/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC06 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2019–20 and 2020–21 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish Regulations	PR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2019–20 and 2020–21 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	12/15/17 First appearance on list
‡1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish endemic to Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. We will also make available a draft post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. Q417 comment: This is a deregulatory action under 13771.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417 Pushed to Q118

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC10 Reclassification of the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review Not on Q4
1018-BC12 Depredation Orders for Double-Crested Cormorants; Removal of Regulations 50 CFR 21	FR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven. **What the rule does:** On May 25, 2016, the District Court for the District of Columbia ordered that both the Aquaculture Depredation Order and the Public Resources Depredation Order for double-crested cormorants be vacated until FWS performs a new and legally adequate environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for national cormorant management orders in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The court concluded that FWS did not take careful enough consideration of the effects of the depredation orders on cormorant populations and other affected resources (fisheries, vulnerable species, and habitats) and failed to consider a range of reasonable alternatives in the remanded 2014 environmental assessment. Therefore, this rule removes the regulations setting forth the provisions of the orders at 50 CFR 21.47 and 21.48. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Jerry Thompson, 703-358-2217.	12/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Should be final during Q4; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs. We responded that critical habitat is not being proposed for these species at this time. If prudent and determinable, the critical habitat will be proposed under this RIN at a later stage. The requested information will be made available at that time. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Pushing to Q118 11/14/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC20 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Blackfin Sucker~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ ~~**What the rule does**: We will make a listing determination for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. The blackfin sucker is a fish found in Kentucky. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant.** Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant.** Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Was on Q417 Pushed forward to FY18 Q2; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC32 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Eastern Population of the Boreal Toad~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does~~**~~:The purpose of this action under the Endangered Species Act was, if found to be prudent and determinable, to propose to designate critical habitat for the Kirtland's snake. The Kirtland's snake is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. However, this agenda item is being withdrawn as it has been combined with the listing determination for this species under RIN 1018-BC22.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact~~**~~: Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Was on Q417 Pushing to Q118 Ready for OMB Review 12/1/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC36 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Oregon Cascades California Population of the Black-Backed Woodpecker~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~We will make a listing determination for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act. This population is found in California, North Dakota, and Oregon. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact~~**~~: Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Pacific Walrus 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~We will make a listing determination for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in Alaska. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~The State of Alaska, the Eskimo Walrus Commission, and many native Alaska communities will be opposed to a listing rule for the walrus.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC42 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Big Blue Springs Cave Crayfish and Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the Big Blue Springs cave crayfish and Woodville Karst cave crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. These species are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for these species under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Will be complete in Q4; remove

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796. OMB comment on Q417: OMB requests a briefing paper given that this species was delisted in 2004, its relisting may generate public interest. Response sent to Exec Sec 7/18/17	~~9/15/17~~ Moved to Q118 Ready for OMB Review 12/1/17
~~‡1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q2; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ On Q417 Moved to FY18 Q2; remove
1018-xxxx Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Beaver Pond Marstonia 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 12/31/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Beaver Pond marstonia under the Endangered Species Act. This freshwater snail species is found in Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Beaver Pond marstonia under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	12/15/17 Submitting RIN request

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC52 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Barren's Topminnow 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 12/31/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Barrens topminnow under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Barrens topminnow under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	12/15/17
~~‡1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-Nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370~~	~~7/6/17~~ Scheduled to publish in the Federal Register on 9/6/17; remove

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC54 Notice of Taxonomic Correction for Orangutan 50 CFR 17	PD	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a taxonomic change for the orangutan. The orangutan was originally listed as a single entity under the ESA: *Pongo pygmaeu*s, which included orangutans from Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei. However, the orangutan is currently only found in northern Sumatra (Indonesia) and Borneo (Indonesia and Malaysia). Since the original listing, taxonomic reviews by the scientific community support Pongo abelii in Sumatra (Indonesia) as being a separate species from Pongo pygmaeus in Borneo (Indonesia and Malaysia). Because both species are considered part of the original listed entity, the revised taxonomy does not change the endangered status of either species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Not subject to OMB review Pushed from Q4 to Q1
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Gila chub from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants and Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** The Service will propose to remove the Gila chub, a fish found in Arizona and New Mexico**,** from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to a recent taxonomic revision. This taxonomic revision indicates that the Gila chub is no longer a separate species that is a listable entity under the ESA. **Controversy:** There may be some organizations that disagree with this taxonomic revision. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AW04 Removal of Eureka Dunes Evening Primrose and Eureka Valley Dunegrass from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the Eureka Dunes evening primrose and Eureka Valley dunegrass, two plant species found in Death Valley National Park in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
1018-BA21 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections of Taxonomy and Nomenclature for 40 Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will correct scientific names and common names on the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants for approximately 40 species through a direct final rule. The corrections are administrative in nature and involve no substantive changes to the Lists, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA54 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections for Eight Wildlife Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will revise the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in accordance with the Endangered Species Act to correct errors for several species of wildlife in the "Vertebrate population where endangered or threatened" column. The CFR incorrectly identifies some wildlife species as being listed only in the United States, and others as being listed only outside the United States, even though the species were originally listed in their entirety both inside and outside the United States, and no subsequent rulemakings have altered the original listings. These revisions are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or to any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 12-Month Finding on a Petition/Proposal to List the Yangtze Sturgeon (*Acipenser dabryanus*) as an Endangered Species 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to list the Yangtze Sturgeon (*Acipenser dabryanus*) as endangered under the ESA. This fish species is found in China. **Controversy:** While there is no controversy for this species, China is concerned that the potential listing of this species will have an impact on other species that are traded internationally, such as the Amur sturgeon. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request; PR would be pub Oct 31 2017
1018-xxxx Proposed Rule to Establish a Nonessential Experimental Population of the California Condor in the Pacific Northwest 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to designate an area in the Pacific Northwest as a nonessential experimental population area for reintroduction of California condors. This action is being taken in partnership with the National Park Service and the Yurok Tribe in support of recovery goals for the species. **Controversy:** ???? **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Submitting RIN request; 12/15/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Amending the Listing for the Southern Selkirk Mountains Population of Woodland Caribou 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to amend the current listing of the endangered southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, to define a distinct population segment (DPS) consistent with the 1996 DPS Policy. FWS will make a final determination on the proposal to list as threatened the Southern Mountain Caribou DPS, which includes the southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, a trans-boundary species between British Columbia, Canada, and northern Idaho and northeastern Washington. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Submitting RIN request; 12/15/17
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Hyacinth Macaw 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the hyacinth macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*) as an threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS is also proposing a 4(d) rule that will exempt interstate trade. This bird species is found in Bolivia, Brazil, and Paraguay **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request; FR would pub Nov 2017

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx; Endangered Species Status for Five Tarantula Species from Sri Lanka 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Under the Endangered Species Act, FWS will list as endangered the following five tarantula species from Sri Lanka: Poecilotheria fasciata, P. ornata, P.smithi, P. subfusca, and P. vittata. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2376.	Submitting RIN request; FR would publish Oct 2017
1018-xxxx General Provisions; Revised List of Migratory Birds 50 CFR 10.13	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** The purpose of this rule making is administrative in nature and meant to inform the public of the species protected by the MBTA. This rule is required to update the current list of migratory birds protected by the MBTA as published in 50 CFR 10.13. This proposed rule will update the list based on scientific changes to bird taxonomy (i.e., common names, scientific names, families, etc.). Without updating this list, the public will be unaware of current avian taxonomy and how it relates to birds protected by law. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376	Was on previous lists (?), but then RIN withdrawn 12/15/17 Submitting RIN request
1018-xxxx Regulations for Managing Resident Canada Goose Populations 50 CFR 21	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to amend the regulations governing control of resident Canada geese by removing the date restrictions on authorized destruction of resident Canada goose nests and eggs. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Padding, 301-497-5851.	12/1/17 Submitting RIN request

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Migratory Bird Subsistence in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska during the 2018 Season 50 CFR 92	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS promulgates subsistence harvest regulations for migratory birds for the 2018 season in Alaska. These regulations enable the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. These regulations are developed under a co-management process involving the FWS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.	12/15/17 Submitting RIN request
1018-BB39 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants**;** Removal of Hidden Lake Bluecurls from the List of Threatened and Endangered Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to remove Hidden Lake bluecurls from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. The species is endemic to an alpine lake in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	12/15/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-AW66 Clean Vessel Act Grant Program, 50 CFR 85	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule gives State agencies requirements for receiving Federal financial assistance for this competitive grant program (Clean Vessel Act of 1992, Sec. 5604) that supports installing waste reception/removal facilities for vessel septic waste, and associated education. This rule update would combine three *Federal Register* documents into one document at 50 CFR 85. We published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking in September 2015 (80 FR 55078) and established a Federal/State team to assist FWS with appropriate updates to clarify and simplify the program, placing more emphasis on clean water. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS is leading a Federal/State team to develop approaches to update the rule to reduce administrative burdens, offer services to a larger user group, and expand clean water opportunities. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703.358.1942.	11/10/17
‡1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417 and Q317 as FR; pushing to 10/2/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Was on Q417 in FR stage; pushing to 10/4/2017
‡1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350. OMB comment on Q417: Propose OMB RMO review since addressing fee increases. (Megan suggested we send a briefing paper.)	~~9/29/17~~ Pushed to 10/26/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741. Note: If this rule leads to a reduction in paperwork burden then it would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771. If this rule leads to a reduction in paperwork burden then it would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	~~9/29/17~~ ~~On Q317 and Q417~~ 12/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR (ANPR and NPRM)	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for updating requirements for State fish and wildlife agencies to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would update definitions for clarity, propose new requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance to reflect the desires of State Directors, clarify program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	~~7/5/17~~ On Q317 and Q417 in PR stage; Pushed to Q118 10/2/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q4; pushing to Q1 11/11/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BA76 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish 50 CFR 100; 50 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	~~8/30/17~~ Pushed to Q1 10/2/17
‡1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources by reducing the cost of printing the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	~~8/31/17~~ Was on Q417; pushed to 10/2/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BA81 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Wildlife (50 CFR 17.95)	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule removes the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.95 (wildlife) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the Code of Federal Regulations and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	12/15/17 Not on previous list

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. OMB's comment in response to Q317 list: "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	~~10/15/17~~ 12/15/17 PR was on list Q3 and Q4, but this is the first time for FR
1018-BB21 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections of Taxonomy and Nomenclature for Wildlife and Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is updating the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants in accordance with the Endangered Species Act by making taxonomic corrections to the scientific names and other corrections for approximately 40 species that occur primarily in California and Nevada. The corrections are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	10/15/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.** **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	~~8/15/17~~ Was on Q317 and Q417; pushed to Q118 10/2/17
‡1018-BB23 Revision of Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) Contest Regulations 50 CFR 91	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** In 2016, FWS proposed to revise the regulations governing the annual Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Contest (also known as the Federal Duck Stamp Contest). We are revising that proposed rule based on comments we received, the need to make technical corrections (updates), and the need to incorporate administration priorities. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Mott 703-358-1910	10/2/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	~~8/30/17~~ On Q3 and Q4 10/15/17
‡1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q317 and Q417 10/2/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018 BB73 Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Frameworks for Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations for the 2018–19 Hunting Season 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule proposes the 2018–19 season hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. We annually prescribe frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur, and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow State selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.	12/1/17
‡1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will finalize a proposal to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities. **Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678. **OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	First appearance on OMB report in FR stage 10/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito Gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. FWS will also make available a draft post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. OMB response to Q417?: This is a deregulatory action under 13771.	Not subject to OMB review On Q417; Pushed to 12/15/17
1018-BB77 Migratory Bird Permits; Removing a Depredation Order for Scrub Jays and Steller's Jays in Washington and Oregon 50 CFR 21	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is withdrawing a proposed rule to remove 50 CFR 21.46, a regulation that sets forth a depredation order for scrub jays and Steller's jays in Oregon and Washington. FWS had proposed to remove this regulation, as we had received no reports of activities undertaken under the provisions of section 21.46 in the last 10 years. However, we have recently received several reports under this depredation order, so we are now withdrawing the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Jerry Thompson, 703-358-2217.	12/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) a Was on Q417 nd monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Pushed from Q4 to Q118
‡1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a New Mexico plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review 12/15/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BB89 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Kuenzler Hedgehog Cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to remove the Kuenzler hedgehog cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. The Kuenzler hedgehog cactus is found in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review
‡1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417; pushing to Q118

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** [redacted] **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942. Note: If there is a reduction in paperwork burden, then this would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	10/19/17
‡1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ 10/6/17 On Q317 and Q417; pushed to Q1

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BB98 Revision to the Nonessential Experimental Population Designation of Red Wolf in North Carolina 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will publish a proposed rule to revise the existing nonessential experimental population designation of red wolves in North Carolina under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** We anticipate both support and opposition to the revision of the 10(j) rule. North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) supports a revision of the current 10(j) rule, because NCWRC has recognized, along with FWS, that improved management of the nonessential experimental population of the Red wolf is needed. The FWS will engage NCWRC in the drafting of a proposed 10(j) rule. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Not on Q4

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BB99 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet of Alaska. This action would also reorganize specific regulations addressing the Kenai River, which would provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking. (This is a joint rulemaking between DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service.) **Controversy:** Senator Murkowski and Representative Young have expressed interest in this issue in the past; however, they have not recently contacted FWS about this issue. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs, which we answered. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	12/1/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC01 Reclassification of the Kirtland's Warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened (downlist), due to the positive effect of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The downlisting rule is accompanied with an Endangered Species Act section 4(d) rule. The Kirtland's warbler breeds in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Eastern Canada. Migration may span most of the eastern United States as far west as the Mississippi River, with occurrences concentrated around the Great Lakes, Appalachia, and the Atlantic Ocean coastline. The Kirtland's warbler winters almost exclusively in the Bahamas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. OMB Q417 comment: If accompanied by a 4(d) rule, this would be a deregulatory action under EO 13771.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q317 Pushed to Q118
1018-BC05 Civil Procedures; Inflation Adjustments for Civil Monetary Penalties 50 CFR 11	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will establish inflation adjustments for civil monetary penalties for 2018. The inflation adjustments will be updated after using the 2018 inflation adjustment multiplier provided in OMB guidance. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	12/31/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC06 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2019–20 and 2020–21 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish Regulations	PR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2019–20 and 2020–21 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	12/15/17 First appearance on list
‡1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish endemic to Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. We will also make available a draft post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. Q417 comment: This is a deregulatory action under 13771.	Not subject to OMB review Was on Q417 Pushed to Q118

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC10 Reclassification of the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review Not on Q4
1018-BC12 Depredation Orders for Double-Crested Cormorants; Removal of Regulations 50 CFR 21	FR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven. **What the rule does:** On May 25, 2016, the District Court for the District of Columbia ordered that both the Aquaculture Depredation Order and the Public Resources Depredation Order for double-crested cormorants be vacated until FWS performs a new and legally adequate environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for national cormorant management orders in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The court concluded that FWS did not take careful enough consideration of the effects of the depredation orders on cormorant populations and other affected resources (fisheries, vulnerable species, and habitats) and failed to consider a range of reasonable alternatives in the remanded 2014 environmental assessment. Therefore, this rule removes the regulations setting forth the provisions of the orders at 50 CFR 21.47 and 21.48. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Jerry Thompson, 703-358-2217.	12/1/17

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC16 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs. We responded that critical habitat is not being proposed for these species at this time. If prudent and determinable, the critical habitat will be proposed under this RIN at a later stage. The requested information will be made available at that time. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Pushing to Q118 11/14/17
‡1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Was on Q417 Pushing to Q118 Ready for OMB Review 12/1/17

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796. OMB comment on Q417: OMB requests a briefing paper given that this species was delisted in 2004, its relisting may generate public interest. Response sent to Exec Sec 7/18/17	~~9/15/17~~ Moved to Q118 Ready for OMB Review 12/1/17
1018-xxxx Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Beaver Pond Marstonia 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 12/31/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Beaver Pond marstonia under the Endangered Species Act. This freshwater snail species is found in Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Beaver Pond marstonia under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	12/15/17 Submitting RIN request

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BC52 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Barren's Topminnow 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 12/31/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Barrens topminnow under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Barrens topminnow under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	12/15/17
1018-BC54 Notice of Taxonomic Correction for Orangutan 50 CFR 17	PD	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a taxonomic change for the orangutan. The orangutan was originally listed as a single entity under the ESA: *Pongo pygmaeu*s, which included orangutans from Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei. However, the orangutan is currently only found in northern Sumatra (Indonesia) and Borneo (Indonesia and Malaysia). Since the original listing, taxonomic reviews by the scientific community support Pongo abelii in Sumatra (Indonesia) as being a separate species from Pongo pygmaeus in Borneo (Indonesia and Malaysia). Because both species are considered part of the original listed entity, the revised taxonomy does not change the endangered status of either species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	Not subject to OMB review Pushed from Q4 to Q1

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Gila chub from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants and Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** The Service will propose to remove the Gila chub, a fish found in Arizona and New Mexico**,** from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to a recent taxonomic revision. This taxonomic revision indicates that the Gila chub is no longer a separate species that is a listable entity under the ESA. **Controversy:** There may be some organizations that disagree with this taxonomic revision. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request
‡1018-AW04 Removal of Eureka Dunes Evening Primrose and Eureka Valley Dunegrass from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the Eureka Dunes evening primrose and Eureka Valley dunegrass, two plant species found in Death Valley National Park in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-BA21 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections of Taxonomy and Nomenclature for 40 Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will correct scientific names and common names on the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants for approximately 40 species through a direct final rule. The corrections are administrative in nature and involve no substantive changes to the Lists, or any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444	Not subject to OMB review
‡1018-BA54 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections for Eight Wildlife Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will revise the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in accordance with the Endangered Species Act to correct errors for several species of wildlife in the "Vertebrate population where endangered or threatened" column. The CFR incorrectly identifies some wildlife species as being listed only in the United States, and others as being listed only outside the United States, even though the species were originally listed in their entirety both inside and outside the United States, and no subsequent rulemakings have altered the original listings. These revisions are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or to any applicable regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 12-Month Finding on a Petition/Proposal to List the Yangtze Sturgeon (*Acipenser dabryanus*) as an Endangered Species 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to list the Yangtze Sturgeon (*Acipenser dabryanus*) as endangered under the ESA. This fish species is found in China. **Controversy:** While there is no controversy for this species, China is concerned that the potential listing of this species will have an impact on other species that are traded internationally, such as the Amur sturgeon. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request; PR would be pub Oct 31 2017
1018-xxxx Proposed Rule to Establish a Nonessential Experimental Population of the California Condor in the Pacific Northwest 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to designate an area in the Pacific Northwest as a nonessential experimental population area for reintroduction of California condors. This action is being taken in partnership with the National Park Service and the Yurok Tribe in support of recovery goals for the species. **Controversy:** ???? **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Submitting RIN request; 12/15/17

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Amending the Listing for the Southern Selkirk Mountains Population of Woodland Caribou 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to amend the current listing of the endangered southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, to define a distinct population segment (DPS) consistent with the 1996 DPS Policy. FWS will make a final determination on the proposal to list as threatened the Southern Mountain Caribou DPS, which includes the southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, a trans-boundary species between British Columbia, Canada, and northern Idaho and northeastern Washington. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Submitting RIN request; 12/15/17
1018-xxxx Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Hyacinth Macaw 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the hyacinth macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*) as an threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS is also proposing a 4(d) rule that will exempt interstate trade. This bird species is found in Bolivia, Brazil, and Paraguay **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Submitting RIN request; FR would publish Nov 2017

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx; Endangered Species Status for Five Tarantula Species from Sri Lanka 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Under the Endangered Species Act, FWS will list as endangered the following five tarantula species from Sri Lanka: Poecilotheria fasciata, P. ornata, P.smithi, P. subfusca, and P. vittata. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2376.	Submitting RIN request; FR would publish Oct 2017
1018-xxxx General Provisions; Revised List of Migratory Birds 50 CFR 10.13	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** The purpose of this rule making is administrative in nature and meant to inform the public of the species protected by the MBTA. This rule is required to update the current list of migratory birds protected by the MBTA as published in 50 CFR 10.13. This proposed rule will update the list based on scientific changes to bird taxonomy (i.e., common names, scientific names, families, etc.). Without updating this list, the public will be unaware of current avian taxonomy and how it relates to birds protected by law. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	12/15/17 Submitting RIN request
1018-xxxx Regulations for Managing Resident Canada Goose Populations 50 CFR 21	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to amend the regulations governing control of resident Canada geese by removing the date restrictions on authorized destruction of resident Canada goose nests and eggs. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Paul Padding, 301-497-5851.	12/1/17 Submitting RIN request

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018-xxxx Migratory Bird Subsistence in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska during the 2018 Season 50 CFR 92	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS promulgates subsistence harvest regulations for migratory birds for the 2018 season in Alaska. These regulations enable the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. These regulations are developed under a co-management process involving the FWS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.	12/15/17 Submitting RIN request
1018-BB39 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants**;** Removal of Hidden Lake Bluecurls from the List of Threatened and Endangered Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to remove Hidden Lake bluecurls from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. The species is endemic to an alpine lake in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	12/15/17

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

Agenda Review Report 1018-AU96

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Hawaiian Hawk From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

RIN: 1018-AU96 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove the Hawaiian hawk, a bird found in Hawaii, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM--Reclassification	08/05/1993	58 FR 41684
NPRM--Delisting	08/06/2008	73 FR 45680
NPRM Comment Period End	10/06/2008	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	02/11/2009	74 FR 6853
NPRM Comment Period End	04/13/2009	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	06/05/2009	74 FR 27004
NPRM Comment Period End	08/04/2009	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	02/12/2014	79 FR 8413
NPRM Comment Period End	04/14/2014	
Final Action	02/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None
 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No
 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No
INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No
USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:
http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:
http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-AV82

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Permits; Revisions to Banding or Marking Permits

RIN: 1018-AV82 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 668 to 668d

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 21.22

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We are revising our migratory bird banding and marking regulations to: (1) Reflect the transfer of authority for the Federal bird banding and marking permit program to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS); (2) define the qualification guidelines for different levels of banding and marking authorization; and (3) address changes in banding and marking technology.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	06/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Eureka Dunes Evening Primrose and Eureka Valley Dunegrass From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

RIN: 1018-AW04 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove Eureka Dunes evening primrose and Eureka Valley dunegrass from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery. The two plant species are found in California.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	02/27/2014	79 FR 11053
NPRM Comment Period End	04/28/2014	
Final Action	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-AW51

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Permits; Permit Exceptions for Captive-Reared Mallard Ducks

RIN: 1018-AW51 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 40 Stat. 755 (16 U.S.C. 703); Pub. L. 95-616, 92 Stat. 3112 (16 U.S.C. 712(2)); Pub. L. 106-108, 113 Stat.1491, note following 16 U.S.C. 703

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 21.13

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

In carrying out our responsibility to safeguard migratory waterfowl protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, we considered proposing revisions to the regulations pertaining to permit exceptions for captive-reared mallard ducks. Our goal was to address conflicts that result from the intermingling of captive-reared mallards with wild ducks in the United States. However, we are withdrawing this rulemaking action from the Agenda as we do not have immediate plans to publish proposed regulations. We may pursue this rulemaking action at a future time.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/29/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-AW66

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Wildlife and Fisheries; Clean Vessel Act Grant Program; Financial Assistance

RIN: 1018-AW66 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

33 U.S.C. 1322 as amended; 16 U.S.C. 777c

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 85

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to update regulations that tell States how to apply for and receive grants under the Clean Vessel Act program. The program provides funds for States to install facilities for boaters to dispose of septic waste from vessels with holding tanks, and to provide information and education on the use, location, and benefits of pump-out facilities. The rule would combine two rulemakings from 1994 and 1997 and guidelines published in 1994, reducing and simplifying program rules in one location. The revisions would reflect changes in the U.S. Code, improve program management and understanding, and update information based on experience and current technology. The Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council, a group chartered by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, published a June 2008 report that identified 30 recommendations for improving the program in the areas of administration, reporting, funding, project maintenance, and operation. The Service is working with a Federal/State team and the States Organization for Boating Access in developing areas for improvement that will assist States in completing successful projects.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
ANPRM	09/14/2015	80 FR 55078
ANPRM Comment Period End	11/13/2015	
NPRM	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: State
 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No
ENERGY AFFECTED:
INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No
USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:
http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/CVA/CVA.htm

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:
http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-AW75

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Permits; Abatement Permits

RIN: 1018-AW75 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 40 Stat. 755 (16 U.S.C. 703); Pub. L. 95-616; 92 Stat. 3112 (16 U.S.C. 712(2)); Pub. L. 106; Pub. L. 108; 113 Stat 1491, note following 16 U.S.C. 703

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 21.32

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

In 2015, we proposed regulations, including creation of a new permit, governing the use of raptors (birds of prey) in abatement activities. Abatement is the use of trained raptors to flush, haze, or take birds (or other wildlife, when allowed) to mitigate depredation problems, including threats to human health and safety. The Service currently issues special purpose permits for use of raptors in abatement. We are withdrawing this rulemaking action from the Agenda as we do not have immediate plans to finalize this action. However, we may pursue completion of this rulemaking action at a future time.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
ANPRM	07/06/2011	76 FR 39368
ANPRM Comment Period End	10/04/2011	
ANPRM Comment Period Reopened	11/02/2011	76 FR 67650
ANPRM Comment Period Reopened End	12/02/2011	
NPRM	04/01/2015	80 FR 17374
NPRM Correction	04/22/2015	80 FR 22467
NPRM Comment Period End	06/30/2015	
Withdrawn	08/31/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No
GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: State
 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No
 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No
INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No
USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:
http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:
http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Jerry E. Thompson, National Migratory Bird Permit Coordinator,
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5275 Leesburg Pike,
MS: MB,
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
PHONE: 703 358-2016,
FAX: 703 358-2217,
EMAIL: jerry_e_thompson@fws.gov

* - Missing data
# - Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-AW83

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Revising Regulations; Implementing the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992

RIN: 1018-AW83 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Other

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

61 U.S.C. 4901 to 4916

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 15

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to revise our regulations implementing the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992, which have not been substantively updated since 1993. We plan to revise these regulations in light of our experiences in implementing the legislation and regulations over the past 15 years, and also to streamline and clarify certain aspects of the current regulations.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	03/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Undetermined

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: Yes

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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MS: IA,
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PHONE: 703 358-2162,
FAX: 703 358-2298,
EMAIL: craig_hoover@fws.gov

Agenda Review Report 1018-AX24

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Permits; Revisions to Special Purpose Permit Regulations for Game Birds

RIN: 1018-AX24 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 40 Stat 755, 16 U.S.C. 703 to 712; Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, 16 U.S.C. 742a to j; Pub. L. 106-108, 113 Stat 1491

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 21

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

In 2010, we proposed to revise the regulations regarding captive-bred migratory waterfowl and other game birds (those species for which hunting regulations are established in 50 CFR 20.11), with particular provisions for muscovy ducks (Cairina moschata). The proposed rule would also consolidate and simplify permitting for captive-bred game birds by revising the regulations pertaining to Waterfowl Sale and Disposal permits. We are withdrawing this rulemaking action from the Agenda as we do not have immediate plans to finalize this action. However, we may pursue completion of this rulemaking action at a future time.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	10/01/2010	75 FR 60691
NPRM Comment Period End	12/30/2010	
Withdrawn	08/31/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Jerry E. Thompson, National Migratory Bird Permit Coordinator,
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Agenda Review Report 1018-AX99

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

RIN: 1018-AX99 (Completed Actions)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

On June 23, 2017, we published a final rule to to remove the Hualapai Mexican vole from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, due to inaccurate information at the time of listing. This action is now complete. This small mammal is found in Arizona.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	06/04/2015	80 FR 31875
NPRM Comment Period End	08/03/2015	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	12/22/2016	81 FR 93879
NPRM Comment Period Reopened End	01/23/2017	
Final Action	06/23/2017	82 FR 28582
Final Action Effective	07/24/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
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FAX: 703 358-1735,
EMAIL: don_morgan@fws.gov

Agenda Review Report 1018-AY03

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision of the Listing and Reclassification of the Tidewater Goby From Endangered to Threatened

RIN: 1018-AY03 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 03/07/2014

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposed rule to reclassify the tidewater goby, a fish found in California, from endangered to threatened. After reviewing new scientific information regarding the species' taxonomy, we will revise the proposed rule.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	03/13/2014	79 FR 14340
NPRM Comment Period End	05/12/2014	
NPRM--Revised	07/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-AY05

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Eastern Cougar From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

RIN: 1018-AY05 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove the eastern puma (cougar) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, due to extinction. The eastern puma (cougar) was formerly found in eastern North America.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	06/17/2015	80 FR 34595
NPRM Comment Period End	08/17/2015	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	06/28/2016	81 FR 41925
NPRM Comment Period Reopened End	07/28/2016	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-AY30

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Eagle Permits; Modifications to Regulations Governing Take to Protect Interests in Particular Localities; Correction

RIN: 1018-AY30 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Info./Admin./Other

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 668 to 668d

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 22

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

In 2016, the Service revised eagle nonpurposeful take permit regulations and eagle nest take regulations pertaining to such issues as eagle population objectives, programmatic permit standards and duration, criteria for eagle nest removal permits, compensatory mitigation, refinement of the low-risk permit category, and adaptive management and monitoring. The rule also affected a permit fee table in 50 CFR part 13. However, due to a formatting error in the rule, the revisions to the fee table were not incorporated into the Code of Federal Regulations. Therefore, in 2017 we published a document to correct the formatting error. This action was purely administrative and did not affect the provisions of the original rule in any substantive way.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Action	09/11/2009	74 FR 46836
ANPRM	04/13/2012	77 FR 22278
ANPRM Comment Period End	07/12/2012	
Notice	06/23/2014	79 FR 35564
Notice Comment Period End	09/22/2014	
NPRM	05/06/2016	81 FR 27934
NPRM Comment Period End	07/05/2016	
Final Action	12/16/2016	81 FR 91494
Final Action Effective	01/17/2017	
Information Collection Requirements	01/23/2017	82 FR 7708

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Action--Correction	08/30/2017	82 FR 41177
Final Action Effective	08/30/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

http://

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Eliza Savage, Eagle Program Manager, Division of Migratory Bird Management,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
5275 Leesburg Pike,
MS: MB,
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
PHONE: 703 358-2329,
EMAIL: eliza_savage@fws.gov

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-AY75

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Multi-Year Hunting and Fishing License Certification for the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program

RIN: 1018-AY75 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 661; 16 U.S.C. 669; 16 U.S.C. 777; 16 U.S.C. 742a; 16 U.S.C. 742f(a)(4); 16 U.S.C. 1531; 16 U.S.C. 2901 to 2911; 16 U.S.C. 3741 to 3744; 16 U.S.C. 3951; 16 U.S.C. 460l-4 to 460l-11; 33 U.S.C. 1322; 43 U.S.C. 1356a(b); Pub. L. 104-421; Pub. L. 108-421; Annual Appropriations Acts

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 80

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

This proposed rule will address how we count multi-year hunting and fishing licenses for States to report total license holders for their annual apportionments from the Service's Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) Trust Funds under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts. These funds go to support grants and cooperative agreements that fund projects that conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, their habitats, and the hunting, sport fishing, and recreational boating opportunities they provide. State fish and game agencies have repeatedly asked for action on this issue, so initiation of an action to change inadequate language in our current implementing regulations is not controversial.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/29/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Local, State, Tribal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Peter Barlow, Fish and Wildlife Administrator,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
Branch of Policy, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program,
5275 Leesburg Pike,
MS: WSFR,
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PHONE: 703 358-2119,
FAX: 703 358-1705,
EMAIL: peter_barlow@fws.gov

Agenda Review Report 1018-AZ02

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle

RIN: 1018-AZ02 (No Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

Final, Judicial, 09/21/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Sonoyta mud turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Pima County, Arizona, and also in Mexico, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	09/21/2016	81 FR 64829
NPRM Comment Period End	11/21/2016	
Final Action	09/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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5275 Leesburg Pike,
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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-AZ18

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Fee Exemption Program for Low-Risk Business Users at Designated Ports

RIN: 1018-AZ18 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Other

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 668; 16 U.S.C. 704; 16 U.S.C. 712; 16 U.S.C. 1382; 16 U.S.C. 1538(d) to (f); 16 U.S.C. 1540(f); 16 U.S.C. 3371 to 3378; 16 U.S.C. 4223 to 4244; 16 U.S.C. 4901 to 4916; 18 U.S.C. 42; 31 U.S.C. 9701

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 14

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We have implemented a fee program that exempts certain businesses from base inspection fees at designated ports. The program exempts businesses that exclusively import or export shipments that we would consider to be small and of low value. This program will serve as an interim measure while we reassess our current user fee system.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Interim Final Rule	10/26/2012	77 FR 65321
Interim Final Rule Effective	10/26/2012	
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	12/26/2012	
Final Action	10/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: Businesses

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Paul Beiriger, Special Agent in Charge,
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Branch of Investigations, Office of Law Enforcement,
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FAX: 703 358-1947,
EMAIL: paul_beiriger@fws.gov

Agenda Review Report 1018-AZ38

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species

RIN: 1018-AZ38 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

Final, Statutory, 10/17/2013

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination to designate critical habitat for three Hawaiian plant species (Mezoneuron kavaiense, Isodendrion pyrifolium, and Bidens micrantha ssp. ctenophylla) under the Endangered Species Act. These three species are listed as endangered. We are correcting maps for four other listed plant species that currently have critical habitat designated. These species are found in seven multi-species critical habitat units on lands owned by the U.S. National Park Service, State of Hawaii, County of Hawaii, and private interests

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	10/17/2012	77 FR 63928
NPRM Comment Period End	12/17/2012	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	04/30/2013	78 FR 25243
NPRM Comment Period Reopened End	05/30/2013	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	07/02/2013	78 FR 39698
NPRM Comment Period Reopened End	09/03/2013	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	05/20/2016	81 FR 31900
NPRM Comment Period Reopened End	06/06/2016	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal, Local, State

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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MS: ES,
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
PHONE: 703 358-1796,
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Agenda Review Report 1018-AZ65

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications

RIN: 1018-AZ65 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 668a; 16 U.S.C. 704; 16 U.S.C. 712; 16 U.S.C. 742j-l; 16 U.S.C. 1374(g); 16 U.S.C. 1382; 16 U.S.C. 1538(d); 16 U.S.C. 1539; 16 U.S.C. 1540(f); 16 U.S.C. 3374; 16 U.S.C. 4901 to 4916; 18 U.S.C. 42; 19 U.S.C. 1202; 31 U.S.C. 9701

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 13

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to revise our general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs to better reflect the Service's costs for reviewing permit applications. Most of the permit application fees have not been amended since 2005. While a portion of the proposed fee increases are to address rising operational costs, the increases also reflect increased complexity in evaluating some application types and the need for improved technology to better streamline the process and reduce burdens on the permitted communities. In addition, the proposed fee increases are to be more in line with OMB circular A25. We also propose several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and to make other minor changes. Permits to be affected are those that allow people to carry out otherwise prohibited activities under the Endangered Species Act, Lacey Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Wild Bird Conservation Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: Businesses

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No
 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No
INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: Yes
USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
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EMAIL: tim_vannorman@fws.gov

* - Missing data
# - Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-AZ69

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls)

RIN: 1018-AZ69 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 16 U.S.C. 703 to 712

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 21

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/04/2013	78 FR 65955
NPRM Comment Period End	02/03/2014	
Final Action	07/25/2017	82 FR 34419
Final Action Effective	08/24/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: State

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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PHONE: 703 358-2016,
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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-AZ71

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife

RIN: 1018-AZ71 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Other

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 668; 16 U.S.C. 704; 16 U.S.C. 712; 16 U.S.C. 1382; 16 U.S.C. 1538(d) to (f); 16 U.S.C. 1540(f); 16 U.S.C. 3371 to 3378; 16 U.S.C. 4223 to 4244; 16 U.S.C. 4901 to 4916; 18 U.S.C. 42; 31 U.S.C. 9701

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 14

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses, and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: Yes

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BA31

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife and Public Participation and Closure Procedures on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska

RIN: 1018-BA31 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 460(k) et seq.; 16 U.S.C. 668dd to 668ee, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 742(a) et seq.; 16 U.S.C. 3101 et seq., as amended; 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 36

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

The final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248), and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115-20). This action conforms to Public Law 115-20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the effective date of the final rule that was nullified under the Congressional Review Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/08/2016	81 FR 887
Hearing	01/08/2016	81 FR 886
NPRM Comment Period Extended	02/26/2016	81 FR 9799
NPRM Comment Period End	03/08/2016	
NPRM Comment Period Extended End	04/07/2016	
Final Action	08/05/2016	81 FR 52248
Final Action Effective	09/06/2016	
Final Rule; CRA Revocation	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: State
 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No
 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No
INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No
USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data
# - Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BA33

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4

RIN: 1018-BA33 (Prerule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 669; 16 U.S.C. 777

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 80

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We begin a process of updating the regulations that direct State fish and wildlife agencies on how to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, we distribute annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax revenues and fuel taxes. We will publish an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) with a proposed rule (NPRM). This is the first of a four-phase rulemaking. This phase will introduce some more difficult topics, such as predator control, for discussion and future resolution via the ANPRM, while using the NPRM to propose changes to definitions and topics such as license certification, real property, program income, matching funds, and program symbols. We will also update for consistency with 2 CFR part 200. We have coordinated with State fish and wildlife agency directors on changes to license certification and worked with a Federal/State team to develop topic resolution and the phased schedule. We will post additional information, when it is available, at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
ANPRM	11/00/2017	
NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal, State

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No
ENERGY AFFECTED:
INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No
USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

Related to 1018-BB84;
Related to 1018-BB85;
Related to 1018-BB86

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BA41

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

RIN: 1018-BA41 (Completed Actions)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

On December 31, 2016, we published a final rule to remove the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) population of grizzly bears from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This action is now completed. This determination will affect only the GYE population of grizzly bears.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	03/11/2016	81 FR 13174
NPRM Comment Period End	05/10/2016	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	09/07/2016	81 FR 61658
NPRM Comment Period Reopened End	10/07/2016	
Final Action	06/30/2017	82 FR 30502
Final Action Effective	07/31/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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5275 Leesburg Pike,
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Agenda Review Report 1018-BA43

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassifying Borax Lake Chub From Endangered to Threatened

RIN: 1018-BA43 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. This fish is found in Oregon.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Don R. Morgan, Chief, Branch of Recovery and State Grants, Ecological Services Program,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
5275 Leesburg Pike,
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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BA54

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Corrections of Errors for Descriptions of Listing Locations for Wildlife Species Listed Both in the United States and Foreign Countries

RIN: 1018-BA54 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We are updating the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in accordance with the Endangered Species Act to correct errors for several species of wildlife in the "Vertebrate population where endangered or threatened" column. The CFR incorrectly identifies some wildlife species as being listed only in the United States, and others as being listed only outside the United States, even though the species were originally listed in their entirety both inside and outside the United States, and no subsequent rulemakings have altered the original listings. These revisions are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or to any applicable regulations.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Action	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Don R. Morgan, Chief, Branch of Recovery and State Grants, Ecological Services Program,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
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MS: ES,
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EMAIL: don_morgan@fws.gov

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BA66

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Harvest Regulations for the Alaska-Chukotka Polar Bear Population; Limits to the Taking of Polar Bears and Harvest Reporting Requirements

RIN: 1018-BA66 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1423

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 18

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

In 2016, we published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking regarding implementation of the annual taking limit for the Alaska-Chukotka polar bear population. The taking limit was adopted by the Commissioners to the Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Russian Federation on the Conservation and Management of the Alaska-Chukotka Polar Bear Population (Agreement). The Service solicited public comment on the development of a regulatory program and local management structures for carrying out the responsibilities under the Agreement and title V of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended. The Service also sought comments on the formation of an Alaska Native Organization for the purposes of involving subsistence users in conservation and management of polar bears in Alaska. Because we do not have immediate plans to publish a proposed rule, we are withdrawing this rulemaking action from the Agenda. However, we may pursue completion of this rulemaking action at a future time.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
ANPRM	11/08/2016	81 FR 78560
ANPRM Comment Period End	01/09/2017	
Withdrawn	08/31/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No
 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No
INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: Yes
USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Patrick Lemons, Chief, Marine Mammals Management,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
1011 East Tudor Road,
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Charles Hamilton, Special Assistant, Marine Mammals Management,
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PHONE: 907 786-3800,
FAX: 907 786-3816,
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Agenda Review Report 1018-BA74

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue

RIN: 1018-BA74 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

Final, Judicial, 09/09/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This plant is found in west Texas and Mexico. We will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	09/09/2016	81 FR 62450
NPRM Comment Period End	11/08/2016	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	06/13/2017	82 FR 27033
NPRM Comment Period End	07/13/2017	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: Yes

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Sarah Quamme, Chief, Unified Listing Team, Ecological Services Program,
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5275 Leesburg Pike,
MS: ES,
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EMAIL: sarah_quamme@fws.gov

Agenda Review Report 1018-BA76

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish

RIN: 1018-BA76 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Fully or Partially Exempt

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 3124

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	02/22/2016	81 FR 8675
NPRM Comment Period End	04/01/2016	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

Forest Service, JOINT

AGENCY CONTACT:

Theo Matuskowitz, Regulations Specialist, Office of Subsistence Management,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
MS 121,
1011 East Tudor Road,
Anchorage, AK 99503
PHONE: 907 786-3867,
FAX: 907 786-3898,
EMAIL: theo_matuskowitz@fws.gov

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BA77

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Injurious Wildlife Species; Listing Salamanders Due to Risk of Salamander Chytrid Fungus

RIN: 1018-BA77 (Long-Term Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Other Significant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Regulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

18 U.S.C. 42, as amended

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 16

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We are reviewing public comments received on the January 13, 2016, interim rule that added 201 species to the injurious wildlife list, and we are evaluating the Order Caudata to confirm or revise which salamander species should be listed in the regulations as injurious to prevent the risk of introduction into the United States of Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans, a fungus that causes fatal infections in European salamanders. The fungus affects only salamanders and is not yet known to be found in the United States.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Interim Final Rule	01/13/2016	81 FR 1534
Interim Final Rule Effective	01/28/2016	
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	03/14/2016	
Final Action	00/00/0000	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: Businesses

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: Yes

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Susan Jewell, Fish and Wildlife Biologist,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
Fish and Aquatic Conservation,
5275 Leesburg Pike,
MS: FAC,
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
PHONE: 703 358-2416,
FAX: 703 358-2044,
EMAIL: susan_jewell@fws.gov

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BA78

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog

RIN: 1018-BA78 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

Final, Judicial, 10/06/2017, MDL settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. We will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	10/06/2016	81 FR 69500
NPRM Comment Period End	12/05/2016	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Sarah Quamme, Chief, Unified Listing Team, Ecological Services Program,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
5275 Leesburg Pike,
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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BA80

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands

RIN: 1018-BA80 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Info./Admin./Other

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.; E.O. 13563

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries in 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Action	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Carey Galst, Chief, Branch of Listing and Policy Support,
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FAX: 703 358-1954,
EMAIL: carey_galst@fws.gov

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BA81

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Wildlife

RIN: 1018-BA81 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Info./Admin./Other

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.; E.O. 13563

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.95 (wildlife) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Carey Galst, Chief, Branch of Listing and Policy Support,
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Ecological Services Program,
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EMAIL: carey_galst@fws.gov

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BA88

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Exempting Subsistence Hunters From Duck Stamp Purchase

RIN: 1018-BA88 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 703 to 712; Federal Duck Stamp Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-264)

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 20; 50 CFR 32; 50 CFR 92

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to amend the regulations governing subsistence hunting of migratory birds in Alaska by adding an exemption for rural subsistence migratory bird hunters in Alaska to purchase a Duck Stamp. Doing so will comport with the intent of Congress as written in the Federal Duck Stamp Act of 2014.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	02/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Ronald Kokel, Wildlife Biologist, Division of Migratory Bird Management,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
5275 Leesburg Pike,
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PHONE: 703 358-1714,
FAX: 703 358-2217,
EMAIL: ronald_kokel@fws.gov

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB06

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Hunting; Application for Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting

RIN: 1018-BB06 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 40 Stat. 755 (16 U.S.C. 703); Pub. L. 95-616, 92 Stat. 3112 (16 U.S.C. 712(2)); Pub. L. 106-108, 113 Stat. 1491, Note following 16 U.S.C. 703

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 20

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into the terrestrial or aquatic environments. We have initiated review of the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in our regulations.
Our approval of this shot formulation would increase the nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	08/15/2017	82 FR 38664
NPRM Comment Period End	09/14/2017	
Final Action	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Ronald Kokel, Wildlife Biologist, Division of Migratory Bird Management,
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EMAIL: ronald_kokel@fws.gov

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB21

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections of Taxonomy and Nomenclature for Wildlife and Plant Species

RIN: 1018-BB21 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We are updating the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Endangered and Threatened Plants in accordance with the Endangered Species Act, by making taxonomic corrections to the scientific names and other corrections to information on the Lists for approximately 40 species that occur primarily in California and Nevada. The taxonomic corrections are editorial in nature and involve no substantive changes to the List, or any applicable regulations.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Don R. Morgan, Chief, Branch of Recovery and State Grants, Ecological Services Program,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
5275 Leesburg Pike,
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FAX: 703 358-1735,
EMAIL: don_morgan@fws.gov

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB22

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska--Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands

RIN: 1018-BB22 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Fully or Partially Exempt

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 3; 16 U.S.C. 472; 16 U.S.C. 551; 16 U.S.C. 668dd; 16 U.S.C. 3101 to 3126; 16 U.S.C. 3551 to 3586; 43 U.S.C. 1733

CFR CITATION:

36 CFR 242; 50 CFR 100

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

In an October 17, 2011, order, the U.S. District Court for Alaska enjoined the United States to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) needs to initiate a regulatory proceeding to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and, therefore, are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) started a review of hundreds of pre-Statehood (January 3, 1959) withdrawals in the marine waters of the Tongass following the Court's order. In April and October of 2015, BLM submitted initial listings of submerged land to the Board. This rule will add those listings to the subsistence regulations to ensure compliance with the Court order. Additional listings will be published as BLM continues its review of pre-Statehood withdrawals.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	06/08/2016	81 FR 36836
NPRM Comment Period End	08/08/2016	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

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GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal
 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No
ENERGY AFFECTED:
INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No
USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:
Forest Service, JOINT

AGENCY CONTACT:
Theo Matuskowitz, Regulations Specialist, Office of Subsistence Management,
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MS 121,
1011 East Tudor Road,
Anchorage, AK 99503
PHONE: 907 786-3867,
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EMAIL: theo_matuskowitz@fws.gov

* - Missing data
# - Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB23

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Contest Regulations; Revisions to Artwork Requirements and Administrative Updates and Corrections

RIN: 1018-BB23 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

5 U.S.C. 301; 16 U.S.C. 718(j); 31 U.S.C. 9701

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 91

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

In 2016, we proposed to revise the regulations governing the annual Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Contest (also known as the Federal Duck Stamp Contest). We now plan to revise this proposed rulemaking action based on comments we received, the need to make technical corrections (updates), and to incorporate administration priorities.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	02/11/2016	81 FR 7279
NPRM Comment Period End	03/14/2016	
NPRM Comment Period Extended	03/15/2016	81 FR 13769
NPRM Comment Period Extended End	03/21/2016	
Second NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://www.fws.gov/birds/get-involved/duck-stamp.php

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Suzanne Fellows, Program Coordinator, Federal Duck Stamp Office,
Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
5275 Leesburg Pike MS:MB,
Falls Church, VA 22041
PHONE: 703 358-2145,
FAX: 703 358-2282,
EMAIL: suzanne_fellows@fws.gov

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB24

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Non-Edible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale

RIN: 1018-BB24 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

10 U.S.C. 703 to 712

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 92

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We revised the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska. These changes will enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicrafts or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	06/17/2016	81 FR 39618
NPRM Comment Period End	08/16/2016	
Final Action	07/24/2017	82 FR 34263
Final Action Effective	08/23/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

http://fws.gov/migratorybirds/

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
Office of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
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Agenda Review Report 1018-BB27

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Lesser Prairie-Chicken

RIN: 1018-BB27 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Other

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the lesser prairie-chicken under the Endangered Species Act. The lesser prairie-chicken is a grouse species native to Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the lesser prairie chicken under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	03/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Sarah Quamme, Chief, Unified Listing Team, Ecological Services Program,
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PHONE: 703 358-1796,
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EMAIL: sarah_quamme@fws.gov

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB34

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell

RIN: 1018-BB34 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

Final, Judicial, 02/10/2018, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in Texas and New Mexico.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	08/10/2016	81 FR 52796
NPRM Comment Period End	10/11/2016	
NPRM Comment Period Reopening and Announcement of Public Meetings	05/30/2017	82 FR 24654
NPRM; Public Meetings of 06/13/2017 and 06/15/2017	05/30/2017	82 FR 24654
NPRM Comment Period Reopening End	06/29/2017	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	08/10/2017	82 FR 37397
NPRM Comment Period End	09/11/2017	
Final Action	02/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No
INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No
USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Sarah Quamme, Chief, Unified Listing Team, Ecological Services Program,
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EMAIL: sarah_quamme@fws.gov

* - Missing data
# - Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB38

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 Subsistence Taking of Wildlife

RIN: 1018-BB38 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Fully or Partially Exempt

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 3; 16 U.S.C. 472; 16 U.S.C. 551; 16 U.S.C. 668dd; 16 U.S.C. 3101 to 3126; 18 U.S.C. 3551 to 3586; 43 U.S.C. 1733

CFR CITATION:

36 CFR 242; 50 CFR 100

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of wildlife for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for wildlife.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	05/17/2017	82 FR 22621
NPRM Comment Period End	06/16/2017	
Final Action	06/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB39

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Hidden Lake Bluecurls From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

RIN: 1018-BB39 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove Hidden Lake bluecurls from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. Hidden Lake bluecurls is a plant species endemic to an alpine lake in California,

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/05/2017	82 FR 1296
NPRM Comment Period End	03/06/2017	
Final Action	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB40

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Hunting; 2017-2018 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations

RIN: 1018-BB40 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Economically Significant
Major under 5 USC 801

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

EO 13771 Designation : Fully or Partially Exempt

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 703 to 712; 16 U.S.C. 742(a) to 742(j)

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 20

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2017-18 hunting season. We annually prescribe outside limits (frameworks), within which States may select hunting seasons. This rulemaking action provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2017-18 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2018 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM; Request for Tribal Proposals	06/10/2016	81 FR 38050
NPRM; Announcement of Meetings	06/10/2016	81 FR 38050
NPRM; Supplemental Proposals; Meetings	08/12/2016	81 FR 53391
NPRM; Deadline for Tribal Proposals	12/01/2016	
NPRMs/Multiple Proposed Frameworks Comment Period End	01/15/2017	
NPRM	02/09/2017	82 FR 10222
NPRM Comment Period End	03/13/2017	
Final Rule	05/30/2017	82 FR 24786
Final Action Effective	05/30/2017	

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ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Action	07/26/2017	82 FR 34752
Final Action Effective	07/26/2017	
NPRM	08/22/2017	82 FR 39716
Interim Final Rule	08/31/2017	82 FR 41344
Interim Final Rule Effective	09/01/2017	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/21/2017	
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	09/21/2017	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: State, Tribal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BB41

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

RIN: 1018-BB41 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a 12-month finding on a petition and propose to remove the Deseret milk-vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. This plant species is found only in Utah.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	
Final Action	09/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB45

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Yellow Lance

RIN: 1018-BB45 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 04/05/2018, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list the yellow lance as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The mussel species is found in North Carolina and Virginia.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	04/05/2017	82 FR 16559
NPRM Comment Period End	06/05/2017	
Final Action	04/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB46

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pine Snake

RIN: 1018-BB46 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

Final, Judicial, 04/06/2018

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list the Louisiana pine snake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in Louisiana and Texas.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	10/06/2016	81 FR 69454
NPRM Comment Period End	12/05/2016	
Final Action	04/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB48

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants

RIN: 1018-BB48 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 10/11/2017, MDL settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final listing determination on our proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	10/11/2016	81 FR 70282
NPRM Comment Period End	12/12/2016	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB50

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod

RIN: 1018-BB50 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2016, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list the Kenk’s amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in Maryland, Virginia, and District of Columbia.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	09/30/2016	81 FR 67270
NPRM Comment Period End	11/29/2016	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB52

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Western Glacier Stonefly and Meltwater Lednian Stonefly

RIN: 1018-BB52 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list the western glacier stonefly and meltwater lednian stonefly as threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. These two species are found in Montana and Wyoming.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	10/04/2016	81 FR 68379
NPRM Comment Period End	12/05/2016	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

Related to 1018-BB53

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB54

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the I'iwi

RIN: 1018-BB54 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

Final, Judicial, 09/20/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in Hawaii.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	09/20/2016	81 FR 64416
NPRM Comment Period End	11/21/2016	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Sarah Quamme, Chief, Unified Listing Team, Ecological Services Program,
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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB55

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter

RIN: 1018-BB55 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

Final, Judicial, 09/21/2017, MDL settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Mississippi.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	09/21/2016	81 FR 64857
NPRM Comment Period End	11/21/2016	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB64

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower

RIN: 1018-BB64 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

Final, Judicial, 03/15/2018, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in California.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	09/15/2016	81 FR 63454
NPRM Comment Period End	11/14/2016	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	07/19/2017	82 FR 33035
NPRM Comment Period End	08/18/2017	
Final Action	03/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BB73

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Hunting; 2018-2019 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations

RIN: 1018-BB73 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: Yes

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Economically Significant
Major under 5 USC 801

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

EO 13771 Designation : Fully or Partially Exempt

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 703 to 711; 16 U.S.C. 742a-j

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 20

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018-2019 hunting season. We annually prescribe outside limits (frameworks), within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018-2019 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2018 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Notice of Public Meeting	06/15/2017	82 FR 27521
Public Meeting	06/21/2017	82 FR 27521
NPRM	08/03/2017	82 FR 36308
NPRM Comment Period End	09/05/2017	
Supplemental	08/00/2017	
NPRM; Proposed Frameworks	12/00/2017	
NPRM; Proposed Tribal Regulations	01/00/2018	
Final Rule; Final Frameworks	03/00/2018	

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\# - Will not print in agenda

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Rule; Final Tr bal Regulations	05/00/2018	
Final Rule; Final Season Selections	05/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Yes

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: Businesses

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: State, Tribal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Ronald Kokel, Wildlife Biologist, Division of Migratory Bird Management,
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* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB74

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Establishment of Two Nonessential Experimental Populations of Oregon Silverspot Butterfly in Oregon

RIN: 1018-BB74 (Completed Actions)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

This rule would designate two areas in northwest Oregon as nonessential experimental population areas for reintroduction of Oregon silverspot butterflies.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	12/23/2016	81 FR 94296
NPRM Comment Period End	02/21/2017	
Final Action	06/23/2017	82 FR 28567
Final Action Effective	06/23/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BB75

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

National Wildlife Refuge System; Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017-18

RIN: 1018-BB75 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

5 U.S.C. 301; 16 U.S.C. 664; 16 U.S.C. 668dd to 668ee; 16 U.S.C. 715i

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 32

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to make additions to refuge-specific regulations and expand hunting and fishing opportunities for the 2017 to 2018 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. We operate hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities. The benefits of these changes and openings are the enhancement of conservation stewardship and outdoor recreation, and improvement of the management of game species and their habitats. Costs have been minimized through proper public notification and compliance to the legislative authority and policy.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	08/10/2017	82 FR 37398
NPRM Comment Period End	09/11/2017	
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Undetermined

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BB76

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Monito Gecko From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

RIN: 1018-BB76 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This species is endemic to the island of Monito, located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Don R. Morgan, Chief, Branch of Recovery and State Grants, Ecological Services Program,
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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB77

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Migratory Bird Permits; Removing a Depredation Order for Scrub Jays and Steller's Jays in Washington and Oregon

RIN: 1018-BB77 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 703 to 712

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 21

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We are withdrawing our proposed rule to remove 50 CFR 21.46, a regulation that sets forth a depredation order for scrub jays and Steller's jays in Oregon and Washington. We had proposed to remove this regulation as we had received no reports of activities undertaken under the provisions of section 21.46 in the last 10 years. However, we have recently received several reports under this depredation order, so we are now withdrawing the proposed rule.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM; withdrawal	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

Previously reported as 1018-AX92

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB78

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing the Contiguous U.S. Distinct Population Segment of the North American Wolverine

RIN: 1018-BB78 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to list a distinct population segment of wolverine occurring in the contiguous United States as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	10/18/2016	81 FR 71670
NPRM Comment Period End	11/17/2016	
NPRM Reopening of Comment Period	10/18/2016	81 FR 71670
Final Action	09/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB79

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

RIN: 1018-BB79 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove the black-capped vireo from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This bird species breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma and Texas in the United States and in the northern Mexican States of Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and Tamaulipas. The species winters along Mexico's western coastal States.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	12/15/2016	81 FR 90762
NPRM Comment Period End	02/13/2017	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	10/00/2017	
Final Action	03/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: Yes

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB83

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of Lepanthes Eltoroensis From Endangered to Threatened

RIN: 1018-BB83 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will propose to reclassify Lepanthes eltoroensis, an orchid species endemic to El Yunque National Forest in Puerto Rico, from endangered to threatened.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	09/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB84

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 2 of 4

RIN: 1018-BB84 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 669; 16 U.S.C. 777

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 80

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We continue the process of updating the rule that directs State fish and wildlife agencies on how to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, we distribute annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax revenues and fuel taxes. This is the second phase of a four-phase rulemaking. This phase will potentially include response to pending bills before Congress; include resolution to some more difficult topics that we receive input through an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) in phase 1; and propose changes to more settled topics, including definitions, topics related to the continued Federal connection to the project, audits, third-party labor, and information on coordination grants. We have worked with States and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in developing rule updates. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	02/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

Related to 1018-BA33;
Related to 1018-BB85;
Related to 1018-BB86

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Lisa E. Van Alstyne, Fish and Wildlife Administrator,
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Agenda Review Report 1018-BB85

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 3 of 4

RIN: 1018-BB85 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 669; 16 U.S.C. 777

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 80

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We continue the process of updating the rule that directs State fish and wildlife agencies on how to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, we distribute annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax revenues and fuel taxes. This is the third phase of a four-phase rulemaking. After we review and reflect on the status of the rulemaking from phases 1 and 2, Phase 3 may or may not contain an advance notice of proposed rulemaking, depending on the need. The preamble will continue to thoroughly describe the approach and will address topics and progress achieved to date. Phase 3 may include new topics as needed or relevant. We will continue to work with our partners to distribute information on participation. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	05/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

Related to 1018-BA33;
Related to 1018-BB84;
Related to 1018-BB86

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BB86

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 4 of 4

RIN: 1018-BB86 (Prerule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 669; 16 U.S.C. 777

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 80

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We continue the process of updating the rule that directs State fish and wildlife agencies on how to receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, we distribute annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax revenues and fuel taxes. This is the final phase of a four-phase rulemaking. The first three phases will combine a proposed rule (NPRM) with an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM), allowing us to collect comments on more difficult topics through the ANPRM and use the regulatory process to refine direction and gain support. Topics that are less difficult or that have already been resolved and need to move to regulation will be presented in the NPRM. Phase 4 is expected to be the final phase and may include new topics as needed or relevant. We expect to reach conclusion for all topics introduced. The preamble will continue to thoroughly describe the approach and will address topics and progress achieved to date. We will continue to work with our partners to distribute information on participation. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
ANPRM	09/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

Related to 1018-BB84;
Related to 1018-BB85;
Related to 1018-BA33

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BB87

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

RIN: 1018-BB87 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove gypsum wild-buckwheat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery. This plant species is found in New Mexico.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/06/2017	82 FR 1657
NPRM Comment Period End	03/07/2017	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	06/13/2017	82 FR 27033
NPRM Comment Period End	07/13/2017	
Final Action	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

Don R. Morgan, Chief, Branch of Recovery and State Grants, Ecological Services Program,
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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB88

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations for Eagle Permits for Indian Religious Use

RIN: 1018-BB88 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Other

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 668 to 668d

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 22

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, propose revisions to the eagle Indian Religious Use permit. The revisions are intended to add clarity to the Indian Religious Use eagle permit regulations, improve their implementation, and increase compliance, while providing protection for eagles.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	10/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Undetermined

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB89

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Kuenzler Hedgehog Cactus From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

RIN: 1018-BB89 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove the Kuenzler hedgehog cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. The Kuenzler hedgehog cactus is a plant found in New Mexico.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/06/2017	82 FR 1677
NPRM Comment Period End	03/07/2017	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	06/13/2017	82 FR 27033
NPRM Comment Period End	07/13/2017	
Final Action	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB90

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of the Tobusch Fishhook Cactus from Endangered to Threatened on the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

RIN: 1018-BB90 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to reclassify Tobusch fishhook cactus from endangered to threatened. This species occurs in Texas.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	12/29/2016	81 FR 95932
NPRM Comment Period End	02/27/2017	
NPRM Comment Period Extended	06/13/2017	82 FR 27033
NPRM Comment Period End	07/13/2017	
Final Action	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB91

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

RIN: 1018-BB91 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, due to recovery. The lesser long-nosed bat is found in the southwestern United States, southward through Mexico.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/06/2017	82 FR 1665
NPRM Comment Period End	03/07/2017	
NPRM Comment Period Reopened	11/00/2017	
Final Action	03/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB92

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program; National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program

RIN: 1018-BB92 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 3951 to 3956

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 84

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

FWS periodically updates all regulations for which the FWS Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program is responsible. The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program regulations were last revised in 2002. Since that time, cost principles, ranking criteria, and grants administration have evolved, and regulations must reflect those changes. The rulemaking process will help FWS communicate important program changes to the public and solicit input on how best to address areas where we have discretion on statute implementation. We expect to publish a proposed and final rule that will target the clarification of Criterion 11 for scoring grant applications in this rule. Currently, criterion 11 is unclear, and we will change it to reflect the consensus in meetings where we have worked to arrive at better guidance for the section.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal, State, Tribal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BB96

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly

RIN: 1018-BB96 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in Washington State. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the Island marble butterfly under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BB98

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision of the Endangered Species Act Section 10(j) Rule for the Red Wolf

RIN: 1018-BB98 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will propose a rule to revise the current 10(j) designation for the nonessential experimental population of the red wolf. The red wolf is currently found in North Carolina.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
ANPRM	05/23/2017	82 FR 23518
ANPRM Comment Period End	07/24/2017	
NPRM	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

FEDERALISM AFFECTED: Undetermined

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BB99

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area

RIN: 1018-BB99 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Fully or Partially Exempt

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 3124

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We plan to propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet Area of Alaska. This action would also reorganize regulations addressing the Kenai River specifically, in order to provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

Forest Service, JOINT

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC01

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of the Kirtland's Warbler From Endangered to Threatened

RIN: 1018-BC01 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to reclassify the Kirtland’s warbler from endangered to threatened on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. The Kirtland’s warbler is found in 31 states and the District of Columbia, ranging from Maine south to Florida and west to the Mississippi River Basin, and in Canada and The Bahamas. We will also propose a rule under section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act to specify take exemptions for the Kirtland’s warbler.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC02

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Colorado Butterfly Plant From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

RIN: 1018-BC02 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to remove the Colorado butterfly plant from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. This species is found in Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/00/2018	
Final Action	01/00/2019	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC03

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Water Howellia From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

RIN: 1018-BC03 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will propose to remove water howellia from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery. The water howellia is a winter annual aquatic plant found in California, Idaho, Montana, and Washington.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	03/00/2018	
Final Action	03/00/2019	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC05

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Civil Penalties; 2018 Inflation Adjustments for Civil Penalties

RIN: 1018-BC05 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 470aa to 470mm; 16 U.S.C. 470aaa to 470aaa-11; 16 U.S.C. 668 to 668d; 16 U.S.C. 1361 to 1384; 16 U.S.C. 1401 to 1407; 16 U.S.C. 1531 to 1544; 16 U.S.C. 3371 to 3378; 16 U.S.C. 4201 to 4245; 16 U.S.C. 4901 to 4916; 16 U.S.C. 5201 to 5207; 16 U.S.C. 5301 to 5306; 18 U.S.C. 42 and 43; 25 U.S.C. 3001 to 3013; sec.107, Pub. L. 114-74, 129 Stat. 599

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 11

LEGAL DEADLINE:

Final, Statutory, 01/15/2018

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We are issuing a final rule, in accordance with the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (Inflation Adjustment Act) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance, to adjust for inflation the statutory civil monetary penalties that may be assessed for violations of Service-administered statutes and their implementing regulations. We are required to adjust civil monetary penalties annually for inflation according to a formula specified in the Inflation Adjustment Act. This rule replaces the previously issued amounts with the updated amounts after using the 2018 inflation adjustment multiplier provided in the OMB guidance.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Action	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC06

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2019–20 and 2020–21 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish Regulations

RIN: 1018-BC06 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Fully or Partially Exempt

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 3124

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means, and customary and traditional use for the subsistence taking of fish and shellfish during the 2019-2021 regulatory seasons on Federal public lands in Alaska.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC07

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

National Wildlife Refuge System; Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2018-2019

RIN: 1018-BC07 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

5 U.S.C. 301; 16 U.S.C. 664; 16 U.S.C. 668dd to 668ee; 16 U.S.C. 715i

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 32

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We propose to make additions to refuge-specific regulations and expand hunting and fishing opportunities for the 2018 to 2019 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. We operate hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities. The benefits of these changes and openings are the enhancement of conservation stewardship and outdoor recreation, and improvement of the management of game species and their habitat. Costs have been minimized through proper public notification and compliance to the legislative authority and policy.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	06/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Undetermined

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC09

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

RIN: 1018-BC09 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This fish is found in Oregon.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC10

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of the Hawaiian Goose From Endangered to Threatened

RIN: 1018-BC10 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will propose to reclassify the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened. The downlisting rule will be accompanied by a rule under section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act to specify take exemptions for the Hawaiian goose. The goose is found in Hawaii.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

FEDERALISM AFFECTED: Undetermined

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC11

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Interior Least Tern From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

RIN: 1018-BC11 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Deregulatory

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will propose to remove the interior least tern from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This bird species is found in 18 states, bounded by Montana to the north, Texas in the south, Indiana to the east, and New Mexico to the west.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	03/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC12

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Depredation Orders for Double-Crested Cormorants; Removal of Regulations

RIN: 1018-BC12 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 21.47 and 21.48

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

On May 25, 2016, the District Court for the District of Columbia ordered that both the Aquaculture Depredation Order and the Public Resources Depredation Order for double-crested cormorants be vacated until the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) performs a new and legally adequate environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for national cormorant management orders in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The court concluded that the Service did not take careful enough consideration of the effects of the depredation orders on cormorant populations and other affected resources (fisheries, vulnerable species, and habitats) and failed to consider a range of reasonable alternatives in the remanded 2014 environmental assessment. Therefore, this rule removes the regulations setting forth the provisions of the orders at 50 CFR 21.47 and 21.48. Entities seeking to conduct activities that were covered under the orders will now have to apply for permits.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Rule	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal, State, Tribal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

Related to 1018-AI39;
Related to 1018-AW11;
Related to 1018-AX82

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC14

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation For the Panama City Crayfish

RIN: 1018-BC14 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC15

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink

RIN: 1018-BC15 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. Both lizard species are found in Florida. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/30/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC16

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Three Southeast Darters

RIN: 1018-BC16 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Other

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement for trispot darter and bridled darter.
NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2018, Settlement agreement for holiday darter.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC20

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Blackfin Sucker

RIN: 1018-BC20 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. The blackfin sucker is a fish found in Kentucky. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/30/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC24

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher

RIN: 1018-BC24 (Completed Actions)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/30/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC26

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog

RIN: 1018-BC26 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/30/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC28

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog

RIN: 1018-BC28 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found in North Carolina. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC32

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Eastern Population of the Boreal Toad

RIN: 1018-BC32 (Completed Actions)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the eastern population of the boreal toad under the Endangered Species Act. The eastern population of the boreal toad is found in Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the boreal toad under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/31/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC34

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle

RIN: 1018-BC34 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Other

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC36

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Oregon Cascades-California Population of the Black-Backed Woodpecker

RIN: 1018-BC36 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Oregon Cascades-California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act. This population is found in California, North Dakota, and Oregon. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Oregon Cascades-California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	09/01/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC38

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Pacific Walrus

RIN: 1018-BC38 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in Alaska. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/31/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC40

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush

RIN: 1018-BC40 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the ESA.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/31/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC42

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Big Blue Springs Cave Crayfish

RIN: 1018-BC42 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Big Blue Springs cave crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in Florida. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for this species under the Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/31/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC44

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter

RIN: 1018-BC44 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC46

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle

RIN: 1018-BC46 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 09/30/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for Barbour’s map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour’s map turtle under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/31/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

- Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC50

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails

RIN: 1018-BC50 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Withdrawn	08/31/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

ENERGY AFFECTED: Undetermined

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC52

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Barren's Topminnow

RIN: 1018-BC52 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Other

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE:

NPRM, Judicial, 12/31/2017, Settlement agreement.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Barren’s topminnow under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Tennessee. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the Barren’s topminnow under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC54

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction of Taxonomy and Nomenclature for the Orangutan

RIN: 1018-BC54 (Final Rule Stage) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a taxonomic change for the orangutan. The orangutan was originally listed as a single entity under the Endangered Species Act: Pongo pygmaeus, which included orangutans from Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei. However, the orangutan is currently found only in northern Sumatra (Indonesia) and Borneo (Indonesia and Malaysia). Since the original listing, taxonomic reviews by the scientific community support Pongo abelii in Sumatra (Indonesia) as being a separate species from Pongo pygmaeus in Borneo (Indonesia and Malaysia). Because both species are considered part of the original listed entity, the revised taxonomy does not change the endangered status of either species. The taxonomic corrections involve no substantive changes to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, or to any applicable regulations.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Action	11/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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Agenda Review Report 1018-BC56

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch

RIN: 1018-BC56 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. We will also, if deemed prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	12/00/2017	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC57

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly

RIN: 1018-BC57 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC59

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly

RIN: 1018-BC59 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	01/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC62

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Sierra Nevada Red Fox

RIN: 1018-BC62 (Proposed Rule Stage)

 # Paper Print: No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No

EO 13771 Designation : Other

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We will make a listing determination for the Sierra Nevada red fox under the Endangered Species Act. This fox is found in California. We will also, if deemed prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the Sierra Nevada red fox under the Endangered Species Act.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
NPRM	09/00/2018	

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: Undetermined

 # SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED:

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: Federal

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

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- Will not print in agenda

Agenda Review Report 1018-BC64

Date: 09/06/2017

TITLE:

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for the Tonkin Snub-Nosed Monkey

RIN: 1018-BC64 (Completed Actions) **# Paper Print:** No

 # REGULATORY PLAN: No

PRIORITY: Substantive, Nonsignificant

 # UNFUNDED MANDATES: No

 # MAJOR: No **EO 13771 Designation :** Not subject to, not significant

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

CFR CITATION:

50 CFR 17

LEGAL DEADLINE: None

None

OVERALL DESCRIPTION OF DEADLINE:

ABSTRACT:

We removed the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we corrected this error in the Code of Federal Regulations.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

SUMMARY OF LEGAL BASIS:

ALTERNATIVES:

ANTICIPATED COSTS AND BENEFITS:

RISKS:

TIMETABLE:

ACTION	DATE	FR CITE
Final Action	09/06/2017	82 FR 42043

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS REQUIRED: No

SMALL ENTITIES AFFECTED: No

GOVERNMENT LEVELS AFFECTED: None

 # FEDERALISM AFFECTED: No

 # ENERGY AFFECTED: No

INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS: No

USER SORT CODES:

* - Missing data

\# - Will not print in agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

URL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

URL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RELATED RIN:

RELATED AGENCY:

AGENCY CONTACT:

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* - Missing data

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DRAFT U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Input for the 2017 DOI Regulatory Plan

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is to work with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. FWS also provides opportunities for Americans to enjoy the outdoors and our shared natural heritage. FWS fulfills its responsibilities through a diverse array of programs that:

- Protect and recover endangered and threatened species;
- Monitor and manage migratory birds;
- Restore native aquatic populations and nationally significant fisheries;
- Enforce Federal wildlife laws and regulate international trade;
- Conserve and restore wildlife habitat such as wetlands;
- Help foreign governments conserve wildlife through international conservation efforts;
- Distribute Federal funds to States, territories, and tribes for fish and wildlife conservation projects; and
- Manage the more than 150-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS), which protects and conserves fish and wildlife and their habitats and allows the public to engage in outdoor recreational activities.

During the next year, FWS regulatory priorities will include rulemaking actions that promote our Nation's hunting and fishing traditions. FWS provides wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities on NWRS lands by issuing annual rules that update the hunting and fishing regulations on specific refuges.

In carrying out our responsibility to manage migratory bird populations, we issue annual migratory bird hunting regulations. Through a collaborative rulemaking process with our State and Tribal partners, we establish the frameworks (outside limits) for States and Tribes to establish season lengths, bag limits, and areas for migratory game bird hunting. Moreover, we are proposing changes to the Federal Duck Stamp Contest that will promote hunting as an American tradition that performs an important role in conservation.

To strengthen our partnership with State conservation organizations, we are working on several rules to update and clarify our regulations under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program. Planned regulatory revisions will reflect several new decisions agreed upon by State and Federal partners.

Finally, in the next year, FWS will issue several rules under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). While some ESA rules will add species in need of protection to the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants, we are proud to announce numerous ESA successes via rules that will either reclassify species from endangered to threatened status or remove species entirely from the Lists due to recovery. These reclassification and delisting rules comprise the majority of the 20 deregulatory rules on the FWS Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions as shown on the following list:

FWS Deregulatory Actions on the Fall 2017 Unified Agenda

Completed Actions

1018–AX99; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

1018–AZ69; Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls)

1018–BA41; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

Final Rule Stage

1018–AW04; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Eureka Dunes Evening Primrose and Eureka Valley Dunegrass From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

1018–AY05; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Eastern Cougar From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

1018–BA31; Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife and Public Participation and Closure Procedures on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska

1018–BB39; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Hidden Lake Bluecurls From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

1018–BB79; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

1018–BB87; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

1018–BB89; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Kuenzler Hedgehog Cactus From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

Proposed Rule Stage

1018–BA88; Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Exempting Subsistence Hunters From Duck Stamp Purchase

1018–BB41; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

1018–BB76; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Monito Gecko From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

1018–BB91; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

1018–BC01; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of the Kirtland's Warbler From Endangered to Threatened

1018–BC02; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Colorado Butterfly Plant From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

1018–BC03; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Water Howellia From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants

1018–BC09; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

1018–BC10; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of the Hawaiian Goose From Endangered to Threatened

1018–BC11; Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Interior Least Tern From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

FWS Regulatory Action on the Fall 2017 Unified Agenda

Long-term Action

1018–BA77; Injurious Wildlife Species; Listing Salamanders Due to Risk of Salamander Chytrid Fungus

Agency	Sub-Agency	Identification Number	Action Title	Type of Action	Preliminary Summary
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-AW04	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Eureka Dunes Evening Primrose and Eureka Valley Dunegrass From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants	Rulemaking	We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove Eureka Dunes evening primrose and Eureka Valley dunegrass from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery The two plants are found in California
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-AX99	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Hualapai Mexican Vole From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Rulemaking	We made a final determination on our proposal to remove the Hualapai Mexican vole, a species in Arizona, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, because the best scientific or commercial data avilable when the subspecies was listed were in error 82 FR 28582
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BA31	Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife and Public Participation and Closure Procedures on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska	Rulemaking	The final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248), and became effective September 6, 2016 The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub L 115-20) This action conforms to Public Law 115-20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the effective date of the final rule that was nullified under the Congressional Review Act
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BA41	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Rulemaking	We made a final determination on our proposal to identify the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) grizzly bear population of Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming as a distinct population segment (DPS) and revise the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife by removing grizzly bears within the GYE DPS 82 FR 30502
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BA88	Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Exempting Subsistence Hunters From Duck Stamp Purchase	Rulemaking	We propose to amend the regulations governing subsistence hunting of migratory birds in Alaska by adding an exemption for rural subsistence migratory bird hunters in Alaska to purchase a Duck Stamp Doing so will comport with the intent of Congress as written in the Federal Duck Stamp Act of 2014
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BB29	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Scarlet-Chested Parakeet and Turquoise Parakeet From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Rulemaking	We made a final determination on our proposal to remove the scarlet-chested parakeet and the turquoise parakeet from the list List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, due to recovery The scarlet-chested parakeet is found in open woodlands or shrublands among sand plains of the dry inland portions of Australia The turquoise parakeet is found in open woodlands and timbered grasslands of eastern and southeastern Australia 82 FR 16522
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BB39	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Hidden Lake Bluecurls From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants	Rulemaking	We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove Hidden Lake bluecurls, a plant endemic to an alpine lake in California, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BB41	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing Deseret Milk-Vetch From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants	Rulemaking	We will propose to remove the Deseret milk-vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery of the species This species is found in Utah

1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BB79	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Black-capped Vireo From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Rulemaking	We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove the black-capped vireo from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery This species breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BB87	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants	Rulemaking	We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove gypsum wild-buckwheat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery This species is a regionally endemic, perennial plant species in New Mexico
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BB91	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Rulemaking	We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, due to recovery The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BC04	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reinstatement of Removal of the Gray Wolf in Wyoming from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Rulemaking	We published a final rule removing gray wolves in Wyoming from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife Pursuant to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia order dated March 3, 2017, and court mandate, which we expect the court to issue on April 24, 2017, this rule removes gray wolves in Wyoming from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 82 FR 20284
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-AZ69	Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls)	Rulemaking	This rule adds a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species Cattle egrets and barn owls are invasive in Hawaii and threaten native wildlife with extinction Nonlethal methods have been unsuccessful in reducing the impacts caused by cattle egrets and barn owls This final rule allows take by agencies that have functional and/or jurisdictional responsibility for controlling invasive species and protecting native species in the Hawaiian Islands 82 FR 34419
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BC01	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassifying the Kirtland's Warbler From Endangered to Threatened	Rulemaking	We will propose to reclassify the Kirtland’s warbler from endangered to threatened on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, with a rule promulgated under section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act This species is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States It is also found in Canada during the breeding season, and in the Bahamas during the winter period
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BB89	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Kuenzler Hedgehog Cactus From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants	Rulemaking	We will make a final determination on our proposal to remove Kuenzler hedgehog cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants The species occurs in New Mexico

1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-AY05	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Eastern Cougar From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Rulemaking	We will make a final determination on our proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BA77	Injurious Wildlife Species; Listing Salamanders Due to Risk of Salamander Chytrid Fungus	Rulemaking	We are reviewing public comments received on the January 13, 2016, interim rule that added 201 species to the injurious wildlife list, and we are evaluating the Order Caudata to confirm or revise which salamander species should be listed in the regulations as injurious to prevent the risk of introduction into the United States of Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans, a fungus that causes fatal infections in European salamanders The fungus affects only salamanders and is not yet known to be found in the United States
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BB40	Migratory Bird Hunting; 2017-2018 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations	Rulemaking	This rulemaking allows an otherwise prohibited activity Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the annual migratory bird hunting season remains closed until we open it through rulemaking We establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2017-18 hunting season 82 FR 34752 Further, the final rule will result in an estimated consumer surplus of $317 8–$416 8 million and migratory bird hunters will spend approximately $1 5 billion at small businesses during the 2018-19 season The figures in columns M - R are consumer surplus measures of hunter's willingness to pay for migratory bird hunting The $1 5 billion figure is a transfer from buyers and sellers, and is therefore not included in M - R
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BB73	Migratory Bird Hunting; 2018-2019 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations	Rulemaking	This rulemaking allows an otherwise prohibited activity Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the annual migratory bird hunting season remains closed until we open it through rulemaking We establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018-19 hunting season Further, the final rule will result in an estimated consumer surplus of $317 8–$416 8 million and migratory bird hunters will spend approximately $1 5 billion at small businesses during the 2018-19 season The figures in columns M - R are consumer surplus measures of hunter's willingness to pay for migratory bird hunting The $1 5 billion figure is a transfer from buyers and sellers, and is therefore not included in M - R
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BB76	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Monito Gecko From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Rulemaking	We propose to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery This species is endemic to the island of Monito, located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BC02	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing Gaura neomexicana ssp coloradensis (Colorado Butterfly Plant) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants	Rulemaking	We will propose to remove *Oenothera coloradensis*, currently listed as *Gaura neomexicana* ssp *coloradensis* and commonly known as Colorado butterfly plant, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery This plant is found in Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming Accordingly, we also propose to remove the designated critical habitat for this plant at 50 CFR 17 96(a)

1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BC03	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing Water Howellia from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants	Rulemaking	We will propose to remove water howellia from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants due to recovery of the species This species is found inÂ California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BC09	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing Foskett Speckled Dace From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Rulemaking	We will propose to remove Foskett speckled dace, found in Oregon, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BC10	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassifying Hawaiian Goose from Endangered to Threatened with 4(d) Rule	Rulemaking	We will propose to reclassify the Hawaiian goose from endangered to threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) We will also propose to establish regulations for the conservation of the species under section 4(d) of the ESA
1000 - DOI	1018 - FWS	1018-BC11	Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing Interior Least Tern From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife	Rulemaking	We will propose to remove the interior least tern from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery

Executive Order 12866 Significance Recommendation	Executive Order 13771 Bundled, Joint, or Single Designation	Expected Finalization	EO 13771 Designation	Statutorily or Judicially-Required Deadline	Reference (Statute or Judicial Identifier)	Deadline for Statutorily or Judicially-Required Action Date
Not Significant		FY 2018	Deregulatory	Statutory Deadline	16 U S C 1531-1544	2/27/2015
Not Significant		6/23/2017	Deregulatory	Statutory Deadline	16 U S C 1531-1544	6/4/2016
Not Significant		FY 2017	Deregulatory	No		N/A
Not Significant		6/30/2017	Deregulatory	Statutory Deadline	16 U S C 1531-1544	3/11/2017
Not Significant		FY 2018	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A
Not Significant		4/5/2017	Deregulatory	Statutory Deadline	16 U S C 1531-1544	9/2/2004
Not Significant		FY 2018	Deregulatory	Statutory Deadline	16 U S C 1531-1544	1/5/2018
Not Significant		FY 2018	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A

Not Significant		FY 2018	Deregulatory	Statutory Deadline	16 U S C 1531-1544	12/15/2017
Not Significant		FY 2018	Deregulatory	Statutory Deadline	16 U S C 1531-1544	1/6/2018
Not Significant		FY 2018	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A
Not Significant		5/1/2017	Deregulatory	Judicial	Court mandate	4/24/2017
Not Significant		7/25/2017	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A
Not Significant		After FY 2018	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A
Not Significant		FY 2018	Deregulatory	Statutory Deadline	16 U S C 1531-1544	1/6/2018

Not Significant		FY 2018	Deregulatory	Statutory Deadline	16 U S C 1531 -1544	6/17/2016
Significant		After FY 2018	Regulatory	No	No	N/A
Economically Significant		7/26/2017	Regulatory	No	No	N/A
Economically Significant		FY 2018	Regulatory	No	No	N/A
Not Significant		After FY 2018	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A
Not Significant		After FY 2018	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A

Not Significant		After FY 2018	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A
Not Significant		After FY 2018	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A
Not Significant		After FY 2018	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A
Not Significant		After FY 2018	Deregulatory	No	No	N/A

Primary Annualized Cost (Savings) Estimate at 7 percent, 2016$	PrimaryAnnualized Cost (Savings) Estimate at 3 percent, 2016$	Low Range Annualized Cost (Savings) Estimate at 7 percent, 2016$	Low Range Annualized Cost (Savings) Estimate at 3 percent, 2016$	High Range Annualized Cost (Savings) Estimate at 7 percent, 2016$	High Range Annualized Cost (Savings) Estimate at 3 percent, 2016$	Length of Time that Costs or Cost Savings Occur (in years)	Mentioned in Fiscal Year Budget	Primary North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 1
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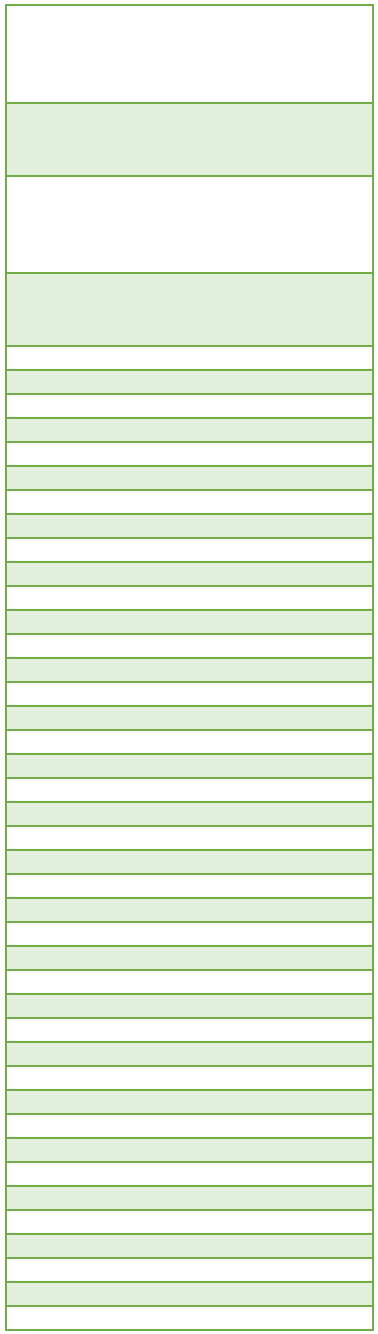

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/ABHC/066327

Memorandum

To: Director, Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs

Through: Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

From: Director

Subject: Regulatory Report to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2018;
Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, Fall 2017;
FWS portion of the DOI Regulatory Plan; and
List of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, Fall 2017

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) hereby submits the following:

- **Draft Regulatory Report to the Office of Management and Budget for the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2018**—This table contains rulemaking actions that should be ready for review by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and OMB during the period October through December 2017. The Service respectfully submits this list in accordance with Executive Order (E.O.) 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review."
- **Draft Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, Fall 2017 (Agenda)**—This report notifies the public of all deregulatory and regulatory actions that the Service expects to move forward from the present through October 2018. The Service respectfully submits the Agenda in accordance with E.O. 12866. Note: The Service may add up to 21 new actions to the Agenda; these actions are currently pending approval.
- **Regulatory Plan, Fall 2017**—This document publishes with the Fall Agenda and briefly describes the Service mission and our major rulemaking initiatives for the coming year. It also meets the requirements of E.O. 12866.
- **List of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, Fall 2017**—This spreadsheet lays out deregulatory actions and significant and/or economically significant regulatory actions under E.O. 13771.

If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact Ms. Susan Wilkinson, 703-358-2506, or Ms. Sara Prigan, 703-358-2508, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs.

Attachments

From: Gustavson, Angela
To: Angela Gustavson
Subject: Congressional Affairs Update
Date: Friday, September 15, 2017 1:19:32 PM
Attachments: 9.15.17.docx

Good afternoon,

The Congressional Affairs Update for this week is attached. The House Natural Resources Committee held a legislative hearing on the Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) Act. In addition, the Committee held a markup to consider the SHARE Act, and it was approved, as amended, by the Committee.

This week, the House passed a FY 2018 appropriations omnibus, which was sent to the Senate, and includes the appropriations bill that funds the Department of the Interior.

Have a good weekend,

Angela

Angela Gustavson
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Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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angela_gustavson@fws.gov

CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS UPDATE

Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

September 15, 2017

2017 Congressional Recess Schedule

Senate	Holidays & Special Days	House
Oct. 9 – Oct. 13	**Columbus Day** Oct. 9	Oct. 9
		Oct. 16 – Oct. 20
Nov. 10	**Veterans Day** Nov. 10 (Observed)	Nov. 10
Nov. 20 – Nov. 24	**Thanksgiving Day** Nov. 23	Nov. 20 – Nov. 24
Dec. 18 – Dec. 29	**Christmas Day** Dec. 25	Dec. 18 – Dec. 29

UPDATES ON LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

House Passes Omnibus Appropriations Bill for FY 2018

On Thursday, September 14, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3354, an eight-bill fiscal year 2018 appropriations omnibus that was automatically attached to the remaining four previously-passed appropriations bills and sent to the Senate. The bill passed by a vote of 211 to 198. The package includes the appropriations bill that funds the Department of the Interior, including $1.5 billion for the Service. The legislation prioritizes funding to advance the recovery of listed species, reduce the refuge maintenance backlog, fight invasive species, increase access to federal lands for hunting and fishing, prevent illegal wildlife trafficking, and prevent the closure of fish hatcheries. The bill also included several amendments of interest to the Service, including:

- Prohibiting the elimination the Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership **(Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-TX-18)**
- Increasing funding for the Wildlife and Habitat Management of invasive species within the National Wildlife Refuge System **(Rep. Darren Soto, D-FL-9)**
- Restricting the use of legal fees obtained from ESA-related cases **(Rep. Jason Smith, R-MO-8)**
- Prohibiting the use of funds to enforce or implement the threatened status of Preble's meadow jumping mouse under the ESA **(Rep. Doug Lamborn, R-CO-5)**
- Prohibiting the use of funds to enforce or implement the endangered or threatened status

of any listed species that has not undergone a section 4(c)(2) review under the ESA **(Rep. Lamborn)**
- Prohibits additional Service inspections for sea urchin and sea cucumber exports **(Rep. Bruce Poliquin, R-ME-2)**

Senate Continues Discussion on National Defense Authorization Act

This week, the Senate continued debate on H.R. 2810, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal year 2018. The Senate voted to substitute their version of the bill on Thursday, September 14, and invoked cloture on the measure. The Senate version of the legislation includes an authorization of the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership. The Senate is expected to complete work on the bill next week.

HEARINGS AND MARKUPS OF INTEREST

House Committee Holds Legislative Hearing on the SHARE Act

On Tuesday, September 12, the House Natural Resources Committee held a legislative hearing to discuss H.R. 3668, the Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) Act, introduced by **Rep. Jeff Duncan (R-SC-3)**. The discussion centered around the implications of the Hearing Protection provision, Title XV, and the impacts of the legislation on law enforcement activities. Members also spoke to several issues of interest to the Service, including:

- **Chairman McClintock (R-CA-4)** discussed that the purpose of the SHARE Act is to restore recreational access to public lands without prioritizing hunting and fishing over other activities.
- **Ranking Member Colleen Hanabusa (D-HI-1)**, **Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA-2)**, **Rep. Alan Lowenthal (D-CA-47)**, and **Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA-8**) expressed concerns about the potential for the legislation to undermine numerous environmental laws, including the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. They also expressed concern over the lack of provisions that reauthorize conservation programs, including the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program.
- **Rep. Greg Gianforte (R-MT-AL)** discussed concerns with the current state of hunting and fishing access on public lands in Montana, and asked whether and how the bill would help inform sportsmen about area closures on public lands.
- **Rep. Steve Pearce (R-NM-2)**, **Rep. Scott Tipton (R-CO-3)**, and **Rep. Beyer** discussed the implications of the legislation's delisting of the gray wolf in Wyoming and the Western Great Lakes. **Rep. Pearce** talked about Wyoming's ability to manage gray wolves without federal control. **Rep. Tipton** discussed the use of science in setting population recovery goals and the Service's support of the gray wolf delisting, and suggested that the court ruling to override the decision was not based on sound science. **Rep. Beyer** expressed his concern for the removal of protections for the gray wolf.

For more information, please visit:
https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=402754

House Committee Marks Up SHARE Act

On Tuesday, September 12 and Wednesday, September 13, the House Natural Resources Committee held a markup of the SHARE Act, which passed out of Committee by a vote of 22-13. Several proposed amendments were of interest to the Service were considered, including:

- **Amendment #1,** offered by **Chairman Rob Bishop (R-UT-1)**: Provides technical corrections relating to the Pittman Robertson Act relating to Land Grant Universities. **Agreed to by voice vote.**
- **Amendment 004**, offered by **Ranking Member Raul Grijalva (D-AZ-3)**: Permanently reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund. **Rejected 15-20.**
- **Amendment 108**, offered by **Rep. Huffman**: Authorizes the Service to seek compensation from responsible parties for damages to resources on Service-managed lands. This language has been introduced as the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Resource Protection Act in previous Congresses. **Moved to Table**.
- **Amendment 002**, offered by **Rep. Gomez**: Removes authorization of certain motorized activities in wilderness areas. **Rejected 13-23.**
- **Amendment 006**, offered by **Rep. Beyer**: Removes Title XIV, the delisting of Wyoming and Western Great Lakes gray wolves, from the SHARE Act. **Rejected 13-22**.
- **Amendment 061**, offered by **Rnk. Mem. Grijalva**: Requires the Secretary of the Interior to issue a report on the impacts of a border wall on hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation. **Rejected 12-22**.
- **Amendment 001**, offered by **Rep. Niki Tsongas (D-MA-3)**: Clarifies that nothing in the bill prevents the Secretary of the Interior from including climate change as a consideration in making a decision related to conservation and recreation on federal land. **Rejected 13-21**.
- **Amendment 093**, offered by **Rep. Don Young (R-AK-AL)**: Requires the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw the rule entitled "Alaska; Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves" related to predator hunting on National Park Service lands. **Adopted 21-14.**
- **Amendment 026,** offered by **Rep. Doug LaMalfa (R-CA-1)**: Adds the Guides and Outfitters Act, which streamlines the recreational permitting process on public lands. **Adopted by voice vote.**

The Committee did not mark up several bills related to the Endangered Species Act. The following bills, as well as several amendments of interest to the Service, will be considered at a later date:

- **H.R. 424, Gray Wolf State Management Act of 2017**, introduced by **Rep. Collin Peterson (D-MN-7)**.
- **H.R. 717, Listing Reform Act**, introduced by **Rep. Pete Olson (R-TX-22)**.
- **H.R. 1274, State, Tribal and Local Species Transparency and Recovery Act**, introduced by **Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA-4)**.
    - **Amendment 046**, offered by **Rep. McClintock**: Offers further protections to states and personal information in the disclosure of scientific data on the internet.

- **H.R. 2603, Saving America's Endangered Species (SAVES) Act**, introduced by **Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-TX-1)**.
    - **Amendment 001**, offered by **Rep. Gohmert**: Eliminates the listing of all foreign species.
- **H.R. 3131, Endangered Species Litigation Reasonableness Act**, introduced by **Rep. Bill Huizenga (R-MI-2)**.

For more information, please visit:
https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=402769

UPCOMING HEARINGS

Senate Committee to Hold Hearing on Natural Resources Bills
On Tuesday, September 19, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will hold a legislative hearing to consider two bills related to natural resources requirements for electricity assets on federal lands. The first bill, H.R. 1873, introduced by **Rep. Doug LaMalfa (R-CA-1)**, ensures that vegetation management exists for electrical transmission on federal lands. Section 2310 of the second bill, S. 1460, introduced by **Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)**, will also be discussed, and provides for similar requirements to that of H.R. 1873. The hearing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. in 366 Dirksen Senate Office Building.

For more information, please visit: https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings-and-business-meetings?ID=CF13EB5F-9A33-4FF8-AD65-25AAD698A628

Senate Subcommittee to Hold Hearing on Federal Spending
On Wednesday, September 20, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management will hold a hearing to assess end of the year spending. The hearing is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. in 342 Dirksen Senate Office Building.

For more information, please visit:
https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/subcommittees/fso/hearings/prudent-planning-or-wasteful-binge-another-look-at-end-of-the-year-spending

INTRODUCED LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

S.1798 — A bill to establish a Federal standard in order to improve the Nation's resilience to current and future flood risk.
Sponsor: Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD] (Introduced 09/12/2017) Cosponsors: (2)
Committees: Senate - Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Latest Action: 09/12/2017 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

S.1787 — A bill to reauthorize the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.
Sponsor: Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK] (Introduced 09/11/2017) Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: 09/11/2017 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R.3794 — To direct the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to carry out a program to prevent flooding and wastewater, sewage, trash, and sediment spills in the Tijuana River Valley, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51] (Introduced 09/14/2017) Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure, Foreign Affairs
Latest Action: 09/14/2017 Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

H.R.3788 — To amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for a Northeast Gasoline Supply Reserve, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6] (Introduced 09/14/2017) Cosponsors: (16)
Committees: House - Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: 09/14/2017 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.3786 — To require the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere to update periodically the environmental sensitivity index products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for each coastal area of the Great Lakes, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-5] (Introduced 09/14/2017) Cosponsors: (3)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: 09/14/2017 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.3723 — To extend the National Flood Insurance Program.
Sponsor: Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4] (Introduced 09/08/2017) Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: House - Financial Services
Latest Action: 09/08/2017 Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

H.R.3715 — Scenic Columbia Gorge Restoration Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Walden, Greg [R-OR-2] (Introduced 09/08/2017) Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: House - Agriculture, Natural Resources
Latest Action: 09/08/2017 Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in

each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

From: Trott, Matthew
To: Charisa Morris; Chris Tollefson
Cc: Foster, Maureen; Matthew Huggler; Barbara Wainman
Subject: weekly with EA edits
Date: Monday, October 2, 2017 12:53:33 PM
Attachments: 2017-10-04 FWS Weekly Report EA.docx

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enjoy

2017-10-04 FWS Weekly Report EA

Matt Trott
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WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
October 4

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings and Travel

On October 9-13, Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan will be in the office until he goes on leave Friday, October 13.

Week Ahead Announcement and Actions

October 8-14 is National Wildlife Refuge Week, an annual celebration of the nation's wildlife conservation heritage and the national wildlife refuges that protect it. Hundreds of events take place for Refuge Week at wildlife refuges across the nation.

On October 10, a scientific paper will be published in the journal *Global Change Biology*, titled *Continental-extent patterns in amphibian malformations linked to parasites, chemical contaminants and their interactions*. The majority of the data came from the FWS abnormal amphibian monitoring program, which was conducted on national wildlife refuges across the nation. The lead author, a post-doctoral researcher from the University of Colorado, will handle research related questions in coordination with their staff. Two additional co-authors are FWS employees. FWS will handle agency-centric questions. This is expected to generate some media from press. If asked talking points are available.

On October 10 and 11, FWS will host two public meetings in Nevada seeking public input for studying the environmental impacts of issuing eagle take permits to a gold mine. Hycroft Resource and Development Incorporated is requesting eagle take permits for golden eagles, which are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, associated with their mining operations and proposed expansion activities at their mine in Northern Nevada. FWS intends to prepare a joint EIS with the BLM. FWS is seeking public comments to help obtain suggestions and information from agencies and the public on the scope of issues and alternatives to be addressed in the environmental impact statement (EIS). Outreach will include congressional, stakeholder and media notifications.

On October 16, Representative Debbie Dingell (D-MI) will attend an event at Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge that celebrates partner contributions to a new boat dock and fishing pier. The dock and pier will be open to the public beginning in spring of 2018. The event is invitation-only and not open to the public. Event is open to media.

In the coming weeks, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a change to the permitting status for imports of African elephant trophies from Zimbabwe. In 2014 and 2015, FWS was unable to determine that the hunting programs and subsequent imports of African elephant trophies from Zimbabwe met criteria under ESA regulations, so FWS could not authorize the issuance of import permits. After receiving information from Zimbabwe on a number of substantial improvements to their management program and elephant conservation efforts, FWS has determined that taking of African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe on or after January 21, 2016, (the date that Zimbabwe's new management plan was officially adopted) through 2017

would enhance the survival of African elephants, and import permits can be issued for these trophies. Planned outreach includes a news release and comprehensive FAQs.

In early October, the Alala Working Group, which is made up of FWS, the San Diego Zoo, the Hawaii Department of Forestry and Wildlife and other partners, plans a second reintroduction of the federally and state-listed endangered Alala (Hawaiian crow) into Puu Makaala Natural Area Reserve on Hawaii Island. The first reintroduction took place September 25. The Alala was extirpated from the wild in 2002, but has been successfully bred in captivity and is now ready for release. An earlier reintroduction in December 2016 was halted after challenges posed by winter storms and predation by Io (Hawaiian hawk, listed as endangered). The partners have addressed the previous challenges through changing the timing of release and incorporating a training program to teach the released birds how to better avoid the threat of Io. The reintroduction will take place on state-owned lands on Hawaii Island. The timing of the release is variable based on weather conditions and final health checks. Outreach is expected to include a news release, social media, emails and phone calls to congressional offices and stakeholders in the local Hawaiian community. This is not expected to be controversial.

Hot Topics

After Hurricane Maria, FWS has accounted for all 61 FWS personnel in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. A team of six Law Enforcement employees (5 OLE, 1 CLEO) continue to deliver supplies and conduct life and wellness checks in the Cabo Rojo NWR area in southwest Puerto Rico. A second team of 14 employees (10 OLE, 4 Incident Management staff) are removing debris and repairing cages at the Puerto Rican parrot aviary in northeast Puerto Rico. Team two will also deliver supplies to Vieques and Cabo Rojo NWRs, including satellite phones.

FWS and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife have confirmed reports of a wolf in eastern Skagit County, Washington. The gray wolf was captured and collared on June 8. The FWS Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon, completed the genetics analysis. This is the first wolf captured and collared west of the cascade crest in Washington State. Interested stakeholders include the Snoqualmie Tribe, Lummi Nation, and Swinomish Indian Tribal Community; Washington Cattlemen and livestock producers; environmental groups such as Defenders of Wildlife and Conservation Northwest; and state and federal wildlife and land management agencies. This is somewhat controversial.

The 2016 Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) Report to Congress on Asian carp has been cleared by DOI Congressional and Legislative Affairs (OCL) and was sent to OMB on September 28 for review and approval.

In early September the FWS became aware that the Calhoun Conservation District in Marshall, Michigan, was under investigation for financial irregularities, which may involve several projects that FWS has funded. FWS takes any possible misuse of federal funds very seriously. All inquiries about this issue are referred to the Department of the Interior, Office of the Inspector General. Several news stories have recently published on this.

Charles M. Russell NWR received a letter of complaint from the Valley County Commissioners relating to its response to the Cold Smoke Fire. The letter stated that they were "disappointed in the actions of your organization in the conduct of the "Cold Smoke" fire. The concern was with FWS's response not being aggressive enough initially. The responsible fire staff made a determination that due to the location of the fire and the inaccessible nature of the area, they could not safely attack the fire at that time. The area was not accessible to fire engines and sending in firefighters on foot posed a significant danger. The project leader is preparing a response letter and will have his fire staff, who managed this fire, meet with the commissioners as requested. The project leader will also meet with the commissioners later this winter.

FWS has partnered with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to develop a statewide programmatic Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) designed to conserve populations and habitats of greater sage-grouse, Baird's sparrow, chestnut-collared longspur, McCown's longspur, and Sprague's pipit on privately owned ranching and agricultural lands in Montana. Landowners who enroll in the CCAA agree to manage privately owned ranching and agricultural lands to remove or reduce threats to these at-risk species. In exchange, landowners receive regulatory assurances that the conservation actions implemented will result in no additional regulatory requirements for the landowner on enrolled lands if any of the species become listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). FWS provides these assurances through an Enhancement of Survival Permit issued to TNC, and interested landowners can enroll their properties under the permit through a Certificate of Inclusion. If any of the species covered under this CCAA become listed under the ESA, the permit would authorize any incidental take of the covered species that occurs as a result of CCAA implementation. The duration of the CCAA and the associated permit is 20 years. The open comment period for the draft CCAA and draft Environmental Assessment started on September 25 and are available for a 30-day public review and comment period ending October 25.

On September 20, FWS and Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (MFWP) investigated a depredation site about ten miles west of Dupuyer, Montana along the Rocky Mountain Front. The investigation found the remains of at least four dead calves, two of which had been dead for a couple days. The calves had signs that they were killed by bears and others appeared to have been fed upon by bears. The livestock owner also reported six missing calves from that pasture. FWS and MFWP asked the landowner to move cattle to another pasture as there were numerous bears in the area and they could not be sure which animals had caused the losses. The landowner agreed to do so. On September 24, another cow was killed at an adjoining ranch and traps were set with no capture on the first night, but traps would remain for at least another night. In the week previous, four lambs were killed about five miles north of Choteau, Montana. The investigation was not conclusive on the cause of death but bears had fed on the carcasses. Bear managers from Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks are concerned about additional depredation events on livestock near Choteau and Dupuyer, Montana due to natural foods in the form of chokecherries and buffalo berries are becoming scarce given the colder temperatures.

In July 2017, FWS began a one-foot drawdown of the Felsenthal Pool in accordance with Felsenthal NWR's approved Habitat Management Plan, with the primary objective of fostering moist soil vegetation for waterfowl. The last drawdown occurred in 1995 and was a success. Future drawdowns are proposed once every three years. Despite the state of Arkansas' support

for the drawdown, and refuge staff's communication and coordination with congressional staff and other interested parties, the bass fishing tournament community remains concerned about potential negative impacts the drawdown may have on the quality of their upcoming tournament on October 28. Since the drawdown began, all refuge boat ramps have remained open and operational and there has been no decline in participation in tournaments or recreational fishing. Refuge staff will begin reflooding the pool on October 16, and dependent on river flows, water levels should return to normal pool by October 28.

30-60-Day Look Ahead

On October 18, a consultation meeting with the White Mountain Apache Tribe in Arizona to discuss Statement of Relations with incoming Regional Director is tentatively proposed. Details will be available as meeting is firmed up.

On October 21, a media conference regarding the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community at or near Santa Ana NWR. (FWS is not a participant). If the event takes place, it is estimated that 50 to 65 individuals could be in attendance, including 18 mayors from local towns of the Rio Grande Valley (the nearest city to the refuge is Alamo, Texas). It is anticipated the local community will have signed resolutions against the proposed project.

On October 24, FWS will join U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Forest Service, Organization for Bat Conservation, and other partners at two Congressional events to commemorate BatWeek 2017. Both events are hosted by Congressman Glenn Thompson. The first is a Congressional briefing sponsored by the Congressman who sits on both the House Agriculture and House Natural Resources Committees. USGS is organizing the briefing as part of their congressional science series and speakers will discuss the importance of bats to the agricultural economy, impacts of white-nose syndrome, and what states and farmers are doing to benefit bats. That evening there is a congressional reception in the House Rayburn Cafeteria to showcase the federal, state, and nonprofit efforts underway to protect bats and raise awareness. These events are not controversial. The partners are proposing a press opportunity, and USDA and DOI have been invited to do Secretarial Proclamations to commemorate the week.

By October 24, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and FWS will announce funding up to $1 million for the first round of grants to fight White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) under the Bats for the Future Fund (BFF). Funded projects will include treatments and actions to fight WNS, a disease caused by fungus in hibernating bats. Bats provide important services to farmers and the forest products industry (one study showed that in Texas alone, the agricultural value of insect control by bats is $1.4 billion). In 2016, FWS provided seed funding to BFF, and additional funding was provided by the USDA Forest Service and Shell Oil Company. The grant program will annually match federal funds with sources of public and private dollars. We are coordinating with NFWF on joint media relations, including a possible media event with Shell Oil in Houston, Texas, and targeted media pitches in key markets where grants will be awarded. The announcement is not controversial.

The Department has approved FWS's distribution of more than $6.3 million in grant funding for 16 projects under the Competitive State Wildlife Grants program. Grant funds will be matched by more than $3.6 million in non-federal funds, making total available funding of more than $10 million. This slate is different from, but complementary to, the apportioned State Wildlife Grants that were announced earlier in August. The projects focus on "species of greatest conservation need" identified in State Wildlife Action Plans. Funds for this program are appropriated annually by Congress. FWS regional offices will submit individual grants for DOI approval prior to award. This is not controversial. No outreach is planned.

Endangered Species Act Listing/Delisting Actions

Pending clearance by the Department, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice removing the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain plants on the Hawaiian Islands that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which FWS is removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources by reducing the cost of printing the Code of Federal Regulations. No outreach is planned.

On or around October 13, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice to reopen the comment period for the proposed rule to delist the Hidden Lake bluecurls, a plant in California, due to recovery. Stakeholders include California Department of Parks and Recreation Mount San Jacinto State Park**.** We will publish a legal notice during the re-opened comment period in a newspaper of general circulation within the species' range. This is not expected to be controversial. A news release announcing the comment period reopening will be disseminated electronically to media and stakeholders, including federal and state agencies. Affected congressional districts will also be notified.

On or around October 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice requesting public comment on portions of its agency-wide Mitigation Policy and Endangered Species Act Compensatory Mitigation Policy. The portions FWS will request comment on include the policies' reference to a mitigation planning goal of net conservation gain and the policies' references to the previous Administration's mitigation directives. Based on comments received, FWS will decide whether and how to revise the policies. Outreach will include a news release and notifications to targeted stakeholders. This is not controversial.

On or around October 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice requesting public comment on both the Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAA) policy and the corresponding regulations. These notices will solicit public comments on the 2016 revised policy and regulations to determine if there are additional revisions, particularly to the CCAA standard, that will make the policy and regulations easier to implement for those entities choosing to participate in a CCAA. Outreach will include a news release and notifications to targeted stakeholders. This is not controversial.

On or around November 3, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice to reopen the comment period on the proposed rule to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower to allow for

public notice and comment on a Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA) as it applies to our listing determination. The spineflower listing is locally controversial, but the reopening of comment period is not expected to be controversial. Interested stakeholders are Newhall Ranch, who developed the CCA with FWS, the City of Calabasas and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (the petitioners), Wild Earth Guardians (MDL Settlement Agreement), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the State of California. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications and a local press release to Santa Barbara County media.

On or around November 9, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final delisting the eastern puma (cougar) (historically known to exist in southeastern Ontario, southern Quebec, and New Brunswick in Canada, and a region bounded from Maine to Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky, and South Carolina in the eastern United States) from the list of endangered and threatened species due to extinction. Although we do not anticipate major public controversy with regard to the final rule, opposition to our conclusion of extinction may be expressed by advocates and advocacy organizations for puma and large predator conservation. The best available information indicates that these are cases of mistaken identity and escaped captive animals, and, rarely, dispersers from western puma populations. This rule will also acknowledge the current state of the North American puma taxonomy. Interested parties include the States within the eastern United States, the Humane Society of the United States, the Animal Legal Defense Fund, and the Cougar Network. A national news bulletin and congressional emails are planned.

On or around November 10, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the Western glacier stonefly and meltwater lednian stonefly, located in Montana and Wyoming, as threatened species. The listing is considered moderately controversial, but reopening of the comment period is not expected to be controversial. The State of Wyoming does not support the listing, largely due to uncertainty regarding genetic information available at the time of the proposal. Interested stakeholders include WildEarth Guardians, Xerces Society, Center for Biological Diversity and the states of Montana and Wyoming. Planned outreach is a regional news release.

On or around November 10, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* 90-day petition findings for five species: the oblong rocksnail, sicklefin chub, sturgeon chub, tricolored bat, and Venus flytrap. As part of this batched finding FWS is publishing a correction to the 90-day finding for leopards which clarifies the range and the entity we are evaluating in our status review. These actions are not typically controversial; however, for substantial 90-day findings, this action might be the first time stakeholders become aware that FWS is assessing the status of a species. All stakeholders will have ample opportunity to provide input into our eventual 12-month findings. A national news bulletin and Congressional notifications are planned.

On or around November 10, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to reclassify the Borax Lake chub, which occurs in Oregon, from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, there is the potential for geothermal development in the vicinity. Potential stakeholders include the state of Oregon, The Nature Conservancy, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. This action is not controversial. FWS does not anticipate negative reaction from environmental groups. We will propose reclassification but acknowledge

the interest to delist the species and ask for information regarding which alternative to take. This action will likely receive the most interest at the local and regional level. The Oregon Desert Fishes Working Group (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, The Nature Conservancy, FWS, and others) has been engaged and is supportive of this action. FWS will conduct outreach with local and regional media, congressionals, and invested stakeholders. FWS is considering a joint announcement with the proposed delisting of the Foskett speckled dace.

On or around November 10, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to delist the Foskett speckled dace, an endemic fish species in Oregon, from the ESA due to recovery. This action will likely receive the most interest at the local and regional level. The Oregon Desert Fishes Working Group (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, The Nature Conservancy, FWS, and others) has been engaged and is supportive of this action. FWS will conduct outreach to local and regional media, congressionals, and invested stakeholders. FWS is considering a joint announcement with the proposed reclassification of the Borax Lake chub. FWS will also make the draft post-delisting monitoring plan available. This action is not controversial.

On or around November 15, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to remove the Monito gecko, a reptile in Puerto Rico, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. It is protected in a natural reserve managed by the Puerto Rico Department of Environmental and Natural Resources (PRDNER) and which has no public access. The species protections will remain in place after delisting, and there are only a few scientific research permits granted. This action is a conservation success story and is not expected to be controversial. The primary stakeholder is the Territory of Puerto Rico. Planned outreach will include a news release and web postings.

On or around November 17, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed listing determination and proposed critical habitat designation for the Island marble butterfly, found in Washington. The proposed critical habitat designation includes approximately 812 acres. The single proposed unit of critical habitat is predominantly on federal lands; accordingly, the economic and other impacts of critical habitat are expected to be very low. This action is not expected to be controversial. Interested stakeholders include Xerces (the petitioner), federal partners including the National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management, and State partners including Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Natural Resources, San Juan County Land Bank, the San Juan Preservation Trust, and local landowners. A news release to all interested parties and the media is planned.

National Wildlife Refuge Actions

In October, FWS will publish a final rule on the 2017-18 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations. The final rule will open various national wildlife refuges to hunting and/or sport fishing for the first time (new hunts) and expand hunting and fishing opportunities at others. Outreach is planned to include a national news release when the *Federal Registe*r notice is published and notifications to members of Congress in affected districts, with some stakeholder outreach. Not controversial.

Migratory Bird Management Actions

On October 17 and 18, FWS will meet in Bloomington, Minnesota, to discuss regulatory frameworks for the 2018-19 migratory game bird hunting season lengths, dates and bag limits. Each year, FWS works in partnership with states from the four Flyway Councils (Pacific, Central, Mississippi and Atlantic) to establish regulatory frameworks for hunting season lengths, dates and bag limits. Outreach is not planned. This is not controversial.

From:	Gale, Michael
To:	FWS Directorate & Deputies
Cc:	Charisa Morris
Subject:	Weekly Report and FishBites 10.10.17
Date:	Friday, October 6, 2017 3:06:06 PM
Attachments:	2017-10-11 FWS Weekly Report.docx Fish Bites 10-10.docx

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Hello,

Please see the FWS Weekly Secretarial Report and next week's FishBites, attached. Please let me know if you have any questions (I'm acting for Charisa for the next two weeks).

Have a great holiday weekend,

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office
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WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
October 11

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings and Travel

On October 11, Greg Sheehan will speak at the Congressional Wildlife Refuge Caucus and the Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement in Washington, DC. On October 19, Greg Sheehan will be speaking at the 20th Anniversary of the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV.

Week Ahead Announcement and Actions

On October 16, Representative Debbie Dingell (D-MI) will attend an event at Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge that celebrates partner contributions to a new boat dock and fishing pier. The dock and pier will be open to the public beginning in spring of 2018. The event is invitation-only and not open to the public. Event is open to media.

On October 17 and 18, FWS will meet in Bloomington, Minnesota, to discuss regulatory frameworks for the 2018-19 migratory game bird hunting season lengths, dates and bag limits. Each year, FWS works in partnership with states from the four Flyway Councils (Pacific, Central, Mississippi and Atlantic) to establish regulatory frameworks for hunting season lengths, dates and bag limits. Outreach is not planned. This is not controversial.

Through October 18 (starts October 10), FWS, as part of a funding agreement with the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, is hosting a marine wildlife crime scene investigation training for Indonesian government officials in Jakarta, Indonesia, to further the agencies' shared priority to combat wildlife trafficking. The curriculum is intensive and includes classroom as well as in-water sessions for practitioners. FWS is providing expert trainers from its Office of Law Enforcement. FWS partnered with the International Coral Reef Initiative for facilitation, logistics and additional technical expertise.

On October 21, a media conference regarding the proposed border wall is being planned by the local community at or near Santa Ana NWR. (FWS is not a participant). If the event takes place, it is estimated that 50 to 65 individuals could be in attendance, including 18 mayors from local towns of the Rio Grande Valley (the nearest city to the refuge is Alamo, Texas). It is anticipated the local community will have signed resolutions against the proposed project.

In the coming weeks, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a change to the permitting status for imports of African elephant trophies from Zimbabwe. In 2014 and 2015, FWS was unable to determine that the hunting programs and subsequent imports of African elephant trophies from Zimbabwe met criteria under ESA regulations, so FWS could not authorize the issuance of import permits. After receiving information from Zimbabwe on a number of substantial improvements to their management program and elephant conservation efforts, FWS has determined that taking of African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe on or after January 21, 2016, (the date that Zimbabwe's new management plan was officially adopted) through 2017

would enhance the survival of African elephants, and import permits can be issued for these trophies. Planned outreach includes a news release and comprehensive FAQs.

Hot Topics

On September 29, a U.S. District Judge dismissed a lawsuit filed against Rocky Flats NWR, in which several community and activist groups argued that opening Rocky Flats NWR near Denver, Colorado, to the public could be a health hazard. They asked the Court to delay the building and construction of trails and a multipurpose facility until FWS complies with its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, and Executive Order 11990 by analyzing the environmental risks of opening the refuge (a former nuclear weapons manufacturing site) to the public. The judge ruled that because federal officials have not issued a final agency action regarding the building of trails and a multipurpose facility at Rocky Flats, the plaintiffs' claim that proper environmental reviews had yet to be conducted was not supported.

It was recently confirmed that on September 19 a single young-of-year black carp was collected by the Missouri Department of Conservation near Cape Girardeau, Missouri. This is the second time that young black carps have been found in the area. The presence of the small fish substantiates concerns about the successful reproduction of the invasive fish in the wild. Black carps were originally imported by the aquaculture community to keep catfish ponds clean. They primarily eat mussels and snails, and in the wild can devastate native mussel beds. Black carp response is a growing piece of the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee's work, which is co-chaired by FWS.

30-60-Day Look Ahead

On October 24, FWS will join U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Forest Service, Organization for Bat Conservation, and other partners at two Congressional events on Capitol Hill to commemorate BatWeek 2017. Both events are hosted by Congressman Glenn Thompson (R-PA). The first is a Congressional briefing sponsored by the Congressman, who sits on both the House Agriculture and House Natural Resources Committees. USGS is organizing the briefing as part of their congressional science series and speakers will discuss the importance of bats to the agricultural economy, impacts of white-nose syndrome, and what states and farmers are doing to benefit bats. That evening there is a congressional reception in the House Rayburn Cafeteria to showcase the federal, state and nonprofit efforts underway to protect bats and raise awareness. These events are not controversial. The partners are proposing a press opportunity, and USDA and DOI are planning to issue Secretarial Proclamations to commemorate the week.

By October 24, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and FWS will announce funding up to $1 million for the first round of grants to fight white-nose syndrome under the Bats for the Future Fund (BFF). Funded projects will include treatments and actions to fight the fungal disease of hibernating bats. Bats provide important services to farmers and the forest products industry (one study showed that in Texas alone, the agricultural value of insect control by bats is $1.4 billion). In 2016, FWS provided seed funding to BFF, and additional funding was provided by the USDA Forest Service and Shell Oil Company. The grant program will annually

match federal funds with sources of public and private dollars. We are coordinating with NFWF on joint media relations, including a possible media event with Shell Oil in Houston, Texas, and targeted media pitches in key markets where grants will be awarded. The announcement is not controversial.

By late October, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a draft 10-year General Conservation Plan (GCP) for Utah prairie dogs. Conservation plans such as the Utah prairie dog GCP are developed to allow for incidental take permit authorization for species listed under the Endangered Species Act. The overall goal of the Utah prairie dog GCP is to reconcile prairie dog conservation with the development needs of local communities in southwest and southcentral Utah, and compensate for impacts to Utah prairie dogs. The GCP also includes a program to allow translocations of prairie dogs from already developed (or adjacent) properties to sites on federal or other protected lands, mirroring portions of the previous state prairie dog management plan. FWS developed the GCP in partnership with the State of Utah, Iron County, and other parties.

The Department has approved FWS's distribution of more than $6.3 million in grant funding for 16 projects under the Competitive State Wildlife Grants program. Grant funds will be matched by more than $3.6 million in non-federal funds, making total available funding of more than $10 million. This slate is different from, but complementary to, the apportioned State Wildlife Grants that were announced earlier in August. The projects focus on "species of greatest conservation need" identified in State Wildlife Action Plans. Funds for this program are appropriated annually by Congress. FWS regional offices will submit individual grants for DOI approval prior to award. This is not controversial. No outreach is planned.

Endangered Species Act Listing/Delisting Actions

Pending clearance by the Department, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice removing the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain plants on the Hawaiian Islands that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which FWS is removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources by reducing the cost of printing the Code of Federal Regulations. No outreach is planned.

In October (with a target date of the 13th), FWS plans to reopen the comment period for the proposed rule to delist the Hidden Lake bluecurls, a plant in California, due to recovery. Stakeholders include California Department of Parks and Recreation Mount San Jacinto State Park**.** FWS will publish a legal notice during the reopened comment period in a newspaper of general circulation within the species' range. Reopening comment periods is rarely controversial. A news release announcing the comment period reopening will be disseminated electronically to media and stakeholders, including federal and state agencies. Affected congressional districts will also be notified.

On or around October 20, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice requesting public comment on portions of its Agency-Wide Mitigation Policy and Endangered Species Act

Compensatory Mitigation Policy. The portions FWS will request comment on include the policies' reference to a mitigation planning goal of net conservation gain and the policies' references to the previous Administration's mitigation directives. Based on comments received, FWS will decide whether and how to revise the policies. Outreach will include a news release and notifications to targeted stakeholders. There is a high level of interest from states, stakeholders, NGOs and the public. There is a high level of interest from states, stakeholders, NGOs, the media and the public.

On or around October 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice requesting public comment on both the Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAA) policy and the corresponding regulations. These notices will solicit public comments on the 2016 revised policy and regulations to determine if there are additional revisions, particularly to the CCAA standard, that will make the policy and regulations easier to implement for those entities choosing to participate in a CCAA. Outreach will include a news release and notifications to targeted stakeholders. This is not controversial.

On or around November 3, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice to reopen the comment period on the proposed rule to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower to allow for public notice and comment on a Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA) as it applies to our listing determination. The spineflower listing is locally controversial, but the reopening of comment period is not expected to be controversial. Interested stakeholders are Newhall Ranch, who developed the CCA with FWS, the City of Calabasas and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (the listing petitioners), Wild Earth Guardians (MDL Settlement Agreement), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the State of California. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications and a local press release to Santa Barbara County media.

On or around November 9, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final delisting the eastern puma (cougar) (historically known to exist in southeastern Ontario, southern Quebec, and New Brunswick in Canada, and a region bounded from Maine to Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky, and South Carolina in the eastern United States) from the list of endangered and threatened species due to extinction. Although we do not anticipate major public controversy with regard to the final rule, opposition to our conclusion of extinction may be expressed by advocates and advocacy organizations for puma and large predator conservation, and we can expect some national media attention. The best available information indicates that supposed recent sightings are cases of mistaken identity and escaped captive animals, and, rarely, dispersers from western puma populations. This rule will also acknowledge the current state of the North American puma taxonomy. Interested parties include the states within the eastern United States, the Humane Society of the United States, the Animal Legal Defense Fund, and the Cougar Network. A national news bulletin and congressional emails are planned.

On or around November 10, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the western glacier stonefly and meltwater lednian stonefly, located in Montana and Wyoming, as threatened species. The listing is considered moderately controversial, but reopening of the comment period is not expected to be controversial. The State of Wyoming does not support the listing, largely due to uncertainty

regarding genetic information available at the time of the proposal. Interested stakeholders include WildEarth Guardians, Xerces Society, Center for Biological Diversity and the states of Montana and Wyoming. Planned outreach is a regional news release.

On or around November 10, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* 90-day petition findings for five species: the oblong rocksnail, sicklefin chub, sturgeon chub, tricolored bat, and Venus flytrap. As part of this batched finding we are publishing a correction to the 90-day finding for leopards that clarifies the range and the entity we are evaluating in our status review. 90-day findings are just the first step in a long process and tend not to get significant media coverage except for the most high-profile species; however, for substantial 90-day findings, this action might be the first time stakeholders become aware that we are assessing the status of a species. All stakeholders will have ample opportunity to provide input into our eventual 12-month findings. A national news bulletin and congressional notifications are planned.

On or around November 10, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to reclassify the Borax Lake chub, which occurs in Oregon, from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, there is the potential for geothermal development in the vicinity. Potential stakeholders include the state of Oregon, The Nature Conservancy, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. This action is not controversial. FWS does not anticipate negative reaction from environmental groups. We will propose reclassification but acknowledge the interest to delist the species and ask for information regarding which alternative to take. This action will likely receive the most interest at the local and regional level. The Oregon Desert Fishes Working Group (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, The Nature Conservancy, FWS, and others) has been engaged and is supportive of this action. FWS will conduct outreach with local and regional media, congressional staff, and invested stakeholders. FWS is considering a joint announcement with the proposed delisting of the Foskett speckled dace.

On or around November 10, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to delist the Foskett speckled dace, an endemic fish species in Oregon, from the ESA due to recovery. This action will likely receive the most interest at the local and regional level. The Oregon Desert Fishes Working Group (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, The Nature Conservancy, FWS, and others) has been engaged and is supportive of this action. FWS will conduct outreach to local and regional media, congressional staff, and invested stakeholders. FWS is considering a joint announcement with the proposed reclassification of the Borax Lake chub. FWS will also make the draft post-delisting monitoring plan available. This action is not controversial.

On or around November 15, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to remove the Monito gecko, a reptile in Puerto Rico, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. It is protected in a natural reserve managed by the Puerto Rico Department of Environmental and Natural Resources that has no public access. The species protections will remain in place after delisting, and there are only a few scientific research permits granted. This action is a conservation success story and is not expected to be controversial. The primary

stakeholder is the Territory of Puerto Rico. Planned outreach will include a news release and web postings.

On or around November 17, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed listing determination and proposed critical habitat designation for the Island marble butterfly, found in Washington. The proposed critical habitat designation includes approximately 812 acres. The single proposed unit of critical habitat is predominantly on federal lands; accordingly, the economic and other impacts of critical habitat are expected to be very low. This action is not expected to be controversial. Interested stakeholders include Xerces (the petitioner), federal partners including the National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management, and State partners including Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Natural Resources, San Juan County Land Bank, the San Juan Preservation Trust, and local landowners. A news release to all interested parties and the media is planned.

On or around November 27, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened. This bird is located in 31 states and the District of Columbia ranging from the Atlantic Coast west to the Mississippi River Basin, and in Canada and the Bahamas. This proposed downlisting rule will also have a special (d) rule to enable wildfire prevention and response actions, facilitate forest management activities on private lands, use designated trails and roads, allow incidental take from non-motorized recreational activities, and allow capturing and banding outside of the breeding areas. Stakeholders include Michigan Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Forest Service and Huron Pines, a conservation group, all partners in recovery activities for the species, along with other conservation groups working as part of the Kirtland's Warbler Alliance. There is not expected to be controversy associated with the proposal. There is expected to be a moderate level of interest among birders and conservation groups. Outreach will include a news release, web postings; regional media interest is expected.

On or around November 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* 12-month findings on petitions to list the blackfin sucker, Mohave shoulderband snail, white-tailed prairie dog, and Woodville Karst cave crayfish. These actions are not expected to be controversial. Planned outreach includes separate news releases for each region, many with supporting FAQs, and notifications to stakeholders and members of Congress. FWS is required by settlement agreement to submit the finding for the Mohave shoulderband snail to the *Federal Register* by November 30.

National Wildlife Refuge Actions

In October, FWS will publish a final rule on the 2017-18 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations. The final rule will open various national wildlife refuges to hunting and/or sport fishing for the first time (new hunts) and expand hunting and fishing opportunities at others. Outreach is planned to include a national news release when the *Federal Register* notice is published and notifications to members of Congress in affected districts, with some stakeholder outreach. Not controversial.

Migratory Bird Management Actions

At the end of October, FWS and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services will complete a NEPA Environmental Assessment to evaluate options for lethal take permits for aquaculture facilities, among other circumstances, and publish a notice of availability in the *Federal Register*. In 2016, the U.S. District Court vacated two FWS depredation orders that previously allowed the lethal take of cormorants, citing inadequate NEPA documentation. FWS will also review the science and options for lethal take permits involving cormorants and their potential damage to recreational and commercial fishing. FWS is striving to make certain the NEPA reviews are built on a strong biological foundation to ensure cormorants are managed responsibly and in compliance with federal laws and regulations, while also balancing economic development, human health and safety and endangered species management. Outreach is being planned, and will include notifications to targeted stakeholders and members of Congress in affected districts. This will be controversial.

FishBites 10.10.17

FWS continues to aggressively use prescribed fire in the Pacific Region to reduce excess fuel loads to avoid potentially catastrophic fires in the future, while simultaneously improving wildlife habitat.

- **Topic:** As weather permits, FWS has conducted prescribed burns at multiple NWRs in the Pacific Region in collaboration with partners. In the last week, FWS burned a record 500-plus acres in Oregon's Willamette Valley refuges, conducted a first-ever burn at Protection Island NWR, and other had other burns in Hawaii, the Southeastern Idaho Complex and the Mid-Columbia Complex in Washington.
- **Stakeholders:** BLM, National Park Service, Forest Service, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, state agencies, Native American tribes, and nonprofit groups such as The Nature Conservancy and Center for Natural Lands Management.
- **Impacted locations:** Multiple sites in Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

Infrastructure project at Lower Green River NWR Complex

- **Topic:** Staff at the Lower Green River NWR Complex have been working with Federal Highways, the Bureau of Land Management, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Colorado State Land Board, Moffatt Country, Seven County Infrastructure Coalition, Utah Department of Natural Resources and several private partners to replace a bridge that is essential to the local community. The "Swinging Bridge" that crosses the Green River on Browns Park NWR was damaged three years ago by a tractor, resulting in an hour and a half detour for the community. Through the collaborative efforts of the multiagency team funding has been acquired and plans developed for the bridge replacement project that will begin the spring of 2018.
- **Supportive Stakeholders**: Community surrounding Browns Park NWR
- **Impacted Location:** Northwest, Colorado

New fishing pier at Flint Hills NWR

- **Topic:** Flint Hills NWR in Kansas has constructed a new fishing pier at Lebo Creek. The Lebo Creek location is a popular place for anglers, and the refuge sought to improve access for them and other users. The fishing deck provides people of all abilities with access to fishing opportunities.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Anglers, refuge visitors
- **Impacted Location:** Kansas

Modoc NWR featured on the front page of the local paper for building a paved trail that will connect Alturas, California, to the Refuge.

- **Topic:** Residents of Alturas will soon be able to walk, bike, or run to Modoc NWR's front entrance. The trail will be universally accessible and provide a safe travel corridor off the main highway for pedestrians and cyclists. An additional spur will also provide safe access to the local Desert Rose Casino. The trail will be complete at the end of October.
- **Supportive stakeholders:** Modoc County Road Department and the Federal Highway Administration

Impacted location: Alturas, California

Wildlife inspectors help to streamline import permitting for small business

- **Topic:** A small business in Wisconsin contacted FWS in regard to the inspection costs for a product that they sell in the U.S. After discussion with the owner, Office of Law Enforcement staff determined her company was a candidate for fee waivers under the current Small Business Fee Exemption Program that was implemented a few years ago.
- **Supportive Stakeholder:** Small business in Wisconsin
- **Impacted Location:** Wisconsin

FWS works with partners to conserve at-risk spotted turtle with the goal of avoiding federal listing

- **Topic:** FWS is working with 11 Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and Southeast states, other federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations to develop a regional conservation plan, identify funding, and implement on-the-ground management actions to conserve the spotted turtle. Spotted turtles have declined and are of conservation concern throughout the United States and Canada. They are identified as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need in all 21 states in which they occur and have been petitioned for federal listing under the ESA. This project directly supports the priority to work with private landowners, industry, states, and other agencies to conserve at-risk species through voluntary and non-regulatory approaches and secure the future of this species.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** 11 States, Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Defense, The Nature Conservancy Virginia Chapter, Mid-Atlantic Center for Herpetology and Conservation
- **Impacted Location:** Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and Southeast states

FWS partners with Steve Harvey Foundation to take urban youth fishing

- **Topic**: FWS partnered with the Steve Harvey Foundation and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to take 25 Dallas, Texas area boys fishing at Cedar Hill State Park on September 30, 2017. For many of the young men this was their first fishing experience and they were excited to spend the afternoon learning about fishing and being outside. One of the goals of the Steve Harvey Foundation is to introduce and pair children with community leaders as mentors; through group and one-on-one mentoring programs. Over the last five years, FWS, TPWD and the Steve Harvey Foundation have partnered on a number of events aimed at getting inner city youth engaged in outdoor experiences.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** The Steve Harvey Foundation, hunting and fishing community, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- **Impacted Location:** Dallas, Texas

From:	Gale, Michael
To:	FWS Directorate & Deputies
Cc:	Kashyap Patel; Charisa Morris; Zachariah Gambill
Subject:	AD Meeting Notes 10.23.17
Date:	Monday, October 23, 2017 11:01:46 AM
Attachments:	AD Meeting Notes 10.23.17.docx

Hello,

Attached are the notes from the weekly AD Meeting for this week.

Thanks,

Michael

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Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)
571.982.2158 (cell)

Assistant Director (AD) Meeting Notes
10.23.17

Charisa Morris is back from vacation. Her time in Greece was lovely.

Director's Office

This week is Bat Week. On Thursday, the Secretary is hosting an event around hunting and fishing access for veterans. Regional SACs from OLE are meeting this week at Skyline, and now Greg Sheehan will be joining them. Last week, Greg, Jim, and others attended the 20th Anniversary event for NCTC. A number of former Directors were there.

We have begun importation of African lions from Zimbabwe and Zambia based on the recent enhancement findings for the species.

Greg's trip to Texas to visit refuges has been postponed to line up with Deputy Secretary travel the week of November 6.

Jim spoke at the Refuge Academy on Monday.

We have several teams working on the various Secretarial Orders (3355/NEPA, 3356/Access). We have also formed a team on international travel, which includes setting priorities for future travel. A briefing with FWP on foreign travel turned into a broader briefer on travel in general, which may come under scrutiny in the future. DOI is not going to do a travel ceiling but is looking to the bureaus to set up their own reduced targets.

Ecological Services (Gary Frazer)

For the Bat Week event on Capitol Hill, Greg Sheehan will now give the remarks instead of Gary Frazer. He will be giving a bat box to Congressman Peterson, who's supportive of FWS issues.

OMSRE meeting was cancelled and will get rescheduled. The issue is whether to updated the biological opinion for coal operations issued eight months ago.

There is a meeting on lesser prairie chicken. We need to figure out the basic message on where we are at. It's related to the current progress of the SSA and how we're working with WAFWA.

There's a need to work with Departmental officials on ESA regulations, which got kicked back from OMB.

We are setting up a Mexican wolf briefing with Todd Willens and FWP.

Business and Management Operations - BMO (Janine Valesco)

Working on a tool to disseminate safety messages to employees.

Zack Gambill, Advisor

Interested in attending weekly staff meetings of the programs to learn more about USFWS.

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) (Paul Rausch)

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) online donation portal is up and running. There's a kick off event a week from Friday at Skyline.

Bud Cribley

Chasing down some energy related issues, particularly in the Texas and New Mexico area. Also identifying energy issues with DOI.

Law Enforcement (Ed Grace)

There is a meeting this week of the Regional SACs.

International Affairs (Gloria Bell)

The Secretary is meeting with the USAID Administrator on Wednesday. Jason Larrabee will be at the meeting. Briefing materials should be sent to Karen Senhadji.

External Affairs (Matt Huggler is the Deputy, Barbara Wainman is the AD)

Barbara is back this week. Bat Week activities are this week: informal event at DOI on Tuesday morning, Congressional events in the afternoon.

Information Resources and Technology Management (Ken Taylor)

Ken is out meeting with the cyber security team this week.

Budget, Planning, and Human Capital (BPHC) (Denise Sheehan)

Denise will be out Thursday and Friday at William and Mary.

National Wildlife Refuge System

The Regions are identifying the Hunt / Fish Chiefs. Greg Sheehan would like to be part of the kick-off meeting. There is a border barrier meeting with Jason Larrabee. Cynthia will work to set up a meeting for Greg on this issue as well.

Chief of Staff

Charisa is back. Starting next week, the weekly AD Meetings on Mondays will start at 10:00a.m.

Science Applications (Seth Mott)

There are a number of people at the State Wildlife Action Plan meeting. As of now, there are six that have not been approved. Last week, Greg spoke at the ARD for SA meeting.

Migratory Birds (Jerome Ford)

Migratory Birds ARD meeting is this week at Skyline. Cormorant EA for aquaculture is on track to be finished this week.

From:	Bartelt, Karla
To:	Charisa Morris; Kashyap Patel; Sellars, Roslyn
Subject:	Conference Management Briefing with Guertin - Monday 11 am EST - 10 am CST
Date:	Tuesday, January 16, 2018 6:42:33 AM
Attachments:	2018-01-13 Present.ppt CON0000633 - Colloquium on the Conservation - FWS.pdf CON0000633 - Colloquium on the Conservation - NTR.pdf CON0000637 - American Ornithology Society - FWS.pdf CON0000637 - American Ornithology Society - NTR .pdf CON0000638 - Trilateral Committee - FWS.pdf CON0000638 - Trilateral Committee - NTR.pdf

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Good Morning,

The briefing for Conference Management is at 11 am EST.

Attached is the documents that need to be printed for the briefing.

Please contact me as soon as possible.
651-245-6282

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Karla Bartelt
Acting National Conference Coordinator
karla_bartelt@fws.gov
Phone: 612/713-5365

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5600 American Blvd W
Bloomington, MN 55437

FISHNET

CONFERENCE MANAGEMENT

March Events Presentation

Created by:
Karla Bartelt, Acting National Conference Coordinator

Comparison

The goal is to achieve cost-cutting and prioritize travel within the organization.

Effective planning for your organization's expected travel will ensure that costs are minimized.

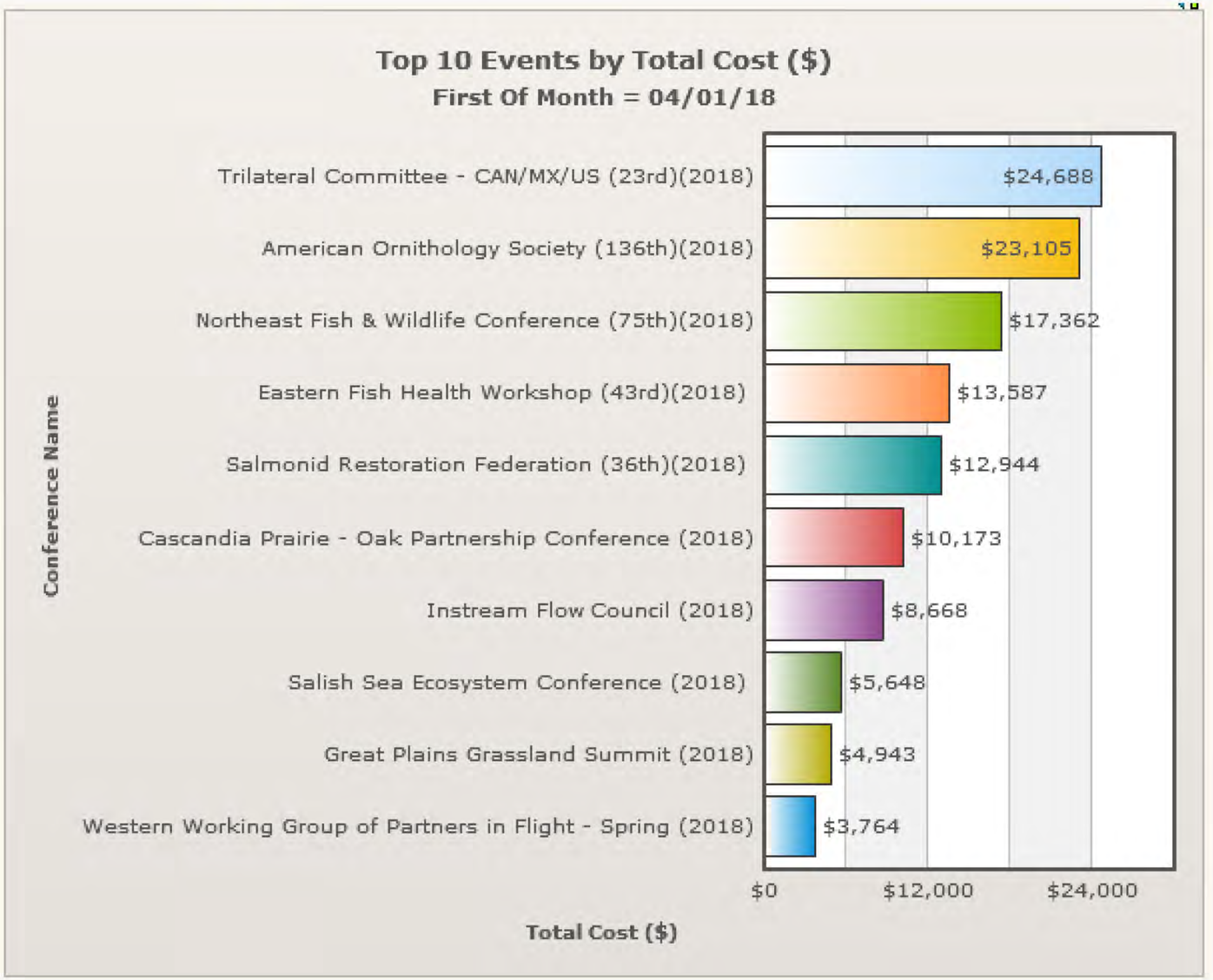
FY17		FY18		Cost Savings
10/1/2016	$364,872	10/1/2017	$326,390	**$38,482**
11/1/2016	$302,135	11/1/2017	$236,962	**$65,172**
12/1/2016	$228,819	12/1/2017	$53,592	**$175,227**
1/1/2017	$171,428	1/1/2018	$186,593	**-$15,165**
2/1/2017	$512,732	2/1/2018	$358,558	**$154,174**
3/1/2017	$452,514	3/1/2018	$382,512	**$70,002**
4/1/2017	$295,974	4/1/2018	$167,000	**$128,974**
5/1/2017	$357,992	5/1/2018		
6/1/2017	$147,652	6/1/2018		
7/1/2017	$295,457	7/1/2018		
8/1/2017	$143,266	8/1/2018		
9/1/2017	$256,507	10/1/2018		
Total	$3,529,349		$1,711,607	**$616,866**

FY17 to FY18
Currently
26%

April Events

FCMS Dashboard

All Director's, Assistant Directors, Regional Directors, and Deputy Regional Director's have access.



FISHNET CONFERENCE MANAGEMENT SITE

Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Reviewer	Original Cost	Reduced Cost
North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference	Norfolk, Virginia	Charisa Morris	$103,494	$17,549

North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference

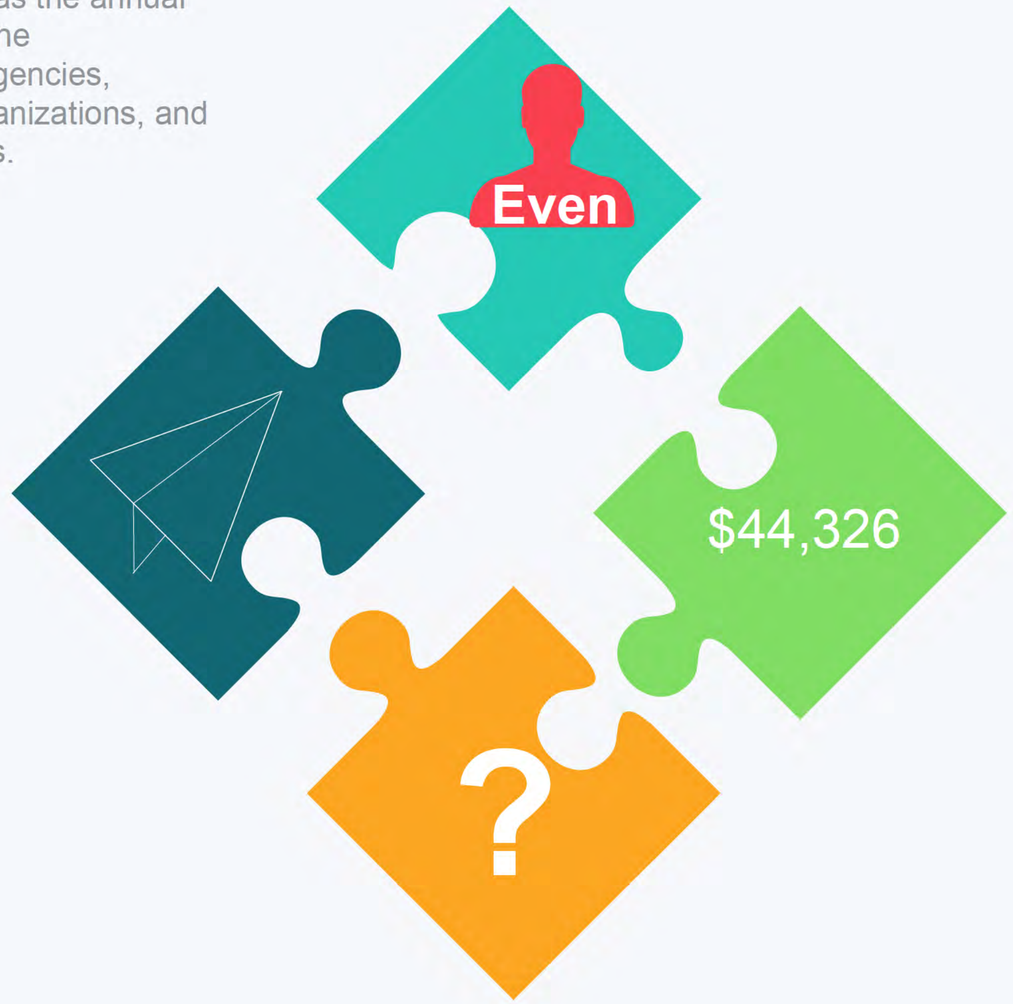
	2017	2018 Submitted	2018 Reduced
	$146,437	102,111	$87,803
Attendees	69	69	58
Registration	$28,290	$26,530	$22,620
Travel	$98,147	$75,584	$65,183
Sponsorship	$20,000	-	-
	Spokane, WA	Norfolk, VA	Norfolk, VA

FY17 to FY18
Decrease
-$44,326
Reduced
-$58,634

North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference

Sessions, workshops and more than 150 separate meetings and functions, serve as the annual forum to set conservation policy in North America. Conference attendees include the administrators of federal, state and provincial wildlife and other natural resource agencies, college and university program leaders, heads of leading private conservation organizations, and other managers, scientists, researchers, officials and students of natural resources.

- Submitted Package $102,111
- FY17 to FY18 Reduced by -$44,326 (-30%)
- 15% Reduction would have been $21,965 (Double)
- Final Piece of the Puzzle



Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Reviewer	Original Cost	Reduced Cost
Colloquium on the Conservation of Mammals – Joint Meeting	Roanoke, VA	Wendi Weber	$30,224	$17,549

Colloquium on Conservation of Mammals

Midwest/Southeast/Northeast Bat Working Groups

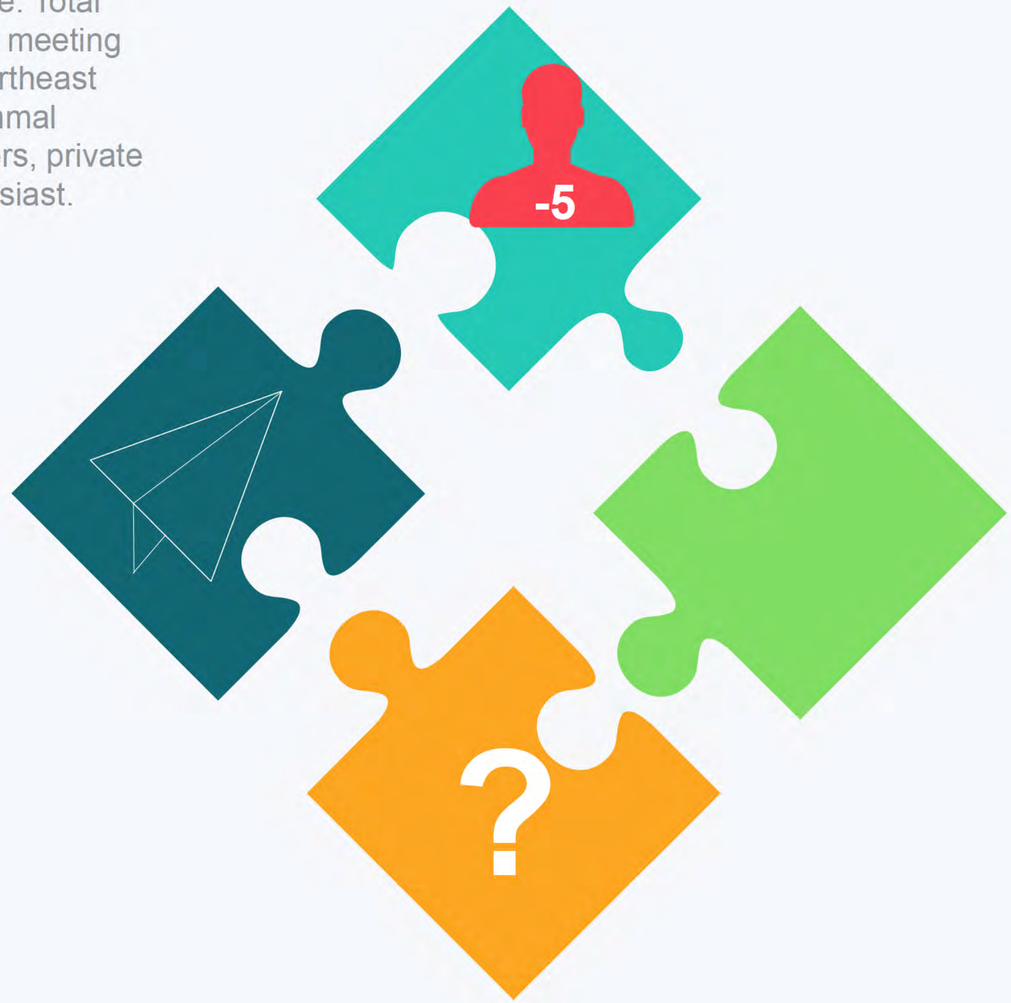
	2017	2018 Submitted	2018 Reduced
	-	$30,224	$24,882
Attendees	-	30	25
Registration	-	$4,900	$3,800
Travel	-	$25,324	$21,082
Sponsorship		-	-
		Roanoke, VA	Roanoke, VA

Colloquium on Conservation of Mammals

Midwest/Southeast/Northeast Bat Working Groups

Approval & signature by Director on this multi-regional conference attendance package. Total number of attendees will be 25 with an estimated cost of $24,882. This is the first joint meeting of the North American Joint Bat Working Group (includes Midwest, Southeast, and Northeast Bat Working Groups) and the Colloquium on the Conservation of Mammals. This Mammal Colloquium will bring together conservation biologists, private and public land managers, private consultation organizations, education institutions, citizen scientists, and outdoor enthusiast.

- Package reduced as directed to $5,342
- Combining two events
- Final Piece of the Puzzle



Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Reviewer	Original Cost	Reduced Cost
American Ornithology Society (136th)	Tucson, AZ	Joy Nicholopoulos	$23,105	-

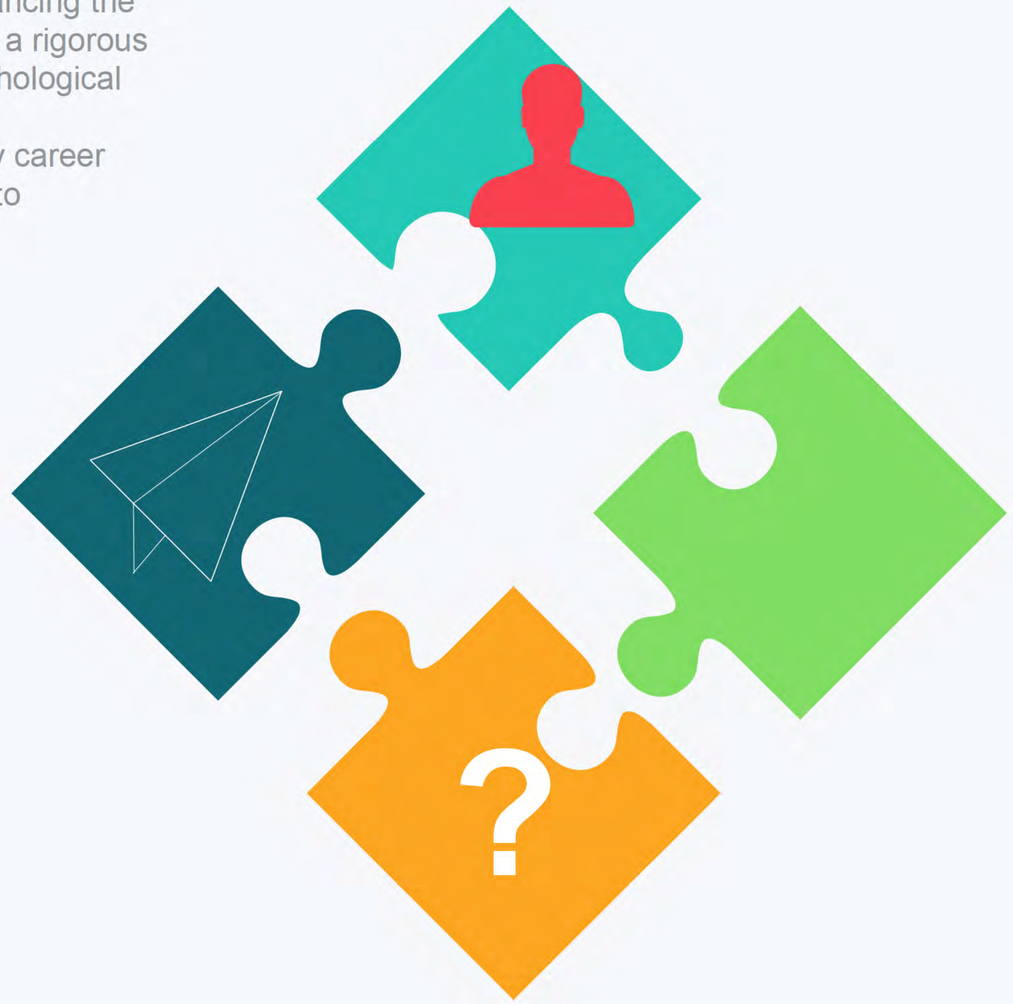
American Ornithology Society (136th)

	2017	2018
	$10,761	$23,105
Attendees	10	14
Registration	$3,900	$6,040
Travel	$6,861	$23,105
Sponsorship		-
	East Lansing, MI	Tucson, AZ

American Ornithology Society

The American Ornithological Society (AOS) is an international society devoted to advancing the scientific understanding of birds, enriching ornithology as a profession, and promoting a rigorous scientific basis for the conservation of birds. As one of the oldest, and the largest ornithological society in the world, AOS produces scientific publications of the highest quality, hosts intellectually engaging and professionally vital meetings, serves ornithologists at every career stage, pursues a global perspective, and informs public policy on all issues important to ornithology and ornithological collections.

- Submitted Package
- Last event had significant local travelers, this year only 4 locals
- Final Piece of the Puzzle



Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Reviewer	Original Cost	Reduced Cost
Trilateral Committee – CAN/MX/US	Shepherdstown, WV	International Affairs	$25,514	$24,688

Trilateral Committee – CAN/MX/US

	2017	2018 Submitted	2018
	$34,891	$25,514	$24,688
Attendees	18	30	28
Registration	-	-	-
Travel	$34,891	$25,324	$24,688
Sponsorship		-	-
	Mexico	Shepherdstown, WV	Shepherdstown, WV

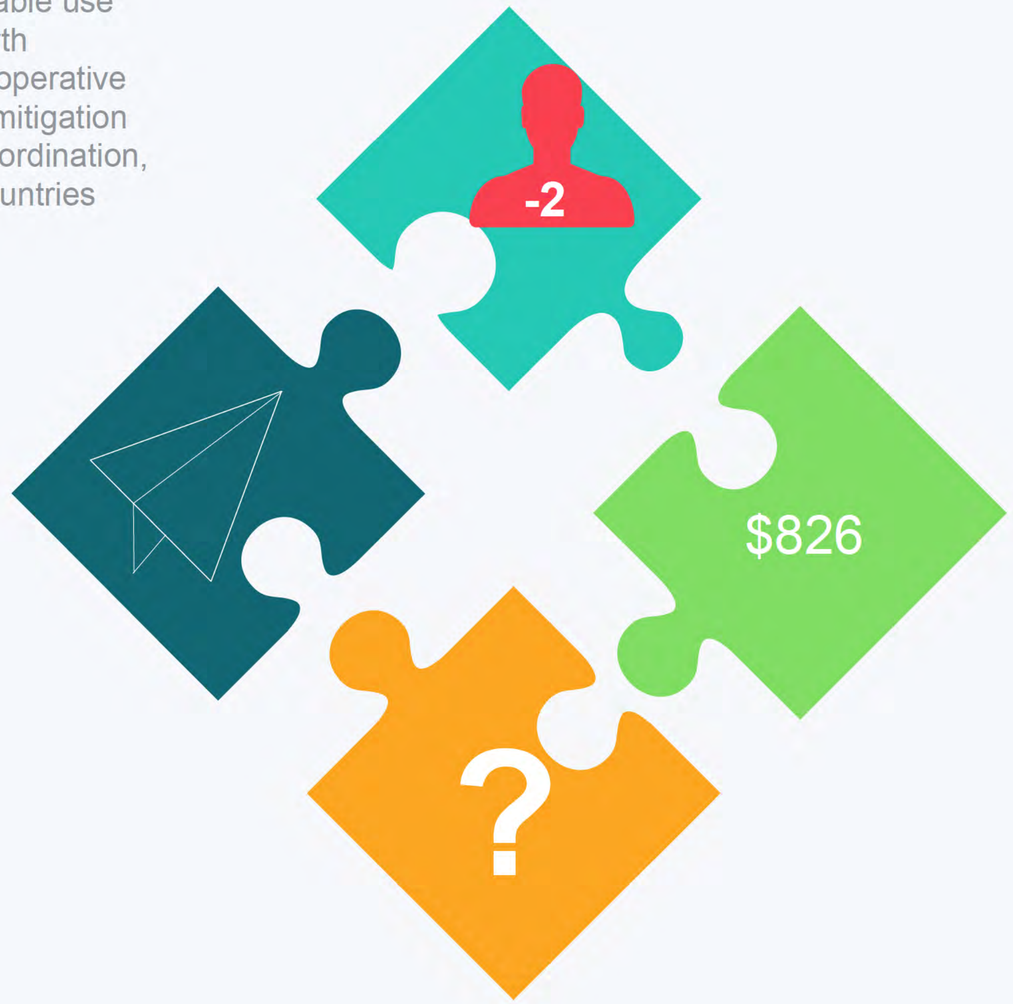
American Ornithology Society

Foster an integrated continental perspective for cooperative conservation and sustainable use of biological resources, contribute to the maintenance of the ecological integrity of North American ecoregions, and promote biodiversity conservation capacity building and cooperative cross-sectoral activities in the three countries that will contribute to the reduction and mitigation of threats to North American shared species and ecosystems. This is done through coordination, cooperation, and development of partnerships among wildlife agencies of the three countries and other interested parties.

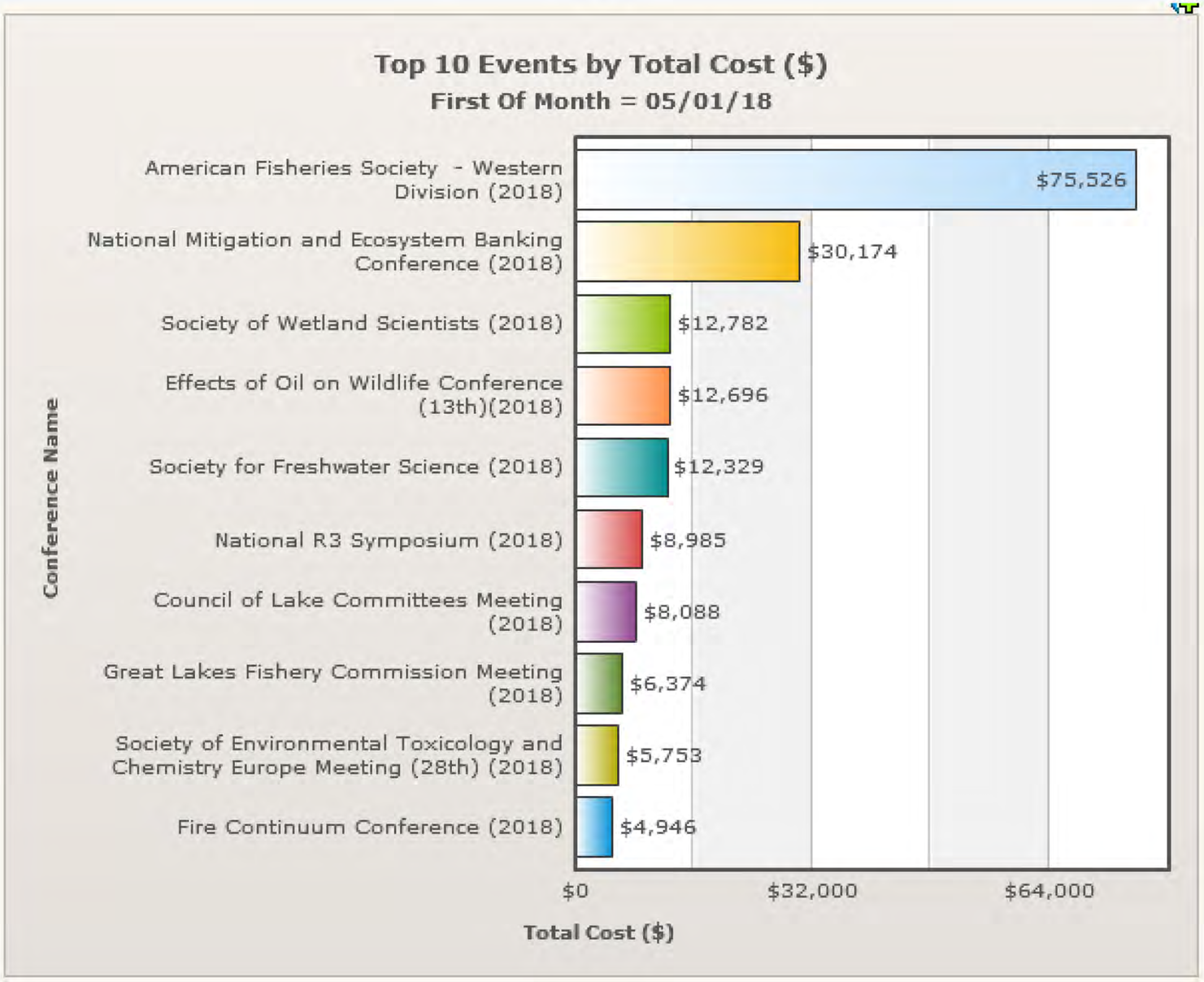
Reduced Submitted Package

Reduced by 2 Travelers - Significant number of local travelers on this event.

Final Piece of the Puzzle

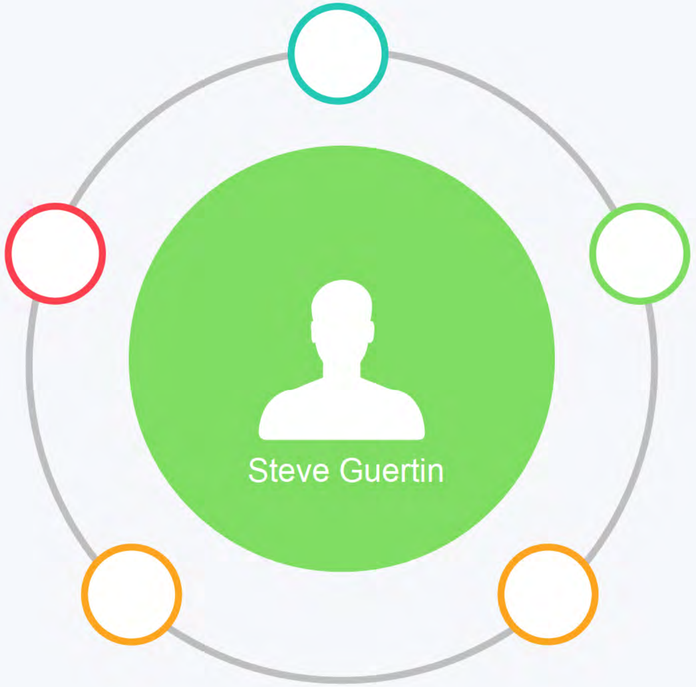


May Preliminary



FISHNET CONFERENCE MANAGEMENT SITE

Event Evaluation



1. Karla Bartelt, NCC
2. Susan Humphrey, DFM
3. Stephanie Potter, R6
4. Megan Cook, SA-HQ
5. Lucille Frerich, R7

Five person evaluation team, consisting of the National Conference Coordinator, and four Conference Coordinators, with the full understanding that the Director is always the final decision should the event be elevated

Subject matter experts evaluate events and determine whether or not the event requires reporting.

Initiated to evaluate events to determine those that require reporting.

Significant reduction in time spent attempting to deduce whether an event requires reporting and documents those that do not for the future.

Verbal Request Added to Slide for Clarity:
We respectfully request the Executive Team be empowered with the full support of the Director to make decisions regarding conferences according to policy/guidance. When a decision is being considered or has already been made, the team lead is the National Conference Coordinator (NCC) and, when possible, we ask that leadership seek the counsel of the NCC to determine how the decision was determined before over riding that process or decision.

FISHNET CONFERENCE MANAGEMENT SITE

4 Year Plan

YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4
Design, development, and refinement	Simplify, reduce and adjust to maximize results Complete guidance and SOP's	Event list reductions and refinement to events that have expenditures under $10k with 2 years of data are moved to the Drop List and the maximum amount of expenditure is maintained on the annual plan. Reducing the nomination process of 62% of events	Event list reductions and refinement to events that have expenditures under $15k with 3 years of data solidify the management practice of adding the events to the Drop list and maintain the maximum amount of expenditure on the annual plan. Further reducing the nomination process of approximately 17% of events

Created by:

Karla Bartelt
Acting National Conference Coordinator

Phone Number:
612-713-5365

E-Mail
Karla_Bartelt@fws.gov

Date
January 16, 2018

FWS Recommended Attendee Worksheet for DCN: CON0000633 - Colloquium on the Conservation of Mammals - Joint Meeting (28th)(2018) 2018-03-27 to 2018-03-29 in Roanoke, Virginia

FWS Rank	Full Name	Job Title	Program	Region	Justification	Reg.	Travel	Total Cost	Funding Sc
1	Pete Pattavina	Regional White-nose Coordinator/Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 4 - Southeast	The SBDN and North American Joint Bat Working Group meeting represents the largest transfer of information related to threatened and endangered bat species in the Southeastern United States, a collection of researchers, wildlife managers, state biologists, non-profit groups, and Federal resource agencies. To meet our USFWS Regional goals for recovery, classification, and networking, it is imperative that USFWS biologists attend and participate at this meeting. This meeting presents novel data on bat life history, threats, and conservation strategies, information that is disseminated long before publication or information that remains unpublished. As Southeastern White-nose Syndrome Coordinator, this meeting is one of the few opportunities where regional data is presented by state partners, imperative for understanding disease threats and WNS response. As a Board Member at Large for the Southeastern Bat Diversity Network, I am a meeting organizer for the North American Joint Bat Working Group Meeting, working with the Commonwealth of Virginia and Northeastern Bat Working group on logistics. Additionally, I present each year on white-nose syndrome at this meeting and often present information within the different species working groups. This year, USFWS designated endangered gray bats as a focal species, with opportunities to potentially reclassify this species. Each year, gray bats are a focus of this meeting and understanding and correctly applying data trends across each field office is imperative to meet agency goals.	$175	$1,581	$1,756	Appropria
2	Jeremy Coleman	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 5 - Northeast	The North American Joint Bat Working Group Meeting is a gathering of three regional bat working groups: Northeast and Midwestern bat working group, and Southeastern Bat Diversity Network (the meeting is also being held in conjunction with the Colloquium on the Conservation of Mammals in the Southeastern U.S.). Joint working group meetings only occur every 2 to 3 years, making this an important meeting of experts involved in bat conservation science and management. Bat working groups are comprised of biologists and professionals with state and federal agencies, NGOs, universities, and private firms throughout North America. The focus of this meeting is to develop strategies for bat conservation in light of multiple threats including disease, habitat degradation, climate change, and wind energy development. This meeting provides an opportunity for us to have face-to-face meetings with key partners. The national WNS team will update attendees on the status of WNS and our national response. We will also meet with members of committees and working groups of the national response. These discussions are critical to maintain collaborations and maximize efficacy of conservation efforts. As the National Coordinator for WNS, and the US Co-chair of the North American Bat Conservation Alliance, it is important for me and my team members to attend this meeting for the successful performance of our jobs and to meet organizational goals of FWS. I intend to ride-share with Federal colleagues which will reduce travel expenses from what is represented here.	$175	$1,621	$1,796	Appropria
3	Jonathan Reichard	Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 5 - Northeast		$175	$1,453	$1,628	Appropria

					The North American Bat Working Group Meeting is being held in conjunction with the Colloquium on the Conservation of Mammals in 2018. This meeting will be a joint session of the northeastern, Midwestern, and southeastern bat working groups, which has not convened since 2015. This is an important meeting of experts from state and federal agencies, NGOs, and individuals involved in conservation science and management of bats throughout North America. The focus of this meeting is to share and advance strategies for bat conservation in light of multiple threats including disease, habitat degradation, and energy development. This meeting provides an opportunity to have face-to-face meetings with our partners. As the national assistant coordinator for the Service's white-nose syndrome (WNS), I represent the service and multi-partner national effort for this disease that is a primary threat to bats across the U.S. and Canada. I will provide the attendees with important updates on the status of WNS and the Service's programs to support state and federal partners in the management actions for WNS. I will also hold meetings with members of committees and working groups of the national response to advance important initiatives of our national response, including coordinating monitoring bat population statuses, identifying management and research priorities, and maintaining conservation partnerships. Information sharing and discussions that occur at this meeting are critical to maintain collaboration among various efforts to conserve bats, thus maximizing the effectiveness and efficiency of the national response. I intend to ride-share with others, which will reduce travel expenses.				
4	Amber Schorg	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 3 - Midwest	I will be attending this conference to present on the multi-year statewide bat acoustic and migration studies I have been coordinating with several partners. Abstracts and presentations are being prepared in conjunction with our partners, so I do not yet have a title/s. to report here. I am speaking with the conference organizers about hosting a full half-day tract with presentations by each partner, but the final agenda has not yet been decided. This conference will also present an excellent opportunity to network and increase my skillset in bat studies, including acoustics, netting, and tracking.	$175	$1,383	$1,558	Appropria
5	Robyn Niver	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 5 - Northeast	Planning to provide the annual FWS update. Serving as part of Northeast Bat Working Group leadership. Region 5 Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat species lead. Region 5 Indiana bat summer survey guidance lead. Will provide any new information on these species and learn from other presenters.	$200	$1,544	$1,744	Appropria
6	Mike Armstrong	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 4 - Southeast	As the Southeast Region Bat Recovery lead, the annual meeting of the Southeast Bat Diversity Network is the only opportunity I have to be in one place with all the other Federal, State, Private, and NGO biologists working with the species I am responsible for recovering. This meeting is also my opportunity to share upcoming listing and recovery information about species for which the Service is working. I will also be giving status updates for KY species at the meeting.	$200	$626	$826	Appropria
7	Christina Kocer	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 5 - Northeast		$175	$1,544	$1,719	Appropria

					The Northeast Bat Working Group (NEBWG) is comprised of agencies, organizations, and individuals interested in bat research, management, and conservation. This year, NEBWG is partnering with the Southeast Bat Diversity Network, Midwest Bat Working Group, as well as the Colloquium for Conservation of Mammals for a joint meeting. This joint meeting will bring together conservation biologists, private and public land managers, private consultation organizations, educational institutions, citizen scientists, and outdoor enthusiasts across the Midwest, Southeast, and Northeast Regions. This year's meeting provides a unique opportunity for me to have face-to-face meetings with state, federal, and non-governmental partners in the Northeast region, as well as other regions involved in the national response to white-nose syndrome (WNS). As the WNS Coordinator for the Northeast Region, I will be holding a meeting with regional state and federal partners to work together, coordinating our approach to conserving bat species in the region and enhance their habitat, while managing WNS. It is vitally important to have opportunities to work together to conserve wildlife and their habitats, so that we are able to use limited resources efficiently and effectively for the benefit of the American people. I also plan to present a "Northeast Regional White-Nose Syndrome Update". Further, I serve as project officer on Service funded projects that will be presented at the meeting, providing an important opportunity to get progress updates and meet with researchers. The ability to rideshare will allow for reduced costs.				
8	Keith Lott	Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 3 - Midwest	Topics at this meeting will cover recent developments in assessing impacts to bats and the use of deterrents at both on and offshore wind energy projects. Keith's primary responsibility is reviewing proposed and existing wind turbines facilities so this information will be instrumental in providing recommendations to the industry. Keith is also the lead developer in the US Fish & Wildlife Service's bat survey database which surveyors from 4 Regions are required to submit their results. Keith will be submitting a poster presentation abstract which will outline how this data is being used, and will allow for public feedback on this two year old effort.	$175	$551	$726	Appropria
9	Catherine Hibbard	Public Affairs Specialist	EA	Region 5 - Northeast	This is the joint meeting of the Northeast, Midwest and Southern Bat Working Groups. As the national communications leader for white-nose syndrome disease in bats, it is important that I remain current on the research and management of bats and identify outreach opportunities for media. I am the lead of an interagency white-nose syndrome working group under the WNS national plan (led by the FWS), where developing and maintaining bat partnerships is important for the group to function in a coordinated manner.	$175	$1,545	$1,720	Appropria
10	Gary Jordan	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 4 - Southeast		$0	$644	$644	Appropria

					I am managing a 5-Year study on the Federally Threatened Northern Long-eared Bat. After two years of data collection, several important discoveries have been made. This information has major implications for the recovery of the species. This information needs to be presented to the overall bat research community. I have prepared an oral presentation to present some early findings of the research at the meeting, tentatively entitled: The Status of a Non-Hibernating Population of Northern Long-eared Bats in Eastern North Carolina. Although the title of this meeting on Fishnet is listed as "Colloquium on the Conservation of Mammals", it is also a joint meeting of the Southeastern Bat Diversity Network, the Northeastern Bat Working Group, and Midwest Bat Working Group. As such, this is the greatest opportunity to share the results of my research with the greatest number of bat biologists. The other information presented at this meeting will be useful to my own work by allowing me to keep up with the most current information, research results, and field techniques in the field of bat research. Managing and conducting bat research is a major component of my current job duties and is listed as one of my Critical Elements in my Employee Performance Appraisal Plan. This meeting is listed in my Individual Development Plan and is the major training/meeting opportunity for the year. The registration fee for this meeting will be paid from a Non-DOI source. The North Carolina Department of Transportation, which has funded the research I am managing, provided the funding for the meeting registration.				
11	Elizabeth Stout	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 5 - Northeast	I will be participating in this conference not only as a wildlife professional but also as a conference facilitator (on-site registration). The conference is being organized by a diverse group of individuals from various academic or NGO organizations in order to bring people together to develop solutions to challenges we collectively face for bat and wildlife management. By assisting with the planning committee and registration, I will develop a more personal relationship with these professionals, in accordance with the Service's mission of "...working with others...". The professional development offered by participation in this conference offers significant contributions to the conservation principles of Science, Partnerships, and Professionalism, and knowledge gained from the conference proceedings will greatly help my ability to effectively conduct my work as a Department of Highways Liaison. My attendance and travel will be paid for through a reimbursable agreement through the West Virginia Department of Highways.	$0	$0	$0	Reimbursa
12	Andrew King	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 3 - Midwest	I try to attend the Midwest Bat Working Group Meeting every year in order to stay abreast of new scientific research and pressing conservation issues within the bat community. I also use this meeting to network and collaborate with old and new partners and to provided updated info regarding the Service's new policies/positions/decisions affecting listed bat species and to explain changes to bat-related guidance (e.g., Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines). This year being a combined meeting will provide additional opportunities with a broader reach. I have not settled on a poster topic as of yet, but have a couple in mind (IBat pop trends, IBat survey guidelines).	$175	$551	$726	Appropria
13	Amanda Selnick	Student Trainee	ES	Region 5 - Northeast		$75	$561	$636	Appropria

					I am participating on the committee helping to plan the conference, specifically to facilitate registration and organize the conference t-shirt design and printing. I anticipate managing onsite registration and other logistics (selling t-shirts, serving as a runner) for the planning committee. I am both a current masters student and a young professional, and I also spent my career thus far working the West, where bat issues are significantly different than those of the East. I seek to expand my knowledge of how the Eastern bat working groups manage bats and white nose syndrome as well as learning about the different challenges that are faced across the regions. Since this is a joint working group, I look forward to gaining a broad range of information to supplement my masters' final professional paper (primary topic is about developments in technology for use in wildlife monitoring/management) and critical thinking skills applicable for the rest of my career.				
14	Susan Cameron	Fish and Wildlife Biologist--Recovery	ES	Region 4 - Southeast	I am the lead for bats in western NC and work with four federally listed bat species. I am also the national lead for the Carolina northern flying squirrel. I assist the state with bat activities including WNS monitoring and research, bat populations monitoring, and outreach. Our office is also involved in several consultations related to bats. Additionally, I led the effort to form the Appalachian northern flying squirrel working group last year and we had our first working group meeting at the 2017 Southeastern Bat Diversity Network/Mammal Colloquium meeting. The working group is hoping to have its second meeting during the colloquium and I am planning on organizing and leading that meeting. The working group meeting provides a chance for partners to share information and plan/advance recovery efforts for the Carolina northern flying squirrel. I would like to attend the joint bat meeting and mammal colloquium to stay abreast of the latest research on bats and other mammals, maintain important partnerships, and to facilitate the Appalachian northern flying squirrel working group meeting.	$175	$551	$726	Appropria
15	Lori Pruitt	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 3 - Midwest	The Midwest Bat Working Group, the Southeastern Bat Diversity Network, and the Northeast Bat Working Group are holding this joint meeting in 2018. As the Service's Recovery Lead for the federally-endangered Indiana bat, this meeting is an opportunity for me to network with biologists from throughout the range of the species. Many high priority issues for the Indiana Field Office, as well as the Service generally, will be highlighted, including: wind-energy development impacts on bats, white-nose syndrome, Service bat listing actions and status assessments. Wind-energy development is a particular focus of this meeting, and is an issue that is also a focus of my work with the Service. There will be breakout sessions/working groups on a variety of topics – my participation will directly contribute to my understanding of these issues and current research/management actions. Both the knowledge acquired and the opportunity to network and communicate with bat biologists from throughout the eastern U.S. will contribute to my effectiveness in completing my assigned duties within the Service.	$175	$581	$756	Appropria
16	Michael Morse	Wildlife Biologist - Bat Specialist	ES	Region 4 - Southeast		$175	$817	$992	Appropria

					As bat specialist in the Raleigh ES - Manteo Sub-office, I am responsible to: plan and conduct operations to study the Northern long-eared bat (MYSE); lead efforts to study all bat species on the coastal plain of NC, work with private environmental consultants and contractors, and work with the National Wildlife Health Lab (USGS) to determine the presence or absence of White Nose Syndrome (WNS) in local bat populations. These activities entail netting and processing bats, radio-tracking bats to determine maternal roost preferences and movement patterns, and conducting active and passive acoustic monitoring efforts throughout the year. These activities are important because the bats of the coastal plain are understudied. SBDN will sponsor this meeting that will include the Northeast and Midwest Bat Working Groups. This normally annual meeting for SBDN is also the annual colloquium on the conservation of mammals in the Southeast. This meeting will bring together conservation biologist, private and public land managers, private consultation organizations, and educational institutions across the Southeast, Midwest and Northeast Regions. Presentations on the latest research, conservation efforts and newest techniques will be presented to those in attendance. Over the last few years, I've learned a lot while studying bats and would like to continue to increase my knowledge base and carry out the mission of the Service. I was able to attend the annual SBDN meeting last year for the first time and have been able to greatly use and share with others the information gained at the meeting throughout the year. Driving a GOV.				
17	Shannon Holbrook	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 4 - Southeast	Shannon Holbrook is the lead in our Field Office for all bat-related conservation activities in the State of Alabama, including white-nose syndrome activities, Forest Service and NRCS activities, and recovery related activities. She is also a member of the leadership team for the Alabama Bat Working Group. The Southeastern Bat Diversity Network Conference/North American Joint Bat Working Group Meeting will be a working meeting that will focus on continental issues for bat conservation including, but not limited to, recent policy changes, white-nose syndrome (WNS) and wind energy. Special symposium of working groups are scheduled for several bat species that are listed or considered species of concern for Alabama. Invited speakers will present the latest information on bat migration, onshore and offshore wind including risk assessment and mitigation, and the Motus Wildlife Tracking System. Representatives from US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will present updates on status assessments, permitting concerns, and other WNS-affected species. The Mammal Colloquium will provide a forum for student and professional oral and poster presentations on any topic related to mammals, including bat studies. This will be an important opportunity for Shannon Holbrook to stay abreast of the latest issues related to bat conservation in the southeast and meet with State and Federal agency, university, and consultant colleagues.	$175	$1,537	$1,712	Appropria
18	Pamela Shellenberger	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 5 - Northeast	I am the project coordinator for the O&G HCP, which is a HCP that covers that states of Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. I am also the lead for the PA Forestry HCP. I work with large pipeline companies to minimize impacts to bats. All of these projects involve partnering and networking with NGOs, industry and state and local agencies to minimize impacts to bats. Conferences such as these provide important data the Service uses when writing Biological Opinions and negotiating with industry on projects.	$175	$767	$942	Appropria
19	Carrie Allison	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 4 - Southeast		$175	$230	$405	Appropria

					I'm the only U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service representative for the "Protecting Bats In Coal Mines" team that is comprised of representatives from NGOs, state SMCRA regulatory authorities, and the Office of Surface Mining. The team spans all regions where federally-listed bats occur. The team depends on me to provide the most-recent information on bat research and conservation to ensure that SMCRA is implementing useful conservation measures. I am also the lead Sec 7 biologist for the Kentucky Field Office and handle the consultation load for our federal resources partners such as the Forest Service, Park Service, and Department of Defense within Kentucky. I also assist (and often take the lead) on multi-state and multi-region consultations. In the past, I have also been part of the listing/recovery/implementation team for the northern long-eared bat. This meeting allows me to stay involved with a partners and ensures I have up-to-date information scientific information. This year's meeting is of particular interest to me because it will allow several regions/agencies that I consistently work with across the US to come together for one meeting.				
20	Alicia Protus	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 5 - Northeast	I already registered for this conference when it was believed this meeting was mission critical and didn't need to be added through FishNet. This meeting presents typically the lastest information in bat conservation and threat management across the northeast. As a Section 7 biologist and field office lead for the northern long-eared and Indiana bats, I need to be up to date on information in this field to do my job. Also, bat managers across the region attend this meeting, so it will be a chance to meet all the contacts and partners I have been working with and introduce myself (since I moved into this position less than a year ago and many people haven't actually met me yet).	$175	$722	$897	Appropria
21	Sarah Harrison	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 4 - Southeast	I work on section 7 project reviews in which the majority of our projects require considerations for impacts to listed bats (primarily Indiana, and northern long eared bats but also gray bats) be made. I also work closely with the state species lead from Indiana bats and assist him with research projects that are conducted within the state. This meeting is one of the few meetings where I can gain a significant amount of institutional knowledge on current and future research projects going on across the region and nation for currently listed bat species and species that are under consideration for listing. Gaining this knowledge assists me in being able to provide accurate and up to date information in our project reviews. Attending this meeting allows me to meet and network with researchers and personnel from state and federal agencies. This allows for stronger working relationships with these individuals and allows more open communication.	$175	$551	$726	Appropria
22	Becky Rosamond	Wildlife Biologist	NWRS	Region 4 - Southeast	I am the chair the Mississippi Bat Working Group (MBWG) and serve as the official liaison between the MBWG and the Service. One of my duties as chair (as specified in the bylaws) is to attend the annual meeting of the Southeastern Bat Diversity Network (SBDN) which is held in conjunction with the mammal colloquium.	$175	$717	$892	Appropria
23	Tiernan Lennon	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 5 - Northeast		$0	($23)	($23)	Reimburs

					I work on section 7 and 10 ESA consultations for oil and gas development projects throughout the state of WV. Approximately 80% of those consultations deal directly with federally listed bats. In order to be more efficient and effective in my position, I need to expand my knowledge of bats to better understand how they may be affected by this growing industry in the future. I am also working on the Oil and Gas Coalition Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). The HCP would cover 5 bat species and extend across 3 states (WV, OH, and PA). Staying up-to-date on the best available science relating to bat threats and recovery will allow me to be more efficient when working on the HCP. This conference relates directly to my daily work, and I think attending would benefit me professionally. Funding source is the West Virginia Oil and Natural Gas Association.				
24	Kathryn Matthews	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 4 - Southeast	As the NC Wind Energy Coordinator, I need to stay current on onshore and offshore wind research and issues as they pertain to bats. I also am the project manager for an SSP grant to conduct work on bat populations and habitat use in NC, and the information presented at the colloquium will assist in the planning and execution of the work under the grant. I plan to stay with family to reduce cost of lodging and M&IE, and will drive a GOV.	$175	$153	$328	Appropria
25	Place Holder	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 5 - Northeast	WVFO staff are participating in the planning and organization of this meeting including developing the agenda, soliciting and reviewing papers/poster submissions, and assisting with registration and moderating as needed. The WVFO is the lead field office for the endangered Virginia big-eared bat, the state contains the only critical habitat for the Indiana bat in Region 5, and WV supports a large summer population of the northern long-eared bat. A large majority of our office's consultation workload is centered on bat species.	$175	$883	$1,058	Appropria
						$3,800	**$21,082**	**$24,882**	

NOTE TO REVIEWERS*

PACKAGE CONTAINS:

Approval Request:	Regions 3,4 & 5
Conference Name:	Colloquium on the Conservation of Mammals - Joint Meeting (28th)(2...
Dates/Location:	2018-03-27 to 2018-03-29 in Roanoke, Virginia
DTS DCN#:	CON0000633

ACTION REQUESTED: Signature

STAFF ORIGINATOR: Heather Zackaricz, Conference Coordinator, Region 5

REVIEWED BY: Wendi Weber, Regional Director, Region 5

VERY BRIEF BACKGROUND ON ISSUE/ACTION:

Approval & signature by Director on this multi-regional conference attendance package. Total number of attendees will be 25 with an estimated cost of $24,882. This is the first joint meeting of the North American Joint Bat Working Group (includes Midwest, Southeast, and Northeast Bat Working Groups) and the Colloquium on the Conservation of Mammals. This Mammal Colloquium will bring together conservation biologists, private and public land managers, private consultation organizations, education institutions, citizen scientists, and outdoor enthusiast.

FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN:

	Approved by:	Approved after:
Date:	February 12, 2018	February 12, 2018
Attendees:	25	25
Registration:	$3,800	$4,550
Travel Costs:	$21,082	$21,082
Sponsorship:	$0	$0
Administrative Costs:	$0	$0
Total Cost:	$24,882	$24,882
Additional Registration Cost:		$750

For futher information please contact Heather Zackaricz at 413-253-8255.

Deputy Director

Date

FWS Attendee Worksheet for DCN: CON0000637 - American Ornithology Society (136th)(2018)

2018-04-09 to 2018-04-14 in Tucson, Arizona

FWS Rank	Full Name	Job Title	Program	Region	Justification	Reg.	Travel	Total Cost	Funding Source
1	Jennie Duberstein	Sonoran Joint Venture Coordinator/Wildlife Biologist	MB	Region 2 - Southwest	I am part of the local organizing committee for the AOS Conference in Tucson. I have been involved in coordinating logistics since the local committee was formed. In particular, I am helping recruit and coordinate volunteers, organizing early morning bird walks during the conference, and helping to coordinate various evening events and activities.I am also co-moderating two symposia during the conference. The first, "Desert Birds in Peril: Research & Conservation Challenges in northern Mexico and the southwestern United States," brings together SJV and Rio Grande JV partners to present on their work on desert birds. I will give an introductory presentation about the SJV and our partners to set the stage for the rest of the presentations, and also moderating a panel discussion at the end. I will co-moderate the second symposium, "40 Years of Birding in Southeast Arizona," and help lead any discussion.It hasn't been confirmed yet, but local organizing committee members may be given a registration waiver, so there is a reasonable chance that there would be no cost associated with my participation in this conference.	$435	$0	$435	Appropriations
2	Patricia Heglund	Chief, Division of Natural Resources and Conservation Planning	NWRS	Region 3 - Midwest	I am hosting a symposium on waterbird monitoring and presenting a paper on the Integrated Waterbird Management and Monitoring Project.	$435	$2,053	$2,488	Appropriations
3	Randy Wilson	Station Leader	MB	Region 4 - Southeast	I am co-organizer and facilitator/moderator for an accepted mini-symposium within the Conference entitled "Setting regional priorities for research and monitoring bird populations in the face of uncertainty". Within the mini-symposium, I will also be presenting a talk entitled "Conservation challenges in the face of Gulf of Mexico restoration". Participation and attendance will facilitate the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Migratory Bird Program's ability to learn about new means to advance (bird) restoration activities along the Northern Gulf of Mexico as well as to share lessons learned over the last 5 years using the principals of decision theory and establishment of bird monitoring guidelines.	$435	$1,503	$1,938	Appropriations
4	James Ward	Wildlife Ecologist	NWRS	Region 9 - Headquarters	Provide findings indicating strategies for recovering Mexican spotted owls through managing prey habitat. The Mexican spotted owl dwells in the mountains and canyons of the American Southwest an Mexico. It is listed as a Threatened Species under the ESA. Region 2 of the USFWS has the lead on recovery of this owl subspecies and provides guidance on habitat conservation to promote recovery.	$435	$1,537	$1,972	Appropriations
5	Thomas Dietsch	Migratory Bird Biologist	ES	Region 8 - Pacific Southwest		$435	$1,751	$2,186	Appropriations

					In collaboration with USGS and other partners, I have organized a symposium entitled, "Avian-solar interactions: Understanding and responding to impacts on birds of an emerging clean-energy industry." In part the symposium abstract summarizes the need for the symposium: As the heart of solar energy development in the US, the desert southwest location of the 2018 American Ornithological Society annual meeting offers a fitting context for engaging ornithologists in this emerging issue. As with wind energy, scientists again face the challenge of finding ways to reduce near-term risks to flying animals posed by technologies that help address the longer-term impacts of climate change. As the hazards of avian-solar interactions become apparent, scientists are applying a surprising array of advanced ornithological methods to understand and reduce this impact. The approaches being implemented are advancing our knowledge of birds and provide a good example of how to address other causes of anthropogenic-related avian mortality. This symposium will provide an overview of observed solar-avian interactions and the scientific response to potential risks that this expanding industry may present to birds. Among other topics, presentations will summarize avian mortalities at solar facilities, suggest how birds may perceive solar facilities, consider the potential role of migration and landscape context to mortality, and examine population-level impacts, and consider how this science may guide steps taken to reduce and mitigate impacts to migratory and resident bird populations. I will be presenting an overview of the issue as part of the symposium.				
6	John Morton	Supervisory F&W Biologist	NWRS	Region 7 - Alaska	Giving a presentation on facilitating ecological transformation in a special session entitled "Science outside the vacuum - bridging the gap between science and conservation". This session is being hosted by the National Audubon Society and invited presenters (of which I'm one) are from several agencies, NGOs and universities.	$435	$1,223	$1,658	Appropriations
7	Ariel Gaffney	Forensic Scientist - Morphology	OLE	Region 9 - Headquarters	The AOS is one of the largest ornithology conferences held and it attracts scientists from across all of North America (Canada, U.S. and Mexico). It is an invaluable opportunity to share the work of the USFWS Forensics Lab, to be informed of the latest research, and to network with my new colleagues. The exact topic of my presentation is not yet determined, but it will report on OLE's work combating wildlife crime related to birds. This is an opportunity to share our findings with a broad audience of both applied and research ornithologists. This would be my first conference as a professional and would allow me to begin to develop relationships with ornithologists from all over North America as I begin my career in the USFWS OLE.	$435	$23	$458	Appropriations
8	Susan Sferra	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 2 - Southwest	Clarification: I am not the Conference Organizer (limited options in drop-down menu) but I am on the local committee, assisting with a variety of local arrangements and decisions about food, coffee, evening sessions, camping options, etc. I was also asked by the conference organizers to put together a symposium on "40 years of birding in southeastern Arizona" that will be a 2 or 3 hour session with speakers. In addition to being on the local committee and organizing a symposium, I would like to attend to gain knowledge on recent advances in sound recorder monitoring and geospatial monitoring, genetics, and bird research. I have not requested attendance at a national professional bird meeting in more than 10 years. No travel expenses will be incurred since it's local.	$435	$0	$435	Appropriations
9	Jeff Gleason	Gulf of Mexico Migratory Bird Coordinator	MB	Region 4 - Southeast		$435	$1,153	$1,588	Appropriations

					Jeff will be representing the Service, Gulf Restoration Team and Migratory Bird Program as a presenter for the GoMAMN Session at the meeting. Jeff was 1 of several co-authors that submitted an Abstract for a Session at this Conference. Jeff is the Co-Lead for GoMAMN and will presenting a GoMMAPPS-related presentation entitled, “Gulf of Mexico Marine Assessment Program for Protected Species (GOMMAPPS): a Nexus to Regulatory Decision-Making”. In addition, he will also be a co-author on at least 1 other presentation during this Session. These presentations are part of an on-going effort, the Gulf of Mexico Avian Monitoring Network, that R4 Leadership has supported since its inception. Attending this Conference will also provide him with the opportunity to network with other federal and state agency partners, NGOs, and universities associated with GoMAMN in his role as Gulf of Mexico Migratory Bird Coordinator				
10	Kristine Sowl	Wildlife Biologist	NWRS	Region 7 - Alaska	The American Ornithological Society (AOS) is an international society devoted to advancing the scientific understanding of birds, enriching ornithology as a profession, and promoting a rigorous scientific basis for the conservation of birds. The meeting will offer a great opportunity for sharing and discussing scientific research in all areas involving birds and interacting with scientific peers from a variety of backgrounds. Therefore, it is an excellent professional development opportunity for a wildlife biologist that works primarily on birds and bird conservation. It will also provide an opportunity to share the results from our refuge-wide shorebird inventory surveys conducted in 2015-16. The attendee’s presentation will be entitled: “Distribution of Breeding Shorebirds on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska.”	$435	$4,018	$4,453	Appropriations
11	Ken Corey	assistant field supervisor	ES	Region 8 - Pacific Southwest	I work with solar companies throughout southern California to find ways to minimize and avoid impacts to listed birds. Many of the solar company reps and leads on avian/solar research will be there. In addition, there will be a symposia on the decline of several desert bird species and I would make contacts and form working groups to look at creating broad conservation strategies to address these declines to prevent the need for some future listings of desert birds.	$435	$653	$1,088	Appropriations
12	Emily Clark	SJV Communications & Partnerships Specialist/Wildlife Biologist	MB	Region 2 - Southwest	I am part of the local organizing committee for this conference. I will be helping to coordinate and lead the morning bird walks for this conference and provide other logistical support for the conference as needed. I will also be participating the symposium "Desert Birds in Peril: research and conservation challenges in northern Mexico and the southwestern United States," connecting with new and existing partnerships to improve the SJV's desert bird conservation efforts, a key part of my job. As part a the local organizing committee, my registration fee may be waived, meaning my attendance will be zero cost.	$455	$0	$455	Appropriations
13	Brian Spears	DWH NRDA Restoration Program Manager	GULF	Region 4 - Southeast	As the Department's Coordinator for Mississippi and Alabama DWH Gulf restoration activities, my responsibility includes coordination with partners and development of restoration projects in both states. Development of sound bird restoration projects has been articulated as a priority and attending this meeting will allow me to interact with a community of ornithologists from across the Americas and engage in cutting edge restoration science and collaboration, all of which will aid in efficient and effective restoration development for targeted bird species in these geographies. Additionally, knowledge gained will increase my ability to provide assistance to the Migratory Bird Coordinator as needed for broader bird restoration planning efforts. I also intend to submit an abstract for oral presentation on the DWH NRDA restoration of Breton Island, LA, which will showcase interagency collaboration and innovative engineering of a barrier island restoration project. This project is expected to have tremendous benefits for numerous bird species injured by the DWH spill.	$435	$1,433	$1,868	Appropriations
14	Robert Doster	Wildlife Biologist	MB	Region 8 - Pacific Southwest		$365	$1,721	$2,086	Appropriations

		As a regional migratory bird biologist with involvement in a range of bird conservation issues across Region 8 (such as inventory, monitoring, research, permitting, and threat assessment), my participation in the American Ornithology 2018 conference will help me to stay current on new ornithological research and discoveries, as well as bird population trends and status. In addition to the scientific sessions, multiple one-day workshops will occur, providing an added training opportunity on a range of emerging technologies used in avian biology. My attendance would also aid in development of partnership-building for all-bird conservation within and outside of Region 8. I further plan to contribute to the conference by serving as a chair for one of the scientific sessions.			
			$6,040	**$17,065**	**$23,105**

NOTE TO REVIEWERS

PACKAGE CONTAINS:

Approval Request:	Regions 2, 3, 4, 7, 8
Conference Name:	American Ornithology Society (136th)(2018)
Dates/Location:	2018-04-09 to 2018-04-14 in Tucson, Arizona
DTS DCN#:	CON0000637

ACTION REQUESTED: Signature

STAFF ORIGINATOR: Stacey Garcia, Regional Conference Coordinator, Region 2

REVIEWED BY: Joy Nicholopoulos, Deputy Regional Director, Region 2

VERY BRIEF BACKGROUND ON ISSUE/ACTION:

The American Ornithological Society (AOS) is an international society devoted to advancing the scientific understanding of birds, enriching ornithology as a profession, and promoting a rigorous scientific basis for the conservation of birds. As one of the oldest, and the largest ornithological society in the world, AOS produces scientific publications of the highest quality, hosts intellectually engaging and professionally vital meetings, serves ornithologists at every career stage, pursues a global perspective, and informs public policy on all issues important to ornithology and ornithological collections.

FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN:

	Approved by:	Approved after:
Date:	March 17, 2018	March 17, 2018
Attendees:	14	14
Registration:	$6,040	$6,040
Travel Costs:	$17,065	$17,065
Sponsorship:	$0	$0
Administrative Costs:	$0	$0
Total Cost:	$23,105	$23,105
Additional Registration Cost:		$0

For Further information please contact Stacey Garcia, Region 2, 505-248-6282

Deputy Director _____ Date _____

FWS Attendee Worksheet for DCN: CON0000638 - Trilateral Committee - CAN/MX/US (23rd)(2018)

2018-04-09 to 2018-03-29 in Shepherdstown, West Virginia

FWS Rank	Full Name	Job Title	Program	Region	Justification	Reg.	Travel	Total Cost	Funding Source
1	Gregory Sheehan	Principal Deputy Director	DO	Region 9 - Headquarters	Traveler will participate as Principal Deputy Director, FWS	$0	$731	$731	Appropriations
2	Tom Melius	Regional Director	RD	Region 3 - Midwest	Mr. Melius is the Regional Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Midwest Region. In this position, he is responsible for direct oversight over multiple USFWS programs working across eight states. He also represents the Director, as appropriate, on issues of international importance. In relation to the Trilateral meeting, Mr. Melius will work with all delegates in developing effective and efficient conservation efforts for the monarch butterfly and other pollinators. He will also be leading a discussion covering bird strikes within transmission towers in conjunction with FCC representatives. Mr. Melius serves on the USFWS Waterfowl Regulation Committee and will be meeting with Canada and Mexico officials concerning the process. This meeting will be held at NCTC thus reducing the lodging and M&IE costs.	$0	$970	$970	Appropriations
3	Amy Lueders	Regional Director	RD	Region 2 - Southwest	Amy Lueders is the Regional Director of the Southwest Region and projects that Mrs. Lueders is involved with are the masked bob-white quail, border fence issues, common threats to native fishes in Mexico, and oversees the Refuge program to promote protection and conservation of the monarch butterfly along its migration route in Canada and Mexico. She provides guidance and direction for the recovery of Sonoran pronghorn, jaguar, ocelot, lesser-long nosed bat, Mexican wolf, southwestern willow flycatcher, Sonoyta mud turtle, Tarahumara frog, Chiricahua leopard frog, etc., that reside on both sides of the border. Mrs. Lueders involvement in cross-border conservation is particularly important to maintain landscape conservation activities. As the Regional Director for the Southwest Region, she has over site on projects as they relate to fish and wildlife conservation. This meeting provides her the opportunity to work closely with his Canadian and Mexican counterparts and develop relationships.	$0	$1,633	$1,633	Appropriations
4	Gloria Bell	Acting Assistant Director, International Affairs	IA	Region 9 - Headquarters		$0	$825	$825	Appropriations

					The Assistant Director of International Affairs (AD-AIA) is responsible for the Service's coordination of domestic and international strategies to protect, restore and enhance treasured biodiversity with a focus on species of common concern. AD-AIA manages 40 conventions, treaties, and agreements, and oversees the International Wildlife Trade and Wildlife Without Borders programs. The Trilateral Committee is within this purview and he/she ensures its successful implementation. At the annual meeting of the Trilateral Committee, the AD-AIA will provide staff support to the Director related to his role as the Head of the U.S. Delegation and Executive Table U.S. Co-chair. In particular, the AD will provide staff support to the Director on the agenda items related to the 2018-2021 Trilateral Committee Priorities, the Working Tables Action Item Requests, and the U.S. Country Report. AD-AIA participation will ensure best-informed decisions regarding the best path forward for the Trilateral Committee. The Trilateral Committee is undergoing a transition period due to administrative changes within each country. The Executive Table must determine the Trilateral Committee's strategic direction. The AD-AIA's insight into each countries position on this will help ensure the best decision is made regarding a successful future for the Trilateral Committee. In addition, his/her good relationship with top-level members of the Mexican delegation will greatly facilitate sensitive discussions with Mexico. If the AD-AIA were not able to attend this meeting, his/her input into the best path forward for the Trilateral Committee would be missed, hindering a positive outcome.				
5	Melida Tajbakhsh	Chief, Western Hemisphere Branch	IA	Region 9 - Headquarters	Melida Tajbakhsh, Chief, Western Hemisphere Branch, FWS/AIA - Ms. Tajbakhsh is directly responsible for the successful implementation of the Trilateral Committee as it is implemented under the Western Hemisphere Branch. She has direct supervisory responsibility over staff implementing various aspects, including annual meetings, coordination of work tables' agenda development, and work plans implementation. Her experience/expertise will help facilitate a smooth transition in US leadership and strategic direction of this forum to ensure that it incorporates/supports the Department's new priorities, effectively advancing US interests vis a vis Mexico and Canada. This is particularly critical at this meeting as the priorities identified by the Committee in 2014 are up for review. Specifically, she will serve as US Co-chair of the Species Table, staff the Director in support of his roles as head of the US Delegation and US Co-chairs of the Executive Table-including developing/vetting the agenda for this later and drafting new 2018-22 strategic priorities for discussion at the Executive Table. Also, coordinate US state agencies' input-including staffing the Director at his meeting with state agencies, documenting follow-up activities, and discussing ways to expand states' participation, and facilitate US states' negotiations with Mexico and their input/participation at the Executive Table to advance their interest vis a vis Mexico.	$0	$964	$964	Appropriations
6	Shannon Smith	Deputy Chief, division of Natural Resources & Conservation Planning	NWRS	Region 9 - Headquarters	Serve as U.S. Co-chair for the Ecosystem Conservation Working Table	$0	$729	$729	Appropriations
7	Ken Richkus	Deputy Chief, Division of Migratory Bird Management	MB	Region 9 - Headquarters		$0	$711	$711	Appropriations

					As the acting Chief of the Division of Migratory Bird Management, Dr. Ken Richkus will represent the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and serve as the U.S. co-Chair for the Migratory Bird Table. In this capacity, Dr. Richkus is responsible for leading the discussions at the Migratory Bird Table with the Canadian and Mexican co-Chairs. Dr. Richkus is also responsible for the final agenda development, giving updates on action items, and helping to facilitate discussions furthering collaborative migratory bird management for the United States. These discussions will have a direct impact on the Migratory Bird Program workplan and the continued coordination of activities affecting our shared migratory bird resource. Ken's attendance and participation is crucial for the successful implementation of the 2018-19 Migratory Bird Table Workplan. In addition, participation with other State, Federal, and International partners in attendance is important to maintaining and building coalitions for the conservation of migratory birds in North America.				
8	Phetsamon Souphanya	Senior Special Agent	OLE	Region 9 - Headquarters	To Co-Chair and Facilitate the Law Enforcement section of the conference. Topics of mutual law enforcement interest and concerns to include enforcement at ports of entries, species specific trafficking issues, and current trafficking trends will be discussed.	$0	$28	$28	Appropriations
9	Maricela Constantino	Endangered Species Biologist	ES	Region 9 - Headquarters	Maricela Constantino is an Endangered Species Biologist in the Branch of Recovery and State Grants and has served as the U.S. facilitator of the Species of Common Conservation Concern Working Table (SCCCWT) since 2010. Maricela provides national recovery expertise to the U.S., Canada, and Mexico Co-chairs for the endorsement of bilateral and trilateral project proposals presented during the SCCCWT 2018 meeting. In addition, she is coordinating the call for and submission of all US Agenda items for the 2018 meeting and is critical to finalizing the working table's Action Item Report from the 2017 meeting in Ensenada, Mexico. Her past experience facilitating the table will be extremely beneficial to the working table this year as we will have a new US Co-Chair this year; hence this individual will require her experienced support to ensure the table continues to run as efficiently as usual.	$0	$1,319	$1,319	Appropriations
10	Michael Gale	Special Assistant	NWRS	Region 9 - Headquarters	Michael Gale serves in key staff role as the Facilitator for the Ecosystem Conservation Working Table (ECWT) and co-leads the agency's conservation initiative for the Monarch butterfly—a priority of the Trilateral. Michael is providing all staff support to the ECWT and its U.S. co-chair, coordinating all logistics, note-taking, and giving several presentations. He is also participating in a conjoining meetings of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) related to monarch conservation science and additional conjoining meetings of the Trinational Monarch Conservation Science Partnership, of which Michael represents the U.S. as the lead for science communications and policy.	$0	$844	$844	Appropriations
11	Eric Kershner	Branch Chief	MB	Region 9 - Headquarters	As Branch Chief, Dr. Kershner serves as the facilitator of the Trilateral Committee Migratory Birds Working Table throughout the year. In this capacity, he is responsible for coordinating with Canadian and Mexican counterparts, development of the agenda, action item report, and ensuring relevant logistics for the Migratory Bird Table are addressed for the United States. During the Trilateral meeting, Dr Kershner is responsible for providing staff support to the U.S. Co-chair by leading or assisting in planning of specific topics for the Migratory Bird Table, assuring that all deliverables are produced in a timely manner, and following up on recommended actions, as necessary. His attendance is necessary for the successful implementation of 2018-2019 Migratory Bird Table workplan.	$0	$656	$656	Appropriations
12	Valencia Richardson	International Affairs Specialist	IA	Region 9 - Headquarters		$0	$847	$847	Appropriations

					As U.S. Trilateral Coordinating Committee (TCC) representative, Ms. Richardson is directly responsible for on-site negotiations with Canadian and Mexican counterparts on all aspects of meeting implementation and follow-up throughout the year. This includes annual event planning, producing and/or coordinating development of schedules, agendas, annual reports, and products. In addition, Ms. Richardson is responsible for aspects of on-site meeting implementation, including staff support to the 2018 US Trilateral Committee delegation, Working Table Co-chairs, and Facilitators. Finally, Ms. Richardson will also attend the Executive Table & Co-chairs meeting to provide support to all Co-chairs with regard to annual deliverables and procedures. Trilateral Committee coordination for the Service is a function of DIC's Western Hemisphere Branch. Successful implementation of the Trilateral Committee's annual meeting is one of Ms. Richardson's performance indicators.				
13	Ryan Drum	Biologist	SA	Region 3 - Midwest	Ryan Drum serves on the Trilateral Committee Planning Team and will be providing staff support to the Ecosystem Table. He serves as the US chair for the Trinational Monarch Conservation Science Partnership. In this role, he co-leads a trinational project with the Commission for Environmental Cooperation, serving on a steering committee with representatives from Canada and Mexico. Ryan will be giving a presentation, entitled "US Domestic Updates on Monarch Butterfly Science and Monitoring Strategy" and working with co-leads to make decisions and coordinate logistics related to the Science Partnership and specifically the $420,000 in funds available for this 2-year project with the CEC.	$0	$1,394	$1,394	Appropriations
14	Eugene Bendele	Senior Special Agent/Attache	OLE	Region 9 - Headquarters	I am the Service's law enforcement Attaché to Mexico. I work with our counterparts in Mexico to share information about wildlife trafficking issues and help facilitate U.S. investigations with ties to Mexico.	$0	$0	$0	Other
15	Sherry Barrett	Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator	ES	Region 2 - Southwest	The USFWS completed the Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan, First Revision in November 2017. This plan was developed with federal agencies in Mexico, and includes a strategy to establish one Mexican wolf population in the U.S. and one in Mexico. In order to memorialize the binational collaboration of this recovery plan, the USFWS and federal agencies in Mexico will seek an endorsement to jointly sign a Letter of Intent (or MOU, or other) at the Trilateral meeting, as well as endorsement to continue collaboration on the management of the binational captive Mexican wolf population, the release of Mexican wolves in the U.S. and Mexico, and to coordinate should wolves disperse across the international border. As the Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator, Ms. Barrett is responsible for the recovery of the Mexican wolf throughout its range. Arizona Game and Fish Department and Wildlife Services are also very involved in the recovery efforts and will be attending the Trilateral meeting. It is critical that the USFWS, the state wildlife agencies from Arizona and New Mexico, and federal agencies in Mexico (e.g. CONAPN) come together and obtain the endorsement of the Trilateral to move forward. Ms. Barrett will provide a presentation on the status of recovery and goals for the future.	$0	$1,319	$1,319	Appropriations
16	Jennie Duberstein	Sonoran Joint Venture Coordinator/Wildlife Biologist	MB	Region 2 - Southwest		$0	$1,175	$1,175	Appropriations

					I want to attend the Trilateral to share progress on binational projects of the Sonoran Joint Venture with partners from the U.S. and Mexico. With the exception of 2016, the SJV has attended every Trilateral since the SJV began in 1999. It is a key meeting for connecting with partners in Mexico, especially in upper leadership levels, to discuss shared conservation priorities and collaborative strategies for addressing conservation issues that impact both of our countries. It is also an important opportunity to build existing partnerships and make new connections to help the SJV and the Service successfully implement our mission. I will unveil the new Borderlands Avian Knowledge Network ("Coordinated Bird Monitoring in northern Mexico and the southwest United States") and will also present on how we are integrating human dimensions into the North American Waterfowl Management Plan ("The People Part of Wetlands and Waterfowl Conservation.") Finally, I am part of the Trilateral Islands Initiative, which convenes as part of the Trilateral each year to discuss joint efforts at island conservation.				
17	Amedee Brickey	Chief, Migatory Bird Program, and CA Condor Coodinator	MB	Region 8 - Pacific Southwest	The Service has been working with the Mexican Government for several years to reintroduce California Condors to Baja California, MX. CONNAP has recently requested to expand the program in Mexico, however additional information is needed by the Service before we can approve their request. As the California Condor Coordinator for USFWS, I have requested to meet with them in person to discuss their proposal and potential complications to the larger Condor Recovery program in the US. Due to recent DOI restrictions on international travel, this meeting may be the first opportunity to meet with representatives from CONNAP and discuss the proposal.	$0	$1,601	$1,601	Appropriations
18	Amanda Gonzales	Program Officer for Mexico and the Caribbean	IA	Region 9 - Headquarters	Ms. Gonzales is the Program Officer for the Service's Mexico (MX) program. In this capacity, she is responsible for the successful implementation of this grants program in Mexico. She will meet with current and potential partners to deepen her understanding of biodiversity conservation challenges and efforts in the U.S- Mexico border region involving the Service. Ms. Gonzales will participate in side meetings with U.S. State agencies, the USFWS Sonoran Joint Venture, and USFWS Regional Offices to discuss opportunities for collaboration with the MX program. Ms. Gonzales plans to attend a meeting with high-level Mexican officers (CONABIO, INECC, CONANP, PROFEPA, CONAFOR, etc.) to discuss the Service's MX conservation approach under its current funding levels, in order to better guide the implementation of the grants program she manages. She will meet with grantees from the San Diego Natural History Museum, San Diego Zoo, Autonomous to evaluate the status of the projects being implemented by these organizations. Finally, she will meet with representatives from CONANP, Chapultepec Zoo and San Diego Zoo to discuss the 2017-2018 implementation of the MOU for the Recovery of the CA condor in Mexico.If Ms. Gonzales does not attend the meeting, the opportunity to further develop our long-term partnership with the natural resources agencies of the Mexican Government and the implementation of future projects for capacity building for biodiversity conservation that are truly supported by the Mexican Government would be jeopardized.	$0	$725	$725	Appropriations
19	Jeremy Coleman	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 5 - Northeast		$0	$1,010	$1,010	Appropriations

					I have three main reasons for attending the 23rd Annual Meeting of the Trilateral Committee: 1) to provide support, answer questions, and present materials (on request) on a Letter of Intent (LOI), signed in 2015 at the 20th annual meeting of the Trilateral Committee, for efforts to promote conservation of bats in Mexico, Canada, and the US. I worked with a team of representatives from Mexico and Canada to develop the LOI, and have been involved with international efforts that resulted from that agreement since that time. While there, I will also meet with colleagues from Canada and Mexico to discuss and further develop some of the action items identified in the LOI, as we consider options to develop a memorandum of understanding. Additionally, my attendance will allow me to 2) provide an update on White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) to members of the Trilateral Committee, including Service staff from HQ, and 3) to network with international colleagues and build relationships that will be helpful to performing the duties of my job and accomplishing the mission of the Service. As the National Coordinator for WNS, it is my responsibility to keep Service leadership and agency partners up to speed on the latest information regarding the research and management of this wildlife disease.				
20	Annie Little	Restoration Biologist	ES	Region 8 - Pacific Southwest	Annie has worked for the Fish and Wildlife Service for the last 21 years and is the lead for the Service on the Letter of Intent (LOI) regarding the conservation and restoration of islands in the United States, Canada and Mexico. The LOI was signed at the 2014 Trilateral Meeting in Queretaro, Mexico, and represents the first trilateral agreement regarding conservation of islands. Annie was designated as the U.S. Coordinator for the Trilateral Island Working Group tasked with moving the initiative forward. As part of the 2018 Trilateral Meeting, Annie will present to multiple working tables (Migratory Birds, Species of Common Conservation Concern, Ecosystem Conservation and Executive) on the furthering of the LOI and status of collaborative island restoration efforts among the three countries. One of the ongoing projects is the bilateral seabird restoration program on the Baja California Pacific Islands. The Montrose and Luckenbach Trustee Councils are funding this 5-year project with settlement funds from the Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration Program. Annie is the staff ornithologist for the Montrose Program, and she provides updates on the status of this project to the Trilateral Committee as a regular part of her duties. The Montrose Program will be funding her participation, which will strengthen cross border collaboration and promote existing and new partnerships in furtherance of our trilateral conservation goals.	$0	$23	$23	Reimbursable (O)
21	Samantha Brooke	Coastal and Marine Program Team Lead	NWRS	Region 9 - Headquarters		$0	$700	$700	Appropriations

					Ms. Brooke is the Refuge System National Coastal and Marine Program lead. As the National Coordinator, it is Ms. Brooke's responsibility to advise the Service and Refuge System leadership on management of the Service's coastal and marine areas, which encompass over 750 million acres and to maintain partnerships with other marine protected area management agencies. Ms. Brooke represents the Service on the joint DOC and DOI Marine Protected Area Federal Advisory Committee and coordinates with the DOI, NOAA, and US State Department on international marine protected area issues. The Trilateral meeting provides an opportunity to share information and discuss potential areas for enhanced collaboration on marine protected areas at the continental level. Promoting linkages amongst land and marine protected areas is one of the Trilateral Ecosystem Conservation Table's objectives. Marine protected areas have been the subject discussions at prior meetings, and are anticipated to be part of this meeting. A presentation by the Marine Protected Area Center has been proposed, and Ms. Brooke's presence will allow her to speak to DOI's work in this area. In 2017, Mexico and Canada both made marine protected area designations, including the designation of one of the largest marine protected areas in North American by Mexico. It is anticipated that this meeting will provide important opportunities for furthering U.S-Canada-Mexico collaboration on marine protected areas, including sharing scientific and technical information and promoting increased coordination.				
22	Robert Ford	Partners in Flight coordinator	MB	Region 9 - Headquarters	As Partners in flight coordinator, Mr. Ford works often on trinaitonal projects that include grasslands birds and other migratory bird species. Close coordination on projects between the US and Canda and Mexico is necessary a as illustrated ni the 2016 PIF Landbird Conservation Plan. Attendance at the tri-lateral meeting will significantly advance PIF actions and conservation priorities.	$0	$81	$81	Appropriations
23	John Klavitter	National Invasive Species Coordinator	NWRS	Region 9 - Headquarters	Mr. Klavitter is the Refuge System National Invasive Species Coordinator responsible for invasive species related issues across the refuge system, leading the Cooperative Recovery Initiative, and leading and Island Restoration external partners group. As the National Coordinator, it is Mr. Klavitter's responsibility to keep Service and Refuge System leadership and agency partners up to speed on the latest information regarding management of invasive species. In addition Mr. Klavitter has been instrumental in development of the Trilateral Island Initiative and Letter of Intent focused on removal and eradication of invasive animal and plant species on islands in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. The Trilateral meeting provides an opportunity to share information and discuss potential areas for enhanced collaboration on invasive species at the continental level. Development of a North American Invasive Alien Species Strategy and Action Plan was discussed at the past two Trilateral meetings and the Trilateral Island Initiative has been an agenda topic at several working tables over the past five years. Working Table agendas are currently being developed. It is anticipated that invasive species will be on the agendas of the Ecosystem Conservation, Shared Species, and Migratory Birds working tables. Mr. Klavitter's attendance at this meeting provides important opportunities for furthering U.S-Canada-Mexico collaboration on invasive alien species including raising the profile of the invasive alien species issue in international frameworks and through regional initiatives, sharing scientific and technical information (e.g., risk analyses), and promoting transboundary projects, including for species of concern detected at borders or along pathways.	$0	$701	$701	Appropriations
24	LUIS SANTIAGO	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	OLE	Region 9 - Headquarters		$0	$955	$955	Appropriations

					Mr. Santiago is the Southeast Region Special Agent in Charge (SAC) with the Office of Law Enforcement. In this position Mr. Santiago is responsible for providing direct oversight for the criminal investigations and the import/export inspections for the southeast region. Mr. Santiago will coordinate enforcement initiatives with Mexico and Canada. Mr. Santiago intends to have discussions with Canadian and Mexican counterparts regarding investigative assistance and information sharing initiatives being coordinated with Mexico. Mr. Santiago attendance at the Trilateral meeting this Spring will continue to develop relationships with high-level officials from Canada and Mexico. As the SAC in Region 4, he regularly deals with sensitive issues involving the movement of legal and illegal wildlife between the United States and Mexico. Mr. Santiago has extensive background in these areas and allowing him to meet and closely discuss issues would be extremely valuable to the Office of Law Enforcement. The Office of Law Enforcement views the Trilateral as an opportunity to grow partnerships with organizations that share a common mission. Mr. Santiago's participation will allow him to strengthen relationships for the cross-border coordination and facilitation of investigations and inspections.				
25	Tracy Melbihess	Classification and Recovery Branch Chief	ES	Region 1 - Pacific	USFWS-R1-IFWO is the lead for southern mountain caribou recovery under the Endangered Species Act. In 2018, we expect to finalize a rule to expand the listed entity from a single endangered transboundary subpopulation of 10 caribou that moves between Idaho/Washington and Canada to include an additional 14 subpopulations in Canada. Expansion of the ESA caribou recovery effort further into Canada will necessitate significant coordination between the Service and the Canadian Wildlife Service and British Columbia provincial representatives pursuant to their conservation efforts under the Species At Risk Act. As the Classification and Recovery Branch Chief for Idaho, I will be overseeing the caribou recovery effort: attendance, including a presentation or discussion at the Shared Species of Concern Table if accepted, is necessary to expand the binational recovery effort for southern mountain caribou.	$0	$1,369	$1,369	Appropriations
26	Guy Foulks	Fish and Wildlife Administrator	MB	Region 9 - Headquarters		$0	$297	$297	Appropriations

					Actual cost will be $296 because Mr. Foulks does not require lodging costs to attend. Mr. Foulks will present on two Action Items from the XXII (2017) Trilateral meeting. He serves as one of two USFWS representatives participating in the development of the migratory bird conservation implementation plan for the Western Hemisphere through the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) Migratory Birds Task Force. Mr Foulks helped build the Americas Flyways Framework adopted by CMS under its Migratory Birds Program of Work. He will speak to how the Trilateral nations can collaborate with and partner on objectives of the CMS Migratory Birds Task Force. Additionally, Mr. Foulks will present on efforts to build a conservation investment strategy for the Chihuahua Grasslands in Mexico that will be linked into the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (NMBCA) grant program that he coordinates for USFWS. NMBCA grants since 2002 exceed $62M for birds that breed in Canada and the USA and/or migrate to or through Mexico and the Caribbean. Specifically, NMBCA projects in Mexico have received $24M for migratory bird conservation. Mr. Foulks served as the facilitator of the Trilateral Committee Migratory Birds Working Table at the XXI Trilateral meeting in Ottawa (May, 2016). In this capacity, he was responsible for coordinating with his Canadian and Mexican counterparts, developing the agenda, and ensuring relevant logistics for the Migratory Bird Table. Mr. Foulks was unable to attend last year's Trilateral, however this year can inexpensively provide continuity and perspective to efforts initiated two years ago at the Trilateral meeting in Ottawa.				
27	Greg Hughes	Fish and Wildlife Administrator	ES	Region 1 - Pacific	USFWS-R1-IFWO is the lead for southern mountain caribou recovery under the Endangered Species Act. In 2018, we expect to finalize a rule to expand the listed entity from a single endangered transboundary subpopulation of 10 caribou that moves between Idaho/Washington and Canada to include an additional 14 subpopulations in Canada. Expansion of the ESA caribou recovery effort further into Canada will necessitate significant coordination between the Service and the Canadian Wildlife Service and British Columbia provincial representatives pursuant to their conservation efforts under the Species At Risk Act. As the new State Supervisor/Project Leader of IFWO, my attendance at the Trilateral would serve to represent the United States' portion of this species range. It will be imperative to build relationships with Canadian officials at the federal and provincial levels to expand the binational recovery effort for southern mountain caribou. I intend to submit a request for an agenda item or presentation to discuss opportunities for collaborative conservation between the United States and Canada.	$0	$1,769	$1,769	Appropriations
28	Chris Warren	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	ES	Region 1 - Pacific	USFWS lead for southern mountain caribou recovery planning. Effort involves Canadian Wildlife Service and British Columbia provincial representatives and requires significant international coordination and planning. Attendance will greatly enhance our Canadian partnerships and, ultimately, comprehensive recovery planning for southern mountain caribou.	$0	$1,317	$1,317	Appropriations
						$0	**$24,688**	**$24,688**	

NOTE TO REVIEWERS

PACKAGE CONTAINS:

Approval Request:	Regions 1, 3, 5, 8 & 9
Conference Name:	Trilateral Committee - CAN/MX/US (23rd)(2018)
Dates/Location:	2018-04-09 to 2018-03-29 in Shepherdstown, West Virginia
DTS DCN#:	CON0000638

ACTION REQUESTED: Signature

STAFF ORIGINATOR: Karla Bartelt, Acting National Conference Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Gloria Bell, International Affairs

VERY BRIEF BACKGROUND ON ISSUE/ACTION:

Foster an integrated continental perspective for cooperative conservation and sustainable use of biological resources, contribute to the maintenance of the ecological integrity of North American ecoregions, and promote biodiversity conservation capacity building and cooperative cross-sectoral activities in the three countries that will contribute to the reduction and mitigation of threats to North American shared species and ecosystems. This is done through coordination, cooperation, and development of partnerships among wildlife agencies of the three countries and other interested parties

FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN:

	Approved by:	Approved after:
Date:	March 1, 2018	March 1, 2018
Attendees:	28	28
Registration:	$0	$0
Travel Costs:	$24,688	$24,688
Sponsorship:	$0	$0
Administrative Costs:	$0	$0
Total Cost:	$24,688	$24,688
Additional Registration Cost:		$0

For further information, please contact Karla Bartelt at 612-713-5365.

Deputy Director

Date

From:	Morris, Charisa
To:	FWS Directorate & Deputies
Subject:	FWS Weekly Report and Fishbites attached
Date:	Friday, January 26, 2018 1:31:41 PM
Attachments:	_2018-01-24 .FWS Weekly Report EA.docx _2018-01-22 .FWS FishBites.docx

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Good afternoon-

Please see this week's FWS Weekly Secretarial Report and Fishbites, attached.

Have a great weekend!
Charisa

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Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
January 24, 2018

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings and Travel

On January 24, Greg Sheehan will travel to Albuquerque, New Mexico, for an All Employee Meeting with FWS, South Region Staff on DOI Priorities. On January 25, Mr. Sheehan will travel to Denver, Colorado, for the Sage Grouse Task Force Meeting.

Week Ahead Announcement and Actions

On January 27, the Sierra Club is organizing a "Save Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge" event from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The independently organized rally will take place in a field east of the refuge. Representative Filemon Vela (D-TX) is expected to attend, and representatives from the 19 cities/counties that passed resolutions opposing the proposed border wall have been invited. The event coincides with a FWS-organized 75th anniversary event at the Santa Ana NWR. The FWS event is being coordinated to have guest speakers, guided walks, interpretive exhibits and displays, games and activities, and refreshments. FWS will have increased law enforcement as well as External Affairs support onsite to help as needed.

FWS and partners will conduct the annual Mexican wolf population survey and capture, weather conditions permitting through February 2. The Mexican Wolf Recovery Program is a multi-agency cooperative effort among FWS, Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Forest Service, USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services and the White Mountain Apache Tribe, as well as in consultation with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Survey flights will occur on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, Apache and Gila National Forests in eastern Arizona and western New Mexico, and possibly on some areas immediately outside the forests. The count is not open to the public. A limited number of reporters may be invited to observe the count.

The biennial meeting of the signatories to the Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears, which includes Canada, Greenland, Norway, Russia, and the United States (Ranges States) will be meeting February 2-4 in Fairbanks, Alaska. The parties plan to exchange information on polar bear management and research and will evaluate the progress on implementation of the Circumpolar Action Plan. FWS is organizing and will be participating in the meeting. Alaska congressionals have been notified. No news release is planned, but FWS may pitch stories to a couple of local reporters and offer interviews with some of the meeting participants. The meeting is not open to the public, so no media will be there during proceedings. No controversy is expected.

On or around January 26, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice announcing the availability of comprehensively revised boundaries for the first batch of Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) units included in the Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project. CBRS was created by the Coastal Barrier Resources Act in 1982 to conserve relatively undeveloped, highly vulnerable coastal barriers along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coasts. The proposed revisions will affect 112 existing and 36 proposed new units in Delaware, Massachusetts, New Hampshire,

and New Jersey. The notice will announce a 120-day public comment period and also advise of upcoming public meetings to be held via webcast. Landowners, state and local officials (and their representatives in Congress) will likely support the removal of areas from the CBRS and similarly oppose the addition of new areas into the CBR. Properties in a CBRA unit are ineligible for federally subsidized flood insurance. Taxpayer groups, recreational interest groups and conservation groups will likely support the additions to the CBRS. Outreach will include a news release and FAQs, as well as stakeholder and congressional outreach.

In January, FWS and Forest Service representatives are scheduled to meet with a private rancher and staff from Representative Pearce's (R-NM) office. The rancher's cattle graze Forest Service-managed lands that are inhabited by the ESA-listed New Mexico meadow jumping mouse. Discussions will include development of a framework to address long-term land management practices that will benefit the mouse while meeting the needs of the rancher.

In late January, FWS, NOAA, and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (the Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees) plan to release an injury determination report that concludes PCBs released by General Electric have caused repeated and prolonged exceedances of state and federal water quality standards and contaminated surface water resources of the Hudson River for decades. The report is the latest demonstration of the Trustees' measurement of natural resource injuries from General Electric's release of PCBs to the Hudson River from its manufacturing facilities in Hudson Falls and Fort Edward, New York. The Trustees are planning coordinated outreach through a joint news release and congressional notifications.

In late January, FWS, NOAA and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (the Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees) plan to release a data report regarding polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) concentrations in eggs of the gray catbird. In 2015, the Trustees collected catbird eggs from along the Hudson River to determine PCB exposure. The study indicates that seven of the 29 eggs collected from the Hudson River exceed an avian effects threshold for PCBs quantified in scientific literature, suggesting the potential for embryo-mortality, an injury to these birds. The Catbird Egg Data Report is part of the Trustees' ongoing natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) to determine appropriate actions needed to injured restore natural resources and natural resource services of the Hudson River. The Trustees are planning coordinated outreach through posting on the web.

In January or February, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice of issuance for letters of authorizations issued in 2015, 2016, and 2017 under regulations authorizing the non-lethal, incidental, unintentional take of marine mammals in the Chukchi and Beaufort seas. This is an administrative action and is noncontroversial. No news release will be issued for this notice of issuance.

30-60-Day Look Ahead

FWS has completed a Draft Recovery Plan for the Southern California Distinct Population Segment of the mountain yellow-legged frog. The recovery plan is expected to be announced for public comment and review in February and is designed to help southern populations of this species in three recovery units through a set of recovery strategies with associated objectives and

measurable criteria. The recovery units include San Bernardino Mountains, San Gabriel Mountains and San Jacinto Mountains. The draft plan includes input from partners including the San Diego and Los Angeles Zoos, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Forest Service. This is not controversial. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications and a press release to media.

In January and February, several border projects involving FWS are anticipated to begin. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will need access to water from a FWS-owned well on Buenos Aires NWR in Arizona for a road repair project. The Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO) plans a road construction project for a 66-mile portion of the Presumido Canyon Road through the Baboquivari Mountains in Arizona. CBP will update existing communications and surveillance towers on and adjacent to the Buenos Aires NWR.

On February 5-8, the Management Board of the Arctic Council's Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) Working Group will be meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska. FWS coordinates U.S. engagement in the CAFF Working Group. Participants will include representatives from all Arctic Council countries (Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Russia and the United States); Arctic indigenous communities, including several representing Alaska native communities; and observer countries and organizations. Experts from FWS and across the U.S. government will join the U.S. delegation. A number of priority activities for the FWS, and the broader U.S. government, will be discussed at this meeting, including Arctic migratory birds, invasive species, wetlands and monitoring, among others. The meeting is not open to the public. FWS may send a media alert about the meeting to a few reporters to invite them to attend a reception, which will be held prior to the meeting. Reporters would learn more about CAFF, the topics that the CAFF board will discuss at the upcoming meeting, and have the opportunity to interview participants.

On February 8, Jan Butts' farm (approximately 730 acres) in Kankakee County, Illinois, will be sold at auction. In his will , the former farm owner, Mr. Butts, directed that a large portion of his estate be provided to the "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Grand Kankakee Marsh National Wildlife Refuge." Grand Kankakee Marsh National Wildlife Refuge does not exist. It is called Kankakee National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area. Staffs from FWS, together with attorneys from the Interior Solicitor's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Illinois have been working with lawyers representing the Jan Butts Estate and the State Circuit Court to secure a path forward for the acceptance of what will likely be a donation valued at several million dollars.

FWS and the Marine National Monuments office have completed a public scoping process to evaluate ways to protect seabirds from predation by invasive house mice at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge and Battle of Midway National Memorial, located in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Midway is the largest Laysan albatross colony in the world and more than 3 million birds from 29 species nest on Midway's three islands. All of them are potentially vulnerable to mouse predation. The mice have been documented eating seabirds while they are nesting, resulting in injury and death. Due to their extreme dedication to raising their young, the birds won't leave the nest if attacked. FWS is preparing a draft

environmental assessment that will evaluate alternatives to protect seabirds from mouse predation. The draft Environmental Assessment (EA) should be ready for public comment in mid-February. Outreach is planned to include local public notifications through the web and social media, when the draft EA is published, and notifications to members of Congress in Hawaii, with targeted stakeholder outreach.

In February, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice seeking public review and comment on a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) describing the potential effects of issuing a proposed Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for construction and development activities in Thurston County, Washington. UPC, LLC developed a draft Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and applied for a 15-year ITP. The project development site is 127 acres, and the conservation site is 64 acres. Species covered in the HCP include the threatened Olympia subspecies of the Mazama pocket gopher and the threatened Oregon spotted frog. This is not controversial. This HCP is a single-site developer and independent from the HCP that FWS briefed ASFWP on on November 17. This applicant would like to move forward with development in advance of the completion of the Thurston County HCP.

In February, FWS will award nearly $19 million in grants to coastal states to conserve and restore coastal wetlands and their fish and wildlife habitat. Each year, the Service supports coastal wetland conservation through the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program and the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. The grant funds are derived from excise taxes on fishing tackle and motorboat and small engine fuels. The grants will support 22 projects in 13 coastal states to protect, restore or enhance more than 30,000 acres of coastal wetlands and adjacent upland habitats, including 287 miles of shoreline. Over $21 million in additional matching funds will be provided by partner contributions from state and local governments, private landowners and conservation groups. Conservation of this habitat will help recover coastal-dependent federal trust species, enhance flood protection and water quality, provide economic benefits to coastal communities and increase recreational opportunities for hunters and anglers. The grant recipients (states) have not yet been informed that they will be receiving funds. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications and a news release.

In December, BNSF Railway submitted a final draft grizzly bear Habitat Conservation Plan to the FWS. The plan minimizes the effects of railway operations on grizzly bears and mitigates for unavoidable strikes by investing in bear conservation efforts in the project area. FWS is reviewing the plan. FWS is preparing for the other steps of environmental review including National Environmental Policy Act compliance, Incidental Take Permit issuance criteria, and intra-Service section 7 consultation. Since 1967, at least 55 grizzly bears have been struck and killed on railroad tracks in the 160-mile project area, which traverses the Continental Divide and is south of Glacier National Park. Beginning in the 1990s, BNSF instituted a series of voluntary measures directed at reducing or eliminating the causes of bear strikes. The incidence of grizzly bear strikes in the project area has markedly declined to less than one per year on average since 2009.

Endangered Species Act Listing/Delisting Actions

Pending approval by the Department, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* the final delisting determination for Eureka Valley evening-primrose and downlisting, to threatened from endangered, of the Eureka dune grass. These are two plant species that occur in Death Valley National Park, California. The primary partner and stakeholder is the National Park Service who supports the actions. Some environmental groups opposed delisting the two species. However, in response to new information, we are no longer delisting Eureka dunegrass and are instead reclassifying it to a threatened species which may reduce the level of concern among the interested parties. Planned outreach will include a news release and notifications to stakeholders and members of Congress.

Pending approval by the Department, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed listing determination and proposed critical habitat designation for the Island marble butterfly, found in Washington. The proposed critical habitat designation includes approximately 812 acres. This action is not expected to be opposed and media coverage is expected to be neutral. Interested stakeholders include Xerces (the petitioner), federal partners including National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management, and state partners including Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Washington Department of Natural Resources, San Juan County Land Bank, the San Juan Preservation Trust, and local landowners. A news release to all interested parties and the media is planned.

On or around February 2, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final listing determination for the Texas hornshell, a mussel that occurs in New Mexico, Texas, and Mexico. The states of New Mexico and Texas have not overtly opposed listing the hornshell, and FWS has worked with oil and gas companies extensively on a Candidate Conservation Agreement for the Black and Delaware rivers, the only portion of the range of Texas hornshell where oil and gas production is occurring. FWS anticipates significant participation in these agreements which will provide regulatory certainty for these companies. Stakeholders include the Center for Biological Diversity, the States of Texas and New Mexico, the Bureau of Land Management, the Independent Petroleum Association of America, and local landowners. Planned outreach will include notifications to stakeholders and relevant members of Congress and a news release to local media. FWS is required by settlement agreement to publish the final determination in the *Federal Register* by February 10; therefore, FWS plans to submit it by February 2.

On or around February 19, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice of availability of a draft post-delisting monitoring plan for the black-capped vireo. While this action is not expected to be controversial, stakeholders who oppose the delisting of the species may use this notice to express their concerns about the delisting. Stakeholders include the petitioners, Pacific Legal Foundation, Jim Chilton, New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association, New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau, New Mexico Federal Lands Council, and Texas Farm Bureau, and the Office of Travis Co. Judge and Big Bend National Park. Planned outreach will include notifications to local stakeholders, a news release to local media and social media posts.

On or around February 28, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed rule to downlist to threatened from endangered the Kuenzler hedgehog cactus. When first listed, only one population of 200 plants was known. The discovery of additional populations, together with efforts to conserve the plant and its habitat, indicate the cactus is no longer at risk of extinction.

Today, there are 3,300 individual cacti in 11 known populations within its southern New Mexico range. Additionally, the permitting of captive propagation and sale of the plant has relieved much of the threat from collection of the species in the wild. This downlisting is not expected to be controversial. Planned outreach includes a news release, phone calls to stakeholders and web postings.

On or around February 28, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to downlist the Hawaiian goose (nene) from endangered to threatened. FWS will also propose to establish special regulations for the conservation of the species under section 4(d) of the ESA to allow for flexibility in managing lands. Landowners of resort, golf course, agricultural, residential and recreational properties are likely to support the reclassification and associated 4(d) rule while conservation groups may be opposed. Interested stakeholders include the State of Hawaii, federal agencies, conservation and bird groups, various private landowners, and the public. Outreach includes a news release, social media, emails and phone calls to Congressional offices and stakeholders.

On or around February 28, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination on a proposed rule to reclassify the Tobusch fishhook cactus from endangered to threatened. This plant species has shown significant recovery due in part to collaborative conservation efforts with partners. Supporters of this action include the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, The Nature Conservancy. FWS has gained positive coverage on downlisting proposals, and anticipates more interest when this final determination is announced. Outreach planned includes a news release and social media postings.

On or around March 6, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to delist the Colorado butterfly plant due to recovery. This species is located in Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming. This action is not expected to be opposed. Outreach plans include a news release, and an if-asked Q&A. Key stakeholders include private landowners, F.E. Warren Air Force Base, the City of Fort Collins, Colorado, and the Bureau of Land Management.

On or around March 8, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination to withdraw our proposed rule to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant found in California. This action is not expected to be strongly opposed; however, the Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment, a local environmental organization, has filed litigation regarding a development project in the range of the species and will likely oppose the withdrawal of the proposed rule. Other interested stakeholders include Newhall Land Company, City of Calabasas, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, WildEarth Guardians, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and local landowners. Media coverage is expected to be neutral. Planned outreach includes a news release to all interested parties and the media. FWS is required by settlement agreement to submit the determination to the *Federal Register* by March 15; therefore, FWS plans to submit it by March 8.

On or around March 9, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* an amendment to the current listing of the southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou (endangered) to include the entire Southern Mountain Caribou population as a distinct population segment

(DPS). The revised DPS (17 subpopulations; 15 extant, 2 extirpated) includes the currently listed southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, which is a transboundary population between British Columbia, Canada and northern Idaho and northeastern Washington. The critical habitat designation will remain unchanged. Non-governmental organizations including the International Fund for Wildlife, Kettle Range Conservation Group, Selkirk Conservation Alliance, Kootenai Environmental Alliance, Center for Biological Diversity, Idaho Conservation League, and the State of Idaho may be opposed to the DPS listing. The Pacific Legal Foundation (representing Bonner County) is likely to challenge the determination. FWS received a notice of intent to sue from the Pacific Legal Foundation on behalf of Bonner County in June 2017 because FWS has not met the statutory deadline for finalizing this rule (a proposed rule was published in 2014). Planned outreach includes a news release, social media, emails and phone calls to Congressional offices and stakeholders.

On or around March 9, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a minor map correction in the final rule designating critical habitat for two butterflies, the Poweshiek skipperling and Dakota skipper. One map incorrectly labeled Poweshiek skipperling critical habitat as Dakota skipper critical habitat in Minnesota. FWS does not expect any opposition to this. No outreach is needed for this simple correction notice.

On or around March 16, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a rule removing the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain wildlife entries that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. FWS is taking this action in accordance with the May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries. No outreach is planned.

Migratory Bird Management Actions

In January, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* the proposed 2018-19 hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. FWS annually prescribes frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow state selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications.

In January, FWS plans to publish a final rule removing regulations setting forth the provisions for two depredation orders for double-crested cormorants. FWS had used these standing orders to allow for lethal control of cormorants where they impact aquaculture and public resources; however, on May 25, 2016, the District Court for the District of Columbia ordered that both the Aquaculture Depredation Order and the Public Resources Depredation Order be vacated until FWS performs a new and legally adequate environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement for national cormorant management orders in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This final rule administratively implements the court's decision. While the depredation orders no longer exist, on November 15,

2017, FWS provided some measure of relief to aquaculture facilities. It issued a final EA under NEPA, which allows aquaculture facility managers and property owners across 37 central and eastern states and the District of Columbia to apply for individual permits for lethal take of cormorants where they are impacting resources. This latest action is not controversial. If-asked talking points will be planned for outreach.

In January, FWS will publish a final rule in the *Federal Register* on special methods of hunting migratory game birds by tribal members on ceded lands in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota for the 2017-18 season. This rule prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands and ceded lands. This rule responds to tribal requests for FWS recognition of their authority to regulate hunting under established guidelines. This rule allows the establishment of season bag limits and, thus, harvest at levels compatible with populations and habitat conditions. This new final rule replaces the August 31, 2017, interim final rule. Outreach will include talking points, emails and phone calls to tribes, states, Congressional offices and stakeholders.

In January, FWS will publish a proposed rule in the *Federal Register* for migratory bird subsistence harvest regulations in Alaska for the 2018 season. These regulations allow for the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving FWS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Alaska Native representatives. The rulemaking is necessary because the regulations governing the subsistence harvest of migratory birds in Alaska are subject to annual review. This rulemaking proposes region-specific regulations that go into effect on April 2, 2018. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications and a news release.

In January, FWS will release a draft environmental assessment in response to a request by Ocotillo Express LLC for a five-year programmatic take permit for golden eagles at its Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility in Imperial County, California. Golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Ocotillo is requesting a permit to cover unintentional of eagles from their ongoing activities. With their permit application, Ocotillo has submitted an eagle conservation plan that proposes proactive conservation measures to minimize impacts to golden eagles in the region to offset unavoidable harm. Outreach is planned in the form of a news release. This is not controversial.

FishBites

Garrison Dam NFH staff encourage area youth to discover the Missouri River

- **Topic:** Utilizing materials from Project WET, third- and fourth-grade youth in area schools are learning about the Missouri River including its many uses and importance, the people in the watershed, and also animals such as the endangered pallid sturgeon.
  Supportive Stakeholders: Garrison, Underwood, Turtle Lake and Washburn Public Schools
  Impacted Location: Central North Dakota

Garrison Dam NFH staff have groomed the hatchery's hiking trails again this year for cross country skiing

- **Topic:** Nearly eight miles of groomed trails located in the sheltered cottonwoods of the Missouri River bottomlands provide a great opportunity for wildlife watching and appreciation of the outdoors while getting in some healthy wintertime exercise.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Cross country skiers, snowshoeing enthusiasts and birdwatchers
- **Impacted Location:** Central North Dakota

Public/private partnership to benefit five prairie birds on private rangelands in Montana

- **Topic:** FWS's Montana Ecological Services Office, in partnership with The Nature Conservancy has finalized a statewide programmatic Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) designed to conserve populations and habitats of greater sage-grouse, Baird's sparrow, chestnut-collared longspur, McCown's longspur,and Sprague's pipit on privately owned ranching and agricultural lands in sagebrush and grasslands in Montana. Landowners who voluntarily enroll in the CCAA agree to manage privately owned ranching and agricultural lands to remove or reduce threats to these at-risk species. In exchange, landowners receive regulatory assurances that the conservation actions implemented will result in no additional regulatory requirements for the landowner on enrolled lands if any of the species become listed under the Endangered Species Act.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** The Nature Conservancy, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Natural Resources Conservation Service and ranchers
- **Impacted Location:** Montana

*FWS's Southeast Regional Coastal Coordinator joins collaborative coastal resilience program***.**

- **Topic**: The Southeast Regional Coastal Program Coordinator is has joined an advisory council that will develop the Strengthening Coastal Counties' Resilience program, an interactive, multimodal coastal-management training program for local governments throughout the Gulf region.
- **Supportive Stakeholders**: The program partners (National Association of Counties, the Association of State Floodplain Managers, the Coastal States Organization, and NOAA), as well as those who eventually enroll in the program.
- **Impacted Location**: Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas; Gulf of Mexico

Spotting eagles at Hackmatack NWR in Illinois

- **Topic:** Hackmatack NWR staff are working with partners to welcome the public to see eagles up close and personal, as well as overwintering eagles living in the wild in the Fox River Valley.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** McHenry County Conservation District, Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge, Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- **Impacted Location:** Crystal Lake, Illinois

San Joaquin River NWR hosts first annual Goose Day

- **Topic:** San Joaquin River NWR hosted the first annual Goose Day public event to celebrate the more than 100,000 Aleutian, Snow/Ross, and White-fronted geese that winter on the refuge. The free event featured staff-led driving tours and nature walks for the general public on the refuge. More than 100 people participated in the event.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** State agencies, partners, volunteers, neighboring landowners, and members of the public
- **Impacted location:** Central California

Dam Removal Completes 12-year Initiative to Open 30 Miles of River

- **Topic:** The obsolete West Britannia Dam on the Mill River in Taunton, Massachusetts, was demolished last week, opening the way for migratory fish such as river herring to reach their historic spawning grounds for the first time in nearly two centuries, provides increased recreational access for canoeing, kayaking and recreational fishing, and removes risk to residents from dam failure. The removal completes the Mill River Restoration Project, a 12-year initiative of dam owners; federal, state, and local agencies; and nonprofit organizations that began after the upstream Whittenton Dam nearly failed following heavy rain in 2005. More than 2,000 people were evacuated downstream, at a cost of $1.5 million, and the incident increased concern about the more than 3,000 dams in the state. The removal of the West Britannia Dam, as well as the Whittenton Dam in 2013, was partially funded by Hurricane Sandy recovery and resilience funds and overseen by The Nature Conservancy.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the City of Taunton, residents of Taunton, The Nature Conservancy.
- **Impacted Location:** Bristol County, Massachusetts

Hunt/Fish Notes

- Dale Bumpers White River NWR cooperated with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, the Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation, and volunteers from Arkansas and Mississippi to host the 4th Annual Mentored Youth Squirrel and Raccoon. The hunt featured six mentors, two teams of very experienced dog handlers and their exceptional K-9s showing six young people how to enjoy squirrel and raccoon hunting. The hunt was a great success, not just measured in the harvest of game (all six youth taking their first squirrel and three taking their first raccoon) but the lessons of conservation and sportsmanship learned by all.

- Tensas River NWR in Louisiana recently hosted its annual youth lottery hunts whereby 42 youth hunters successfully harvested 47 deer (participants were allowed to harvest one antlered and one antlerless deer, so several youth harvested two deer). The participating hunters were paired with a guide that mentored the youth and set great examples for ethical hunting. Additionally, Tensas River NWR hosted a mobility impaired hunt where 18 hunters harvested 11 deer.

- Students from Ashland High School, Ashland, Wisconsin, are partnering with the Ashland Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office to assist in early detection monitoring efforts for zebra mussels at nine local marinas along western Lake Superior. This cooperative effort is helping to prevent the spread of this invasive species, while also providing hands-on conservation training for future natural resource stewards. Eight students are participating in the monitoring effort this year. This partnership is in its 7th year.

- On January 13, the Fish and Aquatic Conservation program partnered with the Oregon Zoo in Portland Oregon to educate the public about Chinook salmon and some of the challenges facing this iconic Pacific Northwest species. The upriver bright fall Chinook salmon eggs at the zoo were raised at the Fish and Wildlife Service's Spring Creek National Fish Hatchery in the Columbia River Gorge. Once they hatch, they'll move to the zoo's Great Northwest area, alongside the other species in the Eagle Canyon habitat.

- Demolition of the Cotton Gin Mill Dam on the Satucket River in East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, was completed in mid-December by FWS's National Fish Passage Program and the Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership. The dam's removal opened up almost 13 miles of river habitat for blueback herring and alewife, both of which are important forage species for striped bass and other sport fish. The recreational saltwater fishery for striped bass along the Atlantic coast has a $5 billion annual economic impact on our nation's economy. Other project partners include Massachusetts Department of

Fish and Game, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Audubon – Massachusetts, Taunton River Watershed Alliance, The Nature Conservancy and American Rivers.

- The initial Take Me Fishing™ First Catch Center fishing event was held at the Laguna Atacosa NWR in Los Fresnos, Texas, on Saturday, January 13th. Forty families were signed up for the event. First Catch Centers are a pilot program created by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation that teach the public fishing skills and provide multiple fishing event opportunities. A second event is planned for January 27th.

From:	Morris, Charisa
To:	FWS Directorate & Deputies
Subject:	Last week"s FWS Weekly Secretarial Report
Date:	Tuesday, February 27, 2018 9:03:00 AM
Attachments:	_2018_02_20_FishBites.docx _2018-02-21 .FWS Weekly Report .docx

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Good morning!

Please see last week's Weekly FWS Secretarial Report and Fishbites, attached. Please note the Secretarial report has a new format.

Thanks!
Charisa

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Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

FishBites

Boy Scouts of America launch new monarch conservation program

- **Topic:** On February 17, FWS Midwest Regional Director Tom Melius spoke to a crowd of approximately 300 Boy Scouts and their families at a Milkweed for Monarchs kickoff event. In addition to learning about the importance of monarch preservation and how it relates to broader conservation issues, Scouts took home milkweed seed packets.
- **Stakeholders:** National Capital Area Council of Boy Scouts of America, National Wildlife Federation,
- **Location:** U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, DC

Prescribed burns on and near St. Marks NWR

- **Topic:** St. Marks NWR in Florida recently prescribe burned 12,352 acres on the refuge and assisted The Nature Conservancy with a 10,000-acre burn on their property adjacent to the refuge. Most of the burned area on the refuge consists of frosted flatwoods salamander habitat. This salamander is federally listed as threatened, and forest management, including prescribed burns, is essential for its survival. The prescribed burn on the refuge set up another important summer burn in 18 months for the same area.
- **Supportive Stakeholders**: Bald Point State Park; Florida Department of Forestry; The Nature Conservancy; National Park Service; U. S. Forest Service
- **Impacted Locations**: Florida's Northern Gulf Coast and Big Bend areas

Hazard tree removal reopens campground

- **Topic:** FWS completed consultation on the removal of hazard trees, facilitating the reopening of the Wish Poosh campground. Approximately 1,400 trees will be removed as part of a 10-year vegetation management plan to reduce forest diseases and maintain public access to this popular site camping, boating and fishing site.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forest
- **Impacted Location:** Kittitas County, Washington

Protecting Idaho communities following spring floods

- **Topic:** FWS's Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office (IFWO) recently attended an inspection with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) to examine damage along a levee within the town of St. Maries, Idaho. Loss of levee material and scouring caused the levee to weaken in a number of places, threatening nearby homes and businesses. The IFWO and COE worked together to draft a plan to repair the levee prior to this year's spring rains and avoid further damage. As an added benefit, this work will also reduce impacts to the threatened bull trout that migrate through the area.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, private landowners
- **Impacted Location:** St. Maries, Benewah County, Idaho

Wild fish health screening in Rocky Mountain National Park

- **Topic:** In a multi-year effort, FWS's Bozeman Fish Health Center in Bozeman, Montana, and Colorado Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office continue to conduct pathogen screening as part of the National Wild Fish Health Survey in Rocky Mountain

National Park. Two drainages east and west of the Continental Divide were sampled, and comprehensive health examinations were completed on brook trout, rainbow trout and cutthroat trout. No targeted pathogens were detected. Previous wild fish health surveys in Rocky Mountain National Park have found the targeted pathogens to be present in brook trout, rainbow trout and brown trout. The wild fish health sampling effort is used to gather information on pathogen presence in the park's watersheds and the potential impacts those pathogens may have on recovery efforts for native greenback cutthroat and Colorado River cutthroat trout.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** National Park Service and Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- **Impacted Locations:** Colorado River, Middle Fork Baker Creek, Corral Creek and Mills Lake, Colorado

FWS and partners disburse vaccine to prairie dogs in an effort to protect black-footed ferret

- **Topic:** Sylvatic plague, an introduced disease to North America, is limiting recovery of highly endangered black-footed ferrets because of its lethality to ferrets, and to the prairie dogs on which they depend. An oral Sylvatic Plague Vaccine (SPV; deliverable via bait pellets) has been developed to protect prairie dogs from the plague, but until recently, an efficient and economical delivery mechanism had yet to be fully developed. In a collaborative effort, funding from World Wildlife Fund Innovation Grants has been used to develop equipment, methodologies, protocols and abilities to apply SPV at management scales using All Terrain Vehicles and Unmanned Aircraft Systems. With support from a second WWF Innovation Grant, the dispensing mechanisms were completely re-designed for 2017 for reliably dispensing three baits simultaneously (triple-shooters) from both ATV- and UAS-mounted platforms. These systems greatly enhanced SPV delivery efficiency.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** World Wildlife Fund, Model Avionics and the U.S. Geological Survey (National Wildlife Health Center**)**
- **Impacted Location:** Montana and Colorado

FWS leads partnership restoring and conserving habitat on the Delmarva Peninsula

- **Topic**: FWS Chesapeake Bay Field Office is leading a multi-partner effort to restore and conserve landscapes, waterways and shorelines on the Delmarva Peninsula that are special to its residents, fundamental to its economy, and vital for its native fish, wildlife, and plants. The Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network is composed of state fish and wildlife agencies, non-governmental conservation organizations, local governments and other federal government agencies. In January, the group agreed on a list of 45 species to serve as the foundation for a conservation blueprint, including American black duck, migratory fish, and other species that are rare or ecologically and economically important on Delmarva. The partnership is now developing restoration and conservation strategies to achieve its vision for the peninsula.
- **Interested Stakeholders:** Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Virginia Division of Game and Inland Fisheries, The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, Ducks Unlimited, local land trusts and community organizations, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, Audubon Maryland – DC.
- **Location:** States of Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia.

Hunting/Fishing FishBites

Working with State, Tribal and local partners (Responsive to Sec 4.d)

- In February, FWS will award nearly $19 million through the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program and the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund to coastal states to conserve and restore coastal wetlands and their fish and wildlife habitat. The grant funds are derived from excise taxes on fishing tackle and motorboat and small engine fuels. The grants will support 22 projects in 13 coastal states to protect, restore or enhance more than 30,000 acres of coastal wetlands and adjacent upland habitats, including 287 miles of shoreline. Over $21 million in additional matching funds will be provided by partner contributions from state and local governments, private landowners and conservation groups. Conservation of this habitat will help enhance flood protection and water quality, provide economic benefits to coastal communities and increase recreational opportunities for hunters and anglers.

- On February 16, staff from FWS Northeast Region are meeting with the National Shooting Sports Foundation to discuss efforts to increase collaboration and understanding between the shooting industries, FWS, and state fish and wildlife agencies. Discussions will focus on expanding efforts to bring industry representatives to projects funded under the Wildlife Restoration Program funded by an excise tax paid by industries, and bringing state and FWS employees to tour industry manufacturing facilities. The goal is for higher awareness of program accomplishments and advancing communications regarding conservation, restoration of wildlife and public engagement and opportunities in activities that connect people and nature.

- As part of the focus to work closely with state fish and wildlife agencies, the Refuge System's Coastal & Marine Program, in partnership with the National Park Service, joined the series of three webinars hosted by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Ocean Resources Policy Committee. During the last webinar on February 13, the Refuge System presented on coastal and marine National Wildlife Refuges and Marine National Monuments. Discussion focused on engagement with the states in the management planning processes, encouraging public access and work under S.O. 3356.

- The Service completed consultation with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and others on the removal of hazardous trees, which facilitated the reopening of the Wish Poosh campground in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The consultation was part of a 10-year vegetation management plan to reduce forest disease and maintain public access. The removal of approximately 1,400 trees as part of the 10-year vegetation management plan will improve public access for camping, boating, and fishing.

- In a multi-year effort, the Service's Bozeman Fish Health Center in Montana, working with the Colorado Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office, continues to conduct pathogen screening as part of the National Wild Fish Health Survey in Rocky Mountain National

Park. The effort gathers information on pathogen presence and helps inform management decision which benefits recreational fishing opportunities. Comprehensive health examinations completed on brook trout, rainbow trout and cutthroat trout resulted in no targeted pathogens.

- The Service's Chesapeake Bay Field Office is leading Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network, a multi-partner effort to restore and conserve habitats, waterways and shorelines on the Delmarva Peninsula that are fundamental to its economy, and vital for its native fish and wildlife. Partners include Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and Virginia Division of Game and Inland Fisheries; NGOs; local governments and other federal government agencies. The partnership is developing restoration and conservation strategies for waterfowl, fish, and other ecologically and economically important in the Delmarva region

- Florida Panther Refuge worked with 100 sports enthusiasts to improve about 80 acres of pine flatwoods, thinning cabbage palms to promote a more open understory and diversity of vegetation so the habitat will be more productive for deer, turkey and panthers.

Hunting Opportunities for Youth, Veterans, & Persons w/ Disabilities (Responsive to Section 4.c.3)

- The Southeast Region featured a story on a youth hunter, "Making memories in a duck blind: For a 12-year-old hunter in Alabama, connecting with family and the outdoors trumps video games: https://www.fws.gov/southeast/articles/making-memories-in-a-duck-blind/

Recreational Fishing (Responsive to S.O. 3347 Recommendations to Section 4.a.2)

- Valle del Oro NWR (NM) is one more place for New Mexicans to catch trout. The Mexico Department of Game and Fish now stocks 50 rainbow trout per week in the cold waters flowing through the edge of the urban refuge.

- With unseasonably warm weather Ruby Lake NWR in Nevada is almost completely ice free almost two months early. This means easy access for anglers, and many folks have been taking advantage of the nice weather to fish for the abundant trout in refuge waters. Recently an angler caught a 10 pound class tiger trout and many fish in the 18-inch range and larger have been landed.

- On February 12, Mora National Fish Hatchery transferred 1,384 Gila trout, 8.4 inches long in average size, to the Arizona Game and Fish Dept.'s Sterling Springs Hatchery. The trout are surplus to what are needed for recovery purposes and come from the Whiskey Creek lineage, one of five such lineages native to upper Gila River watershed. The state partners intend to rear these sport fish for another five months to a catchable size of 11+ inches. This transfer marks the first time Gila trout have been sent to another hatchery from the Mora facility, and builds on the 65,000 eyed Gila trout eggs sent Sterling Springs Hatchery in April of 2017.

- The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Cullman County demolished the existing boat launching slab at the Smith Lake Park and replaced it with a six-lane 90-foot-wide launching slab. This project was funded through the Sport Fish Restoration Boating Access Program. The Boating Access Program provides grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas fish and wildlife agencies for projects that provide access to America's waterways by developing new access facilities or renovation and/or improvement of existing facilities

Other Notable Hunting and Fishing News

- James E. Gaddis, LTC U.S. Army National Guard (retired), recently thanked Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke and Dale Bumpers White River NWR in Arkansas for increasing hunting opportunities and clarifying legal hunting regulations on the refuge. Mr. Gaddis writes: "On behalf of my many duck hunting friends who, like myself, travel many miles each year to hunt our beautiful and majestic White River National Wildlife Refuge each duck season, thank you for opening up the South Unit Levee after over 20 years of closure, as well as clarifying legal hunting on the White River itself. By opening up the South Unit Levee to hunter access and clarifying hunting use on the White River, you have indeed helped the Interior Secretary in his objective to "champion sportsmen access" for ole military retirees like myself to enjoy some public duck hunting during our retirement. I will be submitting a letter to U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, Director of USFWS Greg Sheehan, and Chief of National Wildlife Refuge Systems Cynthia Martinez, thanking them for championing sportsmen access."

WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
February 21, 2018

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings and Travel
FWS Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan will be in the office.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)

[NEW] By February 28, FWS plans to publish a *Federal Register* notice requesting recommendations on resolutions, decisions and agenda items for the United States to consider submitting for discussion at the 18th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to be held in Sri Lanka in May 2019. This is the second in a series of *Federal Register* notices to solicit public input for CoP18. This process helps FWS to develop robust proposals and positions by taking into account a wide variety of views and anticipating potential implementation and enforcement challenges. Notice will be posted on FWS International Affairs website. (02/21/18)

[NEW] Around March 1, an Environmental Assessment (EA) should be available for public review on Geronimo Energy's planned development of the Crocker Wind Farm in Clark County, South Dakota, which would include 120 turbines and associated structures. As the proposed project is seeking to place 14 turbines, 14 transmission poles, and other associated features on FWS grassland easements, Crocker is seeking an easement exchange for 15.1 acres of direct easement impact. Crocker has offered funding for 30.2 new easement acres. The EA is tiered from the Upper Great Plains Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and is required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The company is simultaneously going through the South Dakota Public Utility Commission and hopes to begin construction in the second quarter of 2018. A local news release is planned. (02/21/18)

[UPDATE] By February 28, probably February 21, FWS and partners will announce the results of the annual Mexican wolf population survey and capture. The count documented a minimum of 114 Mexican wolves in the U.S., an increase of one wolf over what was documented in 2017. The final count will be available in the next couple of weeks. FWS is in communication with DOI COMs for this anticipated announcement. Planned outreach includes a news release and web posts.

[UPDATE] On February 21 or later, Kīlauea Point NWR in Hawaii will propose an entrance fee increase and an additional amenity fee for lighthouse tours. The last fee increase was in January 2008. The Kīlauea Point NWR requires this fee increase to manage visitor operations, maintain basic visitor services operations and safety, historic buildings and crucial infrastructure, reinvigorate the environmental education program, and implement steps needed to alleviate serious traffic safety concerns. There will be an informal comment period with targeted stakeholder outreach to local communities and interest groups, notifications to members of Congress in Hawaii, and tourism organizations and affiliated businesses. FWS is preparing a news release for local newspapers, as well as on the web and in social media. Following public involvement, Kīlauea Point NWR will develop a final fee increase proposal for implementation

by May. (02/14/18)

[UPDATE] On February 26, FWS will make the final determinations for delisting the Eureka Valley evening-primrose and downlisting the Eureka dune grass from endangered to threatened. These are two plant species that occur in Death Valley National Park, California. The primary partner and stakeholder is the National Park Service who supports the actions. Some environmental groups opposed delisting the two species as proposed. However, in response to new information, we are no longer delisting Eureka dunegrass and are instead reclassifying it to a threatened species which may reduce the level of concern among the interested parties. Planned outreach will include a regional news release and notifications to stakeholders and members of Congress.

On February 28, FWS (the State Supervisor and staff from the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office) will meet with the USDA APHIS Wildlife Services and the Oregon Cattlemen's Association wolf committee chair. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss management options for gray wolves in the federally listed portion of Oregon. Wolves continue to expand in number and range across western Oregon, and this has led to several recent depredation incidents on livestock. Due to these incidents, the Oregon Cattlemen's Association has raised concerns about the expansion and federal management of wolves in western Oregon. The meeting is closed to the media. Wolves remain controversial. (02/14/18)

[UPDATE] By February 28, pending approval by the Department, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed listing determination and proposed critical habitat designation for the Island marble butterfly, found in Washington. The proposed critical habitat designation includes approximately 812 acres. This action is not expected to be opposed, and media coverage is expected to be neutral. Interested stakeholders include the Xerces Society (the petitioner), federal partners including National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management, and state partners including Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Washington Department of Natural Resources, San Juan County Land Bank, the San Juan Preservation Trust, and local landowners. A regional news release to all interested parties, congressionals and regional media is planned.

On or around February 28, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice of availability of a draft post-delisting monitoring plan for the black-capped vireo. While this action is not expected to be controversial, stakeholders who oppose the delisting of the species may use this notice to express their concerns about the delisting. Stakeholders include the petitioners, Pacific Legal Foundation, Jim Chilton, New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association, New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau, New Mexico Federal Lands Council, and Texas Farm Bureau, and the Office of Travis Co. Judge and Big Bend National Park. Planned outreach will include notifications to local stakeholders, a regional news release and social media posts.

In February, FWS plans to publish a final rule on revisions to the 2018 Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp contest regulations. For the 2018 Federal Duck Contest and 2019-2020 Federal Duck Stamp, contest entries must include one or more visual elements that reflect the theme "Celebrating our waterfowl hunting heritage." The final changes for 2018 stamp design must depict appropriate hunting-themed elements, such as hunters, hunting dogs,

duck blinds, etc. as along with one of the five eligible waterfowl species. The bird must be in the foreground, portrayed live, and clearly the focus of attention.This will provide visual recognition to the contributions waterfowl hunters make to habitat conservation. Planned outreach includes a news release with congressional and stakeholder notifications.

In February, pending approval by the Department, FWS will award nearly $19 million in grants to coastal states to conserve and restore coastal wetlands and their fish and wildlife habitat. Each year, the Service supports coastal wetland conservation through the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program and the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. The grant funds are derived from excise taxes on fishing tackle and motorboat and small engine fuels. The grants will support 22 projects in 13 coastal states to protect, restore or enhance more than 30,000 acres of coastal wetlands and adjacent upland habitats, including 287 miles of shoreline. Over $21 million in additional matching funds will be provided by partner contributions from state and local governments, private landowners and conservation groups. Conservation of this habitat will help recover coastal-dependent federal trust species, enhance flood protection and water quality, provide economic benefits to coastal communities and increase recreational opportunities for hunters and anglers. The grant recipients (states) have not yet been informed that they will be receiving funds. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications and a news release.

In February, pending approval by the Department, FWS plans to send to the Federal Register a notice announcing the availability of comprehensively revised boundaries for the first batch of Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) units included in the Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project. CBRS was created by the Coastal Barrier Resources Act in 1982 to conserve relatively undeveloped, highly vulnerable coastal barriers along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coasts. The proposed revisions will affect 112 existing and 36 proposed new units in Delaware, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and New Jersey. The notice will announce a 120-day public comment period and also advise of upcoming public meetings to be held via webcast. Landowners, state and local officials (and their representatives in Congress) will likely support the removal of areas from the CBRS and similarly oppose the addition of new areas into the CBRS. Properties in a CBRS unit are ineligible for federally subsidized flood insurance. Taxpayer groups, recreational interest groups and conservation groups will likely support the additions to the CBRS. This action is a step in the remapping process for CBRS units. It is separate from the the 3 CBRS bills that are the subject of the upcoming February 27 Hearing in the House Natural Resources Committee. That hearing will consider 3 bills to adopt recommended maps that Service prepared following the full process that these Sandy maps are currently undergoing. Outreach will include a news release and FAQs, as well as stakeholder and congressional outreach.

[UPDATE] <u>On March 6 (tentative),</u> FWS will join Brookfield Renewable, the Maine Department of Marine Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service and The Nature Conservancy in announcing a proposed feasibility study to enhance migratory fish passage on the Kennebec River. The Kennebec River is second only to the Penobscot River as Maine's most productive system for sea-run fish, including Atlantic salmon, alewife, shad and striped bass. The one-year study will explore the costs and benefits of a suite of alternatives to restore sea-run fish to the river (including nature-like fishways, fish ladders, bypass channels and dam removal)

while seeking to maintain current levels of low carbon energy generation. To allow time for the study, Brookfield is requesting an extension on fish passage requirements from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to further enhance fish passage beyond what is achievable through current regulatory processes. The request will include letters of support from state and federal agency partners. The governor of Maine also supports the study. Partners are planning coordinated outreach through a joint news release and congressional notifications.

[UPDATE]*A*round March 6, Mexico's Commission for Natural Protection Areas will announce the eastern monarch butterfly overwintering population numbers. FWS is in communication with the Mexican government for this anticipated announcement, and FWS is planning a news release.

15-60 Day Look-Ahead

[UPDATE] On or about February 28 or later, FWS plans to sign the new U.S. v Oregon Fisheries Management Agreement (2018-2027) for treaty (tribal) and non-treaty (state) fisheries on the Columbia River in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. The Pacific Regional Director will sign the new agreement. Oregon, Washington, Idaho, five Columbia Basin Treaty tribes, and the United States have been negotiating a new agreement since 2015. The new agreement includes hatchery programs with specific production levels, and treaty and non-treaty fisheries in the Columbia River, which are intended to ensure fair sharing of harvestable Pacific salmon between the states and tribes in accordance with treaty fishing rights, and be responsive to the needs of ESA-listed species. Federal agencies, state and tribes support the new agreement. Once signed by all parties, the agreement will be sent to DOJ and then to the Federal District Court of Oregon for final approval, targeted for March. This is not controversial, and no outreach is planned.

On or around March 8, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to downlist the Hawaiian goose (nēnē) from endangered to threatened. FWS will also propose to establish special regulations for the conservation of the species under section 4(d) of the ESA to allow for flexibility in managing lands. Landowners of resort, golf course, agricultural, residential and recreational properties are likely to support the reclassification and associated 4(d) rule while conservation groups may be opposed. Interested stakeholders include the State of Hawaii, federal agencies, conservation and bird groups, various private landowners, and the public. Outreach includes a regional news release, social media, emails and phone calls to congressional offices and stakeholders.

On or around March 8, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination to withdraw the proposal to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant found in California. This action is not expected to be strongly opposed; however, the Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment, a local environmental organization, has filed litigation regarding a development project in the range of the species and will likely oppose the withdrawal of the proposed rule. Other interested stakeholders include Newhall Land Company, City of Calabasas, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, WildEarth Guardians, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and local landowners. Media coverage is expected to be neutral. Planned outreach includes a regional news release to all interested parties and the media. FWS is required by

settlement agreement to publish in the *Federal Register* by March 15; therefore, FWS plans to submit it by March 8.

On or around March 9, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a minor map correction in the final rule designating critical habitat for two butterflies: the Poweshiek skipperling and Dakota skipper. One map incorrectly labeled Poweshiek skipperling critical habitat as Dakota skipper critical habitat in Minnesota. FWS does not expect any opposition to this. No outreach is planned for this simple correction notice.

As early as March 9, FWS will issue a Biological Opinion (BO) to the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) for the Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule (LORS) in Florida. This consultation has involved no changes to the actual water level schedule or to lake operations. The only notable change is a new method for calculating the take of endangered snail kites. Consequently, this recent consultation has not been controversial. No outreach is planned but will be prepared to respond if asked. (02/14/18)

[UPDATE] Around March 15 or later, FWS will announce for public comment a draft environmental assessment (EA) that will evaluate alternatives to protect seabirds from predation by invasive house mice at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge and Battle of Midway National Memorial, located in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. More than 3 million birds from 29 species nest on Midway's three islands, including the world's largest Laysan albatross colony. All of them are potentially vulnerable to mouse predation. The mice have been documented eating seabirds while they are nesting, resulting in injury and death. Due to their extreme dedication to raising their young, the birds will not leave the nest if attacked. Outreach is planned to include local public notifications through the web and social media, when the draft EA is published, and notifications to members of Congress in Hawaii, with targeted stakeholder outreach.

[UPDATE] On or around March 15, FWS plans to release for public comment a Draft Recovery Plan for the Southern California Distinct Population Segment of the mountain yellow-legged frog. The recovery plan is designed to help southern populations of this species in three recovery units through a set of recovery strategies with associated objectives and measurable criteria. The recovery units include San Bernardino Mountains, San Gabriel Mountains, and San Jacinto Mountains. The draft plan includes input from partners including the San Diego and Los Angeles zoos, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Geological Survey, and the U.S. Forest Service. This is not controversial. Planned outreach includes congressional and stakeholder notifications and a regional press release to media.

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On or around March 22, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* 90-day findings on petitions to delist or downlist the Cape mountain zebra, and delist the Preble's meadow jumping mouse. For substantial 90-day findings, this is the first step in a longer process and tends not to get significant media attention; however, this action might be the first time stakeholders become aware that FWS is assessing the status of a species. All stakeholders will have ample opportunity to provide input into the eventual 12-month findings. FWS anticipates local media coverage and interest from livestock and home building industries in Wyoming and Colorado regarding the finding on the petition to delist the Preble's meadow jumping mouse. A national news bulletin and congressional notifications are planned.

[UPDATE] On or around March 29, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* an amendment to the current listing of the southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou (endangered) to include the entire Southern Mountain Caribou population as a distinct population segment (DPS). The revised DPS (17 subpopulations; 15 extant, two extirpated) includes the currently listed southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou, which is a transboundary population between British Columbia, Canada, and northern Idaho and northeastern Washington. The critical habitat designation will remain unchanged. Non-governmental organizations including the International Fund for Wildlife, Kettle Range Conservation Group, Selkirk Conservation Alliance, Kootenai Environmental Alliance, Center for Biological Diversity, Idaho Conservation League and the State of Idaho may be opposed to the DPS listing. The Pacific Legal Foundation (representing Bonner County) is likely to challenge the determination. FWS received a notice of intent to sue from the Pacific Legal Foundation on behalf of Bonner County in June 2017 because FWS has not met the statutory deadline for finalizing this rule (a proposed rule was published in 2014). Planned outreach includes a regional news release, social media, emails and phone calls to congressional offices and stakeholders.

[UPDATE] On or around March 29, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination on the proposal to downlist to threatened from endangered the Kuenzler hedgehog cactus. When first listed, only one population of 200 plants was known. The discovery of additional populations, together with efforts to conserve the plant and its habitat, indicate the cactus is no longer at risk of extinction. Today, there are 3,300 individual cacti in 11 known populations within its southern New Mexico range. Additionally, the permitting of captive propagation and sale of the plant has relieved much of the threat from collection of the species in the wild. This downlisting is not expected to be controversial. Planned outreach includes a regional news release, phone calls to stakeholders, and web postings.

On or around March 29, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination on the proposal to list the yellow lance as threatened. The yellow lance is a freshwater mussel that occurs in North Carolina and Virginia. The final listing will likely be opposed by the City of

Raleigh due to a proposed reservoir project on the Little River. FWS has been working with the city on this potential project for over nine years, and there are already other listed species in that location. Other stakeholders include the Lower Neuse Basin Association, Neuse River Compliance Association, Tar Pamlico Basin Association, North Carolina Water Quality Association, and the Center for Biological Diversity (petitioner). Planned outreach includes a regional news release and notification to stakeholders. The statutory deadline for publication of the final determination in the *Federal Register* is April 5; therefore, FWS plans to submit it by March 29.

[UPDATE] On or around March 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice announcing the availability of a draft post-delisting monitoring plan for the delisting of the lesser long-nosed bat. This action is not expected to be opposed. Stakeholders are the petitioners, Pacific Legal Foundation, and the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association. Planned outreach includes a regional news release and notifications to stakeholders.

On or around March 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination on the proposal to delist the lesser long-nosed bat. This action is not expected to be controversial. Stakeholders are the petitioners, Pacific Legal Foundation, and the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association. Planned outreach includes a regional news release and notifications to stakeholders.

[UPDATE] On or around March 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a rule removing the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain wildlife entries that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. FWS is taking this action in accordance with the May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries. No outreach is planned.

On or around March 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed delisting determination on the Kirtland's warbler located in 31 states and the District of Columbia. The Michigan Governor's Office has expressed some interest in partnering with FWS on an announcement. Other planned outreach includes a regional news release, emails to stakeholders, social media and web postings. Stakeholders include Michigan Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Forest Service and Huron Pines, along with other conservation groups working as part of the Kirtland's Warbler Alliance. There is not expected to be controversy associated with the proposal, as partners have been transitioning from recovery to conservation management for more than a year. There is expected to be a moderate level of interest among birders and conservation groups, as the species is sought after by bird watchers.

On or around March 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination on the proposal to reclassify the Tobusch fishhook cactus from endangered to threatened. This plant species has shown significant recovery due in part to collaborative conservation efforts with partners. Supporters of this action include the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, and The Nature Conservancy. FWS has gained positive coverage on downlisting proposals, and anticipates more

interest when this final determination is announced. Planned outreach includes a regional news release with stakeholder and congressional contact, and social media postings.

On or around March 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice as a follow-up to the *Federal Register* notice published on December 7, 2017 asking for public comments on the impact of the recent D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling, Humane Society of the United States, et al. v. Zinke, et al., 865 F.3d 585 (D.C. Cir. 2017) on the final rule designating the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) population of grizzly bears as a distinct population segment and removing the population from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. Interested stakeholder groups include the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (including federal, tribal, state and local government entities), agricultural producers, hunting groups and environmental groups. Plaintiffs in the current litigation over the delisting of the GYE grizzly bear population may strongly oppose this action. Planned outreach includes individual congressional, state and tribal notifications, and a regional news release.

[UPDATE] On or around March 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination on the proposal to delist the black-capped vireo. Stakeholders include the petitioners, Pacific Legal Foundation, New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association, New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau, New Mexico Federal Lands Council, Texas Farm Bureau, Department of the Army, The Nature Conservancy, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Planned outreach will include notifications to local stakeholders, a regional news release and social media posts. An event to celebrate the delisting is being planned.

On or around March 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination on the proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as threatened. The pinesnake occurs in Louisiana and Texas. The Louisiana pinesnake listing is controversial due to concerns about the potential impacts on forestry activities. Stakeholders include the timber industry, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Department of the Army – Fort Polk and the Joint Readiness Training Center, the State of Louisiana, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas A&M Forest Service, Center for Biological Diversity, WildEarth Guardians, and members of Congress in Louisiana and Texas. Planned outreach includes a regional news release and notification to stakeholders and members of Congress. FWS is required by settlement agreement to publish the final determination in the *Federal Register* by April 6; therefore, FWS plans to submit it by March 30.

On or around March 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposed 4(d) rule for the Louisiana pinesnake, found in Louisiana and Texas. The 4(d) rule will allow routine forest management activities to proceed without need for permitting. Interested stakeholders include the forestry industry, state wildlife agencies, and Center for Biological Diversity. This action is not expected to be opposed and media coverage is expected to be neutral. Planned outreach includes a regional news release to all interested parties and the media. FWS plans to propose the 4(d) rule concurrent with the final listing rule, which is required by settlement agreement to publish in the *Federal Register* by April 4; therefore, FWS plans to submit the 4(d) rule by March 30.

In March, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice of issuance for letters of authorizations issued in 2015, 2016 and 2017 under regulations authorizing the non-lethal, unintentional take of marine mammals in the Chukchi and Beaufort seas. This is an administrative action and is noncontroversial. No news release will be issued.

[UPDATE] On or before April 3, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a notice seeking public review and comment on a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) describing the potential effects of issuing a proposed Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for construction and development activities in Thurston County, Washington. The project development site is 127 acres, and the conservation site is 64 acres. Species covered in the HCP include the threatened Olympia subspecies of the Mazama pocket gopher and the threatened Oregon spotted frog. UPC, LLC developed a draft Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and applied for a 15-year ITP. This is not controversial. This HCP is a single-site developer and independent from the HCP that FWS briefed ASFWP about on November 17. This applicant would like to move forward with development in advance of the completion of the Thurston County HCP. Local outreach is planned.

On or around April 5, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final determination on the proposal to list five Sri Lankan tarantula species (*Poecilotheria fasciata, P. ornata, P. smithi, P. subfusca, and P. vittataas*) as endangered. The species are in decline due to ongoing habitat loss, degradation, and the cumulative effects of this and other threat factors. This action is not expected to be controversial. Planned outreach will include web updates.

On or around April 10, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a proposal to delist the Colorado butterfly plant due to recovery. This species is located in Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming. This action is not expected to be opposed. Outreach plans include a regional regional news release and an if-asked Q&A. Key stakeholders include private landowners, F.E. Warren Air Force Base, the City of Fort Collins, Colorado, and the Bureau of Land Management.

On April 10, FWS will join the New York Historical Society for a reception that celebrates a new exhibit honoring the centennial of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The exhibit is open from April 6 - July 15 and focuses on three themes: history of the act, the connection between the act and the women's suffrage movement, and profiles and Audubon watercolors of 13 bird species that are currently protected under the act. FWS has partnered with the society to provide technical advice and loan historical items for the exhibit. FWS leadership will attend the reception and the agency will coordinate with HQ and the Society on media pitches, social media outreach and storytelling.

[UPDATE] Between April 16 and 30, FWS plans to send to the *Federal Register* a final rule removing regulations setting forth the provisions for two depredation orders for double-crested cormorants. FWS had used these standing orders to allow for lethal control of cormorants where they impact aquaculture and public resources; however, on May 25, 2016, the District Court for the District of Columbia ordered that both the Aquaculture Depredation Order and the Public Resources Depredation Order be vacated until FWS performs a new and legally adequate environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement for national cormorant management orders in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy

Act (NEPA). This final rule administratively implements the court's decision. While the depredation orders no longer exist, on November 15, 2017, FWS provided some measure of relief to aquaculture facilities. It issued a final EA under NEPA, which allows aquaculture facility managers and property owners across 37 central and eastern states and the District of Columbia to apply for individual permits for lethal take of cormorants where they are impacting resources. This latest action is not controversial. If-asked talking points will be planned for outreach.

Awareness

[NEW] A "Petition for Review of Agency Action" was filed in U.S. District Court in Denver on February 13 related to the issuance of a nest disturbance permit under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA). The Plaintiff (Front Range Nesting Bald Eagle Studies) is challenging that the Defendants' (FWS and DOI) application of a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for issuance of the permit, claiming that it violates NEPA, BGEPA, and the Administrative Procedures Act (APA). The permit under challenge was issued to Garrett Construction Company LLC on February 6 for potential nest disturbance in 2018 and 2019 during construction of an apartment complex. (02/21/18)

[NEW] The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts has drafted a revision of the Texas Conservation Plan (TCP) for the dunes sagebrush lizard to address several issues with the current plan based upon the six years of implementation. The draft revision has been shared with participants in the existing plan and is being rolled out to industry, landowners and other potential participant under the TCP. The draft revision of the Texas Conservation Plan has not yet been submitted to FWS for approval. FWS will work with the Comptroller's Office on this revision at the appropriate time. (02/21/18)

[NEW] Leander Independent School District in Texas has submitted a draft habitat conservation plan (HCP) and incidental take permit (ITP) on the proposed construction of a secondary access road in northwest Travis County. The HCP and ITP, if issued by FWS, will provide the applicant with compliance under the Endangered Species Act for activities including the construction, use and maintenance activities associated with a proposed secondary access road. One of the species identified in the application is the endangered black-capped vireo. FWS continues to meet with the applicant and other vested parties on the draft HCP and to discuss proposed secondary access road alternatives. There is significant congressional interest, as well as strong opposition from other parties. Planned outreach when information is published includes issuing a news bulletin. A conference call was held with Senator Cornyn's (R-TX) staff to discuss the issue on December 11. (02/21/18)

[NEW] FWS is working with the U.S. Border Patrol on a Biological Assessment for fencing that starts near the Santa Teresa Port of Entry and then extends west for approximately 20 miles. The area is within the Mexican Wolf Experimental Population Area, as designed under section 10(j) of the ESA. In 2017 a Mexican wolf crossed the border into the United States in this area and then returned to Mexico. (02/21/18)

[NEW] As part of the Biological Opinion for the Everglades Restoration Transition Plan (ERTP) issued by FWS, on February 16, the Acting Regional Director for the FWS Southeast Region and the Director of Programs for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) South Atlantic Division met with the Principals to ensure both the FWS and Corps are aligned in meeting the milestones of the ERTP. The ERTP is the plan that guides water movement across most of the Everglades landscape. (02/21/18)

[NEW] FWS will complete a modified pre-assessment screen (PAS) for the Stauffer National Priority List Sites (Stauffer Cold Creek [Syngenta], Stauffer LeMoyne [Akzo-Nobel]) Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) in Mobile County, Alabama, by the end of February. The previous PAS was signed in March 2017. The only change in the modified PAS is the inclusion of an additional potentially responsible party, Akzo-Nobel Chemical. Akzo-Nobel and Syngenta have shared responsibility for contamination, primarily in the form of mercury released from industrial processes, in the 650-acre Cold Creek Swamp which is adjacent to the sites of interest. The trustees will evaluate natural resource injuries resulting from the mercury releases in the Cold Creek Swamp and will determine if site-related mercury contamination has impacted natural resources in adjacent habitat. Akzo-Nobel is aware of the forthcoming NRDA and has expressed an interest in working cooperatively with the trustees during the assessment phase of the NRDA. (02/21/18)

FWS is working to help clarify and improve falconer access to golden eagles. Several existing regulatory means by which falconers can legally acquire golden eagles have been identified, and FWS is developing steps to ensure that if golden eagles become available through these means, the pool of eagle falconers across the U.S. can gain access to up to six eagles per year, which is compatible with the preservation of eagles and does not affect eagle allocations to tribes. Flyway Councils and tribes are being informed. If-asked talking points will be planned for outreach. (02/14/18)

FWS, along with Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Natural Resources, Michigan Attorney General, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, act as trustees for natural resources affected by contaminants associated with the Kalamazoo River Superfund Site in Michigan. As part of a plan to restore lost resources at the site, trustees have begun work to remove the Alcott Street Dam on Portage Creek in Kalamazoo. Work includes removal of the dam and restoration of approximately 3,000 feet of Portage Creek. Benefits include increased fish movement and greater diversity of aquatic species in the river, improved wildlife habitat along the creek, and increased floodwater storage and decreased potential for downstream flooding. The activity was identified in a final restoration plan and environmental assessment. Trustees provided an overview of the project at a public meeting on February 1. Completion of the project is expected by the end of summer. (02/14/18)

On February 7, the California Department of Water Resources (CDWR) publicly announced the evaluation of a staged construction concept for the California WaterFix project. Under the staged approach, stage 1 would include a single water conveyance tunnel followed by construction of a second tunnel during stage 2 at a later point in time. The CDWR anticipates additional review under state and Federal environmental law can be completed between now and this fall. FWS signed a biological opinion for California WaterFix project addressing 16 listed species, including Delta smelt, in June 2017. FWS will be engaged as additional details are developed

over the coming months. While media extensively covered the altered tunnel plan announcement, no outlets contacted FWS for comment. (02/07/18)

After a 30-day public comment period, FWS has signed a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to allow U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) additional fever tick eradication methods on refuge lands. Through a Special Use Permit, USDA will be approved to treat white-tailed deer with ivermectin-treated corn and conduct experimental cattle grazing on Laguna Atascosa NWR and Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR lands that fall within established quarantine areas. Permitting USDA to conduct these fever tick management activities is consistent with invasive species control efforts, Cattle Fever Tick Eradication Program goals, and its adaptive management strategy to eradicate fever ticks within a quarantine area. FWS will continue to be fully engaged and is committed to cattle fever tick eradication in Texas. Outreach, during the week of February 12, will include congressional notifications. (02/14/18)

On January 31, the State Department reinitiated consultation under the Endangered Species Act for the Keystone XL Pipeline Project. The letter states that TransCanada will utilize the Mainline Alternative Route as approved by the Nebraska Public Service Commission in November 2017. The State Department has requested any new information on potentially impacted species along the new route. FWS's Nebraska Ecological Services Field Office is working with the State Department to discuss next steps. (02/14/18)

In March-June, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) plans a project to repair, maintain and improve a 10.6-mile section of the Baboquivari Road within the Pozo Verde Mountains northwest of Sasabe, Arizona. The project objective is to improve access to and therefore security along this section of the U.S.-Mexico border. The project will require FWS to supply water from a well on Buenos Aires NWR.FWS work and CBP will work together to ensure both agency's missions are being met.

Whorton, Laura <laura_whorton@fws.gov>

Southern border construction

1 message

Whorton, Laura <laura_whorton@fws.gov> Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 2:30 PM
To: Chris Nolin <chris_nolin@fws.gov>, Rachel Merkel <rachel_merkel@fws.gov>, Hillary Harms <hillary_harms@fws.gov>
Cc: Cynthia Martinez <Cynthia_Martinez@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Katherine Spomer <ketti_spomer@fws.gov>, David Robinson <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>, Robert Miller <robert_miller@fws.gov>, Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>

Hi all,

Attached is our briefing paper and map in response to the Deputy Secretary's request regarding our construction account and the southern border. The map shows the Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR in green and the Santa Ana NWR in gray.

Please let us know if you have questions.

Thanks,

Laura

_____
Laura Whorton
Acting Transportation Branch Chief
National Wildlife Refuge System
Division of Facilities, Equipment & Transportation
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-1752 (direct)

2 attachments

LRGV-Composite.pdf
536K

FWS HQ - Resource Protection Structures_4.18.2018.docx
19K

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRINCIPLE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DATE: April 18, 2018

FROM: Cynthia Martinez, Chief for the National Wildlife Refuge System

SUBJECT: Use of FY 2018 construction funds along the U.S.-Mexico border

Analyze the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service's authority to use construction appropriations to build resource protection structures along the U.S.-Mexico border.

BACKGROUND

The Deputy Secretary asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to analyze and answer the question: "Does the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) have the ability to use FY 2018 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the U.S.-Mexico border?"

The FY 2018 Omnibus includes a specific provision for the U.S. Custom and Border Protection against building a barrier in this area: "Sec. 230. None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge."

The FY 2018 Omnibus also provides FWS with a one-time $50 million increase "for the backlog of deferred maintenance" at refuges and hatcheries. FWS must submit a spend plan to Congress within 120 days of the enactment of the Omnibus.

DISCUSSION

The FY 2018 Omnibus (H.R. 1625) also provides Construction account funding for specific line-item construction projects that are approved by Congress. None of these projects are along the southern border. As directed in the Congressional Report, any change from this list must be submitted by the Department of the Interior as a reprogramming request for Congressional approval. For the Resource Management account, all reprogramming requests over $1 million or a 10 percent change in funding, annually, must be approved by Congress.

Based on appropriations law, FWS would have to submit a reprogramming request to Congress to build a resource protection structure along the U.S.-Mexico border on FWS lands. Congress would also have to approve the project if it were included in the spend plan for the $50 million increase for deferred maintenance. Nevertheless, the prohibition noted in the U.S. Custom and Border Protection section may extend to FWS and all Federal agencies funded through the FY 2018 Omnibus depending on Congressional intent.

ATTACHMENTS

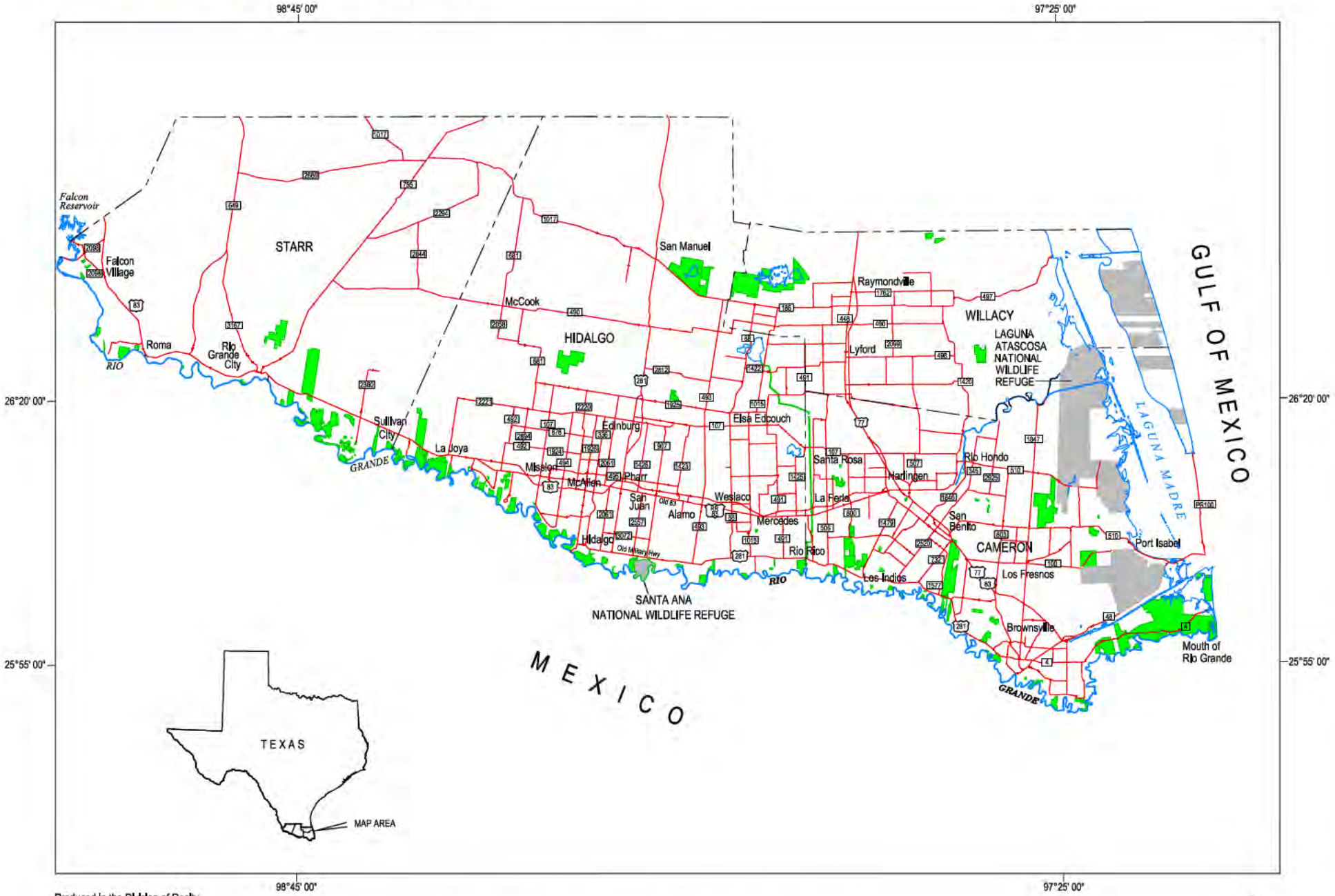
- Map of FWS lands in Texas

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Special Purpose Map

Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr & Willacy Counties, Texas



Produced in the Division of Realty
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Land Status Current to 09/13/06
Base Map: Ortho Photography, DRGs, Surveys by the USFWS
Map Projection: NAD, 1927, TX State Plane
Map Date 09/13/2006

SCALE 0 8 16 24 32 MILES

N W E S

From:	Sara Prigan
To:	Katherine Garrity; Charisa Morris
Cc:	Wilkinson, Susan; Kashyap Patel; Anissa Craghead
Subject:	DCN 068065 OMB regulatory report for FY2018 Q4
Date:	Thursday, May 24, 2018 10:12:41 AM
Attachments:	DRAFT FY18Q4 OMB reg report (streamlined) (5.24.18).docx DRAFT FY18Q4 OMB reg report (showing changes from Q3) (5.24.18).docx Q4 Note to Reviewers.docx Q4 memo.docx

---

The finished OMB report. package is on your chair for review/surname, Kathy.

Charisa and Kashyap, this package is fast moving, and will be coming to you today.

See attached courtesy copy of the package. Note that both versions of the reg report are not in the hard copy package -- only the "streamlined" version is. The streamlined version shows what is coming forward during Q4. (The marked-up version shows differences between the Q4 and Q3 reports.)

Thanks,

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
Telephone: 703-3 58-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520

On Thu, May 24, 2018 at 9:59 AM Garrity, Katherine <katherine_garrity@fws.gov> wrote:

> I will be leaving for downtown in a few minutes. I expect to be back around 2:00
>
> Katherine Garrity
> Deputy Division Chief
> Audit and Investigation Liaison Officer and Internal Control Coordinator
> Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
> US Fish and Wildlife Service MS BPHC
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041
> Office: 703.358.2551
> Mobile: 703.919.6651

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AU96 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Hawaiian Hawk from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to delist the Hawaiian Hawk, found in Hawaii. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (7/6/18) (Not on previous list, but PR was)
‡1018-AU96 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Hawaiian Hawk from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the Hawaiian Hawk, found in Hawaii. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (9/26/18) (Not on Q3, but on before Q3)
1018–AV82 Migratory Bird Permits; Revisions to Banding or Marking Permits 50 CFR 21	PR	Not significant. Not Major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are revising our migratory bird banding and marking regulations to: (1) Reflect the transfer of authority for the Federal bird banding and marking permit program to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS); (2) define the qualification guidelines for different levels of banding and marking authorization; and (3) address changes in banding and marking technology. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	9/28/18 NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–AW83 Revising Regulations Implementing the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992 50 CFR 15	PR	Not significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule will revise our regulations implementing the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992, which have not been substantively updated since 1993. We plan to revise these regulations in light of our experiences in implementing the legislation and regulations, and also to streamline and clarify certain aspects of the current regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Pamela Hall Scruggs, 703-358-2493.	9/28/18
1018–AY03 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Downlisting the Tidewater Goby 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the tidewater goby from endangered to threatened. The tidewater goby occurs in California and Oregon. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review (9/28/18) NEW ACTION
‡1018–AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Pamela Hall Scruggs, 703-358-2493. OMB question in response to Q2 list: In Q1, this was expected to be ready for review in October of 2017. What is the cause of delays here? FWS response: Workload priorities.	9/28/18

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	**Significant.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	9/28/18
1018–BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule is part of a process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. We address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1705.	9/4/18 NEW STAGE

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BA43 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the Borax Lake Chub 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Borax lake chub from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Borax lake chub is found in Oregon. **Controversy:** None anticipated **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (8/1/18)
1018–BA88 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Exempting Subsistence Hunters From Duck Stamp Purchase 50 CFR 20, 32, 92	PR	Not significant. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We propose to amend the regulations governing subsistence hunting of migratory birds in Alaska by adding an exemption for rural subsistence migratory bird hunters in Alaska to purchase a Duck Stamp. Doing so will comport with the intent of Congress as written in the Federal Duck Stamp Act of 2014. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	9/4/18 NEW ACTION
‡1018–BB27 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Lesser Prairie-Chicken 50 CFR 17	PR	**Significant.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the lesser prairie-chicken. The lesser prairie-chicken is a bird found in Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** This species has a history of ESA litigation and is the subject of intensive interest from the past plaintiffs, petitioners, stakeholders, and local and state government officials, particularly the State wildlife agencies in the five range states. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/17/18

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BB38, Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—2018–2019 and 2019–2020 Subsistence Taking of Wildlife Regulations 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rulemaking will revise regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means related to taking of wildlife for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2018–2019 and 2019–2020 regulatory years. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for wildlife. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	7/6/18 NEW STAGE
1018–BB41 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the Deseret Milk-vetch 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the Deseret milkvetch, found in Utah. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (9/28/18) NEW STAGE
‡1018–BB52 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for these species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BD56). **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (7/2/18)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BB73 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2018–2019 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2018–19 season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967. *Note: This action is not subject to E.O. 13771, because it establishes annual harvest limits related to routine hunting or fishing.*	7/31/18 NEW STAGE
‡1018–BB77 Migratory Bird Permits; Removing a Depredation Order for Scrub Jays and Steller's Jays in Washington and Oregon 50 CFR 21	PR/ final actio n	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is withdrawing a proposed rule to remove 50 CFR 21.46, a regulation that sets forth a depredation order for scrub jays and Steller's jays in Oregon and Washington. FWS had proposed to remove this regulation, as we had received no reports of activities undertaken under the provisions of section 21.46 in the last 10 years. However, we have recently received several reports under this depredation order, so we are now withdrawing the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	9/4/18

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BB78 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Wolverine 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the wolverine as a threatened species. The wolverine is located in California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. **Controversy:** This species has a history of litigation on past ESA decisions. Former plaintiffs, past petitioners, Tribes, stakeholders (particularly State wildlife agencies in Idaho, Montana, Washington, and Wyoming), and the public will be highly interested in the outcome of our decision. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (9/10/18) NEW STAGE
‡1018–BB98 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Nonessential Experimental Population of Red Wolves in North Carolina 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will publish a proposed rule to revise the existing Nonessential Experimental Population designation of red wolves (*Canis rufus*) in North Carolina under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Potentially high due to current litigation regarding our current rule for the 10(j) population, and concerns of the state, private landowners, and environmental groups. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Ellis, 703-358-2307.	7/5/18
‡1018–BB99 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet of Alaska. This action would also reorganize specific regulations addressing the Kenai River, which would provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking. (This is a joint rulemaking between DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service.) **Controversy:** Senator Murkowski and Representative Young have expressed interest in this issue in the past; however, they have not recently contacted FWS about this issue. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	7/6/18

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BC03 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the Water Howellia 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the water howellia due to recovery. The water howellia is found in California, Idaho, Montana, and Washington. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (8/2/18)
1018–BC07 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2018–2019 50 CFR 32	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to finalize a proposal to make additions to refuge-specific regulations and expand hunting and fishing opportunities for the 2018–19 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. We operate hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities. **Controversy:** Some controversy is expected with regard to allowing hunting on refuges. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Katherine Harrigan, 703-358-2440.	8/15/18 NEW STAGE
‡1018–BC11 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the Interior Least Tern 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the interior least tern due to recovery. The interior least tern is found in Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, and Wyoming. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (9/4/18)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BC12 Depredation Orders for Double-Crested Cormorants; Removal of Regulations 50 CFR 21	FR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven. **What the rule does:** On May 25, 2016, the District Court for the District of Columbia ordered that both the Aquaculture Depredation Order and the Public Resources Depredation Order for double-crested cormorants be vacated until FWS performs a new and legally adequate environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for national cormorant management orders in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The court concluded that FWS did not take careful enough consideration of the effects of the depredation orders on cormorant populations and other affected resources (fisheries, vulnerable species, and habitats) and failed to consider a range of reasonable alternatives in the remanded 2014 environmental assessment. Therefore, this rule removes the regulations setting forth the provisions of the orders at 50 CFR 21.47 and 21.48. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	9/4/18
‡1018–BC14 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will revise our proposed rule to list the Panama City crayfish as a threatened species to include a proposed critical habitat designation for the species. The Panama City crayfish is found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/24/18

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BC16 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Trispot Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the trispot darter as a threatened species. The trispot darter is a fish found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BD40). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (9/13/18) NEW STAGE
‡1018–BC34 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the Wright's marsh thistle as a threatened species. The Wright's marsh thistle is a plant found in New Mexico. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/24/18
‡1018–BC44 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the candy darter as a threatened species. The candy darter is a fish found in Virginia and West Virginia. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BD15). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (9/13/18)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BC52 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Barren's Topminnow 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will revise our proposed rule to list the Barren's topminnow as an endangered species to include a proposed critical habitat designation for the species. The Barren's topminnow is a fish found in Tennessee. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/24/18
‡1018–BC65 Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the California Condor in the Pacific Northwest 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: FWS proposes to designate an area in the Pacific Northwest as a nonessential experimental population area for reintroduction of California condors. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Lisa Ellis, 703-358-2307.	9/28/18
‡1018–BC67 List of Migratory Bird Species Protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act 50 CFR 10	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: This rulemaking is administrative in nature, to inform the public of the species protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). This proposed rule would update the list based on scientific changes to bird taxonomy (i.e., common names, scientific names, families, etc.). The list is formulated by the scientific community, specifically the American Ornithologists' Society's Check-list of North American Birds, for species that occur in North America. The list enables the public to know which species are protected and which are not, thereby preventing confusion and potential conservation and enforcement issues. **Controversy**: None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	7/20/18

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BC71 Implementing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); Updates following the 16th and 17th Meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16 and CoP17) 50 CFR 23	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule will revise regulations implementing CITES by incorporating provisions related to the results of CoP16 and CoP17. The revised regulations will help us more effectively promote species conservation, fulfill our responsibilities under CITES, and help those affected by CITES to understand how to conduct lawful international trade in wildlife and wildlife products. **Controversy:** None anticipated. These changes bring U.S. regulations in line with revisions adopted at the most recent COP. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Craig Hoover, 703-358-2162.	9/27/18
1018–BC72 Managing Resident Canada Goose Populations 50 CFR 21	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: FWS will finalize a proposal to amend the regulations governing control of resident Canada geese by removing the date restrictions on authorized destruction of resident Canada goose nests and eggs. **Controversy**: None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Paul Padding, 301-497-5851. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	9/4/18 NEW STAGE

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BC75 Migratory Bird Management; Extending the Term of Certain Migratory Bird Permits 50 CFR 21	PR	Not Significant. Deregulatory. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would extend the timeframe that certain types of permits for activities with migratory birds are valid. By extending that time, this rule would reduce the need for a permittee to apply to the Service for renewal, along with eliminating the fees associated with renewals for the specified types of permits. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	9/4/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BC76 Migratory Bird Management; Revision of General Exceptions to Permit Requirements 50 CFR 21	PR	Not Significant. Deregulatory. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would allow certain identified entities to conduct certain activities that currently are authorized only through a migratory bird permit to conduct those activities without a permit. This would reduce the information collection and cost burden on these entities. Currently the Service's general exceptions to permit requirement regulations exempt State game departments, municipal game farms or parks, public museums, public zoological parks, accredited institutional members of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, and public scientific or educational institutions from these permit requirements. The Service has received requests from other entities requesting that they, too, be considered for exemption. Currently the Service does not have a process to consider such a request. This rule would set standards and processes the Service would follow to determine if a requesting entity could be considered for and approved as exempt from the permit requirements. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	9/4/18 NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BC78 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Downlisting the Golden Conure 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/1/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS propose to reclassify the golden conure from endangered to threatened. This action will include a proposed 4(d) rule and a proposed technical correction to revise its scientific name. The golden conure is a parrot-like bird found in the south Amazon Basin in Brazil. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (8/31/18) NEW ACTION
1018–BC80 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting Running Buffalo Clover 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: FWS will propose to delist the running buffalo clover due to recovery. The running buffalo clover is located in Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. **Controversy**: None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (7/16/18) NEW ACTION
1018–BC82 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for Sri Lankan Tarantulas 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list five species of Sri Lankan tarantulas as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. These tarantulas are found in Sri Lanka. **Controversy**: None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review (7/6/18) NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BC96 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska, Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven. No deadline was assigned; however, we need to show the plaintiffs and the court that we are making progress. **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska in an October 17, 2011, order "enjoined" the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest" and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board will initiate a regulatory proceeding to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	8/27/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BC99 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the NCDE Grizzly Bear Population 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will consider delisting the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE) population of grizzly bears, found in Montana. **Controversy:** The proposal to delist the NCDE grizzly bear population will be high profile with many NGOs opposed to delisting portions of the listed entity in the lower 48. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (9/24/18) NEW ACTION
1018–BD00 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Downlisting the Beach Layia 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the beach layia from endangered to threatened. The beach layia occurs in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review (9/24/18) NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD02 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the Nashville Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Nashville crayfish, due to recovery. The Nashville crayfish is found in Tennessee. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.* *Note: We had this as downlisting on Unified Agenda, but it has changed.*	Not subject to OMB review (9/12/18) NEW ACTION
1018–BD03 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Peary Caribou and Dolphin and Union Caribou 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: FWS will propose to list the Peary caribou and the Dolphin and Union caribou as threatened with a 4(d) rule that will exempt imports and interstate trade. These two caribou species are found in Canada. **Controversy**: None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review (8/3/18) NEW ACTION
1018–BD08 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Yellow Lance 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the yellow lance. The yellow lance is a mussel listed as a threatened species located in Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/24/18 NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD10 Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Frameworks for Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations for the 2019–2020 Hunting Season 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule proposes the 2019–20 season hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. We annually prescribe frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur, and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow State selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. *Note: This action is not subject to E.O. 13771, because it establishes annual harvest limits related to routine hunting or fishing.*	8/15/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD12 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Atlantic Pigtoe 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/30/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the Atlantic pigtoe as a threatened species. The Atlantic pigtoe is a mussel found in Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/17/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD13 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Black-Capped Petrel 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/30/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the black-capped petrel as a threatened species. The black-capped petrel is a bird found in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Virginia, and the Virgin Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (9/17/18) NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD15 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter. The candy darter is a fish found in Virginia and West Virginia. We are also working on a final determination on a proposal to list the candy darter as threatened species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BC44). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/13/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD17 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Chapin Mesa Milkvetch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the Chapin Mesa milkvetch as a threatened species. The Chapin Mesa milkvetch is a plant found in Colorado. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/25/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD19 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Coastal Marten 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 10/1/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the coastal marten. The coastal marten is a small mammal found in California and Oregon. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/17/18 NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD21 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Eastern Black Rail 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/30/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the eastern black rail as a threatened species. The eastern black rail is a bird found in 32 States across the eastern and midwestern United States. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (9/17/18) NEW ACTION
1018–BD25 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Franklin's Bumble Bee 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list Franklin's bumblebee as an endangered species. The Franklin's bumblebee is found in California and Oregon. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/10/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD26 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Hellbender 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/30/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the hellbender. This salamander is found in 20 States in the eastern and midwestern United States. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (9/17/18) NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD35 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Two Sky Island Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the Bartram stonecrop as a threatened species and the beardless chinch weed as an endangered species. These plant species are found in Arizona. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for these species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/4/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD36 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Slenderclaw Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/30/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the slenderclaw crayfish as a threatened species. The slenderclaw crayfish is found in Alabama. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/17/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD40 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Trispot Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the trispot darter. The trispot darter is a fish found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. We are also working on a final determination on a proposal to list the trispot darter as a threatened species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BC16). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/13/18 NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD45 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Downlisting the Morro and Chorro Shoulderhand Snails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Morro and Chorro shoulderband snails from endangered to threatened. The Morro and Chorro shoulderband snails occur in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review (9/28/18) NEW ACTION
‡1018–BD52 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Pine Snake 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on our proposal to designate critical habitat for the black pine snake found in Alabama and Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/11/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD53 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the Sonoyta mud turtle found in Arizona and Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/25/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD54 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Spring Pygmy Sunfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on our proposal to designate critical habitat for the spring pygmy sunfish, a fish found in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/11/18 NEW ACTION

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD55 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the Texas hornshell found in New Mexico, Texas, and Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/10/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD56 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. We are also working on a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BB52). **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/10/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD57 Importation or Exportation of Fish or Wildlife; Shellfish and Fishery Products 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are issuing this proposed rule to add a definition of shellfish and fishery products to our regulations in 50 CFR part 14, which govern the importation, exportation, and transportation of wildlife. Current regulations at 50 CFR 14.92 provide exemptions to the import/export license requirements for certain shellfish and fishery products; this proposed rule would include additional types of shellfish to those currently included in the exemption. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	9/28/18 NEW ACTION

***DRAFT* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regulations Ready for Review**
Q3 list marked up to show updates for Q4 (Jul-Sep)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018-AU96 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Hawaiian Hawk from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to delist the Hawaiian Hawk, found in Hawaii. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (7/6/18) (Not on previous list, but PR was)
‡1018-AU96 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Hawaiian Hawk from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the Hawaiian Hawk, found in Hawaii. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (9/26/18) (Not on Q3, but on before Q3)
1018–AV82 Migratory Bird Permits; Revisions to Banding or Marking Permits 50 CFR 21	PR	Not significant. Not Major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are revising our migratory bird banding and marking regulations to: (1) Reflect the transfer of authority for the Federal bird banding and marking permit program to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS); (2) define the qualification guidelines for different levels of banding and marking authorization; and (3) address changes in banding and marking technology. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	9/28/18 Not on any report during this admin, so NEW ACTION

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–AW83 Revising Regulations Implementing the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992 50 CFR 15	PR	Not significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule will revise our regulations implementing the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992, which have not been substantively updated since 1993. We plan to revise these regulations in light of our experiences in implementing the legislation and regulations, and also to streamline and clarify certain aspects of the current regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Pamela Hall Scruggs, 703-358-2493.	9/28/18 Not on Q3 but was on Q2
1018–AY03 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Downlisting the Tidewater Goby 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the tidewater goby from endangered to threatened. The tidewater goby occurs in California and Oregon. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review (9/28/18) Not on report during this admin, so NEW ACTION
~~‡1018–AZ38~~ ~~Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species~~ ~~50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the ESA.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: OMB requested information pertaining to the amount of (1) unoccupied habitat, (2) estimated economic impacts, and (3) interagency consultation.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~5/31/18 Q3~~ Remove; expected to publish by June 2018

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant**.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Pamela Hall Scruggs, 703-358-2493. OMB question in response to Q2 list: In Q1, this was expected to be ready for review in October of 2017. What is the cause of delays here? FWS response: Workload priorities.	~~6/30/18 on Q3~~ 9/28/18
‡1018–AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	**Significant.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	9/28/18 Not on Q3, but on Q2

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts 50 CFR 80	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule is part of a process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. We address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1705.	~~6/10/18 Q3~~ 9/4/18 NEW STAGE
1018–BA43 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the Borax Lake Chub 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Borax lake chub from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Borax lake chub is found in Oregon. **Controversy:** None anticipated **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (8/1/18) Not on Q3, but on Q2 and prior

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BA88 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Exempting Subsistence Hunters From Duck Stamp Purchase 50 CFR 20, 32, 92	PR	Not significant. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We propose to amend the regulations governing subsistence hunting of migratory birds in Alaska by adding an exemption for rural subsistence migratory bird hunters in Alaska to purchase a Duck Stamp. Doing so will comport with the intent of Congress as written in the Federal Duck Stamp Act of 2014. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	9/4/18 NEW ACTION First appearance
‡1018–BB27 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Lesser Prairie-Chicken 50 CFR 17	PR	**Significant.** Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the lesser prairie-chicken. The lesser prairie-chicken is a bird found in Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** This species has a history of ESA litigation and is the subject of intensive interest from the past plaintiffs, petitioners, stakeholders, and local and state government officials, particularly the State wildlife agencies in the five range states. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/17/18 Not on Q3, but was on Q2

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BB38, Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—2018–2019 and 2019–2020 Subsistence Taking of Wildlife Regulations 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rulemaking will revise regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means related to taking of wildlife for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2018–2019 and 2019–2020 regulatory years. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for wildlife. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	~~6/1/18 on Q3~~ NEW STAGE 7/6/18
~~‡1018–BB39 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting Hidden Lake Bluecurls 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist Hidden Lake bluecurls due to recovery. The species is endemic to an alpine lake in California.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~ ~~*Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*~~	~~Not subject to OMB review (5/31/18 on Q3)~~ Will publish before Q4; cleared by Office of the Secretary on 5/21/18
1018–BB41 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the Deseret Milk-vetch 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the Deseret milkvetch, found in Utah. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (9/28/18) NEW STAGE

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BB52 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for these species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BD56). **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review ~~(6/1/18 on Q3)~~ (7/2/18)
~~1018–BB73~~ ~~Migratory Bird Hunting; Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2018–19 Season~~ ~~50 CFR 20~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2018–19 migratory bird hunting season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703–358–1967.~~ ~~*Note: This action is not subject to E.O. 13771, because it establishes annual harvest limits related to routine hunting or fishing.*~~	~~5/15/18 on Q3~~ ~~NEW STAGE~~ Should be out before Q4; remove

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BB73 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2018–2019 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2018–19 season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967. *Note: This action is not subject to E.O. 13771, because it establishes annual harvest limits related to routine hunting or fishing.*	~~6/30/18 Q3~~ 7/31/18 Q4 NEW STAGE
‡1018–BB77 Migratory Bird Permits; Removing a Depredation Order for Scrub Jays and Steller's Jays in Washington and Oregon 50 CFR 21	PR/ final actio n	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS is withdrawing a proposed rule to remove 50 CFR 21.46, a regulation that sets forth a depredation order for scrub jays and Steller's jays in Oregon and Washington. FWS had proposed to remove this regulation, as we had received no reports of activities undertaken under the provisions of section 21.46 in the last 10 years. However, we have recently received several reports under this depredation order, so we are now withdrawing the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	9/4/18 Not on Q3, but on earlier lists

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BB78 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Wolverine 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the wolverine as a threatened species. The wolverine is located in California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. **Controversy:** This species has a history of litigation on past ESA decisions. Former plaintiffs, past petitioners, Tribes, stakeholders (particularly State wildlife agencies in Idaho, Montana, Washington, and Wyoming), and the public will be highly interested in the outcome of our decision. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Not on Q3 or before (9/10/18) NEW STAGE
~~‡1018–BB89 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Kuenzler Hedgehog Cactus from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the Kuenzler hedgehog cactus due to recovery. The Kuenzler hedgehog cactus is found in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*~~	~~Not subject to OMB review (5/15/18 Q3) Cleared to go to OFR 5/7/18; remove~~
~~‡1018–BB90 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of the Tobusch Fishhook Cactus from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on its proposed rule to reclassify the Tobusch fishhook cactus from endangered to threatened on the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~	~~Not subject to OMB review (5/15/18 Q3) Cleared and published; remove~~

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BB98 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Nonessential Experimental Population of Red Wolves in North Carolina 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will publish a proposed rule to revise the existing Nonessential Experimental Population designation of red wolves (*Canis rufus*) in North Carolina under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Potentially high due to current litigation regarding our current rule for the 10(j) population, and concerns of the state, private landowners, and environmental groups. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Ellis, 703-358-2307.	~~5/31/18~~ ~~Was on Q3 and Q1~~ 7/5/18
‡1018–BB99 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Subsistence Taking of Fish; Cook Inlet Area 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for the subsistence taking of fish in the Cook Inlet of Alaska. This action would also reorganize specific regulations addressing the Kenai River, which would provide clarity for the public and allow the Federal Subsistence Board to correct regulatory conflicts that have arisen based on recent rulemaking. (This is a joint rulemaking between DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service.) **Controversy:** Senator Murkowski and Representative Young have expressed interest in this issue in the past; however, they have not recently contacted FWS about this issue. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	~~6/1/18 Q3~~ 7/6/18
~~‡1018–BC02~~ ~~Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Colorado Butterfly Plant From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants~~ ~~50 CFR 17~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Colorado butterfly plant due to recovery. This species is located in Wyoming, Colorado, and Nebraska. This proposed rule, if made final, would also remove the currently designated critical habitat for the species.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~ ~~*Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*~~	Not subject to OMB review ~~(5/31/18 Q3)~~ With AS/FWP; will likely publish before Q4; remove

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BC03 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the Water Howellia 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the water howellia due to recovery. The water howellia is found in California, Idaho, Montana, and Washington. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review Not on Q3; on Q2 (8/2/18 Q4)
~~1018–BC07 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2018–2019 50 CFR 32~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS proposes to make additions to refuge-specific regulations and expand hunting and fishing opportunities for the 2018–19 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. We operate hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Some controversy is expected with regard to allowing hunting on refuges.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Katherine Harrigan, 703-358-2440.~~	~~5/31/18 on Q3~~ Scheduled to publish 5/29/18; remove
1018–BC07 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2018–2019 50 CFR 32	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to finalize a proposal to make additions to refuge-specific regulations and expand hunting and fishing opportunities for the 2018–19 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. We operate hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities. **Controversy:** Some controversy is expected with regard to allowing hunting on refuges. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Katherine Harrigan, 703-358-2440.	8/15/18 NEW STAGE

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BC11 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the Interior Least Tern 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the interior least tern due to recovery. The interior least tern is found in Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, and Wyoming. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (9/4/18) Not on Q3, but on Q2
‡1018–BC12 Depredation Orders for Double-Crested Cormorants; Removal of Regulations 50 CFR 21	FR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven. **What the rule does:** On May 25, 2016, the District Court for the District of Columbia ordered that both the Aquaculture Depredation Order and the Public Resources Depredation Order for double-crested cormorants be vacated until FWS performs a new and legally adequate environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for national cormorant management orders in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The court concluded that FWS did not take careful enough consideration of the effects of the depredation orders on cormorant populations and other affected resources (fisheries, vulnerable species, and habitats) and failed to consider a range of reasonable alternatives in the remanded 2014 environmental assessment. Therefore, this rule removes the regulations setting forth the provisions of the orders at 50 CFR 21.47 and 21.48. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	9/4/18 Not on Q3, but on earlier

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BC14 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will revise our proposed rule to list the Panama City crayfish as a threatened species to include a proposed critical habitat designation for the species. The Panama City crayfish is found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/24/18 Not on Q3, but on earlier
1018–BC16 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Trispot Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the trispot darter as a threatened species. The trispot darter is a fish found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BD40). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (9/13/18) Not on Q3, but on earlier as PR NEW STAGE
‡1018–BC34 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the Wright's marsh thistle as a threatened species. The Wright's marsh thistle is a plant found in New Mexico. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/24/18 Not on Q3, but on Q1

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BC44 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the candy darter as a threatened species. The candy darter is a fish found in Virginia and West Virginia. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BD15). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (9/13/18) Not on Q3, but on earlier (Q417)
‡1018–BC52 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Barren's Topminnow 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will revise our proposed rule to list the Barren's topminnow as an endangered species to include a proposed critical habitat designation for the species. The Barren's topminnow is a fish found in Tennessee. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/24/18 Not on Q3, but on earlier
‡1018–BC65 Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the California Condor in the Pacific Northwest 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: FWS proposes to designate an area in the Pacific Northwest as a nonessential experimental population area for reintroduction of California condors. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Lisa Ellis, 703-358-2307.	9/28/18 Not on Q3, but on earlier

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
‡1018–BC67 List of Migratory Bird Species Protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act 50 CFR 10	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: This rulemaking is administrative in nature, to inform the public of the species protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). This proposed rule would update the list based on scientific changes to bird taxonomy (i.e., common names, scientific names, families, etc.). The list is formulated by the scientific community, specifically the American Ornithologists' Society's Check-list of North American Birds, for species that occur in North America. The list enables the public to know which species are protected and which are not, thereby preventing confusion and potential conservation and enforcement issues. **Controversy**: None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	~~6/30/18 Q3~~ 7/20/18
‡1018–BC71 Implementing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); Updates following the 16th and 17th Meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16 and CoP17) 50 CFR 23	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule will revise regulations implementing CITES by incorporating provisions related to the results of CoP16 and CoP17. The revised regulations will help us more effectively promote species conservation, fulfill our responsibilities under CITES, and help those affected by CITES to understand how to conduct lawful international trade in wildlife and wildlife products. **Controversy:** None anticipated. These changes bring U.S. regulations in line with revisions adopted at the most recent COP. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Craig Hoover, 703-358-2162.	~~6/30/18~~ 9/27/18

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BC72 Managing Resident Canada Goose Populations 50 CFR 21	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: FWS will finalize a proposal to amend the regulations governing control of resident Canada geese by removing the date restrictions on authorized destruction of resident Canada goose nests and eggs. **Controversy**: None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Paul Padding, 301-497-5851. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	9/4/18 NEW STAGE
~~1018–BC74~~ ~~Refuge-Specific Regulations; Public Use; Kenai National Wildlife Refuge~~ ~~50 CFR 36~~	~~ANPR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We will initiate a rulemaking process that will consider changes to Kenai NWR public use regulations that were promulgated on May 5, 2016 (81 FR 27030).~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None~~ ~~**Contact:** Ryan Mollnow, 907-786-3326~~	~~6/1/18 on Q3~~ ~~Not on list before Q3~~ Pushed to February 2019; remove
1018–BC75 Migratory Bird Management; Extending the Term of Certain Migratory Bird Permits 50 CFR 21	PR	Not Significant. Deregulatory. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would extend the timeframe that certain types of permits for activities with migratory birds are valid. By extending that time, this rule would reduce the need for a permittee to apply to the Service for renewal, along with eliminating the fees associated with renewals for the specified types of permits. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	9/4/18 Q4 Not on Q3 or before NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BC76 Migratory Bird Management; Revision of General Exceptions to Permit Requirements 50 CFR 21	PR	Not Significant. Deregulatory. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would allow certain identified entities to conduct certain activities that currently are authorized only through a migratory bird permit to conduct those activities without a permit. This would reduce the information collection and cost burden on these entities. Currently the Service's general exceptions to permit requirement regulations exempt State game departments, municipal game farms or parks, public museums, public zoological parks, accredited institutional members of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, and public scientific or educational institutions from these permit requirements. The Service has received requests from other entities requesting that they, too, be considered for exemption. Currently the Service does not have a process to consider such a request. This rule would set standards and processes the Service would follow to determine if a requesting entity could be considered for and approved as exempt from the permit requirements. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Eric Kershner, 703-358-2376.	9/4/18 Q4 Not on Q3 or before NEW ACTION
1018–BC78 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Downlisting the Golden Conure 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/1/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS propose to reclassify the golden conure from endangered to threatened. This action will include a proposed 4(d) rule and a proposed technical correction to revise its scientific name. The golden conure is a parrot-like bird found in the south Amazon Basin in Brazil. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (8/31/18 Q4) Not on Q3 or before NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018–BC79 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Hyacinth Macaw 50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does**: FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the hyacinth macaw as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on a 4(d) rule that would exempt interstate trade. This bird species is found in Bolivia, Brazil, and Paraguay.~~ ~~**Controversy**: None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None.~~ ~~**Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~	Not subject to OMB review ~~(5/31/18 Q3)~~ Package is currently w/ SOL and is about to go to AES; may publish before Q4
1018–BC80 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting Running Buffalo Clover 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: FWS will propose to delist the running buffalo clover due to recovery. The running buffalo clover is located in Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. **Controversy**: None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review ~~(6/29/18)~~ 7/16/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BC82 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for Sri Lankan Tarantulas 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list five species of Sri Lankan tarantulas as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. These tarantulas are found in Sri Lanka. **Controversy**: None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review ~~(5/31/18 Q3)~~ (7/6/18 on Q4) NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
~~‡1018-BC84~~ ~~Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Status of the Southern Selkirk Mountains Population of Woodland Caribou~~ ~~50 CFR 17~~	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does**: FWS is reaffirming endangered status for the southern mountain caribou distinct population segment (DPS) of woodland caribou *(Rangifer tarandus caribou)*. This determination amends the current listing of the southern Selkirk Mountains population of woodland caribou by defining the southern mountain caribou DPS, which includes the southern Selkirk Mountains population. We reaffirm the existing critical habitat for the DPS as previously defined; the amount is approximately 30,010 acres.~~ ~~**Controversy**: Some controversy is expected with regard to the amended listing, and we expect there will be local media interest.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None.~~ ~~**Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.~~	Not subject to OMB review ~~(5/31/18 Q3)~~ With OES; will likely publish before Q4
~~1018-BC87~~ ~~Conservation of Endangered and Threatened Species; Revision of Regulations to Address Interagency Cooperation~~ ~~50 CFR 402~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant.** Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, FWS will propose to revise our interagency cooperation regulations to clarify and improve section 7 implementation.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Changes in ESA regulations are typically controversial.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Craig Aubrey, 703-358-2442.~~	~~5/1/18 on Q3~~ At OMB; remove
~~1018-BC88 —~~ ~~Endangered and Threatened Species of Wildlife and Plants; Revision of the Regulation for Listing Species and Designating Critical Habitat~~ ~~50 CFR 424~~	~~PR~~	~~**Significant.** Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, FWS will propose to revise the regulations at 50 CFR 242 for listing endangered and threatened species and for designation of critical habitat.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Changes in ESA regulations are typically controversial.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Bridget Fahey, 703-358-2163.~~	~~5/1/18 on Q3~~ At OMB; remove

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BC96 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska, Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven. No deadline was assigned; however, we need to show the plaintiffs and the court that we are making progress. **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska in an October 17, 2011, order "enjoined" the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest" and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board will initiate a regulatory proceeding to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	~~5/15/18 Q3~~ 8/27/18 Q4 NEW ACTION
1018–BC99 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the NCDE Grizzly Bear Population 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will consider delisting the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE) population of grizzly bears, found in Montana. **Controversy:** The proposal to delist the NCDE grizzly bear population will be high profile with many NGOs opposed to delisting portions of the listed entity in the lower 48. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review (9/24/18) NEW ACTION
1018–BD00 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Downlisting the Beach Layia 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the beach layia from endangered to threatened. The beach layia occurs in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review (9/24/18) NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD02 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Delisting the Nashville Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Nashville crayfish, due to recovery. The Nashville crayfish is found in Tennessee. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.* *Note: We had this as downlisting on Unified Agenda, but it has changed.*	Not subject to OMB review (9/12/18) NEW ACTION
1018–BD03 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Peary Caribou and Dolphin and Union Caribou 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does**: FWS will propose to list the Peary caribou and the Dolphin and Union caribou as threatened with a 4(d) rule that will exempt imports and interstate trade. These two caribou species are found in Canada. **Controversy**: None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review NEW ACTION ~~(6/4/18 on Q3)~~ 8/3/18 NEW
1018–BD08 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Yellow Lance 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the yellow lance. The yellow lance is a mussel listed as a threatened species located in Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/24/18 NEW ACTION First appearance

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD10 Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Frameworks for Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations for the 2019–2020 Hunting Season 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule proposes the 2019–20 season hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. We annually prescribe frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur, and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in hunting seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow State selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. *Note: This action is not subject to E.O. 13771, because it establishes annual harvest limits related to routine hunting or fishing.*	~~5/15/18 Q3~~ 8/15/18 Q4 NEW ACTION
1018–BD12 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Atlantic Pigtoe 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/30/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the Atlantic pigtoe as a threatened species. The Atlantic pigtoe is a mussel found in Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/17/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD13 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Black-Capped Petrel 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/30/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the black-capped petrel as a threatened species. The black-capped petrel is a bird found in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Virginia, and the Virgin Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/17/18 Not subject to OMB review NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD15 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter. The candy darter is a fish found in Virginia and West Virginia. We are also working on a final determination on a proposal to list the candy darter as threatened species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BC44). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/13/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD17 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Chapin Mesa Milkvetch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the Chapin Mesa milkvetch as a threatened species. The Chapin Mesa milkvetch is a plant found in Colorado. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/25/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD19 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Coastal Marten 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 10/1/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the coastal marten. The coastal marten is a small mammal found in California and Oregon. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/17/18 NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD21 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Eastern Black Rail 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/30/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the eastern black rail as a threatened species. The eastern black rail is a bird found in 32 States across the eastern and midwestern United States. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (9/17/18) NEW ACTION
1018–BD25 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Franklin's Bumble Bee 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list Franklin's bumblebee as an endangered species. The Franklin's bumblebee is found in California and Oregon. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/10/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD26 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination for the Hellbender 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/30/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the hellbender. This salamander is found in 20 States in the eastern and midwestern United States. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review (9/17/18) NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD35 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Two Sky Island Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the Bartram stonecrop as a threatened species and the beardless chinch weed as an endangered species. These plant species are found in Arizona. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for these species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/4/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD36 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Slenderclaw Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Court driven: Proposal, 9/30/18, settlement agreement. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to list the slenderclaw crayfish as a threatened species. The slenderclaw crayfish is found in Alabama. We will also, if found prudent and determinable, designate critical habitat for this species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/17/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD40 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Trispot Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the trispot darter. The trispot darter is a fish found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. We are also working on a final determination on a proposal to list the trispot darter as a threatened species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BC16). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/13/18 NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD45 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Downlisting the Morro and Chorro Shoulderhand Snails 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Morro and Chorro shoulderband snails from endangered to threatened. The Morro and Chorro shoulderband snails occur in California. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review (9/28/18) NEW ACTION
1018–BD46 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 12-month Finding on a Petition to Delist ~~Downlisting~~ the American Burying Beetle 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~ PD	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a 12-month finding on a petition to delist the American burying beetle. ~~FWS will propose to reclassify the American burying beetle from endangered to threatened. The downlisting rule will be accompanied by a rule under section 4(d) of the ESA to specify take exemptions for the American burying beetle.~~ The beetle is found in Arkansas, Kansas, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Dakota, and Texas. **Controversy:** ~~None anticipated.~~ Controversy is expected. The petition is to delist the species, and FWS is currently in settlement negotiations on a lawsuit filed for failure to issue the 12-month finding on the petition. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. *Note: This is a 13771 deregulatory action.*	Not subject to OMB review ~~(5/31/18 Q3; NEW)~~ *Remove, as it will now be a petition finding (fyi, 7/31/18)*
‡1018–BD52 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Pine Snake 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on our proposal to designate critical habitat for the black pine snake found in Alabama and Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/11/18 NEW ACTION

Abbreviations/symbols: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document; ‡ - Appeared on a 90-day list prior to Q318, and OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD53 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the Sonoyta mud turtle found in Arizona and Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/25/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD54 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Spring Pygmy Sunfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on our proposal to designate critical habitat for the spring pygmy sunfish, a fish found in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	7/11/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD55 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the Texas hornshell found in New Mexico, Texas, and Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/10/18 NEW ACTION

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OMB Review
1018–BD56 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to designate critical habitat for the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. We are also working on a final determination on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species under a separate rulemaking action (1018–BB52). **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	8/10/18 NEW ACTION
1018–BD57 Importation or Exportation of Fish or Wildlife; Shellfish and Fishery Products 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are issuing this proposed rule to add a definition of shellfish and fishery products to our regulations in 50 CFR part 14, which govern the importation, exportation, and transportation of wildlife. Current regulations at 50 CFR 14.92 provide exemptions to the import/export license requirements for certain shellfish and fishery products; this proposed rule would include additional types of shellfish to those currently included in the exemption. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	NEW ACTION 9/28/18

NOTE TO REVIEWERS

Overview

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) hereby submits the Draft Regulatory Report to the Office of Management and Budget for the Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2018. This table contains rulemaking actions that should be ready for review by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and OMB during the period July through September 2018. The Service respectfully submits this list in accordance with Executive Order 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review."

Direct questions to:

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
703-358-2508

Anissa Craghead
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
703-358-2445

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/ABHC/068065

Memorandum

To: Director, Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs

Through: Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

From: Principal Deputy Director

Subject: Regulatory Report to Office of Management and Budget for the Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2018

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) hereby submits the Draft Regulatory Report to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2018. This table contains rulemaking actions that should be ready for review by the Department of the Interior and OMB during the period July through September 2018. The Service respectfully submits this list in accordance with Executive Order 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review."

If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact Ms. Sara Prigan, 703-358-2508, or Ms. Anissa Craghead, 703-358-2445, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs.

Attachments

From: (b) (6)
To: jim_kurth@fws.gov
Subject: Fwd: Election analysis
Date: Wednesday, November 7, 2018 2:06:42 PM
Attachments: ATT00001.htm
Cornerstone 2018 Election Analysis[1].pdf
ATT00002.htm

Jim,
This is from my bestie, Mark
Denise

Sent from my iPhone

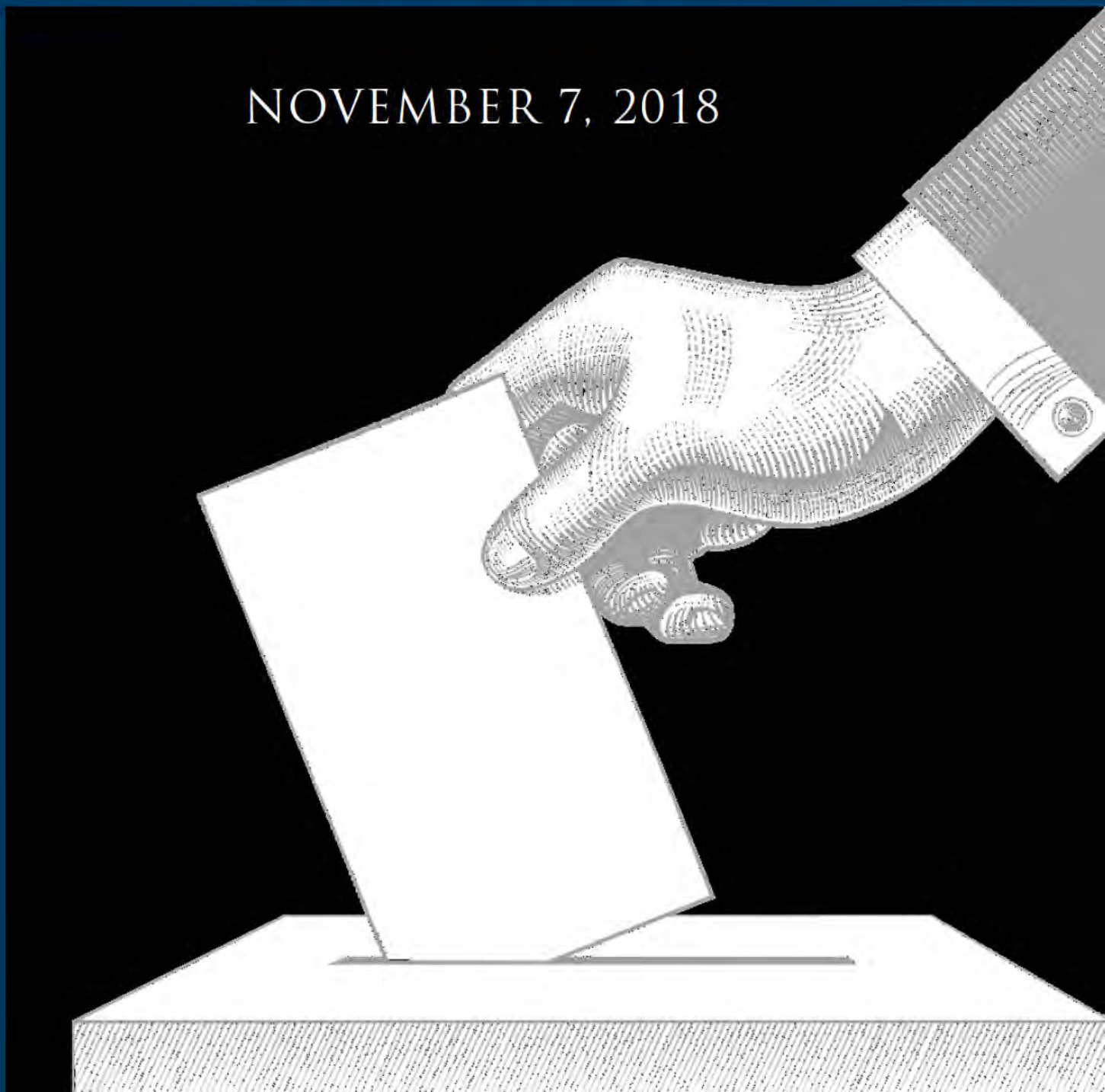
Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Mark Mioduski <mmioduski@cgagroup.com>
> **Date:** November 7, 2018 at 5:01:55 PM EST
> **To:** Mark Mioduski <mmioduski@cgagroup.com>
> **Subject: Election analysis**
>
> Dear Colleague,
>
> Attached is an election analysis that Cornerstone is sending out today that may be of interest to you.
> Thanks
> m
>
> Mark Mioduski | Principal and Director

CORNERSTONE
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

2018 ELECTION ANALYSIS

NOVEMBER 7, 2018



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Disclaimer

Cornerstone Government Affairs has assembled the following report to assist our clients in providing results from the 2018 midterm election and understanding the implication of those results. We are aware that some information in this report may quickly become dated, and this may have an effect on the validity of some of our forecasts. We offer this report to our clients and friends as our best effort to assist you in evaluating the challenges and opportunities ahead. This report will be updated periodically.

November 7, 2018 (Version 1, 4:00 p.m. ET)

Overview

Voters delivered a split verdict in a highly contested and contentious election. This was the first midterm election since 1982 in which the President's party gained seats in one body of Congress while losing seats in the other. While we continue to digest exit polling data, it seems that the political polarization of America continues. Are today's candidates pushing the electorate further to the political edge, or are they simply reflecting that very electorate? Whatever your view, it seems likely that this polarization will make the collaboration and compromise required to solve our nation's challenges even more difficult to achieve in the 116th Congress.

Democrats regained a majority of the U.S. House of Representatives at the same time Republicans expanded theirs in the U.S. Senate. While the Republican Party's defeat in the House was "conventional wisdom," it was salvaged in part by a Senate map that had the GOP defending an abnormally low number of seats and the Democrats defending multiple states that backed Trump in 2016, including Indiana, Missouri and North Dakota. Also dictating the tenor of Senate races was the aftermath of Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court. That bitterly divisive process served as a motivating factor on both sides of the political spectrum. Exit polling may help us understand if it was a net plus for the Republicans or the Democrats. Regardless, it certainly had an impact.

What else had an impact? Women. 2018 may forever be known as the Year of the Woman. A surge of female candidates produced a record-breaking number of women elected to Congress. Overwhelmingly, they were Democrats and contributed significantly to shifting control in the House of Representatives. Women also made significant inroads in gubernatorial races, most notably in Kansas and Michigan. Finally, and maybe most importantly, women accounted for a majority of voters in this year's midterm election (approximately 52 percent) and a majority of those voted for Democrats.

In a historical sense, midterms are always a referendum on the sitting president. In 36 of the last 39 midterm elections, the party in the White House has lost an average of 25 House seats in Congress. Suburban voters moved away from President Trump as Democrats appeared to pick up at least 26 seats and possibly as many as 37, when all votes are counted. Democratic gains were not limited to Congress, as the party seized control of enough Governor's mansions and state legislatures to put the parties on almost equal footing heading into the 2020 cycle. The Senate, meanwhile, was a different story, as Republicans picked up at least three seats, and possibly as many as four.

While many Democrats running in red states sought to localize their election and avoid directly confronting the Administration, President Trump was the animating force of the 2018 campaigns and in fact declared himself to be on the ballot. He campaigned aggressively across the swing states with a message designed to motivate his core supporters. While the President's efforts

brought significant energy to Republican campaigns, particularly in Senate races, the results were somewhat of a mixed bag depending on the geographic region of the country.

But if the 2018 election was a referendum on Trump, it is unclear if his politics, his style (see Twitter), his policies or a combination thereof was the driving factor. In the days leading up to the election, he made clear that our military forces—which are mobilizing to the southern border—are the first line of defense against the migrant caravan heading through Mexico to the United States. While this mobilization galvanized the right, it also complicated some Republicans' efforts to tout a message of economic prosperity in more moderate suburban battlegrounds where many of the House elections were decided.

While Republicans campaigned mostly on immigration and the strong economy, Democrats emphasized health care, particularly on the need to protect coverage of preexisting conditions. Exit polling demonstrates that health care was very important to voters and that by substantial margins they trusted Democrats more than Republicans on the issue. It was an ironic sequel to 2010, when Tea Party attacks on the Affordable Care Ace (aka Obamacare) brought Republicans the majority in the House.

With passions running high in both parties, turnout was stronger in 2018 than in any midterm election since the 1960s. With votes still to be counted, an estimated 113 million people cast their ballots this year, compared to 83 million in 2014. Americans also took unprecedented advantage of growing opportunities to vote before Election Day. This was particularly evident among youth voters (age 18 to 29), nearly twice as many of whom voted early this year than four years ago.

How do nonprofits, companies and institutions make sense of all this? At Cornerstone, we take pride that our firm has achieved unparalleled success for our clients by bringing to bear subject matter expertise, a keen understanding of process and active political engagement with policy makers on both sides of the aisle. While the split verdict by voters means divided government, with gridlock likely, Cornerstone will continue to position our clients for success.

And for those political junkies who will experience something of an election hangover now that the attack ads, calls, and knocks at the door are over, fear not. The 2020 presidential election campaign begins in earnest today.

Geoff Gonella
President & Managing Director
Cornerstone Government Affairs

U.S. House of Representatives

Democrats won the big prize of the midterms, gaining control of the House of Representatives for the first time in eight years. The result will completely upend the relationship between Congress and the Administration, as Democrats will gain the power to control the House calendar, conduct investigations, subpoena executive branch officials and schedule hearings. Pressure from the party's left wing to begin impeachment proceedings against President Trump will mount immediately, while moderates will warn against overreaching.

Key Takeaways

- Democrats capture majority, will confront Trump at every turn
- Narrow margin may present challenges
- Pelosi is the likely Speaker, but no shoo-in
- Democratic caucus becomes more diverse, younger and more female

The midterms were in large part a referendum on Trump. For months, Democrats had been counting the days until Nov. 6 for the chance to express their anger over his policies. Now that they control the House, they will attempt to stymie Trump's agenda at every turn. But their narrow margin of victory will also present challenges for the new majority, starting with leadership elections later this month. With an eye toward the 2020 presidential campaign, the party's progressive and center-left factions in the House could spend the next two years battling for the upper hand in shaping the Democratic platform.

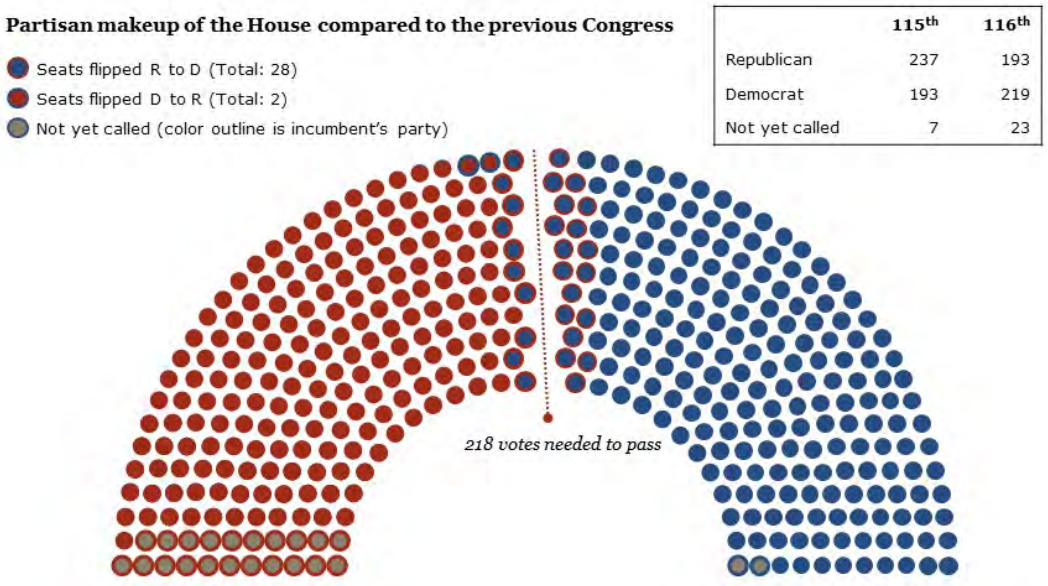
House Republicans, meanwhile, will have opportunities of their own, as Democrats who won election in Trump-friendly districts will be wary of moving too far to the left. The GOP may find that several of their colleagues on the other side aisle may be willing to defect on controversial votes.

The changing demographics of the House will also be an interesting dynamic to watch in the 116th Congress. Overall, House Democrats will become more diverse, younger and more female, while Republicans maintained their demographic profile, albeit with a smaller conference. Add these trends to an already highly partisan environment, and the outlook is clear: The next two years in the House will be a bumpy ride.

Democratic Leadership

Under most circumstances, the Minority Leader of a party that takes over the House would automatically get a promotion to Speaker in the next Congress. While this is still the most likely scenario, Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) was a polarizing figure in the midterm elections and could face significant internal challenges in her bid to regain the Speaker's gavel she lost in 2011. Several newly elected Democrats made campaign commitments to vote against her for Speaker, and she

Composition of the 116th Congress: House



	115th	116th
Republican	237	193
Democrat	193	219
Not yet called	7	23

Source: National Journal Research

faced four defections at the floor vote in January 2017. Prior to his unexpected primary loss to Rep.-elect Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez in June 2018, Democratic Caucus Chairman Joe Crowley (D-NY) was eyed as a possible replacement. Following Crowley's defeat, however, there is no clear successor.

Pelosi, meanwhile, maintains a strong following of her own, thanks in no small part to her prodigious fundraising efforts. Democrats may choose to give her one more term as Speaker, in what she has already acknowledged could be a "transitional" role, before handing the gavel to someone else.

Pelosi's fate could directly affect that of the other top Democratic leaders, Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) and Assistant Democratic Leader James Clyburn (D-SC), who could also be pushed aside if Democrats opt for generational change. A vocal wing of young Members in the House Democratic Caucus has been pushing for new blood in leadership over the past two Congresses. That group—led by Reps. Tim Ryan (D-OH), Reuben Gallego (D-AZ), Seth Moulton (D-MA), Filemon Vela (D-TX), and others—backed Ryan's unsuccessful challenge to Pelosi before the start of the 115th Congress.

If Pelosi is deposed, the likeliest alternative might be one of her trusted lieutenants, such as Caucus Vice Chairwoman Linda Sánchez (D-CA) or Reps. Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Ben Ray Luján (D-NM), Cheri Bustos (D-IL), or Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY). A consensus fallback candidate like Reps. John Lewis (D-GA) or Don Beyer (D-VA) could also emerge for one of the top leadership spots.

Voting blocs within the Congressional Progressive Caucus, Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and New Democrats will all play key roles in choosing new leaders and Committee assignments, as they seek diversity within the House Democratic power base. CBC Chairman Cedric Richmond (D-LA) recently laid down a marker, saying he expects one of its Members to hold at least one of the two top jobs next year.

Democrats have scheduled their internal elections for Nov. 28 and 29, although the official vote for Speaker on the floor of the House will not take place until January.

Republican Leadership

Republicans have set their leadership elections and organizing conference for Nov. 14 and 15. Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA), who has been highly successful in raising funds for his GOP colleagues, will seek to remain the leader of the new minority. He will be challenged by Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), who announced his candidacy this morning. Current Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA) and Chief Deputy Whip Patrick McHenry (R-NC) are likely to remain in leadership. Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) may seek to keep her position as Conference Chairman, although Rep. Liz Cheney (R-WY) could jump into the race as well. Watch for Rep. Jason Smith (R-MO) to keep his position as conference secretary, and Reps. Mark Walker (R-NC) and Susan Brooks (R-IN) to seek the Vice Chair of the Republican Conference.

Legislative/Political Agenda

Republican control of the Senate will make it difficult for House Democrats to advance much of their legislative agenda. But the new majority may find occasional areas of agreement with Trump, with infrastructure, judicial reform and drug prices as likely possibilities. The potential for some form of immigration deal on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), visa reform and border security could surprise onlookers in 2019.

Expect Democrats to prioritize legislative goals that are crucial to its base in advance of the 2020 presidential election, including health care and gun control, while conducting vigorous oversight of the Trump Administration. One of their first items of business will be to agree on new budget caps for FY 2020. (See Appropriations section for more details.)

Republicans, meanwhile, will be forced to adjust to life in the minority. Their path back to the majority will consist of trying to force Democrats to take as many difficult votes as possible.

Please refer to Appendix A for House election results, as of time of publication.

U.S. Senate

Republicans widened their majority in the Senate by at least three seats, putting the GOP on track for a 54-46 margin or better to start the next Congress. The Florida and Arizona races remained too close to call at time of publication. The special election in Mississippi to fill out the unexpired term of former Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS) is headed to a runoff on Nov. 27, with Republicans favored to retain the seat.

Key Takeaways

- GOP picks up at least three seats
- McConnell to extend record as longest-serving Republican Leader
- Schumer remains top Democrat
- Expect the Senate to be the center for policy negotiations between a Democratic House and Republican White House

Senate Democrats faced a difficult task coming into the election, having to defend more than half of its caucus with limited opportunities to challenge incumbent Republicans. With 26 Democratic seats up for grabs (including one special election in Minnesota), and many of those in deep red states that backed President Trump in 2016, the landscape favored the GOP—and Republicans largely delivered. Looking ahead, Democrats will welcome a more favorable map in 2020, when they will defend only 12 seats compared with 21 held by Republicans.

Notable Results

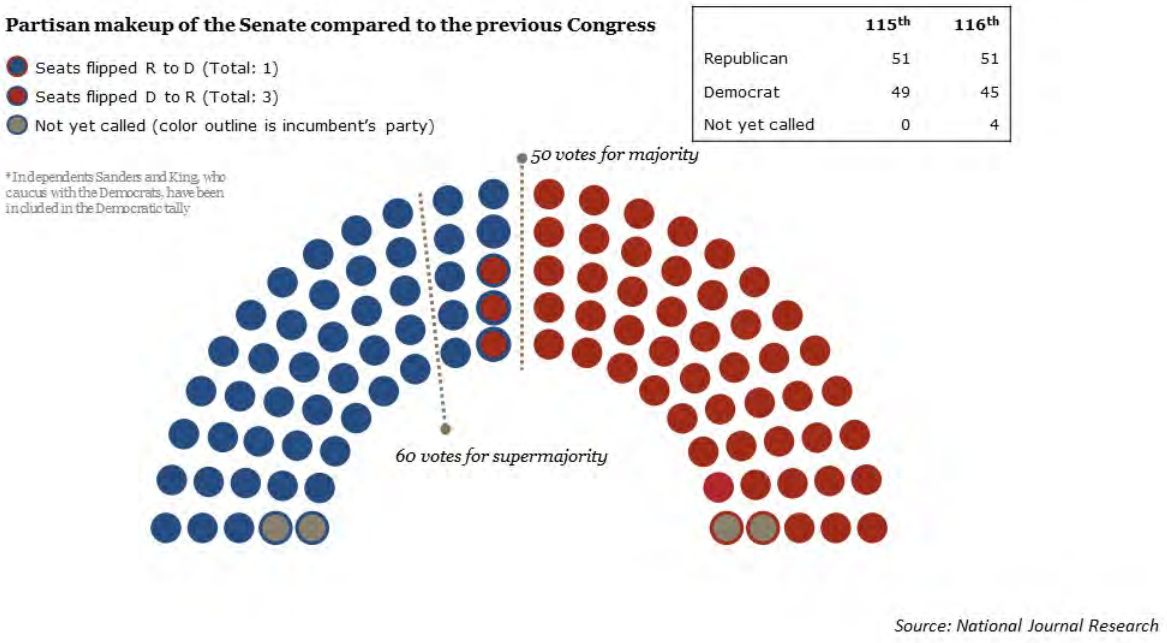
Republicans flipped at least three seats in the Senate. Rep. Kevin Cramer (R-ND) soundly defeated incumbent Sen. Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND). In a state that voted heavily for Trump, her poll numbers plummeted after voting no on Brett Kavanaugh's nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court. Former Indiana State Rep. Mike Braun won a decisive victory over Sen. Joe Donnelly (D-IN) in the Hoosier state, and Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley (R) bested second-term Sen. Claire McCaskill (D) by six points.

Republicans were leading their Democratic opponents in two other Senate races that were too close to call at time of publication. In Florida, Gov. Rick Scott was narrowly ahead of three-term Sen. Bill Nelson in a race that saw more than $130 million in spending. And in Arizona, Rep. Martha McSally held a narrow lead over Rep. Kyrsten Sinema in the race to succeed retiring Sen. Jeff Flake (R). If neither lead changes, Republicans will end up with a net gain of four seats.

Other new additions to the Senate Republican Conference include Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), who defeated former Gov. Phil Bredesen by double-digits, and Mitt Romney, the former GOP presidential candidate, won handily in Utah.

The lone loss for a GOP incumbent came in Nevada, where one-term Rep. Jacky Rosen (D) upset Sen. Dean Heller in the Silver State. Although Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) failed to get the 50

Composition of the 116th Congress: Senate



Source: National Journal Research

percent of the vote necessary to avoid a runoff, most pundits agree that she will prevail in the special election on Nov. 27.

Republican Leadership

Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) surpassed Bob Dole's record as the longest serving Republican leader this year, and he will extend his service into the 116th Congress. Republican term limits rules will force Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) to vacate his position as the Senate Republican Conference's Assistant Floor Leader (Whip). The caucus is expected to create a new role to allow Cornyn to maintain a leadership position by splitting his current Assistant Leader and Whip role into two distinct positions. That will allow others to move up a position: Sen. John Thune (R-SD) to Whip, Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY) to Conference Chair, and Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO) to Policy Committee Chair.

The GOP Conference Vice Chair position would then be open, with Sens. Deb Fischer (R-NE), Joni Ernst (R-IA), Cory Gardner (R-CO) and Thom Tillis (R-NC) being the most frequently mentioned for the post. The National Republican Senatorial Committee Chairman post, currently held by Gardner, could return to Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS), who held the post in 2015-2016. However, Sen.-elect Mitt Romney (R-UT) could use his national profile to benefit Republicans in that role.

Republican Legislative/Political Agenda

While McConnell's majority will have increased by at least three Members, the loss of the House will make the Republican Leader's job much harder. In the 115th Congress, the GOP-controlled

Congress achieved victories in tax reform, defense policy and appropriations. The Senate also confirmed 84 Article III judges nominated by President Trump: two to the U.S. Supreme Court, 29 to U.S. courts of appeals and 53 to U.S. district courts. Expect a continued emphasis in the Senate on judicial and executive branch confirmations, but momentum for some GOP agenda items will grind to a halt under a Democratic-controlled House.

The Senate will likely be the focal point for most policy debates, as it will serve as an intermediary of sorts between the Trump Administration and the Democratic majority in the House. One area of particular interest will be how Senate Republicans work with House Democrats on infrastructure legislation. Commonality of interests may be found on this issue, but resolving how to pay for infrastructure spending will be exceptionally difficult at best. Expect Senate Republicans to continue pressing on a host of agenda items such as surface transportation, telecommunications reforms and regulatory reforms.

Democratic Leadership

Though last night's results were disappointing for Senate Democrats, Sen. Chuck Schumer's (D-NY) position as Minority Leader is secure. Sens. Dick Durbin (D-IL), Patty Murray (D-WA), and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) are also expected to remain in their respective leadership roles (Whip, Assistant Democratic Leader and Chairwoman of Policy and Communications Committee).

Democratic Legislative/Political Agenda

Democrats will continue to exert leverage in shaping policy due to the Republicans' lack of the 60 votes required by Senate rules to pass most legislation. Leader Schumer will focus his efforts on holding the caucus together while managing the individual interests—and ensuring attendance for key votes—of as many as nine Democrats considering a presidential run in 2020. Democrats are likely to join their House colleagues in pressing for legislation to reduce health care costs, particular for prescription drugs; promote college accessibility and skills training; and invest in infrastructure. A criminal justice reform bill, which passed the House earlier this year with support from scores of Democrats, is another possibility. The Democratic plan for a $1 trillion infrastructure package—offset by returning the top marginal tax rate to 39.6 percent—will be unpalatable to most Republicans.

2020

The map for 2020, a presidential election year, will be friendlier to Senate Democrats. Democrats' top pick-up targets for 2020 will be Sens. Cory Gardner (R-CO), Susan Collins (R-ME) and Thom Tillis (R-NC), and they will watch closely to see if Sens. Jim Inhofe (R-OK), Pat Roberts (R-KS), and Lamar Alexander (R-TN) decide to run again. Republicans will focus on taking back the seat held by Sen. Doug Jones (D-AL), and possibly challenging Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA), but will concentrate mostly on protecting incumbents and any open seat races they currently hold.

Please refer to Appendix B for Senate election results, as of time of publication.

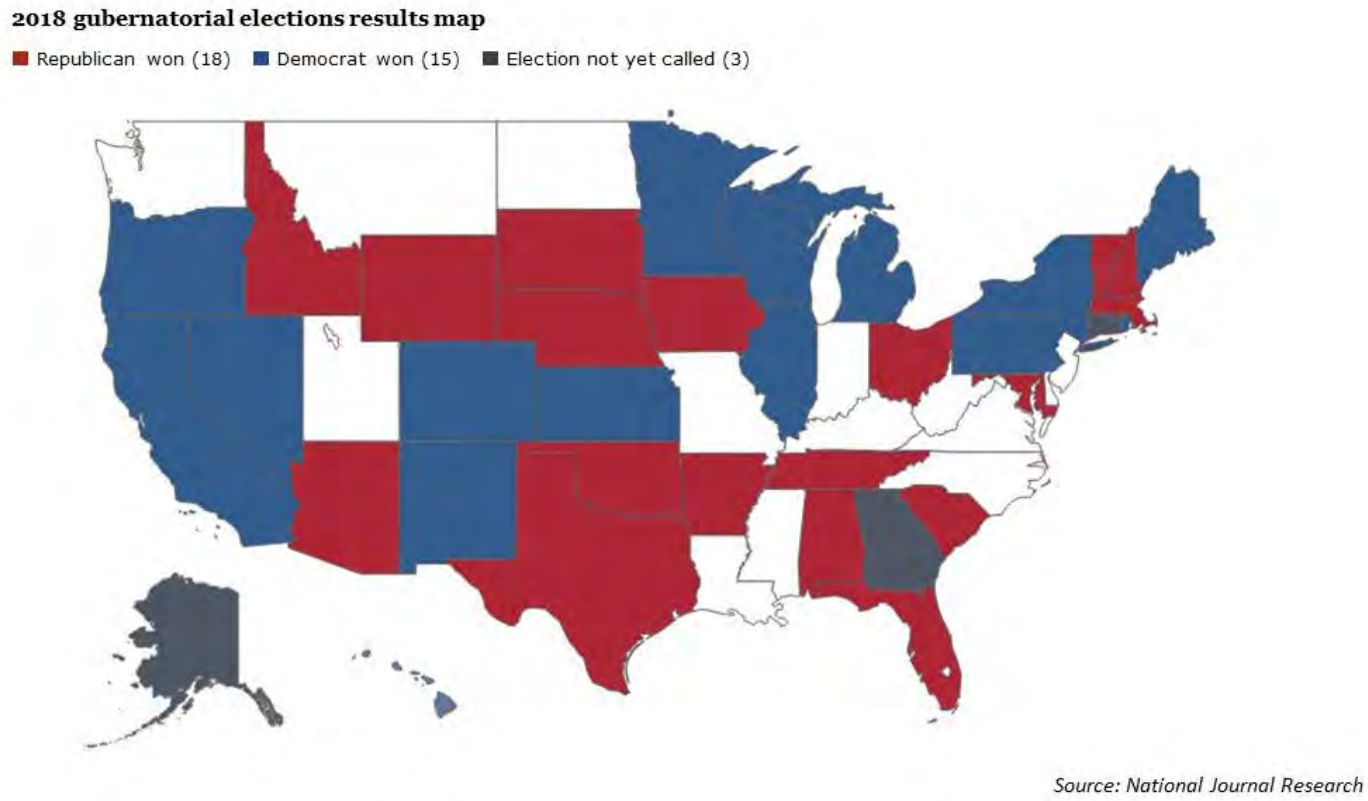
Governors

Gubernatorial races are always critical in their individual states, but this year's elections will reverberate throughout the nation for at least the next decade. In most of the 36 states where the executive mansion was up for grabs, newly elected governors will play a key role in drawing congressional districts in the wake of the 2020 decennial census.

Democrats improved their standing by picking up as many as seven states that had been held by Republicans. Prior to Election Day, Republicans held 33 Governor seats compared with only 16 Democrats and one Independent (Alaska Gov. Bill Walker). Projections are that the number of Republicans will drop to 27, compared with 23 Democrats. Overall, of the 36 contested races, Republicans are expected to win 20 gubernatorial races with Democrats winning 16.

Highlights for Democrats include winning in Kansas, where State Senator Laura Kelley (D) capitalized on GOP support to defeat Secretary of State Kris Kobach (R). Wisconsin Democrat Tony Evers, the state schools superintendent, appears to have defeated conservative favorite Gov. Scott Walker (R) who had previously staved off multiple recall attempts. Republican victories include the reelection of Governor Larry Hogan (R-MD) in an otherwise deep blue state of Maryland, and Governor Charlie Baker garnering support from Massachusetts Democrats and Independents to earn a second term. Even with sizable gains, Democrats were clearly – and emotionally – disappointed by Republican victories in Florida and Georgia.

Gubernatorial Races



Source: National Journal Research

NOTABLE DEMOCRATIC WINS

Connecticut: In a race between businessmen, Democrat Ned Lamont (D) defeated Bob Stefanowski (R) and will succeed Gov. Dannel Malloy (D). Lamont succeeded in tying Stefanowski to Trump, whose approval ratings sit below 40 percent in this deep blue state.
Growing the Connecticut economy and balancing the budget were the critical campaign issues.

Illinois: Businessman J.B. Pritzker (D) defeated Gov. Bruce Rauner (R). Pritzker led the race for most of the way, as he used his vast personal wealth to dominate campaign spending. Pritzker will inherit a state budget in disarray as well as challenges in Chicago, which has been buffeted by crime and social controversies.

Kansas: Secretary of State Kris Kobach (R) lost to State Sen. Laura Kelly (D) in one of the more divisive races of the election. Kobach, who gained attention for his tough stand on immigration and voter-fraud, was painted by Kelly as an acolyte of unpopular Gov. Sam Brownback (R). Kelly ran her race from the center, and as a result attracted the endorsement of many key Republican officials. She inherits a difficult budgetary environment.

Maine: State Attorney General Janet Mills (D) capitalized on the unpopularity of Gov. Paul LePage to defeat Republican entrepreneur Shawn Moody in a pickup for Democrats. Mills slammed LePage's decision to thwart Medicaid expansion in the state and cast herself as a fresh breeze of change.

Nevada: In another pickup for Democrats, Steve Sisolak (D), the Chairman of the Clark County Commission defeated State Attorney General Adam Laxalt (R) to succeed Gov. Brian Sandoval, who was term limited. Sisolak benefited from a moderate voter profile and a fractured Republican base that even split Laxalt's well-known family.

New Mexico: Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D) defeated Rep. Steve Pearce (R) in the race to succeed Gov. Susana Martinez, a Republican. Immigration was a critical policy issue for Lujan Grisham, the Chairwoman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. Economic issues dominated as well, as one might expect in the state with the nation's second-highest poverty rate.

Oregon: Despite declining popular ratings, Gov. Kate Brown (D) defeated State Rep. Knute Buehler (R) in a state that has not elected a Republican as Governor since 1982. Brown overcame concerns about how she has dealt with a homelessness crisis and the state's pension deficit.

Wisconsin: Democrat Tony Evers, the state schools superintendent, defeated incumbent Gov. Scott Walker (R) in a state where Trump's approval ratings have dipped to 42 percent. Key issues included work requirements for Medicaid, trade tariffs and controversial economic development incentives for Foxxconn, a Taiwanese company.

NOTABLE REPUBLICAN WINS

Alaska: In a race made for a television drama series, former State Sen. Mike Dunleavy (R) defeated former Senator Mark Begich (D) despite Gov. Bill Walker's (I) late decision to abandon the three-way race and endorse Begich.

Florida: In a highly emotional loss for Democrats, former Rep. Ron DeSantis edged out Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum (D) in the race to succeed Gov. Rick Scott (R). This was one of the most bitterly fought races in the nation, and presented clear contrasts with Gillum being backed by Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-VT), while DeSantis embraced Trump unapologetically. Gillum could not overcome the swirl of controversy stemming from an FBI investigation of corruption in Tallahassee, boosting DeSantis to victory.

Georgia: While both candidates admit there are still votes that need to be counted, Georgia's Secretary of State Brian Kemp (R) appears to be headed to victory over State Rep. Stacey Abrams. This race featured candidates from opposite ends of the political spectrum. The heated and nationally watched campaign was considered a true toss up from start to finish. Kemp's apparent victory puts him in line to succeed Republican Gov. Nathan Deal.

Iowa: Governor Kim Reynolds (R) ascended to the executive mansion in 2017 after former Gov. Terry Branstad (R) became the U.S. ambassador to China; and was elected Governor in her own right defeating financial services executive Fred Hubbell (D). Although Hubbell's prospects of winning seemed good, Reynolds momentum late in the campaign made the difference.

Ohio: In a major disappointment for Democrats, former U.S. Senator and current State Attorney General Mike DeWine (R) beat Richard Cordray (D) in the race to succeed Gov. John Kasich, who was term limited. Cordray, the former Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) under President Obama, had battled DeWine in 2010 for Attorney General, and lost. While Cordray ran a campaign based on health care and his experience at the CFPB, it was not enough to prevail over DeWine, who appealed to Ohio voters by sticking to the moderate script of economic growth via limited government intervention.

South Dakota: At-Large Rep. Kristi Noem (R) defeated State Senate Minority Leader Billie Sutton (D) in the race to succeed Gov. Dennis Daugaard (R). Noem rode her popularity and experience serving South Dakota as their lone U.S. House member in Washington to victory.

Issue Areas

Agriculture

Whether Congress can reauthorize the farm bill before the end of the year is one of the most uncertain questions hanging over the lame duck session. The results of the 2018 election make that possibility even more speculative, as Democrats may prefer to delay negotiations until they control the House in the next Congress. However, each of the four principals of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees has expressed a desire to wrap up the bill now to avoid starting all over again in January. To that end, conferees have been working to bridge the significant differences between the House and Senate bills, which include funding for farm programs; changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), including work requirements; and revamped conservation programs. Budgetary issues, including spending offsets to fund other programs, are also complicating the negotiations.

Key Takeaways

- It's do or die for the farm bill in the lame duck session – pressure is on to reach a bipartisan agreement
- Agriculture Committee leadership in Senate should remain same; Change in roles in House
- Key issues for 116th Congress include trade, farm bill implementation, oversight

If lawmakers are unable to pass a farm bill before the end of the year, focus will shift to passing an extension. In that scenario, Congress will be forced to begin anew in the 116th Congress. With control of the House, Democrats will likely prioritize SNAP and conservation programs in a new bill.

Among other issues affecting agriculture are consideration of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement and oversight of the Trump Administration's negotiations of bilateral free trade agreements with Japan, the United Kingdom, and the European Union. As the Trump Administration continues to pressure China to change its trade practices and enforce tariffs on steel and aluminum from all sources, there will be interest in providing additional relief from retaliatory actions that negatively impact agricultural sectors and rural communities dependent on agricultural exports. Additionally, Congress is expected to pass legislation to provide funding for producers affected by the hurricanes and wildfires in 2018 if funding is not provided during the lame duck session.

Senate Agriculture Committee

The 2018 election will result in few changes to the makeup of the Senate Agriculture Committee. As Republicans hold their majority in the Senate, Chairman Pat Roberts (R-KS) and Ranking Member Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) are expected to maintain their leadership positions. Sen. Deb Fischer (R-NE) won reelection and will likely keep her seat on the Committee. Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) is expected to defeat her opponent in a Nov. 27 runoff election. If so, she is expected to preserve her seat on the Committee as well.

On the Democratic side, Sens. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Tina Smith (D-MN), Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Bob Casey (D-PA) prevailed and will likely to keep their seats on the Committee, but Sens. Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) and Joe Donnelly (D-IN) were defeated.

House Agriculture Committee

On the House side, Agriculture Committee Ranking Member Collin Peterson (D-MN) is expected to take over as Chairman. (In the event that he does not do so, Rep. David Scott (D-GA) ranks number two in seniority.) With the retirement of Rep. Rick Nolan (D-MN), and Reps. Tim Walz (D-MN) and Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM) running for governor in their respective states, there will likely be open seats for new members.

With Democratic control of the House, expect increased representation from districts producing specialty crops and others representing urban areas with high participation in nutrition assistance programs. With Peterson as Chairman, the Committee would likely focus on oversight, biofuels and the impact of trade policies on agriculture. If Congress passes a farm bill, the Committee will likely carefully scrutinize the Department of Agriculture's implementation of the new law.

On the Republican side, Chairman Mike Conaway (R-TX) is expected to move over to Ranking Member. Rep. Jeff Denham (R-CA) is leading in his close race for reelection while Rep. John Faso (R-NY) lost his reelection bid.

Senate Appropriations Committee

As Republicans maintain the majority in the Senate, the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee is likely to face little change. Sens. John Hoeven (R-ND) and Jeff Merkley (D-OR) are expected to maintain their leadership positions. If Sen. Hyde-Smith wins her runoff, Republican membership on the subcommittee would likely remain unchanged.

On the minority side, Sens. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Jon Tester (D-MT) and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) defeated their Republican opponents and will retain their seats on the subcommittee.

House Appropriations Committee

As Democrats take control of the House, Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-GA) will likely move from Ranking Member to Chairman of the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. Bishop is mindful of the agricultural interests of his rural district and has a longstanding relationship with Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, the former Governor of Georgia.
The Republican side of the subcommittee is more complicated, as current Chairman Robert Aderholt (R-AL) is one of several contenders for Ranking Member of the full Appropriations Committee. Additionally, House Republican Conference rules limit members to a combined six-

year term as chair or ranking member. Rep. Aderholt has reached the end of his six-year term as Subcommittee Chairman and would need a waiver to continue to serve as ranking member on the Agriculture Subcommittee. Given the likely shuffling of the Republican cardinals elsewhere, predicting who will serve as the next Ranking Member of the subcommittee is difficult. Several Members will not be returning. Rep. Thomas Rooney (R-FL) has retired from office and Reps. Kevin Yoder (R-KS) and David Young (R-IA) were defeated.

Appropriations

Key Takeaways

- Seven FY 2019 spending bills face uncertain future in lame duck session
- Job number one for FY 2020: agreeing on new budget caps
- Major turnover ahead for House Appropriations Committee
- "Regular order" to remain elusive

With the election results near complete, the focus now turns to the lame duck session of the 115th Congress. No agenda item will be as difficult to resolve as the final appropriations end-game for FY 2019.

Both the House and Senate Committees have accomplished much this year, having ushered through and finalized five appropriations bills thus far—covering nearly two-thirds of all discretionary activities and programs. All five measures were signed into law by President Trump before the end of the fiscal year—an achievement not seen in over 10 years. The measures contained increased dollar amounts for the top priorities of Democrats and Republicans alike, including funding for the Departments of Defense, Education and Health and Human Services, among others. While the Committees made great strides this year, and offered a rare glimpse of regular order, maintaining that momentum will prove challenging during the lame duck session. With a fast-approaching fiscal deadline of Dec. 7, when the current continuing resolution is set to expire, several landmines await, as some of the more contentious and politically difficult appropriations bills have yet to be finalized. Long-standing policy differences affecting the financial services and banking industries, environmental regulations, foreign aid and immigration policy top the list of unresolved items.

Providing relief to those impacted by and recovering from Hurricanes Florence and Michael will also be a major item of business for the Committees when Congress returns. Though initial down payments toward disaster recovery were enacted in September, final assessments of the damages had not been completed prior to the congressional recess. With a better picture of the long-term recovery needs slowly coming into focus, look for the Committees to provide a second disaster relief package as part of any year-end product.

Though there is much speculation about how the election results will affect the final FY 2019 negotiations, there is a path to closure for the remaining bills. It remains possible that most of them will be enacted before the end of the year, bundled into one catch-all package. While a partial government shutdown is not beyond the realm of possibility, especially if President Trump makes good on a veto threat over funding for a border wall, congressional leaders, particularly in the Senate, will try to avoid that scenario. Look for a bipartisan coalition of appropriators to advocate for completing the remaining bills and wiping the FY 2019 slate clean before the next Congress is sworn in.

Looking ahead to FY 2020 and beyond, several challenging issues confront the leaders of the appropriations panels.

Despite their accomplishments, the Committees will continue to face conservative backlash over higher spending levels and a perceived lack of transparency. While these concerns traditionally spawn no shortage of ideas on how to "reform" the appropriations process, the task of coming up with viable solutions this year has been left to a Joint Select Committee, co-chaired by Reps. Steve Womack (R-AR), the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, and Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY), the Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Committee. Look for this Committee to meet on Nov. 15 to mark up a legislative package of reform proposals, and possibly to move legislation to the House floor during the lame duck session. A range of possibilities have been discussed, including moving from annual to biennial budgeting, changing the fiscal year deadlines, repealing House Budget Committee term limits, requiring increased budget transparency from the Office of Management and Budget and making passage of continuing resolutions and debt ceiling extensions automatic. Many of the more dramatic proposals are not likely to be adopted. The one exception seems to be biennial budgeting, but with one major caveat: Annual consideration of appropriations bills will continue.

Lastly, but certainly looming large over the Committees next year, is the return of sequester spending caps, now that the two-year budget deal covering FY 2018 and 2019 has expired. A remnant of the Budget Control Act of 2011, over $120 billion in cuts to current year spending levels are due to set in, both on the defense and nondefense side of the ledger. Trump is expected to adhere closely to the sequester levels for nondefense programs in his FY 2020 budget request, while offering only modest cuts to defense. While there is bipartisan agreement that sequester caps are unrealistic for today's budgetary needs, mustering the political will to address the problem quickly has so far been lacking. Partisan rancor and squabbling have been the norm, typically dragging out for months, and hamstringing the Committees from finishing their work in a timely fashion.

Please refer to Appendix D for the Congressional Budget Office's Baseline Budget Projections.

As has been the case for the three previous two-year budget deals over the last six years, expect to see the political standoff to revolve around the argument of parity, which the Democrats have traditionally leveraged to their advantage, resulting in substantial gains to the nondefense side of the ledger. With mounting concerns over the growth of the nation's deficits, projected to reach nearly $1 trillion in 2019, negotiations to address sequestration could linger for several months. As a result, the momentum of the past year will be difficult to replicate and regular order could remain elusive.

Senate Appropriations Committee

Look for the Appropriations Committee structure and leadership to remain relatively stable for the 116th Congress. Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL) will remain Chairman, a position he assumed earlier this year following the retirement of Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS). Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT) will continue to serve as Vice Chairman, the title given in recent years to the Ranking Member

on the Committee in the Senate. A wave of midsession shifts in the subcommittee chairmanships in 2018 due to Cochran's early retirement has placed several Senators in relatively new positions already. Six of the subcommittees, including the influential Defense, Commerce-Justice-Science, and Homeland Security panels, all have new chairmen at the helm, with less than a year of training under their belts. In addition, only one Committee Republican had a contested election—Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS)—and she is widely expected to retain her seat in a Nov. 27 runoff. These facts make major shifts on the Republican side of the Committee unlikely.

This overall stability will be key to the Committee's agenda moving forward. The close working relationship between Shelby and Leahy is expected to continue, with each side likely foregoing traditional partisan fights in the short term to reach long-term bipartisan consensus. This collegial way of doing business united the Committee and set the tone for its FY 2019 conference negotiations with the House—an approach that should continue in the 116th Congress.

House Appropriations Committee

Unlike in the Senate, expect major changes on the House Appropriations Committee. Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY), the current Ranking Member, is in line to take the gavel and would be the first woman to hold that position. Her cardinals likewise are seasoned veterans, and will be aggressive in countering the President's agenda from day one—ready to do battle in what they anticipate will be his last two years in office. Most, if not all, of the current subcommittee ranking members will assume chairmanships in the majority.

The Republican side of the aisle, meanwhile, is decimated. The retirements of Appropriations Committee Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) and Committee member Rep. Tom Rooney (R-FL), the early departures of Reps. Charlie Dent (R-PA) and Evan Jenkins (R-WV), and the reelection losses of Reps. Kevin Yoder (R-KS), David Young (R-IA), John Culberson (R-TX) and Scott Taylor (R-VA) will have a major impact not only on the subcommittee rosters, but on the agenda, tone and seniority of the Committee itself. By the start of the 116th Congress, about 70 percent of the Republican members of the Committee will have turned over since 2010.

The full Committee Ranking Member slot is a wide-open race and rests in the hands of the Republican Steering Committee. The current Defense Subcommittee Chairwoman, Kay Granger (R-TX), is viewed as the frontrunner. The other two top contenders for the job are Reps. Tom Cole (R-OK) and Tom Graves (R-GA), in that order.

Expect to see a game of musical chairs among the Republican ranks on the subcommittees as well. In addition to the reelection losses and retirements mentioned above, there are two other wildcards to watch in the shuffle. Rep. Robert Aderholt (R-AL) has reached the end of his six-year term as Chairman of the Agriculture Subcommittee, and some speculate that he will opt not to seek a waiver but pursue a more high-profile subcommittee slot. In addition, Rep. Steve Womack (R-AR) has mused openly about leaving his Budget Committee post to assume a Ranking Member

position on an Appropriations subcommittee. Regardless, expect to see a sizeable number of fresh faces on the dais, with as many as six or seven subcommittees with new GOP leadership.

As for carrying out the Committee's business, look for Democrats to act aggressively to use the power of the purse to try to extract concessions from President Trump and attach policy riders to appropriations bills. They will also use budget hearings to conduct vigorous, and sometimes confrontational, oversight of the Federal agencies. The heightened political environment overall in the House, with a slew of investigations into the President and his Cabinet, will keep the Committee busy as well.

Democrats will prioritize spending for multiple programs that appeal to their base, particularly in the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill. Medical research, maternity care, nutrition, workforce development and education will remain areas of focus, as well as renewable fuel development, environmental protections and investments in infrastructure.

Cybersecurity

All eyes were on the cybersecurity of election systems across the country yesterday. With no known cases of vote tampering, attention today turns to cybersecurity policy and funding in the 116th Congress. Cybersecurity crosses the jurisdiction of several committees. In the civilian arena, the Homeland Security, Judiciary, Commerce, and Oversight and Government Reform committees will all see big changes in their membership this year, especially at the top. The same is true for the national security committees that oversee military cybersecurity policy and funding, mainly the Appropriations and Armed Services committees.

Key Takeaways

- Big changes in cybersecurity leadership in Congress
- Key issues to include cyber supply chain threats, foreign influence, critical infrastructure
- FY 2019 Homeland Security appropriations bill, with a direct impact on civilian cyber, still needs to be finalized

For the first time in a decade, the defense authorizations and appropriations acts for FY 2019, chock full of cybersecurity priorities for the military, were signed into law before the start of the fiscal year on Oct. 1, 2018. Leaders of the national security committees are looking toward the FY 2020 budget cycle to make their next mark on cybersecurity, in a military sense. At the same time, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the government's civilian lead for cybersecurity, is currently operating under a continuing resolution until Dec. 7, 2018. One of the first priorities during the lame duck session of Congress will be to try to pass a DHS budget for the remainder of the fiscal year. The battle over border wall funding could have a significant impact on the other parts of the DHS budget including cybersecurity, for everything from critical infrastructure protection to training to cyber threat detection and mitigation.

Senate Authorization Committees

Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-OK), who became chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) in September, will keep the gavel in the 116th Congress. A focus on military cybersecurity, including combatting the threats posed by Russia, China and Iran and the risks these countries and others pose to the military supply chain, will continue to dominate the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2020. The election resulted in at least one and possibly two major losses at the top for Senate Democrats with longstanding knowledge of cybersecurity and positioned on critical authorizing committees, both military and civilian. The defeat of Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-MO) knocked out the second-most senior Member on the Cybersecurity Subcommittee on SASC. Her loss will also open up the Ranking Member slot on the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL), meanwhile, was trailing at time of publication in his bid for reelection. Nelson’s absence would be significant, since he is the current Ranking Member on the Cybersecurity Subcommittee on SASC and also the Ranking Member of

the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee; both committees include cybersecurity in their portfolios.

House Authorization Committees

As Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA) takes over as Chairman, expect the House Armed Services Committee to maintain a bipartisan focus on pushing the military and other administration leaders to offer a comprehensive military cybersecurity strategy. Top issues will include supply chain threats from U.S. adversaries, rules and oversight of sensitive cybersecurity military operations, and implementation of strong cyber protections for vulnerable military weapons and corresponding systems. In the civilian world of cybersecurity on Capitol Hill, there will be many changes in the committees of jurisdiction in the new Congress. Most current Chairmen are retiring, leaving many Ranking Member positions in the new Congress unclear. Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-MS) is expected to take over as Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee. Current Chairman Michael McCaul (R-TX) is term-limited from his Committee post and will step down at the end of the current Congress, leaving an open Ranking Member spot.

On the Judiciary Committee, Rep. Jerry Nadler (D-NY) is expected to take over as Chairman, succeeding Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-VA), who is retiring at the end of this Congress. Goodlatte's departure will open up another Ranking Member slot. Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) is expected to take over as Chairman of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee. Similarly, current Chairman Trey Gowdy (R-SC) is retiring, leaving another Ranking Member slot up for grabs. Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ) is expected to take over as Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, while Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR) is expected to move over to Ranking Member. Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), Chairwoman of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee on the Energy and Commerce Committee, will vacate her post, after winning her bid for Senate. Races will be held in the coming days to fill these critical open positions for civilian cyber in Congress.

Senate Appropriations Committee

The Senate Appropriations Committee is a different story, where stability will reign when it comes to leadership in charge of cybersecurity funding, both military and civilian. Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL) will continue to serve as Chairman of both the full Committee and the Defense Subcommittee, and Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) will retain the top spot on the Homeland Security Subcommittee. On the Democratic side, Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL) will continue as Ranking Member on Defense and Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) will should remain the Ranking Member on Homeland Security. Robust, bipartisan support is expected to continue for cybersecurity funding for military programs. The outlook for cybersecurity in the Homeland bill is murkier, as it must compete for funding with border protection initiatives.

House Appropriations Committee

With Democrats taking back the House, there will be new leadership atop the Defense and Homeland Security Appropriations subcommittees, the two spending panels that deal most directly with cybersecurity. Rep. Pete Visclosky (D-IN) will switch from Ranking Member to Chairman of the Defense Subcommittee, which allocates funding for military cybersecurity needs. He will have a tough job of prioritizing what should be done first, given a recent government report that says the Department of Defense is just "beginning to grapple with the scale of vulnerabilities" to military systems. Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) will likely move from Ranking Member to Chairwoman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee. This panel allocates funding for DHS, which is charged with coordinating cybersecurity within civilian government agencies and the private sector. The Homeland Security appropriations bill also provides funding for more controversial endeavors, like border security. Roybal-Allard will have to balance both needs for the safety of the nation.

Leadership on the Republican side is harder to predict. Current House Appropriations Committee Defense (HAC-D) Subcommittee Chairwoman Kay Granger (R-TX) is one of several Members vying for Ranking Member of the full Appropriations Committee. If successful, she will vacate the top slot on HAC-D. Several current Members of HAC-D, including Reps. Hal Rogers (R-KY), Robert Aderholt (R-AL), Ken Calvert (R-CA) and Tom Cole (R-OK), could compete to replace her. On the Homeland Security Subcommittee, the election loss of Chairman Kevin Yoder (R-KS) means the Ranking Member slot is up for grabs. Rep. John Culberson (R-TX) also lost his reelection bid, so next in line on the subcommittee are Reps. Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN), Andy Harris (R-MD) and Steven Palazzo (R-MS).

Defense

Fiscal uncertainty looms on the horizon for national security and defense. Debate over the defense and nondefense spending caps, along with the threat of sequester imposed by the Budget Control Act (BCA) of 2011, is scheduled to reappear in FY 2020. The President's defense budget request for FY 2020 will support the new National Defense Strategy. Although the request will likely be less than the FY 2019 appropriated level, it will likely ignore the much lower FY 2020 defense-spending cap prescribed in the BCA.

The newly minted National Defense Strategy prioritizes increased investment to counter near-peer competitors, as well as continue to deter and counter rogue regimes and defeat terrorist threats. Over the next two years, expect the Department of Defense (DoD) to focus efforts on building a more lethal force, strengthening alliances, at racting new partners and reforming the Department for greater performance and affordability.

Key Takeaways

- FY 2020 DoD budget request to support new National Defense Strategy
- Spending cap for FY 2020 is the big question mark
- Adam Smith takes helm as HASC Chairman
- Peter Visclosky takes helm as HAC-D Chairman
- Multi-Member GOP race for HAC-D Ranking Member

National security and defense policy issues will remain a priority in the 116th Congress. For the first time in 10 years, Congress enacted both the defense authorization and defense appropriations acts ahead of the new fiscal year. The Department of Defense has consistently complained about the negative impacts of receiving its appropriations halfway through the fiscal year, which caused uncertainty in programs and led to an increase in reprogramming actions. Congress will no doubt pay closer at ention to budget execution data, as well as scrutinize requests to reprogram funds, in this "normal" budget execution year.

The President remains outspoken on the need to prioritize defense spending. In order to do so, Congress and the Administration must figure out a way to increase the FY 2020 defense-spending cap. This will not be easy, as Democrats will prioritize domestic spending and insist on parity between defense and nondefense accounts. Look for a potentially drawn-out budget resolution process, which could set back the defense authorization and appropriations processes and timelines. (See Appropriations section for more information.)

In addition to regularly scheduled hearings on the DoD budget, its services and the Combatant Commands, expect additional hearings on acquisition reform, Authorization for Use of Military Force, DoD Audit, national security strategy, cyber threats, space force, investment in future technologies, readiness and personnel/force structure. There will also be increased debate on the size of the military to include personnel and equipment, need for another Base Realignment and Closure round, authorization for commitment of U.S. forces overseas and increased

oversight on military budget and operations. Look for the House defense oversight commit ees to significantly ramp-up scrutiny of the Pentagon.

Finally, there continues to be conjecture over the potential departure of Defense Secretary James Mattis. While both the President and Secretary Mattis maintain that he is staying, some continue to speculate he may depart sometime soon. Names of potential replacements currently being circulated include Senators Tom Cot on from Arkansas and Lindsey Graham from South Carolina, retired four-star Army General Jack Keane, former Treasury Department official David McCormick and former Senator Jim Talent of Missouri.

Senate Armed Services Committee

Under the chairmanship of Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-OK), who took the gavel of the Senate Armed Services Commit ee in September, expect a continued focus on rebuilding the military's capacity, capability and readiness. Chairman Inhofe will work closely with Ranking Member Jack Reed (D-RI) and all Members of the commit ee to push for on-time passage of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Look for continued investment into the training, maintenance and modernization accounts and a continued focus on acquisition reform as well as investment in research and development, depots, cyber and missile defense. The focus overseas will be on Russia and China and building strong partnerships through programs like Train & Equip with allies across the globe, including Africa. Budget restrictions will likely limit the Chairman's ability to simultaneously increase end strength, modernize the force and adequately fund readiness. Overall commit ee focus remains stable but the loss of Sens. Joe Donnelly (D-IN) and Claire McCaskill (D-MO) will result in the addition of new Democratic Members to the commit ee and the appointment of a new Ranking Member of the Strategic Forces Subcommit ee. Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) is currently trailing in his race by less than 0.5 percent, requiring a recount by Florida law. His loss would result in a new Ranking Member of the Cyber Subcommit ee.

House Armed Services Committee

As Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA) takes over as Chairman of the House Armed Services Commit ee, expect additional DoD oversight and a more critical look at defense spending levels. He will push for cuts based on a threat-and-budget-based assessment to U.S. national security. Chairman Smith will also seek to reduce expenditures on nuclear weapons, ensure a full and accountable DoD audit, increase oversight of military operations overseas, support alternative energy and climate change, increase emphasis on personnel issues and support another BRAC round. The focus overseas will be on Russia and China, a new war powers resolution, treaty obligations and a more limited U.S. role overseas. The change in control of the House and the retirement/loss of roughly a dozen Members on the HASC will result in the addition of up to a dozen Democratic Members and lit le to no change in Republican Members. This will also result in shuffling of some subcommit ee leadership to include the Personnel, Readiness, and Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommit ees.

Senate Appropriations Committee

With the Senate remaining in GOP control for the next two years, look for stability in the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommit ee with Chairman Richard Shelby (R-AL) and Ranking Member Dick Durbin (D-IL) staying in place. As Chairman of the full Senate Appropriations Commit ee, Shelby orchestrated a plan to pass the FY 2019 Defense Appropriations Act "on time," completing it ahead of the start of the new fiscal year for the first time in 10 years. Look for him to take a similar lead role in the 116th Congress, where he is likely to advocate for moving the defense appropriations bill through the commit ee and onto the Senate floor for a vote. Pairing it with the Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill worked successfully in FY 2019, and may offer a path to enactment again in FY 2020. Commit ee membership will likely remain relatively stable.

House Appropriations Committee

As Democrats assume leadership of the House, they gain seats on and control of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommit ee (HAC-D). Rep. Peter Visclosky (D-IN), after serving as Ranking Member for the past six years, takes over as Chairman. He is likely to intensify scrutiny of the Department of Defense. Look for the HAC-D to increase the number of oversight hearings, closely examine the Department's reprogramming requests, prioritize the U.S. industrial base and ask more questions about the Administration's annual budget requests.

For the GOP, soon to be the minority party, the retirement of full Appropriations Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) will affect who becomes the Ranking Member of HAC-D in the 116th Congress. Current HAC-D Chairwoman Kay Granger (R-TX) is viewed as the potential front-runner in the race to become Ranking Member of the full commit ee. Should Granger move up, several current Members of the HAC-D will compete to be the Ranking Member of that subcommit ee. These could include Reps. Hal Rogers (R-KY), Robert Aderholt (R-AL), Ken Calvert (R-CA) and Tom Cole (R-OK).

Education

Democratic control of the House of Representatives may not lead to breakthroughs on big-ticket policy items, but a renewed focus on oversight of the Department of Education and Secretary Betsy DeVos should keep K-12 and higher education front and center in the new Congress.

Key Takeaways

- Oversight will be the name of the game for the House Education and Labor Committee under incoming Chairman Scott
- Higher education will be top policy focus of the authorizing committees
- Education funding to get a boost under incoming House Labor-HHS Chairwoman DeLauro

In addition to oversight, House Democrats will prioritize school construction within the context of a larger infrastructure bill. Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), who will take over as Chairman of what will likely be renamed the House Education and Labor Committee (currently the House Committee on Education and the Workforce), introduced the Rebuild America's Schools Act last May, and party leadership recently directed Committee Democrats to ready a school construction plan in advance of next year. This effort will be early on the Committee's legislative agenda. Chairman Scott may also look to prioritize legislation that seeks to identify and close gaps in educational equity and should give far more attention to early childhood education than did his predecessor, Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC).

Over the last few years, the Senate and House education committees have reauthorized many of the major K-12 and higher education bills—including the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Workforce Investment Act, Perkins Career and Technical Act—and have begun discussions on a number of the outstanding items, most notably the Higher Education Act (HEA), Education Sciences Reform Act and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. It is unlikely that the committees will get the "leftovers" across the finish line in the 116th Congress, but there will be a legitimate effort to reauthorize the HEA. With at least two Members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee expected to run for President, however, and with higher education being a major part of any Democratic platform, it remains difficult to see how the parties will put their differences aside on such a major issue—especially in a presidential election cycle.

House Education and Labor Committee

Scott and Foxx will swap the Chair and Ranking Member roles atop the House Education and Labor Committee, with Scott, a former civil rights lawyer, taking the gavel for the first time. Under his leadership, the Committee will prioritize oversight of the Education Department, particularly around civil rights, school climate, school safety, Title IX, for-profit education, and implementation of ESSA. Frequent oversight hearings and the potential for subpoenas should help shed light on the rationales behind some of the Department's recent administrative and

regulatory actions in the K-12 and higher education sectors, but it is unlikely that such scrutiny would push the Department to back off from its preferred policies.

The Education and Labor Committee has generally been one of the more transient House committees, and with at least eight members retiring or losing reelection, there should be plenty of new faces when the 116th Congress is seated in January. Notable departures from the Committee include Rep. Jared Polis (D-CO), a champion of charter schools who often crossed his party on issues related to K-12 education reform and won his bid for Colorado Governor this election cycle; Rep. Todd Rokita (R-IN), who chaired the subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education; and Rep. Luke Messer (R-IN), a founder of the Congressional School Choice Caucus. Reps. Marcia Fudge (D-OH) and Mark Takano (D-CA) should continue to gain stature on the Democratic side of the dais, and one would expect Rep.-elect Jahana Hayes (D-CT), the 2016 National Teacher of the Year, to join the Committee following her election to Congress. Rep.-elect Donna Shalala (D-FL), a three-time college president, is another logical choice for Committee membership.

Senate HELP Committee

Sens. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Patty Murray (D-WA) will remain in their current roles atop the Senate HELP Committee, which, outside of the retirement of Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), is expected to look as it did in the 115th Congress. The Committee's primary legislative priority continues to be a comprehensive rewrite of the HEA, but finding bipartisan consensus—let alone bicameral consensus—on such a topic will be difficult. Expect private talks and negotiations on HEA and a public focus on oversight of ESSA implementation.

Appropriations Committees

Outside of a swap in roles for Reps. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Tom Cole (R-OK), there are no expected changes atop the House and Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) Appropriations subcommittees. The four subcommittee leaders—DeLauro, Cole and Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO) and Murray—are pragmatic members who prioritize results and during their time working together have proven to be more than able to reach bipartisan deals that they can sell to their respective caucuses.

Education funding may fair better under Chairwoman DeLauro than it did under Cole, who tended to prioritize the National Institutes of Health (NIH) over all other programs in the bill. DeLauro is more likely to balance any increases for NIH with education and child care priorities such as Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies, special education, Head Start and the Child Care and Development Block Grant. DeLauro may also attempt to use the Labor-HHS bill to push back on the Administration's decision to allow states and districts to use the Title IV block grant to arm teachers.

Energy & Environment

The Trump Administration's approach on energy and environmental policy so far has been one of deregulation and downsizing. That should continue over the next two years, with the President touting how the Administration's policies have fostered job creation and benefited consumers while placing the United States in strong standing as a global energy leader. As Democrats prepare to take the reins in the House, they are likely to challenge the Administration at every turn. The new House majority's agenda will include expanding renewable energy and investing in policy and technology to lessen the United States' carbon footprint while combating climate change. However, with divided control of Congress, there will be limited opportunity for them to alter the Administration's current course. Instead, expect much of their attention to focus on oversight of the Administration's regulations and industry practices that are intended to protect human health, clean air, water and wildlife.

Key Takeaways

- House Democrats to renew focus on climate change while scrutinizing Administration's regulatory policies
- Leadership on Capitol Hill to remain fairly stable
- Protecting and modernizing the nation's electricity grid will continue as key issue

Senate Authorization Committees

Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY) will move into his second term as Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee next Congress, with Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE) remaining as Ranking Member. Expect the Committee to continue to explore what the appropriate role should be for states when it comes to environmental regulations and clean-up. The microscope will also remain on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as both parties present differing views on the agency's proper responsibilities and whether EPA is right-sized to fulfill its mission. Barrasso's priorities also include modernizing the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will continue under the leadership of Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) as Chairwoman while the Ranking Member position remains somewhat unclear. If Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) loses his reelection bid-his race was yet to be called-Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA), the current Ranking Member, could seek the top Democratic spot on the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. Should that switch occur, Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) will likely take her spot on the Committee. Expect the Committee to continue to consider the vulnerability of the electricity grid to cyber attacks as well as the overall complex and evolving web of how energy is generated, distributed and ultimately consumed. Sens. Murkowski and Cantwell also have much of their collaborative legislation, the Energy and Natural Resources Act, left unsettled. While several hydropower provisions of their bill were included in the Water Resources Development Act reauthorization, they have thus far been unable to reconcile much of the package with their House counterparts. Watch for some of the

remaining provisions to make their way into an end-of-the-year package during the lame duck session. Otherwise, with Democrats now in control of the House, they may find a more receptive audience to moving forward on unfinished business next Congress.

At the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, there could be a shuffling of the deck. Sen. John Thune (R-SD), the current Chairman, is expected to pursue a Senate leadership slot in the next Congress. If his bid is successful, Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS) could emerge as his successor on the Committee. As discussed above, Cantwell could take over as Ranking Member.

House Energy and Commerce Committee and House Natural Resources Committee

Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ) is expected to remain the top Democrat on the Energy and Commerce Committee and assume leadership as the Chairman, exchanging roles with Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR), who will now serve as Ranking Member. This Committee will be the primary venue in the House for the new majority to resurface the debate on climate change. Don't expect to see anything resembling the comprehensive cap-and-trade legislation that Democrats advanced last time they held control of the House, only to watch that effort stall in the Senate. Instead, look for them to promote the importance of concepts like the Clean Power Plan and the Paris Agreement, both policies the Trump Administration has abandoned without alternative solutions.

The Democratic agenda will also likely include attention to a variety of areas that Committee Democrats feel have gone largely ignored under Republican control. The EPA will have to prepare for a great deal of scrutiny about the management of the agency and the use of the agency's regulatory authority. This will include elevating issues raised last year with respect to the law passed in 2016 to amend the Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA). Democrats who helped shepherd the new law into place have expressed concerns over the manner in which the agency is implementing certain reforms while at the same time ignoring some statutory obligations. Other priorities may include addressing safe drinking water funding and infrastructure, pesticide risk assessment policies and Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards—all areas where Democrats believe the Republican-controlled Congress fell short.

With Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ) set to take the helm as Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, there will be additional attention from the House on climate change and the importance to participate as a global partner. Expect this to come with a spotlight on the current process and timing for oil and gas leasing. This will put Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT), the new Ranking Member, in the position of defending recent policies that have streamlined permitting and leasing for exploration on federal lands. Grijalva's priorities will include the Hardrock Leasing and Reclamation Act, which he introduced this session. Among other things, this legislation creates new royalties on mining operations while directing revenues toward the clean-up of abandoned mines.

Senate Appropriations Committees

Leadership of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies subcommittee in the Senate is expected to remain stable under Chairwoman Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Ranking Member Tom Udall (D-NM). The same is expected at the Energy and Water Development subcommittee with Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) staying on as Chairman and Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) as Ranking Member. Anticipate both subcommittees to reflect the dynamics of the Senate with a more balanced approach to funding and policy riders than their House counterparts. Look for the Interior and Environment subcommittee to recommend maintaining funding for EPA and the Department of Interior, with some increases beyond the President's budget request. The glaring difference between the House and Senate Energy and Water appropriations bills will likely be the continued standoff on providing funds for a nuclear waste storage repository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada.

House Appropriations Committees

Under Democratic control of the House, Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) and Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID) will switch roles as Chairman and Ranking Member, respectively, of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies subcommittee. For the Interior and Environment subcommittee, current Ranking Member Betty McCollum (D-MN) is expected to take the gavel while the Ranking Member role remains less certain, pending the outcome of the race for Ranking Member of the full Committee. Should Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA), who currently serves as the top Republican on the subcommittee, seek a different post, there could be interest from several Republicans for the top spot on Interior and Environment. Look for that list to possibly include Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK), given his interest in and connection to Indian tribes and public land issues. Expect funding priorities to reflect a shift toward more renewable energy technologies and away from fossil fuel research while strong levels should remain for water infrastructure and environmental clean-up initiatives. The new Democratic majority may also use appropriations bills to try to restrict the Trump Administration from using funds for certain activities.

Health

With Democrats taking control of the House, many of the hotly debated health issues in the 115th Congress should fall to the wayside. The threats to reform Medicaid into a block grant program or per capita reimbursement model will no longer be viable. And demands for increased oversight and reform of the 340B drug pricing should also diminish. However, these issues will not disappear from the radar, as the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) could continue to exercise its authority in making programmatic changes that do not require approval from Congress.

Key Takeaways

- Democratic House means no more attempts to repeal ACA
- Power shifts to the Administration as agencies take the lead on new regulations
- NIH will remain a top spending priority
- House Democrats to lay the groundwork for "Medicare for All"

Through rulemaking, HHS will continue to address rising drug prices. Earlier this month, the agency proposed to pay for select Part B drugs based on the International Price Index. Additionally, Congress recently wrote to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) reminding the agency of existing authorities to make changes to the 340B drug pricing program. As such, it is expected that future changes to 340B are likely to come from HRSA rather than Congress. Given the increased activity by the Administration, a Democratic-controlled House will pursue an aggressive oversight agenda. Drug pricing, new Medicaid requirements and changes to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) could all be topics of intense oversight investigations and hearings.

Senate Finance Committee and Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee

In the Senate, work on federal health programs is split between the Finance Committee and the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee. With the retirement of Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), it is believed that Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) will leave the chairmanship of the Senate Judiciary Committee and reclaim the gavel on the Finance Committee. Grassley last chaired the Committee in 2006 and is eligible to serve as Chairman for two more years. Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) will remain as the Committee's Ranking Member. Grassley has long been a champion of rural health care providers and ensuring access to quality rural health care services. He is also an advocate of increased transparency in the health care sector and has led legislative efforts to shed light on waste, fraud and abuse in federal health care programs. As the author of bipartisan legislation to address the high cost of prescription drugs, Grassley could be an ally to the Administration's efforts to reduce patients' out-of-pocket spending on pharmaceuticals.

Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) will continue to serve as Chairman of the Senate HELP Committee, while Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) will remain as Ranking Member. Having played a significant role

in the passage of the recent opioids bill, the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, the Committee is expected to continue its focus on health care in rural America. As part of that conversation, it is widely expected that the Committee will study the use of telehealth and explore potential legislative changes to make broader implementation of telehealth a reality. Additionally, Chairman Alexander has been a leading Republican voice for amending the ACA to make health insurance premiums more affordable for those Americans purchasing coverage in the public exchanges.

House Energy and Commerce Committee and House Ways and Means Committee

In the House, the health care portfolio is divided between the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Ways and Means Committee. Change in party control means the committees will have new chairmen in the 116th Congress. However, familiar faces are expected to lead both panels. At the Energy and Commerce Committee, current Chairman Greg Walden (R-OR) should slide into the Ranking Member's slot, while current Ranking Member Frank Pallone (D-NJ) will wield the gavel. Pallone is a long-serving member on the Committee's Health Subcommittee, having served as Chairman during the passage of the ACA. As such, health issues will be a priority for the new Chairman. Democrats have already expressed a desire to address rising drug costs, although how the Committee drug pricing agenda matches up with the Administration's work remains to be seen. It is anticipated the Committee will pursue an aggressive oversight agenda. Medicaid work requirements and Medicaid waivers, in general, and the Administration's enforcement of the ACA will likely be on the docket in the near future.

Over the past year, the Energy and Commerce Committee has hosted numerous hearings to study the 340B drug pricing program. During these hearings, Democrats on the panel have offered more reserved changes to the program, including increased transparency from all stakeholders. With the change in panel leadership, the 340B program should recede into the background for the time being. However, any proposed changes to the program by HRSA would likely be thoroughly vetted by the Committee.

Finally, the Energy and Commerce Committee has jurisdiction over activities of the Food and Drug Administration. Chairman Pallone could lead efforts to closely examine the regulation of electronic cigarettes and vaping.

At the Ways and Means Committee, current Ranking Member Richard Neal (D-MA) will take the gavel from Chairman Kevin Brady (R-TX), who, with two years of eligibility remaining, will shift to the Ranking Member position. Similar to the Energy and Commerce Committee, the Ways and Means Committee is expected to examine the drivers behind rising drug costs. An aggressive oversight agenda with a particular focus on Administration proposals affecting the ACA will be a Committee focus. The Committee may also consider legislative solutions to improve care coordination and chronic care management, especially among the dual eligible population.

Both the Ways and Means Committee and the Energy and Commerce Committee have begun studying the rising maternal mortality rate. This issue has gained significant bipartisan interest and support. Pending legislation has already been considered at the Energy and Commerce Committee, and the issue will remain a priority for both committees into the 116th Congress.

Both committees could spend time exploring and/or laying the groundwork for a "Medicare for All" legislative proposal. A number of newly elected Democrats made "Medicare for All" a feature of their campaign platform, and several Democratic candidates for President in 2020 are expected to support it as well—even though, at the moment, there is no clear consensus about what this goal would actually entail. Look for Democrats in the House to begin exploring various forms of this proposal.

Senate Appropriations Committee

In the Senate, there are no expected changes in leadership of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) Subcommittee. Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO) will remain Chairman, while Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) will remain the Ranking Member. Funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has been Blunt's top spending priority. Continuing to provide multibillion-dollar increases for this agency in an uncertain fiscal environment will be his most difficult challenge in the 116th Congress. Blunt and Murray have enjoyed a strong, bipartisan working relationship, and their collegiality is expected to continue.

House Appropriations Committee

On the House Appropriations Committee, Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) will move from Ranking Member to Chairwoman of the Labor-HHS Subcommittee. Current Chairman Tom Cole (R-OK) is expected to become the Ranking Member of Labor-HHS unless he succeeds in his bid for Ranking Member of the full Committee. DeLauro will advocate vigorously for the highest possible allocation for her subcommittee, whose portfolio includes many top Democratic funding priorities. Although she will likely continue the subcommittee's strong support for NIH, she will seek to spread spending increases across a wide range of programs in the bill, including early childhood education, child care, social services, public health, labor programs and many others.

Homeland Security

Funding for the border wall in the FY 2019 Homeland Security appropriations bill remains perhaps the most challenging issue hanging over the lame duck session. The House version of the bill includes $5 billion for this purpose, compared with $1.6 billion in the Senate version, and President Trump is threatening a veto if Congress doesn't appropriate the higher level. If the Federal government partially shuts down when the continuing resolution expires on Dec. 7, failure to reach an agreement on this issue will likely be a major reason why.

Debate over the border wall will only intensify during the 116th Congress, as the new, Democratic-controlled House will push back vigorously against Administration plans to dramatically increase funding. One of the most contentious issues of the midterm elections, border security will take center stage during the 2020 presidential campaign as well.

Key Takeaways

- Border wall funding is major sticking point for FY 2019 Homeland Security spending bill during the lame duck session
- Key issues for next Congress to include border security, immigration reform, UAVs, chemical and biological weapons
- Thompson to take over House Homeland Security Committee

Funding for the wall aside, the next Congress will have to grapple with a record number of immigrants who are seeking asylum. U.S. officials apprehended 396,579 people between ports of entry on the southwest border in fiscal year 2018, up from 303,916 the year before.

Transportation security will also remain a top priority. Although Congress reauthorized the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in October, expect a continued focus on issues such as biometric entry and exit and identity verification. Other key issues will include cybersecurity, malicious use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), chemical and biological weapons and the use of artificial intelligence across the homeland security enterprise.

Senate Authorization Committees

Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) is expected to continue as Chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee (HSGAC). Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE) will likely replace Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-MO) as Ranking Member following her election loss to Republican Josh Hawley. HSGAC shares jurisdiction over homeland security with the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee and the Judiciary Committee. While there was significant momentum in the 115th Congress to pass a comprehensive reauthorization for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), that goal proved elusive. It remains to be seen if the 116th Congress will attempt to consider a broader reauthorization or if stakeholders will be content with piecemeal legislation, as has been the norm since 2002.

House Homeland Security Committee

Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-MS), currently the Ranking Member of the House Homeland Security Committee, is expected to take the gavel in the 116th Congress. A Thompson-led Committee will focus on election security, UAVs, border security and the treatment of immigrants, while ramping up oversight of DHS in general. In particular, Thompson may question DHS officials about the Department's response to Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, as well as the Department's procurement practices, especially concerning small and disadvantaged businesses. As DHS expands its focus on vetting people, we can also expect increased attention to issues of privacy.

Leadership on the Republican side will change, as Chairman Michael McCaul (R-TX) is term limited on the Committee. Next in line is Rep. Mike Rogers (R-AL)—unless he is nominated to replace Heather Wilson as Air Force Secretary, as some have speculated will happen.

Senate Appropriations Committee

With Republicans holding control of the Senate, Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) will remain Chairwoman of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee. The race in Montana is still too close to call, but if Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) loses, his absence will create an open spot for the Ranking Member.

House Appropriations Committee

With Democrats controlling the House, Ranking Member Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) will most likely take over the gavel as Chairwoman of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee. Long an advocate for the just and humane treatment of immigrants and refugees, Roybal-Allard will strongly oppose funding increases for a border wall or policies that promote the detention of individuals seeking asylum.

The Republican side is more uncertain, as Chairman Kevin Yoder (R-KS) was defeated in his reelection bid. With the loss of Yoder, add yet another vacancy to the roster of cardinals. Rep. Steve Womack (R-AR), Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN) will now move up in seniority and would be candidates for the open Ranking Member slot on the Subcommittee. Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA) is another candidate for the position, though her race has not been called yet.

International Affairs

Foreign affairs will remain a priority for both the 116th Congress and the Trump Administration as challenges arise across the globe. The list of geopolitical hot spots is long and growing: the South China Sea, Syria, Yemen, Venezuela and Afghanistan, to name a few. Tensions with Iran are on the rise, while evidence of Russian election interference continues to mount. Relations with North Korea remain a work in progress, and the recent brutal killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi could upend the nation's relations with Saudi Arabia. Meanwhile, thousands are making their way from Central America in a caravan to the U.S.-Mexican border.

Key Takeaways

- FY 2019 SFOPS spending bill awaits resolution in the lame duck session
- President Trump likely to seek foreign aid cuts again in FY 2020 budget request
- Major leadership changes ahead for House and Senate authorizing committees

Funding to address some of these issues will be front and center during the lame duck session, as Congress attempts to complete negotiations on the FY 2019 State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs (SFOPS) Appropriations bill. Spending for the programs in this bill remains under a continuing resolution until Dec. 7 and could become subject to a partial government shutdown if Congress and the Administration fail to reach a deal.

Looking ahead to FY 2020, the Administration will likely continue to target foreign aid spending for major reductions in its budget request. And with Congress under divided control, finding common ground will become increasingly difficult.

The next Congress will also oversee the early days and appointment of the board of the new U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, which was established by passage of the BUILD Act in October. The new agency merges the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) development finance programs with the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) to facilitate sustainable, broad-based economic growth, poverty reduction and development.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee

There will be a new Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee following the pending retirement of Sen. Bob Corker (R-TN). Sen. Jim Risch (R-ID) is favored to take the gavel. Currently the Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Near East, South Asia, Central Asia and Counterterrorism, Risch is a strong supporter of President Trump and has come to his defense on issues such as North Korea, Russia and immigration. A Risch-led Committee will likely be more deferential to the Administration than it had been under Corker, who frequently challenged the Administration on its policies toward Russia and NATO and was a champion for global human

rights. Sen. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) survived a hard-fought reelection campaign and will remain Ranking Member of the Committee in the 116th Congress.

House Foreign Affairs Committee

With Democrats taking control of the House, House Foreign Affairs Committee Ranking Member Eliot Engel (D-NY) is all but guaranteed to take over as Chairman. Engel is staunchly pro-Israel and a hawk on Iran. He will likely use the Committee to take a stronger stance against Russia and intensify scrutiny of Saudi Arabia. He may also pursue investigations of Russia's influence on the 2016 and 2018 elections, and Trump's relationship with Russian President Vladimir Putin, as well as challenge the Administration on human rights.

On the Republican side, the race for Ranking Member will likely be contentious. Current Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA) is retiring at the end of this Congress. Of the most senior incumbents, Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) was defeated in the midterms, and Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ) was passed over for the gavel in 2012. The frontrunner is likely Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX), who floated his name for the gavel earlier in the year. However, Freedom Caucus member Rep. Ted Yoho (R-FL) has made his intentions known.

Senate Appropriations Committee

With Republicans maintaining control of the Senate, expect stability on the SFOPS Appropriations Subcommittee, with Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) remaining as Chairman and Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT) as Ranking Member. Over the past two budget cycles, Graham and Leahy have restored most of the significant cuts proposed by the Trump Administration to foreign aid.

House Appropriations Committee

Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY), who is expected to take over as Chairwoman of the full House Appropriations Committee following the Democrats' recapture of the House, may also choose to lead the SFOPS Appropriations Subcommittee, of which she is currently the Ranking Member. If she gave up the subcommittee gavel, the likely beneficiary would be either Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) or Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA). Rep. Hal Rogers, the current Chairman of the subcommittee, will likely move to Ranking Member unless there is a reshuffling of Republican cardinals following the race for Ranking Member of the full Committee.

Tax

Last year's passage of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("2017 Tax Act") and its aftereffects will remain a central focus of the tax world following the 2018 midterms. As Treasury finalizes regulations and businesses continue to digest the effects of the bill during its first tax filing season in spring 2019, pressure will mount to legislatively address ambiguous or unexpected results of the bill left unresolved by the regulations.

Key Takeaways

- Lame duck session could be active on tax issues
- Implementation of 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to be a continued focus in next Congress
- Tax-writing committees may play supporting role on health care, infrastructure financing
- Expect a battle over Trump's tax returns

The lame duck session of the 115th Congress figures to be active on tax. There is bipartisan, bicameral interest in reconciling differences between House and Senate IRS reform legislation, passing retirement tax legislation (part of "Tax 2.0" in the House), and extending and potentially modifying a group of approximately 26 tax "extenders"—provisions that Congress often extends retroactively, most recently in the 2018 Bipartisan Budget Act. While less likely, there is also the potential for Congress to use the opportunity presented by a tax vehicle to take on other tax provisions, including: technical corrections to the 2017 Tax Act, outright policy changes to the 2017 Tax Act and other small-bore tax provisions for which sufficient pressure has been built up to act, particularly in the Senate. In addressing the so-called "grain glitch" or "co-op" pass-through fix within the March 2018 omnibus, Senate Democrats choreographed a potential path for tackling more complex and partisan tax policies in the 2018 lame duck. In this scenario, Senate Democrats could achieve some preferred tax policy victories (in March, it was a plus-up of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit or LIHTC) in exchange for policies desired by Republicans (or both parties).

With a reconciliation vehicle available for FY 2019, there is the outside possibility that congressional Republicans may at empt a fast-track reconciliation process (or use the threat of one) during the lame duck session to advance controversial tax agenda items. Although the prospects for enactment into law at this time are very long, the Senate may also consider further extending temporary policies from the 2017 Tax Act, as advanced in the House as part of "Tax 2.0."

Although now under divided control, Congress will not stop legislating on tax. However, tax policy in the 116th Congress may play a supporting rather than central role in possible efforts to advance infrastructure, health and environmental legislation.

Senate Finance Committee

With Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT) retiring and Republicans holding the Senate, Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) is the overwhelming favorite to retake the gavel at the Finance Commit ee after last handing it over to former Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT) in January 2007. Under Republican Conference rules, Grassley retains two years of eligibility as Chairman of Finance. Should a dramatic turn of events keep him at the Judiciary Commit ee he currently chairs, Sen. Mike Crapo (R-ID) would take the gavel.

As Chairman, Grassley may shake up the Commit ee's Republican senior staff while continuing to engage with Treasury on implementation of the 2017 Tax Act and with stakeholders on improvements and technical corrections to the law. The Commit ee may also engage on infrastructure, particularly on surface transportation financing, before the highway reauthorization bill (the FAST Act) expires at the end of FY 2020. Senate Democrats, led on tax by Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Finance Commit ee Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-OR), will likely continue to use pressure for improvements and changes to the 2017 Tax Act to try to extract concessions from the majority on small-scale tax policy items favored by the Senate Democratic Caucus.

A Republican-led Finance Commit ee may also have a role to play if, as expected, House Democrats demand to see President Trump's tax returns (see House Ways and Means section below). Legal and political debates over this issue may be muddy, and Chairman Grassley may find himself and his Members under pressure to support the President in declining to fully disclose documents requested by the House.

House Ways and Means Committee

Following Democrats' takeover of the House, current Ranking Member Richard Neal (D-MA) figures to take up the gavel of the Commit ee on Ways and Means for the first time, swapping roles with current Chairman Kevin Brady (R-TX). Neal has operated as a relative pragmatist for many years and is well-served by a deep and experienced staff, many of whom served in the House majority or the Senate in the past.

A Neal-led Commit ee may seek to advance Democratic campaign priorities such as conducting oversight activities over the Administration, rolling back the 2017 Tax Act, using the tax code to address income inequality, creating a "public option" for health care or some form of "Medicare for All," and advancing financing mechanisms for infrastructure or environmental policy. Chairman Neal may seek to kill two birds with one stone and use rollbacks of the 2017 Tax Act, such as increasing the corporate rate or limiting the top individual rate, to produce offsets for Democratic spending priorities.

In any event, Chairman Neal is likely to begin the 2019 legislative session by invoking authority under Section 6103 of the tax code to request President Trump's tax returns from Treasury,

beginning what will likely be a lengthy political and legal battle that could dominate the tax-writing committees throughout the 116th Congress and the 2020 election season.

Neal is a longtime champion of enhancing tax-favored retirement savings and expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to cover childless earners, and may take up legislation along those lines in the 116th. In the case of the EITC, Neal may pursue policies similar to Sen. Kamala Harris' (D-CA) proposed EITC expansion legislation.

House Democrats may also attempt to address climate change through the tax code. Democrats may pursue hearings on the subject, or work to generate consensus within the caucus on a range of possible approaches, including a revenue-positive carbon tax, a revenue-neutral carbon tax, or a tax-and-dividend approach, but would face challenges in attempting to return to their 2009 efforts on an emissions trading regime.

Brady's institutional expertise and collegial relationship with Neal may give him more influence than a typical House Ranking Member during the final two years of his tenure (as determined by Republican Conference rules). Expect to see several new Republican members on the Committee in the next Congress, as several current members will depart at the end of this term. Reps. Lloyd Smucker (R-PA), Jodey Arrington (R-TX) and Ron Estes (R-KS), among others, are contenders for those slots. Democrats will add several seats at the Committee, with names under possible consideration including Reps. Brad Schneider (D-IL), Gwen Moore (D-WI), Cedric Richmond (D-LA), Dan Kildee (D-MI) and Stephanie Murphy (D-FL).

Tech & Telecom

The outcome of the 2018 elections will have a significant impact on the Congressional approach to technology and telecommunications policy issues. The Commerce committees in both the House and Senate will have new leadership, and congressional scrutiny of the major technology and social media companies that began this year will only intensify during the 116th Congress, especially in the Democratic-controlled House. Debates over consumer protection and privacy could turn increasingly partisan. Other key issues in the next Congress will include data security, 5G deployment, election interference and rural broadband access. Expected turnover of key personnel in the Trump Administration, along with divided control of Congress, will complicate efforts to pass meaningful legislation.

Key Takeaways

- New Chairs for both House and Senate Commerce committees
- Key issues to include consumer privacy, 5G deployment, cyber security and election interference
- Scrutiny of major tech companies will intensify

Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee

Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS) is widely expected to become Chairman of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee in the new Congress, succeeding Sen. John Thune (R-SD), who is expected to vacate the position to move into a Senate leadership role. Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) is locked in an extremely close race that looks to be undecided for a while, since a recount has been ordered. Should Nelson hold on to his seat, he will remain Ranking Member. Wicker and Nelson have a decent working relationship and should be able to agree on some mainstream issues.

If Nelson were to lose his race, Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA) could assume the Ranking Member position. Currently the Ranking Member on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Cantwell may jump to Commerce because of the Committee's jurisdiction over many issues that directly impact the state of Washington. Wicker and Cantwell have not often worked together, so the dynamic between the two will be interesting and important to watch. However, both Senators have an extensive history of working across the aisle (Cantwell on certain tax provisions, and Wicker on numerous telecommunications, transportation and fisheries issues). Expect Chairman Wicker to roll out a series of hearings and policy initiatives in the first 100 days as part of his plan to hit the ground running. Regulatory reforms will also be a priority.

House Energy and Commerce Committee

Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ) will ascend to chair the House Energy and Commerce Committee next Congress. The Ranking Member will be Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR). Pallone and Walden generally get along well and are switching roles on the Committee. Formerly the Ranking Member of the Health Subcommittee, Pallone has more experience with health issues than technology. In fact, his personal office website does not list technology or telecommunications among his key issues of focus. Expect Rep. Mike Doyle (D-PA), the likely Chairman of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee, and Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), the likely Chairwoman of the Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection Subcommittee, to play key leadership roles.

One key change is expected on the Republican side, as Communications and Technology Subcommittee Chairman Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) will leave the House at the end of this term after winning her election to the Senate.

Net neutrality will be a prominent issue for House Democrats, even while the issue is before the courts. Look for oversight hearings on the Department of Commerce, Department of Energy, Department of Health and Human Services, the Federal Communications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission. Also expect oversight hearings regarding White House activities, such as Jared Kushner's Innovation Initiative. Additionally, House Democrats will prioritize privacy, data breaches and cybersecurity as key issues. Critical to the success of any of these initiatives will be whether Chairmen Pallone and Wicker can work together and how the White House will participate in the debate.

Appropriations Committees

Several House and Senate appropriations subcommittees are expected to consider technology and telecommunications funding in the 116th Congress, including Agriculture; Commerce, Justice, State; Defense; Financial Services; Homeland Security; and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. Key issues will include telecommunications in rural areas, technology supply chain management, telemedicine, cybersecurity and cyber espionage. Interestingly, the debate over border wall funding will be of particular interest to the technology sector. Since House Democrats are expected to vigorously oppose construction of an actual wall, a potential compromise could be a significant investment in products and services that can create a “virtual” wall via technology.

Trade

Upcoming big-ticket trade items for the 116th Congress include: pending ratification of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA); consultations with Congress on trade negotiations with the European Union, the United Kingdom, and Japan; progress on trade discussions with China; and other ongoing actions concerning tariffs. Soon after the convening of the 116th Congress, congressional leaders will select members of the congressional advisory groups on negotiations to consult with and provide advice to the U.S. Trade Representative regarding the development of trade agreements and negotiating strategies.

Key Takeaways

- USMCA vote will be key trade issue for 116th Congress
- Grassley likely to take over as Chairman of Senate Finance Committee
- President Trump will now answer to Democratic leadership of House Ways and Means Committee on trade matters

While the Administration's trade policies maintain momentum in the Senate, President Trump's tactics will face increased scrutiny in a Democratic-controlled House of Representatives. The election results dim the outlook for a near-term trade accord with the Philippines given that country's record on human rights matters. With increasing concern about the President's use of congressionally delegated authority to levy tariffs, Democratic leaders promise to call upon Administration officials to testify on these trade policies—particularly concerning China—and demand that the Administration consult more with Congress on trade matters. However, party-line divisions on trade seem to be drawn somewhat differently now. Traditional critics of free trade have been supportive of some of the Administration's actions and the newly negotiated USMCA. It is unclear whether House Democrats will revert to more conventional positions on trade – or simply vote against Trump's trade priorities -- in the new Congress.

Senate Finance Committee

With the pending retirement of Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) will likely take over the gavel. In this event, Grassley would be giving up his chairmanship of the Judiciary Committee. Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR), who has called the Trump Administration's record on trade "overhyped and under-delivered," will continue to serve as the Ranking Member of the Senate Finance Committee. Grassley, who has generally supported Trump's trade agenda, will likely use his powerful post on Senate Finance to address China's unfair trade practices and policies, including the theft of U.S. intellectual property. At the same time, he will try to ease disruptions from the use of tariffs in the U.S.-China trade dispute, including defending farmers who shoulder retaliatory tariffs. With regard to reducing trade barriers, look for Grassley's support in shepherding USMCA and other future trade accords through the congressional approval process.

Subcommittee on International Trade Ranking Member Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA), along with Sens. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and Ben Cardin (D-MD), all of whom also currently serve on the international trade subcommittee, won their reelection bids. However, the subcommittee will see changes as Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-MO) lost her reelection bid to Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley (R), and Sen. Dean Heller (R-NV) lost his seat to Rep. Jacky Rosen (D-NV). The fate of Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) was too close to call at time of publication.

House Ways and Means Committee

The 116th Congress will see Democratic leaders take control of the House Ways and Means Committee, which has jurisdiction over international trade matters. Rep. Richard Neal (D-MA), the Ranking Member on the panel, will likely serve as next Chairman of the full Committee. With regard to Republican leadership on trade matters, look for current House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady (R-TX) to stay on as Ranking Member. Under Chairman Neal, who has criticized Republicans' disengagement on trade policy and lack of oversight over the continuing U.S.-China dispute, look for increased scrutiny of the President's trade discussions, a renewed focus on trade adjustment assistance to support U.S. workers through job retraining, and a push for trade policies that vigorously enforce worker rights and environmental protections. With regard to tariffs, look for a bipartisan push to streamline the exclusion process to relieve pressure on American businesses hurt by the crackdown on China; the recent Section 232 additional tariffs on steel and aluminum prompted more than 38,000 exclusion requests.

The Ways and Means Committee uses the "Martin Rule" to determine subcommittee membership and gavels based on full committee seniority. The top slot on the Trade Subcommittee would fall to the most senior Member who prefers to claim it. Rep. Sandy Levin (D-MI), the longstanding Democratic dean on trade policy who currently holds the Health Subcommittee gavel, retires at the end of this session. If Reps. Lloyd Doggett (D-TX) and John Lewis (D-GA) choose to maintain their leadership positions at the Tax Policy and Oversight subcommittees, respectively, Rep. Mike Thompson (D-CA) or Rep. John Larson (D-CT) are next in line to stake their claim to leadership at the Trade Subcommittee, with Reps. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Ron Kind (D-WI) and Bill Pascrell (D-NJ) also possible candidates for the top Trade slot.

Other slots held by Republican members of the Trade Subcommittee will open up. Trade Subcommittee Chairman Dave Reichert (R-WA) retires at the end of this session. Rep. Erik Paulsen (R-MN) lost his reelection bid to Twin Cities businessman Dean Phillips, and Rep. Kristi Noem (R-SD) won her bid for South Dakota Governor.

Senate Appropriations Committee

The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) funds important trade-related functions of the U.S. government, including the International Trade Administration (ITA), the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC), and the office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). Chairman Jerry Moran (R-KS) and Ranking

Member Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) are expected to maintain their top slots on the subcommittee. Chairman Moran, who represents Kansan farmers bearing the brunt of tariff retaliation, will continue to urge the President to rapidly reduce trade conflicts with conventional U.S. allies to focus on issues related to China's unfair trade practices. Subcommittee members facing reelection in 2018 included Sens. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Joe Manchin (D-WV), both of whom won their campaigns.

House Appropriations Committee

Rep. José Serrano (D-NY), the current Ranking Member on the subcommittee, is expected to take over as Chairman. Rep. Serrano, a supporter of imposing tariffs on countries that manipulate currency, will likely use the Chairman's gavel to call upon USTR to show a more vigorous and comprehensive strategy with regard to China. Democratic candidate and Houston lawyer Lizzie Fletcher is projected to defeat Rep. John Culberson (R-TX) opening up the top subcommittee slot for Republicans. As there will be several shifts to top Republican slots on the Appropriations committee due to the switch to Democratic control, it is hard to forecast who will replace Culberson as the CJS subcommittee top Republican.

Transportation & Infrastructure

Despite all the talk during the past 24 months about the possibility of major new investments in infrastructure, both from President Trump and Congress, political and fiscal realities have restrained policy makers from fulfilling promises in this area. Nevertheless, infrastructure remains an issue with strong bipartisan support and will remain on the short list of top agenda items in the coming year. Meanwhile, an upcoming deadline to reauthorize the highway bill will also bring transportation front and center in the 116th Congress.

Key Takeaways

- House Democrats to push infrastructure legislation, a possible opportunity to work with President Trump
- Reauthorization of FAST Act on tap for next Congress
- Major leadership changes ahead for key authorizing committees

The Trump Administration has continued to tout the benefits of Congress moving forward with an infrastructure package that could include forms of public-private partnerships and private investment through tax incentives. A combination of these incentives could attract investors willing to lend money to state and local governments to fund new infrastructure projects and address deferred maintenance of public assets like roads, bridges, airports, railroads, water systems and the like. A future infrastructure package could also address the depletion of the Highway Trust Fund, permitting and regulatory requirements, and innovative project finance methods. The new House Democratic majority, meanwhile, will put a priority on the oversight of labor agreements, consumer choice and price transparency, and transportation safety for motor carriers, the rail industry and pipelines. Expect House Democrats to start infrastructure hearings as early as January, with the goal of passing a bill by May.

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act is scheduled to expire on Sept. 30, 2020. The House and Senate are likely to begin holding stakeholder hearings in the coming year in preparation for final passage of a bill sometime in 2020. Absent passage of a new bill, the nation's long-term funding for highways, public transportation, motor carrier safety, hazardous material safety, rail and research programs will expire. The process of considering the bill will provide a forum for the discussion of a number of other ground transportation-related items, including the AV Start Act and other driverless vehicle provisions. Any significant increases in public transportation infrastructure investment must contend with the solvency of the Highway Trust Fund. Leaders in the Administration and on Capitol Hill have proposed a number of possible solutions, including gas tax increases, new user fees based on vehicle miles traveled, funding from the general treasury, and imposition of a carbon tax. Most of these proposals fall under the jurisdiction of the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance committees, which may not be prepared to enter the policy debate without strong leadership from the White House.

With the recent passage of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act, there is no immediate pressure on Congress to address airports or airlines or any number of other relevant transportation stakeholders in the 116th Congress. However, Members may choose to conduct oversight of the bill's implementation, especially in the House.

The Senate will also move forward with the confirmation of nominees to still-vacant appointments at the FAA, Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Surface Transportation Board, Amtrak's Board of Directors, and the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority's board.

Senate Authorization Committees

Sen. John Thune (R-SD) is expected to pursue a Senate leadership slot in the next Congress. If he is successful, it will open up the chairmanship of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, with Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS) probably next in line. On the Democratic side, Sen. Bill Nelson's (D-FL) election is too close to call at the time of publication of this document. Should he prevail, Nelson will remain the Ranking Member of Senate Commerce. If he loses, however, Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA) is a leading contender to replace him. Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) could then become Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety and Security.

Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY) will move into his second term as Chairman of the Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee next Congress with Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE) remaining as Ranking Member. As the EPW Committee has primary jurisdiction over reauthorization of the FAST Act (along with the Banking Committee for transit issues, and the Finance Committee on revenue and trust fund issues), the ability of these two leaders to work across party lines will greatly affect progress on infrastructure policy. This pairing also well represents the divergence of views from rural areas where population centers are separated by long, less-traveled highways and those who represent more urban areas with greater reliance on mass transit and commuter rail systems.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) will move from Ranking Member to Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Democratic leadership on at least one subcommittee will change, as Rep. Mike Capuano (D-MA), the Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, was defeated in a primary and will not return in the 116th Congress. Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA) is expected to take over as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Aviation, where he currently serves as Ranking Member. Priorities for a DeFazio-led Committee will include pursuing ways to finance investments in infrastructure, shoring up the Highway Trust fund, raising the cap on the Passenger Facility Charge (PFC), investigating the Federal Bureau of Investigation's headquarters consolidation

project, conducting oversight of the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2018 and scrutinizing the President's real estate business interests.

Leadership on the Republican side of the Committee is uncertain, as Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA) is retiring at the end of the current Congress. Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO) and Rep. Jeff Denham (R-CA) are his most likely replacements. Most of the subcommittees on the Republican side will also experience leadership turnover. Rep. Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ), the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Aviation, and Rep. Lou Barletta (R-PA), the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, are both leaving the House at the end of this Congress. Depending on who wins the race for Ranking Member, either Graves (Highways and Transit) or Denham (Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials) will give up a subcommittee panel.

Senate Appropriations Committee

Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) will retain the chairmanship of the Subcommit ee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development (T-HUD), with Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI) remaining as Ranking Member. Collins' priorities will include lifting the PFC cap.

House Appropriations Committee

Rep. David Price (D-NC), the Ranking Member of the T-HUD subcommit ee, is expected to take the gavel, switching roles with Rep. Mario Díaz-Balart (R-FL), the current Chairman. Price's priorities include transportation maintenance, integrated regional and multimodal transportation planning and development, and high-speed rail systems.

View from the States

Georgia

Georgia voters cast their ballots in large numbers with 60.4 percent turnout. As of early Wednesday morning, Georgia Secretary of State Brian Kemp (R) was leading in the race for governor, though the margin was only 75,000 votes out of 3.87 million that were cast. The Democrat in the race, Stacey Abrams, has not conceded and vows to stay in the race until outstanding votes, absentee ballots and provisional ballots are counted. Abrams' campaign believes once those are tallied, a runoff will occur. Georgia law requires that a candidate must receive 50 percent plus one vote in order to win an election. Notably, Libertarian Ted Metz took .94 percent of the votes in the race for Governor. There will be a runoff for Secretary of State and Public Service Commission, though the remaining constitutional offices remained Republican.

Key Takeaways

- Georgia has been ranked as the #1 state in the nation in which to do business for the past six years and voters decided to continue this momentum
- GOP remains in control of House and Senate
- Likely GOP control of Governor

Governor

If Kemp emerges as the winner, Georgia would remain under total GOP control for at least the next two years. Rural Georgia was key to Kemp's success as voters outside of metro Atlanta overwhelmingly supported his candidacy. Kemp would be sworn in to office when the legislative session convenes on Jan. 14, 2019. Kemp's campaign focused on continuing current Republican Gov. Nathan Deal's legacy and keeping Georgia's status as the best state for business. Kemp would first focus on appointing agency heads and crafting a budget for his first year in office. As for Abrams, even if she falls short in the race for Governor, she is worth watching in the future as a star of the Democratic Party both statewide and nationally.

The GOP maintained control of almost every constitutional office with Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan, Attorney General Chris Carr, and Agriculture Commissioner Gary all winning their races on Tuesday. State House Rep. Brad Raffensperger (R) and former Rep. John Barrow (D) will head to a runoff for Secretary of State. This election was crucial to the future control of the state as Kemp and the GOP-controlled Assembly will oversee redistricting in 2021 after the 2020 census is completed.

State Senate

Unlike the House, the makeup of the State Senate saw little change from yesterday's election. The GOP controlled 36 of 56 Senate seats and only lost two seats. The most competitive seats were in the Atlanta metro area, reflecting the trend toward Georgia turning purple. The more rural Senate districts continue to be overwhelmingly Republican. For the first time in 12 years,

the Senate will have a new presiding officer with Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan taking the gavel. Duncan will replace current Republican Lt. Gov., Casey Cagle, who lost to Kemp in the GOP primary for Governor. The Senate leadership will likely remain the same with Senate President Pro Tempore Butch Miller (R) in charge of Senate Republicans.

State House

Most, if not all, of the competitive races were in the metro counties of Fulton, Cobb, and Gwinnett and saw a number of incumbents lose their seats. The House will see several new members when the 2019 session convenes on Jan. 14. House Republicans controlled 114 seats prior to election day and saw their number reduced by 10, leaving them with 104 members. This year, twelve sitting Chairmen announced their retirement or resignation, so Speaker David Ralston (R) will be busy appointing new members to Chairmanships as well as electing a new Majority Whip. The House has spent the past two years traveling the state to discuss the challenges of rural Georgia so expect to see a legislative effort focused on rural Georgia in the 2019 session.

Summary

Georgia voters came out in large numbers to vote. It appears likely Brian Kemp will edge out Stacey Abrams, meaning Georgians are hoping the state will continue to run as it has under retiring Governor Deal's leadership. With control of the Governor's office, House and Senate, the Republicans will be able to pursue their agenda with few obstacles in January. Their agenda is likely to include statewide highspeed broadband access, growing small businesses, teacher pay increases, and access to healthcare in rural areas.

Illinois

Illinois was the site for several targeted Congressional races and contested statewide elections, including an expensive race for Governor. Democrats scored big victories as they won every statewide office, picked up two new Congressional seats, two seats in the Illinois Senate and six seats in the State House of Representatives, with two additional seats in the state House too close to call. The results in Illinois were a tale of two electorates - the City of Chicago along with its close-in suburbs and the rest of the state. High voter turnout in and around Chicago served to help boost Democrats to victory in statewide and legislative races. Four of the most heavily contested races for the U.S. House were in Illinois. Two districts in the Chicago area switched from the Republicans to Democrats, while two districts farther away from Chicago remained in Republican hands.

Key Takeaways

- Blue wave was felt in elections around Illinois
- Two GOP congressional seats won by Democrats
- Dems take Governor's office with Pritzker win
- High voter turnout in Chicago, Cook county and Chicago suburbs
- Attention turns to Chicago elections for mayor and council

Governor

The most expensive campaign in Illinois history was the race for Governor between incumbent Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner and Democrat J.B. Pritzker. Pritzker declared victory on election night with a projected 54 percent of the vote to Rauner's 39 percent. Rauner was never able to gain steam due to voter fatigue over his four year fight with the General Assembly and Governor-elect Pritzker's ability to spend more in the race than Rauner. Pritzker poured $170 million of his personal wealth into the race. Almost $250 million in total was spent on the race.

Statewide Races

The closest statewide election was the race for Attorney General between Democrat Kwame Raoul, a State Senator from Chicago, and Erika Harold, an attorney and former Miss America from downstate Urbana. Harold asserted that she would be the only check on complete Democratic control of state government. Both sides spent heavily on the race but Raoul prevailed by a margin of 54 percent to 43 percent.

Other contested statewide elections included races for Comptroller, Treasurer and Secretary of State, with all three incumbent Democrats winning handily. Predictions are that Comptroller Susana Mendoza will announce her intention to run for Mayor of Chicago in the coming days.

State Senate

The Chicago suburbs saw the most action in Senate races where Democrats attempted to increase their super-majority by defeating incumbent and appointed Republicans. Democrats had a significant cash advantage throughout the campaign. The GOP had hoped to benefit from campaign donations from Gov. Rauner, but his contributions never materialized. This cash advantage, along with a favorable makeup of the seats up for election, resulted in the Senate Democrats picking up two seats. The makeup of the Senate will be 39 Democrats and 20 Republicans.

State House

All House seats in the state were up for election in 2018. Both House caucuses were confronted with two distinct electorates that could generally be defined by opinion of President Trump. In Chicago and the close in suburbs (or "collar counties") antipathy toward Trump ran high, creating significant headwinds for Republican candidates. Alternatively, downstate saw an electorate more supportive of Trump creating challenges for Democrats. Complicating this for Republicans was the poor showing by Gov. Rauner, whose inability to reach agreement with a Democratic legislature on budgets lead to widespread voter dissatisfaction with Republicans. Democrats in the House, led by longtime House Speaker Michael J. Madigan, were able to vastly outraise and outspend Republicans in almost every contest across the state. This financial advantage allowed Democrats to play offense in a number of GOP districts, resulting in Democratic gains of six seats, with two other seats too close to call.

Summary

Democrats will control the Governor's office and both chambers of the General Assembly in the upcoming session. Expectations will be heightened for a capital spending bill including infrastructure improvements around the state. The sources of new revenue will likely be a major point of contention in any new capital spending plan.

Iowa

Iowa has a reputation for reelecting incumbents, particularly at the federal and gubernatorial levels. While that trend held with the reelection of Governor Kim Reynolds (R) and Republicans keeping control of the State Legislature, two of Iowa's four incumbent Members of Congress were defeated. Reps. Rod Blum (R) and David Young (R) both lost to Democratic Challengers.

Among the issues to be considered for next year's Iowa General Assembly are likely to include personal and corporate tax reform, changes to Iowa's Medicaid system, access to mental health services, infrastructure, and water quality.

Key Takeaways

- Iowa Republicans maintained control of the state legislature
- Three of Iowa's four Congressional Seats now held by Democrats
- Kim Reynolds (R) is the first woman in Iowa's history to be elected governor

Governor

Current Gov. Kim Reynolds (R) was elected as Iowa's first elected female governor, defeating Des Moines businessman Fred Hubbell (D) by a margin of 50 to 47 percent. Reynolds assumed the governorship after Gov. Terry Branstad (R) resigned to become U.S. Ambassador to China. The race was not an easy win for Reynolds, as Hubbell brought extensive private sector and government service to the race, proved to be a prolific fundraiser, and spent over $6 million of his own money. Hubbell's fundraising helped even the financial playing field, which typically favor incumbents, to make the race highly competitive.

Congress

There are now more Democrats in Iowa delegation than Republicans. State Rep. Abby Finkenauer (D) defeated Blum and Cindy Axne (D) defeated Young (R). From the outset, Blum trailed Finkenauer in all public polling. Not convinced that Finkenauer would prevail until it was too late, national groups came to rescue Blum by investing substantial resources on his behalf in the final weeks of the campaign. Axne defeated incumbent David Young in Iowa's third district by 5,000 votes, winning 49 to 47 percent. This is the fourth time in six years this seat has changed hands. In two other congressional races, incumbents prevailed, with Dave Loebsack (D) and Steve King (R) beating Democratic challengers. King's race was highly targeted by Democrats to no avail.

State Senate

Republicans strengthened their majority in the Senate, with only half of the Iowa Senate seats up for reelection. Six of the races were open, while 10 races had Democratic incumbents and

nine races had Republican incumbents. Despite a difficult race of his own, Majority Leader Jack Whitver (R) led his caucus to an impressive victory, winning all but one Republican incumbent race and picking up three additional seats. Going into 2019, Republicans hold a 32 to 18 majority in the Senate. The leadership in the Senate is not expected to change with Majority Leader Whitver and Senate President Charles Schneider (R) remaining in their positions.

State House

Prior to the election, Republicans had a 59 to 41 majority in the Iowa House of Representatives. Confidence was high that Democrats would pick up seats in the House and possibly even the majority, but that proved to be too steep hill to surmount. After a hard-fought election, Republicans maintained a 54 to 46 majority. As with the Senate, House Leadership is expected to remain the same with Speaker Linda Upmeyer (R) and Majority Leader Chris Hagenow (R) leading the Republican caucus.

Other Statewide Races

Several other statewide races were highly competitive with both parties spending substantial resources. Republican incumbents Mike Naig and Paul Pate prevailed in the races for Secretary of Agriculture and Secretary of State, respectively. Democratic newcomer Rob Sand defeated Mary Moisman (R) in the race for State Auditor, while two Democratic incumbents, current Attorney General Tom Miller and State Treasurer Mike Fitzgerald, were reelected to their offices.

2020 Presidential Election

As the first state in the presidential primaries, Iowa voters have already been introduced to an array of Democratic candidates considering or who have already declared presidential bids. Potential 2020 candidates who have visited Iowa include Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ), Sen. Amy Klobachar (D-MN), Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA), Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Gov. Steve Bullock (D-MT), former Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D-VA), Gov. John Hickenlooper (D-CO), Rep. John Delaney (D-MD), Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH), LA Mayor Eric Garcetti, billionaire Tom Steyer, lawyer Michael Avenatti and former Vice President Joe Biden.

In the 2016 presidential election, Iowa selected Donald J. Trump over Sec. Hilary Clinton by 10 points. The swing toward Democrats in the Congressional elections this year may indicate that Iowa could be open to Democrats taking it in the 2020 presidential. What's certain is that Iowa will maintain its status as a critical state in both the presidential primary and general elections.

Louisiana

Louisiana's Congressional Delegation, which includes Majority Whip Steve Scalise, was reelected with minimal opposition. On the ballot were several municipal elections, six constitutional amendments, and a special election to fill the seat of Secretary of State, as the previous occupant resigned over a sex scandal. Interim Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin (R) and Gwen Collins-Greenup (D) will meet in a runoff election on Dec. 8. Louisiana is one of several states with off-year elections, setting up 2019 as a pivotal year for the state to be a focus of national attention. U.S. Sen. John Kennedy (R) will announce by Dec. 1 whether he will run for Governor next year.

Key Takeaways

- State elections will be held in 2019
- Six vacancies in the State House due to members winning races for local office
- Lack of interest in running for office (a third of major offices on the previous ballot were decided without opposition)-expect this trend to continue

Congressional

With Democrats controlling the U.S. House, Rep. Cedric Richmond, the state's lone Democratic member, is poised to play a key role either in shaping his party's leadership. He is finishing his term as chair of the powerful Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and last week sent a letter to the full Democratic Caucus stating that one of the top two positions (Speaker of the House or Majority Leader) should come from the CBC. For Republicans, Rep. Steve Scalise will likely continue in his role as the party's Whip, the number two position in leadership behind Minority Leader. The prevailing thinking is that there is no scenario where Scalise runs for Governor next year.

Governor

Democratic Gov. John Bel Edwards is expected to run for reelection and currently has a 60 percent favorability and in excess of $5 million in his campaign account. Wealthy businessman Eddie Rispone announced he will run for governor and has contributed $5 million of his personal wealth towards his efforts so far. Other Republicans reportedly considering bids for governor include Sen. Kennedy, Rep. Ralph Abraham, Attorney General Jeff Landry, and State Senator Sharon Hewitt. Sen. Kennedy released a poll in October showing him with a sizable lead over Edwards in a hypothetical match up.

The Legislature

Under Louisiana's jungle primary system, all candidates appear on the same ballot, regardless of party, and voters may vote for any candidate, regardless of their party affiliation. If no candidate

receives a majority of the votes during the primary election on Oct. 12, 2019, a runoff election will be held on Nov. 16, 2019, between the top two candidates in the primary.

While Republicans are bullish on growing their majorities in both chambers of the legislature, that optimism does not necessarily translate to the gubernatorial race. The campaign for governor is likely to be a heated and costly affair with the potential for national groups to put heavy resources into the state.

The biggest issues to be considered after the 2019 election will be the contemplation of a constitutional convention, congressional and legislative redistricting, and an anticipated state budget reform agenda.

State Senate

Term limits will force 16 of the state's 39 state senators to retire, although some may run for another office. At least two have already announced their intention to run for the state House of Representatives, moving back to the "lower" chamber. Only one seems to be interested in pursuing a statewide office. There will be significant jockeying for leadership of the Senate leading up to the 2019 election as current Senate President John Alario (R) is term-limited.

State House

As a result of State Representatives running for other offices, there will be at least six vacancies in the State House. Marcus Hunter and Chris Hazel became judges, Kenny Havard and Major Thibaut became Parish Presidents, Jeff Hall became a Mayor, and Bob Hensgens won a special election to become a State Senator.

Much like the Senate, the state House will also see the effects of term limits, which will force 34 of the 105 Representatives to retire or move on. Several will likely seek state Senate positions, but none have thus far expressed interest in running statewide. Interestingly, there have been 14 resignations or vacancies since Jan. 2016, the beginning of this term.

Maryland

Even though Maryland is a predominantly Democratic state, incumbent Republican Gov. Larry Hogan defeated Democratic challenger Ben Jealous by 13 points, marking the first time in half a century that a Republican governor has won reelection in Maryland. Maryland's Congressional Delegation had one open seat—won by Democrat David Trone—and the rest of the delegation won their bids for re-election.

Key Takeaways

- Incumbent Gov. Hogan (R) defeats Democrat Jealous with 56 percent
- GOP gains one seat in Senate, but Democrats keep veto-proof majority
- Democrats gain at least five seats in state House

In the General Assembly, Republicans made picked up one Senate seat and Democrats gained at least five in the House. Democratic majorities retain the ability to override Gov. Hogan's vetoes in both chambers. The Senate will see significant turnover in its leadership and Committee Chairs. Both Sen. Mike Miller and Del. Mike Busch will likely retain their gavels as the Presiding Officers of the Senate and House respectively.

Governor

Gov. Hogan won with an impressive 56 percent of the vote, defeating Democrat Ben Jealous. Hogan maintained a 67 percent approval rating among Marylanders, making him one of the most popular governors in the nation. Hogan enjoyed wide support from both the GOP and moderate Democrats in Maryland who approve of his across-the-aisle politics. Interestingly, Ben Jealous received more votes in this election than either Larry Hogan or his opponent Anthony Brown did in 2014, but he still lost overwhelmingly to the popular incumbent governor.

Hogan is likely to remain focused on issues such as tax relief, combatting Maryland's opioid crisis, and developing the Purple Line light rail in Montgomery County. The Hogan Administration will also seek increased public education funding and prioritize Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts. Hogan will be sworn in for a second term on Jan. 16, 2019.

State Senate

The Maryland Senate experience nearly 40 percent turnover in 2019 due to retirements and election results. Republicans sought to flip five seats, which would have blocked the Democrats' 29-vote supermajority in the Senate. While three Senate races still hinge on a difference of less than 1 percent, the chamber will still be strongly controlled by the Democrats. The Senate President has announced the four Major Standing Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs, with other assignments announced before Jan. 9.

State House

With the addition of at least five new Democratic held seats, Speaker Busch reversed the trend of declining Democratic seats since the early 2000s. A shakeup in the House is coming as a result of longtime Judiciary Committee Chairman Joe Vallario's defeat, Vice Chair of Economic Matters Sally Jameson's retirement, and Majority Leader Bill Frick leaving to run for Montgomery County Executive. The Speaker has announced that Del. Luke Clippinger will take over as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee and Del. Vanessa Atterberry as Vice Chair. Del. Kathleen Dumais will become Majority Leader.

The House will tilt more liberal than in the past which may contrast with Speaker Busch's less progressive agenda. The House will try to find common ground with Gov. Hogan to address challenges such as funding for K-12 education, health care costs, the opioid crisis, construction and infrastructure needs, and retiree health and pension benefits.

Summary

While Maryland is currently enjoying a comfortable budget surplus from a strong economy, expect Gov. Hogan to be pressured by the legislature to move forward with significant increases to education and other funding priorities.

Maryland's Congressional Delegation will become a significant factor in federal issues as the U.S. House of Representatives moved under Democratic control. Gov. Hogan has maintained an arm's length relationship with President Trump, yet federal actions play such a significant role in Maryland's economy that he will likely find it necessary to work more closely with the Delegation. Of note, Rep. Steny Hoyer (D) could again be elected Majority Leader and Rep. Elijah Cummings (D) will become Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, where much of the Democrats efforts to hold Trump Administration accountable will occur.

Mississippi

Mississippi becomes the focus of national attention as it prepares for a U.S. Senate race to be decided in a runoff election Nov. 27. With only federal contests on the ballot this year, citizens of the Magnolia State had the rare opportunity to cast a vote in two U.S. Senate contests. Other Congressional incumbents easily won election as did the GOP candidate for an open House seat.

Key Takeaways

- Nov. 27 runoff election to fill remainder of Sen. Cochran's term
- 2019 elections for all statewide and legislative districts
- Major turnover among statewide offices in 2019

Rep. Bennie Thompson, the lone Democrat in the state's Congressional delegation, is poised to have a major role in the new House Majority as chairman of the Homeland Security Committee. In the Senate, the race to finish the remainder of Sen. Thad Cochran's term will go to a runoff between the incumbent Republican Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith and former Democratic Rep. Mike Espy. Incumbent Sen. Roger Wicker easily won reelection and will likely take the gavel at the powerful Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee.

Governor

In 2019, Mississippi will hold elections for all statewide, legislative, and local elected officials. A new governor will be elected as Republican Governor Phil Bryant is term limited from seeking reelection. Incumbent Republican Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves is likely to face off against Democratic Attorney General Jim Hood, in what will be a highly contested race. Hood is the only statewide elected Democrat and both he and Reeves should be well-financed for the 2019 campaign. In addition to a new Governor, it is expected many other statewide elected officials will turn over as well. The Lt. Gov., Attorney General, Secretary of State, and Treasurer are all likely to have new occupants in those offices. Republican State Auditor Shad White and Agriculture Commissioner Andy Gipson, who were both appointed by Gov. Phil Bryant to fill the remaining term of their respected vacated offices, will be testing their names on the statewide ballot for the first time. In addition, new faces are expected at the Public Service Commission and possibly the Mississippi Transportation Commission.

The Legislature

While the past three years have been relatively eventful given Republican supermajorities in both the House and Senate, the 2019 legislative session is not expected to include much contentious legislation. Expect a relatively quiet legislative session, outside of the customary appropriation bills that are passed on an annual basis. Among the few items which could bring lengthy debate are the ability for electric cooperatives to sell broadband services to its members

and the potential for a statewide teacher pay raise. Much attention will be focused toward the Mar. 1, 2019, filing deadline for legislative and statewide candidates.

State Senate

Mississippi Republicans currently hold a 33-19 supermajority in the state Senate and expect to maintain a majority following the 2019 elections. While several state Senators have already announced retirement or are seeking a higher office, those districts are expected to remain in Republican control. With Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves being term limited, a new president of the Senate will take the gavel in 2020. It is worth noting that Mississippi's Lt. Gov. has impressive constitutional authority and is empowered to appoint all Senators to each committee, appoint a Committee Chair irrespective of the majority party, and refer all bills to committee(s) of his or her choosing. One of the nation's longest serving legislators, Sen. Tommy Gollott is expected to run for reelection after 52 years in the Mississippi Legislature. Gollott, who has served in both the House and Senate has long dominated the political scene of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

State House

Republicans have a 74 to 48 supermajority in the state house. The House of Representatives has seen quite a few members leave the chamber over the past few years due to resignations, retirements, or movement to higher office. Additional turnover is likely to continue with the 2019 elections; however, Republicans anticipate maintaining a majority for the 2020 session as well. Two-term Speaker of the House, Phillip Gunn, should remain the top House Republican in the next term and the majority of Republicans with powerful chairmanships are expected to return as well.

Texas

Texas voters continued a trend started in 1998 by electing Republicans to all 27 statewide offices. Resources and voter turnout activities for the Republican Governor and Lieutenant Governor campaigns spilled over to help carry incumbent Sen. Ted Cruz to victory. National attention and record fundraising for Democratic Rep. Beto O'Rourke's Senate bid, combined with President Trump's tepid 50 percent approval rating in Texas, forced Republicans to play defense to protect Cruz.

Key Takeaways

- GOP sweeps all statewide offices
- Sen. Ted Cruz re-elected
- Republicans maintain supermajority in state Senate
- GOP loses 12 State House seats but keeps majority

Campaign spending and turnout levels in Texas reached historic levels as hundreds of millions of dollars went towards a handful of competitive races. The three highest profile incumbents, Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, and Sen. Cruz all emphasized the state's strong business climate—specifically in the energy sector, and the low tax and light regulatory environment for all sectors—in their appeals to voters. Overall turnout nearly reached 2016 presidential levels and Rep. O'Rourke came within three points of being the first Texas Democrat elected to the U.S. Senate since Lloyd Bentsen in 1988.

Governor

Gov. Abbott sailed to reelection by 14 points against a poorly-funded Democratic challenger, former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez. Gov. Abbott remains the most popular statewide elected official and one of the most popular governors in the country with an approval rating of 57 percent. He will be sworn in on Jan. 15. Despite the retirement of his occasional nemesis, House Speaker Joe Straus (R), Abbott is likely to face a contentious legislative session that will focus on issues such as school finance, property taxes, Medicaid spending, public education, college affordability, and use of the state's Rainy-Day Fund.

Gov. Abbott's hand in dealing with the Legislature will be somewhat strengthened by his convincing win and continued popularity (particularly with Republicans), as well as his efforts to protect down ballot candidates. However, he took the unprecedented step of endorsing and donating money to the primary challengers of three Republican incumbents in the Texas House of Representatives. Only one of his endorsed challengers beat the incumbent, and, as a result, Abbott has lost political capital. Abbott's ability to move his political agenda will largely depend on who the next Speaker is and whether the Governor is able to repair frayed relationships.

State Senate

The Texas Senate will seat 19 Republicans and 11 Democrats, a net loss of one seat for Republicans, who picked up a Democratic seat in a west Texas special election while losing two seats on Election Day. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick (R) won re-election with just 51 percent of the vote but will exercise more authority in the Senate than in previous sessions as Republicans maintain the supermajority needed to advance their agenda.

Expect efforts to lower the franchise and property taxes, as well as enactment of a fiscally conservative state budget that still provides funding for infrastructure projects. Legislation to strengthen border security, reform school finance, and push controversial social issues will be on the agenda. Hovering over the entire legislative session will be the Hurricane Harvey recovery effort and related funding questions. Leadership has committed to spending some of the Rainy-Day Fund on this effort. The level of funding will depend on how much federal money is available and other competing demands placed on the fund.

State House

The House saw the most pronounced down ballot effect of O'Rourke's popularity in the state, with12 Republican incumbents losing their seats. The Republican-Democrat split in the House will move from 95 to 55 currently to 83 to 67 in the coming year, with most of the Republican casualties occurring in two large population centers, Houston and Dallas.

For the first time in a decade the House will be amid a high-profile Speaker's race brought on by the retirement of Speaker Joe Straus (R). Candidates for Speaker have been jockeying for votes from their colleagues and no consensus favorite has emerged yet. Since the Speaker appoints Committee Chairs and determines which legislation will move forward, it is difficult to divine exactly what the House agenda will be during the next session. Look for property tax relief, school finance reform, Medicaid expansion, debt obligations for state pensions, retiree health care, and infrastructure to be among priority items considered.

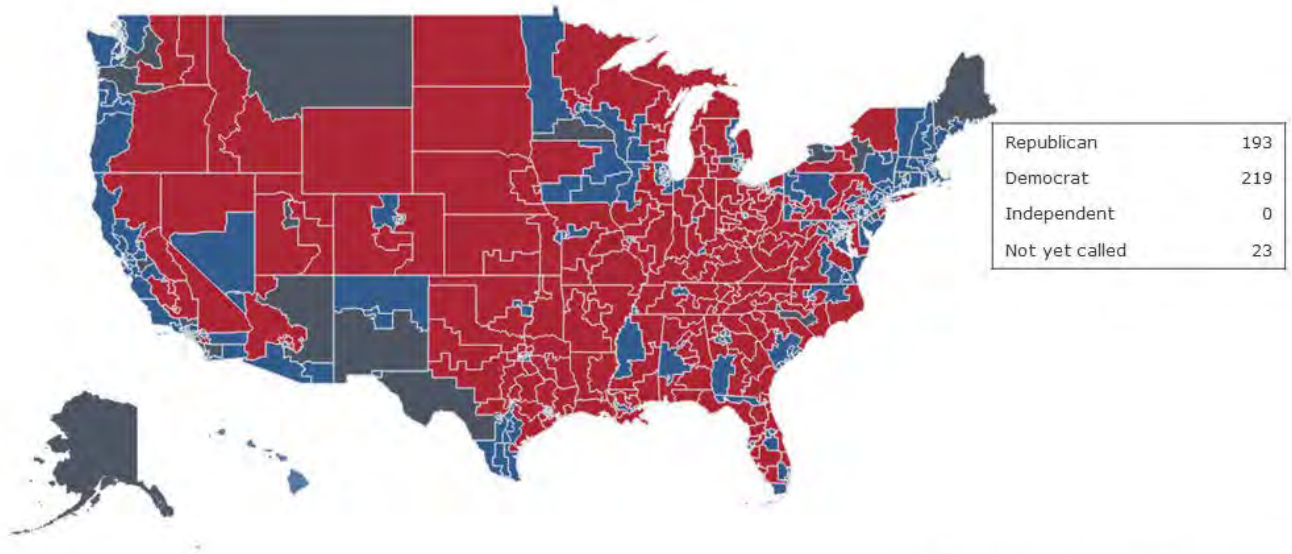
Appendix

Appendix A – House Election Results
Appendix B – Senate Election Results
Appendix C – Incoming & Outgoing Member Lists
Appendix D – CBO's Baseline Budget Projections
Appendix E – Key Trends

Appendix A – House Results

2018 U.S. House election results map

Republican won Democrat won Election not yet called

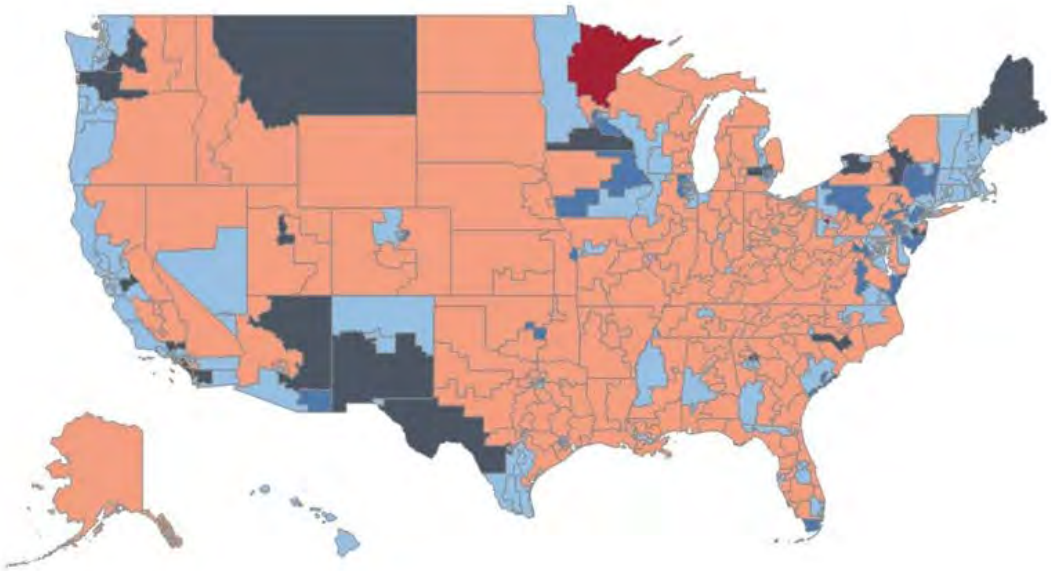


Republican	193
Democrat	219
Independent	0
Not yet called	23

Source: National Journal Research

Change of seats in the US House after the 2018 midterms

Democratic gain (28) Democratic hold (191) Republican gain (2) Republican hold (191)
Election not yet called (23)



Source: National Journal Research

2018 MIDTERM ELECTIONS – HOUSE RACES TO WATCH RESULTS

District	Democratic Candidate	DEM %	GOP Candidate	GOP %	FLIP
AK-AL	*Alyse Galvin **	45.8	Don Young	54.2	NO
AR-2	*Clare Tucker*	45.8	French Hill	52.2	NO
AZ-1	**Thomas O'Halleran**	**53.3**	***Wendy Rogers***	**46.7**	**TBD**
AZ-2	*Ann Kirkpatrick*	53.3	*Lea Marquez Peterson*	46.7	YES
AZ-8	*Hiral Tiprineni*	43.3	Debbie Lesko	56.7	NO
CA-4	*Jessica Morse*	44.7	Tom McClintock	55.3	NO
CA-7	Ami Bera	52.7	*Andrew Grant*	47.3	NO
CA-10	***Josh Harder***	**49.4**	**Jeff Denham**	**50.6**	**TBD**
CA-16	Jim Costa	54.4	*Elizabeth Heng*	45.6	NO
CA-21	*TJ Cox*	46.3	David Valadao	53.7	NO
CA-22	*Andrew Janz*	44.2	Devin Nunes	55.8	NO
CA-25	***Katie Hill***	**51.3**	**Stephen Knight**	**48.7**	**TBD**
CA-39	***Gil Cisneros***	**48.6**	***Young Kim***	**51.4**	**TBD**
CA-45	***Katie Porter***	**48.3**	**Mimi Walters**	**51.7**	**TBD**
CA-48	***Harley Rouda***	**50.7**	**Dana Rohrabacher**	**49.3**	**TBD**
CA-49	***Mike Levin***	**52.4**	***Diane Harkey***	**47.6**	**TBD**
CA-50	*Ammar Campa-Najjar*	45.8	Duncan Hunter	54.2	NO
CO-3	*Diane Mitsch Bush*	43.3	Scott Tipton	52	NO
CO-6	*Jason Crow*	53.1	Mike Coffman	44.2	YES
FL-6	*Nancy Soderberg*	43.7	*Michael Waltz*	56.3	NO
FL-7	Stephanie Murphy	57.7	*Mike Miller*	42.3	NO
FL-15	*Kristen Carlson*	46.9	*Ross Spano*	53.1	NO
FL-16	*David Shapiro*	45.4	Vern Buchanan	54.6	NO
FL-18	*Lauren Baer*	45.6	Brian Mast	54.4	NO
FL-25	*Mary Barzee Flores*	39.5	Mario Diaz-Balart	60.5	NO
FL-26	*Debbie Mucarsel-Powell*	50.9	Carlos Curbelo	49.1	YES
FL-27	*Donna Shalala*	51.8	*Maria Salazar*	45.8	YES
GA-6	***Lucy McBath***	**50.3**	**Karen Handel**	**49.7**	**TBD**
GA-7	***Carolyn Bourdeaux***	**49.3**	**Rob Woodall**	**50.7**	**TBD**
IA-1	*Abby Finkenauer*	50.9	Rod Blum	46	YES
IA-3	*Cindy Axne*	49	David Young	47.5	YES
IA-4	*J.D. Scholten*	47	Steve King	50.4	NO
IL-6	*Sean Casten*	52.8	Peter Roskam	47.2	YES
IL-12	*Brendan Kelly*	45.2	Mike Bost	51.8	NO
IL-13	*Betsy Londrigan*	49.3	Rodney Davis	50.7	NO
IL-14	*Lauren Underwood*	51.9	Randy Hultgren	48.1	YES
IN-2	*Mel Hall*	42.9	Jackie Walorski	57.1	NO
KS-2	*Paul Davis*	46.4	*Steve Watkins*	48.1	NO
KS-3	*Sharice Davids*	53.3	Kevin Yoder	44.2	YES

KY-6	*Amy McGrath*	47.8	Andy Barr	51	NO
ME-2	***Jared Golden***	**45.8**	**Bruce Poliquin**	**46.1**	**TBD**
MI-1	*Matthew Morgan*	43.7	Jack Bergman	56.3	NO
MI-3	*Cathy Albro*	42.5	Justin Amash	55.1	NO
MI-6	*Matt Longjohn*	45.7	Fred Upton	50.2	NO
MI-7	*Gretchen Driskell*	46.2	Tim Walberg	53.8	NO
MI-8	*Elissa Slotkin*	50.6	Mike Bishop	46.8	YES
MI-11	*Haley Stevens*	52.1	*Lena Epstein*	44.9	YES
MN-1	*Dan Feehan*	49.7	*Jim Hagedorn*	50.3	YES
MN-2	*Angie Craig*	52.8	Jason Lewis	47.2	YES
MN-3	*Dean Phillips*	55.7	Erik Paulsen	44.3	YES
MN-7	Collin Peterson	52.1	*Dave Hughes*	47.9	NO
MN-8	*Joe Radinovich*	45.2	*Pete Stauber*	50.7	YES
MO-2	*Cort VanOstran*	47.1	Ann Wagner	51.3	NO
MT-AL	*Kathleen Williams*	45.3	Greg Gianforte	52	NO
NC-2	*Linda Coleman*	45.9	George Holding	51.2	NO
NC-8	*Frank McNeill*	44.6	Richard Hudson	55.4	NO
NC-9	***Dan McCready***	**48.8**	***Mark Harris***	**49.4**	**TBD**
NC-13	*Kathy Manning*	45.5	Ted Budd	51.6	NO
NE-2	*Kara Eastman*	48.4	Don Bacon	51.6	NO
NH-1	*Chris Pappas*	53.4	*Eddie Edwards*	45.1	NO
NJ-2	*Jeff Van Drew*	52	*Seth Grossman*	46.2	YES
NJ-3	***Andrew Kim***	**48.9**	**Tom MacArthur**	**49.8**	**TBD**
NJ-5	Josh Gottheimer	55.2	*John McCann*	43.5	NO
NJ-7	*Tom Malinowski*	50.3	Leonard Lance	48.2	YES
NJ-11	*Mikie Sherrill*	55.6	*Jay Webber*	43.3	YES
NM-2	*Xochitl Torres Small*	49.5	*Yvette Herrell*	50.5	NO
NV-3	*Susie Lee*	51.9	*Danny Tarkanian*	42.9	NO
NV-4	*Steven Horsford*	52	*Cresent Hardy*	43.7	NO
NY-1	*Perry Gershon*	46.4	Lee Zeldin	52.5	NO
NY-2	*Liuba Grechen Shirley*	46.7	Peter King	53.3	NO
NY-11	*Max Rose*	52.8	Daniel Donovan	46.8	YES
NY-19	*Antonio Delgado*	49.8	John Faso	47.6	YES
NY-21	*Tedra Cobb*	41.8	Elise Stefanik	56.7	NO
NY-22	***Anthony Brindisi***	**50.3**	**Claudia Tenney**	**49.7**	**TBD**
NY-23	*Tracy Mitrano*	45	Tom Reed	55	NO
NY-24	*Dana Balter*	46.9	John Katko	53.1	NO
NY-27	***Nate McMurray***	**48.4**	**Chris Collins**	**49.5**	**TBD**
OH-1	*Aftab Pureval*	46.4	Steve Chabot	51.8	NO
OH-10	*Theresa Gasper*	41.9	Michael Turner	56.2	NO
OH-12	*Danny O'Connor*	47.1	Troy Balderson	51.6	NO
OH-14	*Betsy Rader*	44.6	David Joyce	55.4	NO

OK-5	*Kendra Horn*	50.7	Steve Russell	49.3	YES
PA-1	*Scott Wallace*	48.7	Brian Fitzpatrick	51.3	NO
PA-5	*Mary Gay Scanlon*	65.1	*Pearl Kim*	34.9	YES
PA-6	*Chrissy Houlahan*	58.8	*Greg McCauley*	41.2	YES
PA-7	*Susan Wild*	53.4	*Marty Northstein*	43.5	YES
PA-8	Matt Cartwright	54.6	*John Chrin*	45.4	NO
PA-10	*George Scott*	48.6	Scott Perry	51.4	NO
PA-14	*Bibiana Boerio*	42	*Guy Reschenthaler*	58	YES
PA-16	*Ronald Di Nicola*	47.2	Mike Kelly	51.6	NO
PA-17	Conor Lamb	56.1	Keith Rothfus	43.9	YES
SC-1	*Joe Cunningham*	50.7	*Katie Arrington*	49.3	YES
TX-2	*Todd Litton*	45.4	*Daniel Crenshaw*	53	NO
TX-6	*Jana Lynne Sanchez*	45.4	*Ron Wright*	53.1	NO
TX-7	*Lizzie Fletcher*	52.3	John Culberson	47.7	YES
TX-21	*Joseph Kopser*	47.5	*Chip Roy*	50.3	NO
TX-22	*Sri Preston Kulkarni*	46.4	Pete Olson	51.4	NO
TX-23	***Gina Ortiz Jones***	**48.8**	**Will Hurd**	**49.1**	**TBD**
TX-31	*Mary Hegar*	47.6	John Carter	50.7	NO
TX-32	*Colin Allred*	52.2	Pete Sessions	45.9	YES
UT-4	***Ben McAdams***	**51.3**	**Mia Love**	**48.7**	**TBD**
VA-2	*Elaine Luria*	51.1	Scott Taylor	48.9	YES
VA-5	*Leslie Cockburn*	46.7	*Denver Riggleman*	53.3	NO
VA-7	*Abigail Spanberger*	50.1	Dave Brat	48.7	YES
VA-10	*Jennifer Wexton*	56.2	Barbara Comstock	43.8	YES
WA-3	***Carolyn Long***	**47.7**	**Jaime Herrera Beutler**	**52.3**	**TBD**
WA-5	*Lisa Brown*	44.1	Cathy McMorris Rodgers	55.9	NO
WA-8	*Kim Schrier*	52.9	*Dino Rossi*	47.1	YES
WI-1	*Randy Bryce*	42.3	*Brian Steil*	54.6	NO
WI-6	*Dan Kohl*	44.5	Glenn Grothman	55.5	NO
WV-3	*Richard Ojeda*	43.6	*Carol Miller*	56.4	NO

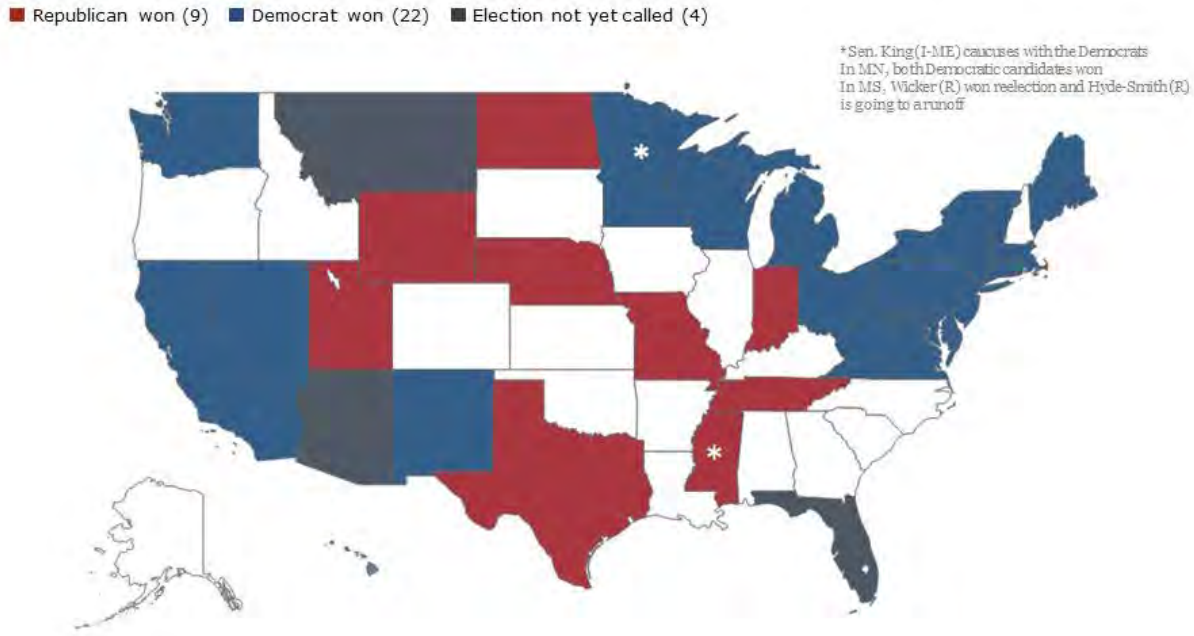
* Independent challenging a Republican

All results tabulated reported by the Associated Press

Races in bold have not been called by the time of publication

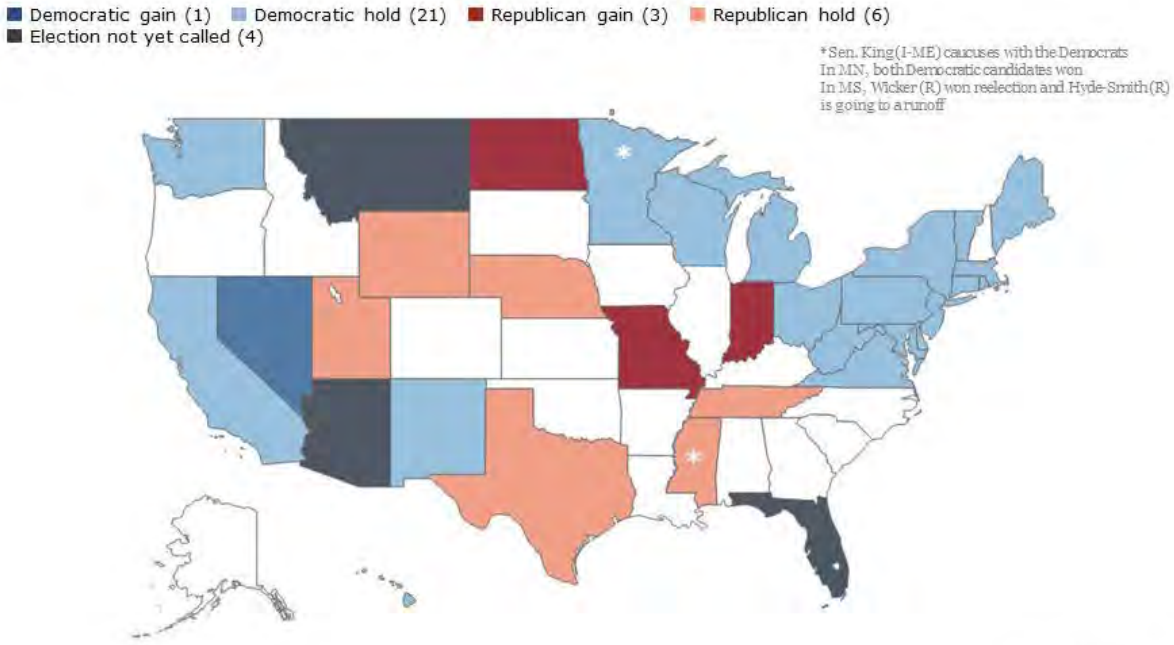
Appendix B – Senate Results

2018 U.S. Senate election results map



Source: National Journal Research

Change of seats in the US Senate after the 2018 midterms



Source: National Journal Research

2018 MIDTERM ELECTIONS – SENATE RACES TO WATCH RESULTS

State	Democratic Candidate	DEM %	GOP Candidate	GOP %	FLIP
AZ	**Kyrsten Sinema**	**48.4**	**Martha McSally**	**49.3**	**TBD**
FL	**Bill Nelson**	**49.8**	**Rick Scott**	**50.2**	**TBD**
IN	Joe Donnelly	43.2	Mike Braun	52.9	YES
MI	Debbie Stabenow	51.7	John James	46.3	NO
MN	Tina Smith	53	Karin Housley	42.4	NO
MS*	**Mike Espy**	**40.9**	**Cindy Hyde-Smith**	**41.4**	**TBD**
MO	Claire McCaskill	45.5	Josh Hawley	51.5	YES
MT	Jon Tester	49	Matt Rosendale	48.1	NO
NV	Jacky Rosen	50.4	Dean Heller	45.4	YES
NJ	Bob Menendez	53.1	Bob Hugin	43.8	NO
ND	Heidi Heitkamp	44.6	Kevin Cramer	55.4	YES
OH	Sherrod Brown	53.2	Jim Renacci	46.8	NO
PA	Bob Casey	55.6	Lou Barletta	42.8	NO
TN	Phil Bredesen	43.9	Marsha Blackburn	54.7	NO
TX	Beto O'Rourke	48.3	Ted Cruz	50.9	NO
WV	Joe Manchin	49.5	Patrick Morrisey	46.3	NO
WI	Tammy Baldwin	55.4	Leah Vikmir	44.6	NO

All results tabulated reported by the Associated Press

*Special election - Mississippi law requires a runoff when neither candidate achieves more than 50% of the vote. That runoff will occur on November 27

Races in bold have not been called by the time of publication

Appendix C – Incoming & Outgoing Member Lists

INCOMING MEMBERS

Senate Democrats

Jacky Rosen, Nevada

Senate Republicans

Marsha Blackburn, Tennessee
Mike Braun, Indiana
Kevin Cramer, North Dakota
Josh Hawley, Missouri
Mitt Romney, Utah

House Democrats

Colin Allred, TX-32
Cindy Axne, IA-3
Ed Case, HI-1
Sean Casten, IL-6
Angie Craig, MN-2
Jason Crow, CO-6
Joe Cunningham, SC-1
Sharice Davids, KS-3
Madeleine Dean, PA-4
Antonio Delgado, NY-19
Veronica Escobar, TX-16
Abby FInkenauer, IA-1
Lizzie Pannill Fletcher, TX-7
Jesus "Chuy" Garcia, IL-4
Sylvia Garcia, TX-29
Deb Haaland, NM-1
Jahana Hayes, CT-5
Kendra Horn, OK-5
Steven Horsford, NV-4
Chrissy Houlahan, PA-6
Ann Kirkpatrick, AZ-2
Conor Lamb, PA-17
Susie Lee, NV-3
Andy Levin, MI-9
Elaine Luria, VA-2
Tom Malinowski, NJ-7
Joseph Morelle, NY-25
Debbie Mucarsel-Powell, FL-26
Joe Neguse, CO-2
Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez, NY-14
Ilhan Omar, MN-5
Chris Pappas, NH-1
Dean Phillips, MN-3
Ayanna Pressley, MA-7
Max Rose, NY-11
Mary Gay Scanlon, PA-5
Donna Shalala, FL-27
Mikie Sherrill, NJ-11
Elissa Slotkin, MI-8
Abigail Spanberger, VA-7
Greg Stanton, AZ-9
Haley Stevens, MI-11
Rashida Tlaib, MI-13
Lori Trahan, MA-3
David Trone, MD-6
Lauren Underwood, IL-14
Jeff Van Drew, NJ-2
Jennifer Wexton, VA-10
Susan Wild, PA-7

House Republicans

Kelly Armstrong, ND-AL
Jim Baird, IN-4
Tim Burchett, TN-2
Ben Cline, VA-6
Dan Crenshaw, TX-2
Russ Fulcher, ID-1
Anthony Gonzalez, OH-16
Lance Gooden, TX-5

Mark Green, TN-7
Michael Guest, MS-3
Jim Hagedorn, MN-1
Kevin Hern, OK-1
Dusty Johnson, SD-AL
John Joyce, PA-13
Carol Miller, WV-3
Dan Mueser, PA-9
Greg Pence, IN-6
Guy Reschenthaler, PA-14
Denver RIggleman, VA-5
John Rose, TN-6
Chip Roy, TX-21
Ross Spano, FL-15
Pete Stauber, MN-8
Bryan Steil, WI-1
Greg Steube, FL-17
Van Taylor, TX-3
William Timmons, SC-4
Michael Waltz, FL-6
Steve Watkins, KS-2
Ron Wright, TX-6

OUTGOING MEMBERS

SENATE DEMOCRATS

Joe Donnelly, Indiana (lost general)
Heidi Heitkamp, North Dakota (lost general)
Claire McCaskill, Missouri (lost general)

SENATE REPUBLICANS

Bob Corker, Tennessee (retiring)
Jeff Flake, Arizona (retiring)
Orrin Hatch, Utah (retiring)

HOUSE DEMOCRATS

Bob Brady, PA-1 (retiring)
Michael Capuano, MA-7 (lost primary)
John Conyers, MI-13 (resigned)
Joe Crowley, NY-14 (lost primary)
John Delaney, MD-6 (retiring)
Elizabeth Esty, CT-5 (retiring)
Gene Green, TX-29 (retiring)
Luis Gutierrez, IL-4 (retiring)
Colleen Hanabusa, HI-1 (ran for gov., lost primary)
Ruben Kihuen, NV-4 (retiring)
Sander Levin, MI-9 (retiring)
Michelle Lujan Grisham, NM-1 (won NM gov)
Rick Nolan, MN-8 (retiring)
Beto O'Rourke, TX-16 (ran for Senate, lost general)
Jared Polis, CO-2 (won CO gov)
Jacky Rosen, NV-3 (won NV sen)
Carol Shea-Porter, NH-1 (retiring)
Kyrsten Sinema, AZ-9 (ran for Senate)
Louise Slaughter, NY-25 (died)
Niki Tsongas, MA-3 (retiring)
Tim Walz, MN-1 (won MN gov)

HOUSE REPUBLICANS

Lou Barletta, PA-11 (ran for Senate, lost general)
Joe Barton, TX-6 (retiring)
Mike Bishop, MI-8 (lost general)
Diane Black, TN-6 (ran for gov., lost primary)
Marsha Blackburn, TN-7 (won TN sen)
Rod Blum, IA-1 (lost general)
Dave Brat, VA-7 (lost general)
Jim Bridenstine, OK-1 (administration)
Mike Coffman, CO-6 (lost general)
Barbara Comstock, VA-10 (lost general)
Ryan Costello, PA-6 (retiring)
Kevin Cramer, ND-AL (won ND sen)
John Culberson, TX-7 (lost general)
Carlos Curbelo, FL-26 (lost general)
Dan Donovan, NY-11 (lost general)
Charlie Dent, PA-15 (resigned)
Ron DeSantis, FL-6 (resigned, won FL gov)

Jimmy Duncan, TN-2 (retiring)
John Faso, NY-19 (lost general)
Rodney Frelinghuysen, NJ-11 (retiring)
Tom Garrett, VA-5 (retiring)
Bob Goodlatte, VA-6 (retiring)
Trey Gowdy, SC-4 (retiring)
Gregg Harper, MS-3 (retiring)
Jeb Hensarling, TX-5 (retiring)
Randy Hultgren, IL-14 (lost general)
Darrell Issa, CA-49 (retiring)
Evan Jenkins, WV-3 (resigned)
Lynn Jenkins, KS-2 (retiring)
Sam Johnson, TX-3 (retiring)
Raul Labrador, ID-1 (ran for Gov., lost primary)
Leonard Lance, NJ-7 (lost general)
Jason Lewis, MN-2 (lost general)
Frank LoBiondo, NJ-2 (retiring)
Martha McSally, AZ-2 (ran for Senate)
Patrick Meehan, PA-7 (retiring)
Luke Messer, IN-6 (ran for Senate, lost primary)
Kristi Noem, SD-At Large (won SD gov)
Erik Paulsen, MN-3 (lost general)
Steve Pearce, NM-2 (ran for Gov., lost general)
Robert Pittenger, NC-9 (lost primary)
Ted Poe, TX-2 (retiring)
Dave Reichert, WA-8 (retiring)
Jim Renacci, OH-16 (ran for Senate, lost general)
Todd Rokita, IN-4 (ran for Senate, lost primary)
Tom Rooney, FL-17 (retiring)
Peter Roskam, IL-6 (lost general)
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, FL-27 (retiring)
Dennis Ross, FL-15 (retiring)
Keith Rothfus, PA-17 (lost general)
Ed Royce, CA-39 (retiring)
Steve Russell, OK-5 (lost general)
Paul Ryan, WI-1 (retiring)
Mark Sanford, SC-1 (lost primary)
Pete Sessions, TX-32 (lost general)
Bill Shuster, PA-9 (retiring)
Lamar Smith, TX-21 (retiring)
Scott Taylor, VA-2 (lost general)
Dave Trott, MI-11 (retiring)
Kevin Yoder, KS-3 (lost general)
David Young, IA-3 (lost general)

Appendix D – CBO's Baseline Budget Projections

CBO's Baseline Budget Projections, by Category, in Billions of Dollars														
													Total	
	Actual,												2019-	2019-
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2023	2028
Revenues	3,316	3,338	3,490	3,678	3,827	4,012	4,228	4,444	4,663	5,002	5,299	5,520	19,234	44,162
Outlays	3,982	4,142	4,470	4,685	4,949	5,288	5,500	5,688	6,015	6,322	6,615	7,046	24,893	56,580
Deficit (-) or Surplus	-665	-804	-981	-1,008	-1,123	-1,276	-1,273	-1,244	-1,352	-1,320	-1,316	-1,526	-5,660	-12,418
Debt Held by the Public	14,665	15,688	16,762	17,827	18,998	20,319	21,638	22,932	24,338	25,715	27,087	28,671	n.a.	n.a.
Source: CBO's April 2018 report *The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2018 to 2028. Table 4-1*														
www.cbo.gov/publication/53651														
OMB Mid-Session Review deficit		-890	-1085	-1076	-1011	-952	-875	-749	-659	-608	-549	-458		

Appendix E – Key Trends

Interesting Data Points from the 2018 Elections:

- An estimated 113 million Americans voted in the 2018 midterm elections.
- 49% of eligible voters participated. In the last midterm election of 2014, only 36.4% of eligible voters participated.
- Projections indicate **2018 will be the most expensive midterm in history** with more than $5 billion spent.
- Women cast an estimated 52% of all votes. Women voted Democratic over Republican by almost 20% according to exit polling.
- Nearly a dozen congressional candidates raised more than $25 million during the 2018 cycle. 37 House Democratic candidates raised more than $4 million.
- A record 476 women filed to run for the House this cycle, shattering the previous all-time high of 298. A record 235 women won their party's nomination, and at least **96 women were elected to the House on Tuesday, an all-time high. The 116th Congress will see at least 117 women in office, also an all-time high**. Women currently make up approximately 20 percent of the 115th Congress (107 women—84 in the House and 23 in the Senate)—that figure will jump to at least 22 percent in the 116th.
- **More non-incumbent women were elected to Congress than ever before** (at least 31).
- If Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) retakes the Speaker's gavel, **she will be the first person to reclaim the position since Sam Rayburn in 1955.**
- Midterm elections generally move in the same direction. **The last midterm election where the President's party lost seats in one chamber of Congress but gained seats in the other occurred in 1982**, when Republicans lost 27 seats in the House and picked up a seat in the Senate.

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From:	Barrus, Al
To:	Charisa Morris; Gavin Shire; Chris Tollefson; Matthew Trott; Jennifer Deschanel
Cc:	Amy Lueders; Laury Parramore; Alyssa Hausman; Melissa Mata; Mary Elder
Subject:	Region 2 Weekly Report
Date:	Thursday, November 8, 2018 11:38:50 AM
Attachments:	Final R2 FishBites Weekly 9Nov2018.docx

Please see attached report from the Southwest Region.

--
Respectfully,

Al Barrus,
Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife,
Region 2 External Affairs
Office: 505.248.6409
Mobile: 505.559.4447

USFWS Southwest Region | Facebook | Twitter

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Region 2 Weekly Report

Through 9 November, 2018

Media Contacts

Title/Issue	Anticipated Publication Date	Current Status
The Arizona Republic	TBD	Producing article about Mt. Graham red squirrel population – namely the increase from 35 after the Fyre Fire to 67 in the most recent survey. Our expert Marit Alanen responded.
Cronkite News at Arizona PBS	TBD	Recorded TV interview regarding the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service program that utilized the tamarisk leaf beetle for biological control of saltcedar in riparian areas and the effects it has had on the southwestern willow flycatcher. Flycatcher lead Greg Beatty is being interviewed.
Book author Peter Christie	TBD	Seeks to interview retired SAC Nick Chavez on illegal trade in exotic pets. Declined. Referred to Amy Jonach in HQ.
The Nation Magazine, John Washington	Mid November	Contacted Cabeza Prieta NWR regarding statistics on Rescue Beacons. Forwarded to U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Book author Larkin Powell	TBD	Seeks information on warbler and vireo and birding near Ft. Hood for book manuscript on birding in the Plains states.
Arizona Highways Magazine	Fall/winter 2018	Writer is researching ocelots in Arizona and Arizona's possible contribution to species recovery.
Jimmy Tobias, freelance writer	TBD	Reporter contacted FWS inquiring about the lesser prairie-chicken and if the FWS had provided a species status recommendation to DOI.
Dean Russell Columbia Journalism School	TBD	Mexican wolf recovery and cross fostering
Sierra Magazine	TBD	Reporter contacted Valle de Oro NWR Refuge Manager for a story on the benefits of diversity of staff and programing

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel
Nothing significant to report.

Immediate Announcements and Actions (within the next 14 days)
Nothing significant to report.

15-60 Day Look Ahead
Nothing significant to report.

Upcoming Workshops & Meetings
Nothing significant to report.

Endangered Species Act Recovery Actions

[*UPDATE*] Notice of Availability of Draft Lesser Long-Nosed Bat Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan. FWS will announce the availability of a draft post-delisting monitoring plan (and comment period) for the LLNB. The target date for the post-delisting monitoring plan is late October. No controversy anticipated. Communications package is prepared.

Endangered Species Act Listing Actions

[*NEW*] Two Sky Island Plants (Batram's stonecrop and beardless cinchweed) –FWS will make a proposed listing determination for two Arizona/Mexico plants. Bartram's stonecrop is a plant native to southern Arizona and northern Mexico. Proposed critical habitat is determined to be not prudent for Bartram's stonecrop due to the threat of collection. FWS will make a proposed listing determination and proposed critical habitat designation for beardless cinchweed, a plant native to southern Arizona and northern Mexico. The proposed approximately 10,604 acres as critical habitat for beardless cinchweed designation includes approximately 7,713 ac (3,121 ha) of currently occupied habitat and 2,891 ac (1,170 ha) of unoccupied habitat. The unoccupied critical habitat is a portion of historical populations where non-native grass species are limited. These actions are not expected to be opposed and media coverage is expected to be neutral. Interested stakeholders include the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Department of Agriculture, and Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch (National Audubon Society). A regional news release to all interested parties and the media is planned. Target date for submitting to the *Federal Register* is mid-December 2018.

Lesser prairie-chicken SSA – Lesser prairie-chicken SSA – FWS has competed the Species Status Assessment (SSA) Report for the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC). FWS began work on a Species Status Assessment in the spring of 2015, prior to the court ruling that vacated the listing of the LPC and the petition to relist the species. FWS had the SSA Report reviewed by the external working group (biologists from the 5 states, WAFWA, NRCS, and academics), independent peer reviewers, and the directors of the State Fish & Wildlife Agencies. The SSA Report provides the best available science to inform future Endangered Species Act decisions and conservation actions related to the LPC. FWS continues work to strengthen relationships and increase coordination with partners by regularly reaching out on a one-on-one basis, coordinating and hosting several regularly scheduled calls, and working with WAFWA, the states and others.

American Burying Beetle litigation - On September 4, 2018, the Center for Biological Diversity sued the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for failing to release documents related to the 12-month finding for the American burying beetle.

Dunes Sagebrush Lizard Petition to List as Threatened or Endangered - The FWS received a petition on June 1, 2018, from Defenders of Wildlife and the Center for Biological Diversity to list the dunes sagebrush lizard (DSL) as a threatened or endangered species and designate critical habitat. The Service will review the petition to determine whether or not it provides substantial information warranting a more in-depth 12-month status review. We must make initial findings on petitions within 90 days after receiving the petition, to the maximum extent practicable. FWS currently has a significant backlog of petition findings, and limited resources to complete these findings and other listing functions. The Service will review the petition to determine whether or not it provides substantial information warranting a more in-depth 12-month status review. (See related DSL CCA/A entry in Recovery section below.)

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Sonoyta mud turtle critical habitat – FWS Southwest Region anticipates sending to the Federal Register, (awaiting DOI approval), a proposal to designate 12 acres of critical habitat for the Sonoyta mud turtle. A draft economic analysis of the proposed critical habitat will also be made available. In the U.S., the Sonoyta mud turtle occurs only on Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument on the U.S./Arizona-Mexico border. As such, proposed critical habitat will be limited to NPS lands. The Sonoyta mud turtle was listed as endangered on September 20, 2017. Outreach planning completed. Ranking 2. R2

Other Items of Note

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Central Texas mussels Species Status Assessment (SSA) report – FWS has been working since spring 2017 with state and federal agencies, universities, and others to compile and analyze the best available data on the following four freshwater mussel species in central Texas- false spike,

Texas fatmucket, Texas fawnsfoot and Texas pimpleback. The SSA was reviewed by peer reviewers and agency partners (including Texas Parks and Wildlife and the Comptroller of Public Accounts). The Service received important suggestions from the partner reviewers during the initial review related to the taxonomy for two species. The suggestions are reflected in the most recent update of the draft SSA Report through taxonomic revisions for the Texas fatmucket and the Texas pimpleback. The SSA will inform future Endangered Species Act decisions and conservation actions related to the four Central Texas mussels.

Leander Independent School District (LISD) Draft Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit – On August 21, 2018, LISD submitted a revised draft habitat conservation plan (HCP) in support of their application for an incidental take permit (ITP) on the proposed construction of a secondary access road at the joint Vandegrift High School and Four Points Middle School campus in northwest Travis County, Texas. The revised draft HCP is being reviewed. If approved by the FWS, a draft Environmental Assessment to analyse the effects of issuing an ITP will be published for public review and comment. A decision on issuance of the ITP will be made after the public comment period closes. The ITP would provide the applicant with compliance under the Endangered Species Act for activities including the construction, use and maintenance activities associated with a proposed secondary access road. Significant Congressional interest, as well as strong opposition from other parties.

Dunes Sagebrush Lizard Texas Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances - The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts has submitted a permit application and a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) for the dunes sagebrush lizard to address several issues with the current Texas Conservation Plan (TCP) based upon the six years of implementation. The draft CCAA has been shared with participants in the existing plan, industry, landowners and other potential participants under the CCAA. The draft CCAA is currently being reviewed by FWS staff for biological sufficiency.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the binational Jaguar Recovery Team have completed the final recovery plan for the jaguar, requiring Regional Director signature by September 28. The plan sets goals for improving the species' status through its entire 19-country range and provides a framework for achieving recovery. The recovery plan focuses on the cat's population in northwestern Mexico and the southwestern United States – recommending site-specific conservation actions such that the population can most effectively rebound and contribute to the entire species' recovery. Recovery team and cooperating partners have been advised. Regional Director (R2) signature and announcement of the plan are pending a more thorough review of the communications package.

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engages children who are learning about nature virtually from a classroom, hospital room or medical facility. Recently, nearly 500 youth (ranging from 2nd to 5th grade) from 16 classes across Texas participated in the virtual nature program, including participants from a facility that serves sexually abused youth and their families.

Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma hosted a two day Youth Only controlled white-tailed deer hunt. Hunters under the age of sixteen were selected in a random drawing by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation for this special hunt. Seventeen young hunters and their adult advisors turned out for the event, undaunted by the extreme rains and high water levels currently experienced at the Refuge. Eight deer were harvested, 7 doe and 1 buck. The hunt is sponsored by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation and offers young people a safe and meaningful hunting opportunity.

Deep Fork National Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma and the Friends of Deep Fork hosted its first Blue Goose Day at the Refuge on October 20th. The Refuge partnered with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Okmulgee High School National Honor Society, staff from other nearby Refuges and ES Offices, and local businesses to provide a day of outdoor recreation including constructing take home blue bird boxes, fishing for bluegill and catfish, identifying animal tracks, and practicing their aim at 3-D targets on the archery range. The Friends Group provided lunch and materials for the bluebird boxes. The Refuge provided equipment free to use (bows, arrows, bait, fishing poles, etc.) and the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation stocked the refuge pond with bluegill and provided additional fishing poles so participants could engage in angling, some for the first time. Each child received a free t-shirt and cup for coming to the event. The event and all activities were free and open to everyone. With a focus on family activities, staff commented that a majority of the attendees had never been to the refuge before. Approximately 75 people attended.

On Saturday October 20th, 2018, 20 volunteers with the Arizona Chapter of Safari Club International (AZSCI) volunteered their time and effort to prepare a group campsite on Buenos Aires NWR. The purpose of the group site is to support Big 6 activities. The creation of the site was to facilitate hosting the AZSCI and AZ Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) youth deer hunt camp on the refuge. This will help to promote youth hunter recruitment and retention as well as improve our partnership with AZGFD.

On November 6-7, Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in south Texas will host 25 veterans from the San Antonio, TX area at the first annual "Casting with Patriots" event sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Salvation Army, Bass Pro Shops, and Cabela's. The veterans will learn about America’s National Wildlife Refuges and their wildlife heritage. The focus of the event will be providing them opportunities for fishing both at the Refuge fishing pier and with

locally guided boats. For their convenience, the Refuge is also offering the veterans to stay in the Youth Environmental Training Area.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Coastal Program in the Southwest Region is working with Duck Unlimited and the state of Texas to address barriers to individuals with disabilities for access to hunting opportunities. The Service and its partners hope to provide accessible infrastructure such as hunting blinds, boardwalks, and parking for migratory bird hunting sites on national wildlife refuges and state wildlife management areas along the Gulf Coast of Texas. Partners are currently in initial meetings and planning stages. The Service will provide updates as the project moves forward.

Border-Related Activities

Border Coordination: Pedestrian Fence – FWS is working with the U.S. Border Patrol on a Biological Assessment for fencing that starts near the Santa Teresa Port of Entry and then extends west for approximately 20 miles. The area is within the Mexican Wolf Experimental Population Area, as designated under section 10(j) of the ESA. In 2017, a Mexican wolf crossed the border into the U.S. in this area and then returned to Mexico.

Fish and Aquatic Conservation

Nothing significant to report.

Migratory Birds

Nothing significant to report.

Science Applications

Nothing significant to report.

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration

Nothing significant to report.

Native American Programs

Nothing significant to report.

From:	Bloodsworth, Brian
To:	Jim Kurth; Guertin, Stephen
Subject:	Fwd: [PIC-PIO] FY 2018 Budget Blueprint
Date:	Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:42:34 AM
Attachments:	FY18 Budget Blueprint - Management.pdf 2018_blueprint (1).pdf

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Sharing ...

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Glenn, Douglas** <douglas_glenn@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 9:36 AM
Subject: Fwd: [PIC-PIO] FY 2018 Budget Blueprint
To: DOI_PFM_CFOC <doi_pfm_cfoc@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: DOI_PFM_FOP <doi_pfm_fop@ios.doi.gov>

CFOs,

FYI below.

Thank you,
Douglas A. Glenn
DCFO & Director, Office of Financial Management

"A picture is worth a thousand numbers."

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Brown, Dustin S. EOP/OMB** <Dustin_S._Brown@omb.eop.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 8:23 AM
Subject: [PIC-PIO] FY 2018 Budget Blueprint
To: PIC-PIO@listserv.gsa.gov

PIOs,

This morning, the President's FY 2018 Budget Blueprint was sent to Congress. The FY18 Blueprint includes an outline of the Administration's management priorities to make the Federal government operate more effectively, efficiently, and securely. As discussed in the Blueprint (excerpt is attached) the forthcoming President's Management Agenda (PMA) will set goals and take action to ensure that by 2020 we will be able to say:

- Federal agencies are managing programs and delivering critical services more effectively.
- Federal agencies are devoting a greater percentage of taxpayer dollars to mission achievement rather than costly, unproductive compliance activities.
- Federal agencies are more effective and efficient in supporting program outcomes.
- Agencies have been held accountable for improving performance.

OMB is currently developing guidance for implementing the workforce reduction plan and

recently released government reorganization EO, which will be aligned with the budget and performance timelines over the coming year. We look forward to engaging with you in the coming weeks and months to establish reform priorities and measures to track progress.

Best,

Dustin

To unsubscribe from the PIC-PIO list, click the following link:
https://listserv.gsa.gov/cgi-bin/wa.exe?SUBED1=PIC-PIO&A=1

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Brian Bloodsworth
Deputy Assistant Director
Business Management and Operations | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
brian_bloodsworth@fws.gov | Office: (703) 358-2116 | Mobile: (703) 328-0447

MANAGEMENT

Making Government Work Again

The Federal Government can—and should—operate more effectively, efficiently, and securely. For decades, leaders on both sides of the aisle have talked about the need to make Government work better. The President is taking bold action now to make Government work again for the American people.

As one of his first acts as President, on January 23, 2017, the President issued a memorandum imposing a Federal "Hiring Freeze" and requiring a long-term plan to reduce the size of the Federal Government's workforce. In addition, on March 13, 2017, the President signed Executive Order 13781 establishing a "Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch," which set in motion the important work of reorganizing executive departments and agencies. These two actions are complementary and plans should reflect both Presidential actions. Legislation will be required before major reorganization of the Executive Branch can take place, but the White House is best situated to review and recommend changes to the Congress. In roughly a year, the Congress will receive from the President and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a comprehensive plan for reorganization proposals. The White House will work closely with congressional committees with jurisdiction over Government organization to ensure the needed reforms actually happen.

Simultaneously, the Administration will develop the President's Management Agenda focused on achieving significant improvements in the effectiveness of its core management functions. The President's Management Agenda will set goals in areas that are critical to improving the Federal Government's effectiveness, efficiency, cybersecurity, and accountability. The Administration will take action to ensure that by 2020 we will be able to say the following:

1. **Federal agencies are managing programs and delivering critical services more effectively.** The Administration will take an evidence-based approach to improving programs and services—using real, hard data to identify poorly performing organizations and programs. We will hold program managers accountable for improving performance and delivering high-quality and timely services to the American people and businesses. We will use all tools available and create new ones as needed to ensure the workforce is appropriately prepared.

2. **Federal agencies are devoting a greater percentage of taxpayer dollars to mission achievement rather than costly, unproductive compliance activities.** Past management improvement initiatives resulted in the creation of hundreds of guidance documents aimed at improving Government management by adding more requirements to information technology (IT), human capital, acquisition, financial management, and real property. Furthermore, these Government-wide policies often tie agencies' hands and keep managers from making commonsense decisions.

As a result, costs often increase without corresponding benefits. The Administration will roll back low-value activities and let managers manage, while holding them accountable for finding ways to reduce the cost of agency operations. As part of this effort, OMB will review requirements placed on agencies and identify areas to reduce obsolete, low-value requirements.

3. **Federal agencies are more effective and efficient in supporting program outcomes.** Delivering high-performing program results and services to citizens and businesses depends on effective and efficient mission support services. However, despite years of efforts to improve these critical management processes, managers remain frustrated with hiring methodologies that do not consistently bring in top talent, acquisition approaches that are too cumbersome, and IT that is outdated by the time it is deployed. The Administration will use available data to develop targeted solutions to problems Federal managers face, and begin fixing them directly by sharing and adopting leading practices from the private and public sectors. Among the areas that will be addressed are how agencies buy goods and services, hire talent, use their real property, pay their bills, and utilize technology.

4. **Agencies have been held accountable for improving performance.** All Federal agencies will be responsible for reporting critical performance metrics and showing demonstrable improvement. OMB will also regularly review agency progress in implementing these reforms to ensure there is consistent improvement.

Through this bold agenda, we will improve the effectiveness, efficiency, cybersecurity, and accountability of the Federal Government and make government work again.

America First

A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again

Office of Management and Budget

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GENERAL NOTES

1. All years referenced for economic data are calendar years unless otherwise noted. All years referenced for budget data are fiscal years unless otherwise noted.
2. At the time of this writing, only one of the annual appropriations bills for 2017 had been enacted (the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act), as well as the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, which provided 2017 discretionary funding for certain Department of Defense accounts; therefore, the programs provided for in the remaining 2017 annual appropriations bills were operating under a continuing resolution (Public Law 114-223, division C, as amended). For these programs, references to 2017 spending in the text and tables reflect the levels provided by the continuing resolution.
3. Details in the tables may not add to the totals due to rounding.
4. Web address: *http://www.budget.gov*

AMERICA FIRST

Beginning a New Chapter of American Greatness

A MESSAGE TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

The American people elected me to fight for their priorities in Washington, D.C. and deliver on my promise to protect our Nation. I fully intend to keep that promise.

One of the most important ways the Federal Government sets priorities is through the Budget of the United States.

Accordingly, I submit to the Congress this Budget Blueprint to reprioritize Federal spending so that it advances the safety and security of the American people.

Our aim is to meet the simple, but crucial demand of our citizens—a Government that puts the needs of its own people first. When we do that, we will set free the dreams of every American, and we will begin a new chapter of American greatness.

A budget that puts America first must make the safety of our people its number one priority—because without safety, there can be no prosperity.

That is why I have instructed my Budget Director, Mick Mulvaney, to craft a budget that emphasizes national security and public safety. That work is reflected in this Budget Blueprint. To keep Americans safe, we have made tough choices that have been put off for too long. But we have also made necessary investments that are long overdue.

My Budget Blueprint for 2018:

- provides for one of the largest increases in defense spending without increasing the debt;
- significantly increases the budget for immigration enforcement at the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security;
- includes additional resources for a wall on the southern border with Mexico, immigration judges, expanded detention capacity, U.S. Attorneys, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Border Patrol;
- increases funding to address violent crime and reduces opioid abuse; and
- puts America first by keeping more of America's hard-earned tax dollars here at home.

The core of my first Budget Blueprint is the rebuilding of our Nation's military without adding to our Federal deficit. There is a $54 billion increase in defense spending in 2018 that is offset by targeted reductions elsewhere. This defense funding is vital to rebuilding and preparing our Armed Forces for the future.

We must ensure that our courageous servicemen and women have the tools they need to deter war, and when called upon to fight, do only one thing: Win.

In these dangerous times, this public safety and national security Budget Blueprint is a message to the world—a message of American strength, security, and resolve.

This Budget Blueprint follows through on my promise to focus on keeping Americans safe, keeping terrorists out of our country, and putting violent offenders behind bars.

The defense and public safety spending increases in this Budget Blueprint are offset and paid for by finding greater savings and efficiencies across the Federal Government. Our Budget Blueprint insists on $54 billion in reductions to non-Defense programs. We are going to do more with less, and make the Government lean and accountable to the people.

This includes deep cuts to foreign aid. It is time to prioritize the security and well-being of Americans, and to ask the rest of the world to step up and pay its fair share.

Many other Government agencies and departments will also experience cuts. These cuts are sensible and rational. Every agency and department will be driven to achieve greater efficiency and to eliminate wasteful spending in carrying out their honorable service to the American people.

I look forward to engaging the Congress and enacting this *America First Budget*.

Donald J. Trump

A Message from the Director, Office of Management and Budget

I am proud to introduce the "America First" Budget.

While recognizing this Blueprint is not the full Federal budget, it does provide lawmakers and the public with a view of the priorities of the President and his Administration.

The Federal budget is a complex document. However, working for a President committed to keeping his promises means my job is as simple as translating his words into numbers.

That is why you will find here a familiar focus on rebuilding and restoring our Nation's security. Under the Obama Administration, our shrinking military has been stretched far too thin. The military has been forced to make aging ships, planes, and other vehicles last well beyond their intended life spans. The President will reverse this dangerous trend. From rebuilding our Armed Forces to beefing up our border security and safeguarding our Nation's sovereignty, this Budget makes security priority one.

It does so while meeting another of the President's core commitments: addressing our Nation's priorities without sending future generations an even bigger credit card bill.

This 2018 Budget Blueprint will not add to the deficit. It has been crafted much the same way any American family creates its own budget while paying bills around their kitchen table; it makes hard choices.

The President's commitment to fiscal responsibility is historic. Not since early in President Reagan's first term have more tax dollars been saved and more Government inefficiency and waste been targeted. Every corner of the Federal budget is scrutinized, every program tested, every penny of taxpayer money watched over.

Our $20 trillion national debt is a crisis, not just for the Nation, but for every citizen. Each American's share of this debt is more than $60,000 and growing. It is a challenge of great stakes, but one the American people can solve. American families make tough decisions every day about their own budgets; it is time Washington does the same.

Mick Mulvaney

MAJOR AGENCY BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The 2018 Budget is being unveiled sequentially in that this Blueprint provides details only on our discretionary funding proposals. The full Budget that will be released later this spring will include our specific mandatory and tax proposals, as well as a full fiscal path.

For instance, the President has emphasized that one of his top priorities is modernizing the outdated infrastructure that the American public depends upon. To spearhead his infrastructure initiative, the President has tapped a group of infrastructure experts to evaluate investment options along with commonsense regulatory, administrative, organizational, and policy changes to encourage investment and speed project delivery. Through this initiative, the President is committed to making sure that taxpayer dollars are expended for the highest return projects and that all levels of government maximize leverage to get the best deals and exercise vigorous oversight. The Administration will provide more budgetary, tax, and legislative details in the coming months.

In the chapters that follow, Budget highlights are presented for major agencies. Consistent with the President's approach to move the Nation toward fiscal responsibility, the Budget eliminates and reduces hundreds of programs and focuses funding to redefine the proper role of the Federal Government.

The Budget also proposes to eliminate funding for other independent agencies, including: the African Development Foundation; the Appalachian Regional Commission; the Chemical Safety Board; the Corporation for National and Community Service; the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; the Delta Regional Authority; the Denali Commission; the Institute of Museum and Library Services; the Inter-American Foundation; the U.S. Trade and Development Agency; the Legal Services Corporation; the National Endowment for the Arts; the National Endowment for the Humanities; the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation; the Northern Border Regional Commission; the Overseas Private Investment Corporation; the United States Institute of Peace; the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness; and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

MANAGEMENT

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REGULATION

Cutting Burdensome Regulations

The American people deserve a regulatory system that works for them, not against them—a system that is both effective and efficient.

Each year, however, Federal agencies issue thousands of new regulations that, taken together, impose substantial burdens on American consumers and businesses big and small. These burdens function much like taxes that unnecessarily inhibit growth and employment. Many regulations, though well intentioned, do not achieve their intended outcomes, are not structured in the most cost-effective manner, and often have adverse, unanticipated consequences. Many more regulations that have been on the books for years—even if they made sense at the time—have gone unexamined and may no longer be effective or necessary.

The President is committed to fixing these problems by eliminating unnecessary and wasteful regulations. To that end, the President has already taken three significant steps:

1. **Regulatory freeze.** On January 20, 2017, the President's Chief of Staff issued a memorandum to all agencies, directing them to pull back any regulations that had been sent to, but not yet published by, the Office of the Federal Register; to not publish any new regulations unless approved by an Administration political appointee; and to delay the effective date of any pending regulations for 60 days to provide the Administration time to review and reconsider those regulations. Federal agencies responded by pulling back, delaying, and not publishing all possible regulations.

2. **Controlling costs and eliminating unnecessary regulations.** On January 30, 2017, the President signed Executive Order 13771, "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs." This Executive Order represents a fundamental change in the regulatory state. It requires Federal agencies to eliminate at least two existing regulations for each new regulation they issue. It also requires agencies to ensure that for 2017, the total incremental cost of all new regulations be no greater than $0. For 2018 and beyond, the Order establishes and institutionalizes a disciplined process for imposing regulatory cost caps for each Federal agency.

   The significant structural reforms instituted by this Executive Order provide the necessary framework for Federal agencies to carry out the President's bold regulatory reform agenda.

3. **Enforcing the regulatory reform agenda.** As a successful businessman, the President knows that achievement requires accountability. That basic principle is the reason the President signed Executive Order 13777, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda," on February 24, 2017. This Order establishes within each agency a Regulatory Reform Officer and a Regulatory Reform Task Force to carry out the President's regulatory reform priorities. These new teams will

work hard to identify regulations that eliminate jobs or inhibit job creation; are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective; or impose costs that exceed benefits.

They will also be responsible for ensuring that agencies comply with the President's instruction to eliminate two regulations for each new regulation; impose no new incremental costs through regulation; and undertake efforts to repeal, replace, or modify existing regulations.

This Order builds upon a widely recognized and bi-partisan consensus that many existing regulations are likely to be ineffective and no longer necessary, and explicitly builds upon the retrospective review efforts initiated through Executive Order 13563. The difference, however, is accountability, and these teams will be a critical means by which Federal agencies will identify and cut regulations in a smart and efficient manner.

The President recently told Americans, "The era of empty talk is over." When it comes to regulatory reform, it is abundantly clear that the President means business. The President has put into place truly significant new structural mechanisms that will help to ensure that major regulatory reforms are finally achieved on behalf of the hardworking and forgotten men and women of America.

The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs within OMB is already working hard to support the implementation of these critical new reforms, and it looks forward to making sure that they are fully and successfully implemented over the coming months and years.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides leadership to promote sustainable agricultural production, protect the long-term availability of food through innovative research, and safeguard the health and productivity of the Nation's forests, grasslands, and private working lands based on sound public policy and efficient management. USDA also works to ensure food safety, provide nutrition assistance, and support rural communities. The Budget request supports core Departmental and mission critical activities while streamlining, reducing, or eliminating duplicative, redundant, or lower priority programs where the Federal role competes with the private sector or other levels of government.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $17.9 billion for USDA, a $4.7 billion or 21 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized continuing resolution (CR) level (excluding funding for P.L. 480 Title II food aid which is reflected in the Department of State and USAID budget).

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Safeguards the Nation's supply of meat, poultry, and egg products by fully funding the Food Safety and Inspection Service, which employs more than 8,000 in-plant and other frontline personnel who protect public health in approximately 6,400 federally inspected slaughter and processing establishments nationwide.

- Provides $6.2 billion to serve all projected participants in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). WIC provides grants to States for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children who are at nutritional risk.

- Fully funds wildland fire preparedness and suppression activities at $2.4 billion, 100 percent of the 10-year average for suppression operations, to ensure the resources necessary to protect life and property.

- Reduces funding for lower priority activities in the National Forest System, such as major new Federal land acquisition; instead, the Budget focuses on maintaining existing forests and grasslands.

- Continues to support farmer-focused research and extension partnerships at land-grant universities and provides about $350 million for USDA's flagship competitive research program. In addition, the Budget focuses in-house research funding within the Agricultural Research Service to the highest

priority agriculture and food issues such as increasing farming productivity, sustaining natural resources, including those within rural communities, and addressing food safety and nutrition priorities.

- Reduces funding for USDA's statistical capabilities, while maintaining core Departmental analytical functions, such as the funding necessary to complete the Census of Agriculture.

- Eliminates the duplicative Water and Wastewater loan and grant program, a savings of $498 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. Rural communities can be served by private sector financing or other Federal investments in rural water infrastructure, such as the Environmental Protection Agency's State Revolving Funds.

- Reduces staffing in USDA's Service Center Agencies to streamline county office operations, reflect reduced Rural Development workload, and encourage private sector conservation planning.

- Reduces duplicative and underperforming programs by eliminating discretionary activities of the Rural Business and Cooperative Service, a savings of $95 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Eliminates the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education program, which lacks evidence that it is being effectively implemented to reduce food insecurity.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Department of Commerce promotes job creation and economic growth by ensuring fair and secure trade, providing the data necessary to support commerce, and fostering innovation by setting standards and conducting foundational research and development. The Budget prioritizes and protects investments in core Government functions such as preparing for the 2020 Decennial Census, providing the observational infrastructure and staff necessary to produce timely and accurate weather forecasts, supporting the Government's role in managing marine resources and ocean and coastal navigation, and enforcing laws that promote fair and secure trade. The Budget also reduces or eliminates grant programs that have limited impact and reflect an expansion beyond core missions of the bureaus.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $7.8 billion for the Department of Commerce, a $1.5 billion or 16 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Strengthens the International Trade Administration's trade enforcement and compliance functions, including the anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations, while rescaling the agency's export promotion and trade analysis activities.

- Provides $1.5 billion, an increase of more than $100 million, for the U.S. Census Bureau to continue preparations for the 2020 Decennial Census. This additional funding prioritizes fundamental investments in information technology and field infrastructure, which would allow the bureau to more effectively administer the 2020 Decennial Census.

- Consolidates the mission, policy support, and administrative functions of the Economics and Statistics Administration within the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the U.S. Census Bureau, and the Department of Commerce's Office of the Secretary.

- Eliminates the Economic Development Administration, which provides small grants with limited measurable impacts and duplicates other Federal programs, such as Rural Utilities Service grants at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and formula grants to States from the Department of Transportation. By terminating this agency, the Budget saves $221 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Eliminates the Minority Business Development Agency, which is duplicative of other Federal, State, local, and private sector efforts that promote minority business entrepreneurship including Small Business Administration District Offices and Small Business Development Centers.

- Saves $124 million by discontinuing Federal funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program, which subsidizes up to half the cost of State centers, which provide consulting services to small- and medium-size manufacturers. By eliminating Federal funding, MEP centers would transition solely to non-Federal revenue sources, as was originally intended when the program was established.

- Zeroes out over $250 million in targeted National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) grants and programs supporting coastal and marine management, research, and education including Sea Grant, which primarily benefit industry and State and local stakeholders. These programs are a lower priority than core functions maintained in the Budget such as surveys, charting, and fisheries management.

- Maintains the development of NOAA's current generation of polar orbiting and geostationary weather satellites, allowing the Joint Polar Satellite System and Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite programs to remain on schedule in order to provide forecasters with critical weather data to help protect life and property.

- Achieves annual savings from NOAA's Polar Follow On satellite program from the current program of record by better reflecting the actual risk of a gap in polar satellite coverage, and provides additional opportunities to improve robustness of the low earth orbit satellite architecture by expanding the utilization of commercially provided data to improve weather models.

- Maintains National Weather Service forecasting capabilities by investing more than $1 billion while continuing to promote efficient and effective operations.

- Continues to support the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in representing the United States interest at multi-stakeholder forums on internet governance and digital commerce. The Budget supports the commercial sector's development of next generation wireless services by funding NTIA's mission of evaluating and ensuring the efficient use of spectrum by Government users.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The Department of Defense (DOD) provides the military forces needed to deter war and to protect the security of the United States. The budget for DOD ends the depletion of our military and pursues peace through strength, honoring the Federal Government's first responsibility: to protect the Nation. It fully repeals the defense sequestration, while providing the needed resources for accelerating the defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and for beginning to rebuild the U.S. Armed Forces.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $639 billion for DOD, a $52 billion increase from the 2017 annualized CR level. The total includes $574 billion for the base budget, a 10 percent increase from the 2017 annualized CR level, and $65 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Repeals the defense sequestration by restoring $52 billion to DOD, as well as $2 billion to other national defense programs outside DOD, for a $54 billion total increase for national defense discretionary budget authority above the sequestration level budget cap. When the Budget Control Act (BCA) of 2011 was enacted, the defense sequestration was not meant to occur, yet it has never been fully repealed. This has resulted in nearly $200 billion of national defense cuts since 2013 and over $200 billion of further projected cuts through 2021, relative to the original BCA caps alone. Reversing this indiscriminate neglect of the last administration is not only a fulfillment of the President's promise, but it is also a requirement if this Nation's security is to be maintained. The military's depletion under President Obama is our foremost challenge. The President's 2018 Budget ends the arbitrary depletion of our strength and security, and begins to rebuild the U.S. Armed Forces.

- Increases DOD's budget authority by $52 billion above the current 2017 level of $587 billion. This increase alone exceeds the entire defense budget of most countries, and would be one of the largest one-year DOD increases in American history. It is exceeded only by the peak increases of the Reagan Administration and a few of the largest defense increases during the World Wars and the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan (in constant dollars, based on GDP chained price index). Unlike spending increases for war, which mostly consume resources in combat, the increases in the President's Budget primarily invest in a stronger military.

- Provides the resources needed to accelerate the defeat of ISIS. The Budget ensures that DOD has the tools to stop ISIS from posing a threat to the United States by funding the Department's critical efforts to strike ISIS targets, support our partners fighting on the ground, disrupt ISIS' external operations, and cut off its financing.

- Addresses urgent warfighting readiness needs. Fifteen years of conflict, accompanied in recent years by budget cuts, have stressed the Armed Forces. The President's Budget would ensure we remain the best led, best equipped, and most ready force in the world.

- Begins to rebuild the U.S. Armed Forces by addressing pressing shortfalls, such as insufficient stocks of critical munitions, personnel gaps, deferred maintenance and modernization, cyber vulnerabilities, and degraded facilities. The military must reset war losses, address recapitalization and maintenance requirements, and recover from years of deferred investment forced by budget cuts. The President's Budget would ensure the Armed Forces have the training, equipment, and infrastructure they need.

- Lays the groundwork for a larger, more capable, and more lethal joint force, driven by a new National Defense Strategy that recognizes the need for American superiority not only on land, at sea, in the air, and in space, but also in cyberspace. As the world has become more dangerous—through the rise of advanced potential adversaries, the spread of destructive technology, and the expansion of terrorism—our military has gotten smaller and its technological edge has eroded. The President's Budget begins to put an end to this trend, reversing force reductions and restoring critical investments.

- Initiates an ambitious reform agenda to build a military that is as effective and efficient as possible, and underscores the President's commitment to reduce the costs of military programs wherever feasible.

- Strengthens the U.S. Army by rebuilding readiness, reversing end strength reductions, and preparing for future challenges. This Budget is an initial step toward restoring an Army that has been stressed by high operational demand and constrained funding levels in recent years.

- Rebuilds the U.S. Navy to better address current and future threats by increasing the total number of ships. This Budget reflects a down payment on the President's commitment to expanding the fleet.

- Ensures a ready and fully equipped Marine Corps. The Budget lays the foundation for a force that meets the challenges of the 21st Century.

- Accelerates Air Force efforts to improve tactical air fleet readiness, ensure technical superiority, and repair aging infrastructure. Key investments in maintenance capacity, training systems, and additional F-35 Joint Strike Fighters would enable the Air Force, which is now the smallest it has been in history, to counter the growing number of complex threats from sophisticated state actors and transnational terrorist groups.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Department of Education promotes improving student achievement and access to opportunity in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education. The Department would refocus its mission on supporting States and school districts in their efforts to provide high quality education to all our students. Also, it would focus on streamlining and simplifying funding for college, while continuing to help make college education more affordable. The 2018 Budget places power in the hands of parents and families to choose schools that are best for their children by investing an additional $1.4 billion in school choice programs. It continues support for the Nation's most vulnerable populations, such as students with disabilities. Overall, the Department would support these investments and carry out its core mission while lowering costs to the taxpayer by reducing or eliminating funding for programs that are not effective, that duplicate other efforts, or that do not serve national needs.

The President's 2018 Budget provides $59 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Education, a $9 billion or 13 percent reduction below the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Increases investments in public and private school choice by $1.4 billion compared to the 2017 annualized CR level, ramping up to an annual total of $20 billion, and an estimated $100 billion including matching State and local funds. This additional investment in 2018 includes a $168 million increase for charter schools, $250 million for a new private school choice program, and a $1 billion increase for Title I, dedicated to encouraging districts to adopt a system of student-based budgeting and open enrollment that enables Federal, State, and local funding to follow the student to the public school of his or her choice.
- Maintains approximately $13 billion in funding for IDEA programs to support students with special education needs. This funding provides States, school districts, and other grantees with the resources needed to provide high quality special education and related services to students and young adults with disabilities.
- Eliminates the $2.4 billion Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants program, which is poorly targeted and spread thinly across thousands of districts with scant evidence of impact.
- Eliminates the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, which supports before- and after-school programs as well as summer programs, resulting in savings of $1.2 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. The programs lacks strong evidence of meeting its objectives, such as improving student achievement.

- Eliminates the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program, a less well-targeted way to deliver need-based aid than the Pell Grant program, to reduce complexity in financial student aid and save $732 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Safeguards the Pell Grant program by level funding the discretionary appropriation while proposing a cancellation of $3.9 billion from unobligated carryover funding, leaving the Pell program on sound footing for the next decade.
- Protects support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions, which provide opportunities for communities that are often underserved, maintaining $492 million in funding for programs that serve high percentages of minority students.
- Reduces Federal Work-Study significantly and reforms the poorly-targeted allocation to ensure funds go to undergraduate students who would benefit most.
- Provides $808 million for the Federal TRIO Programs and $219 million for GEAR UP, resulting in savings of $193 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. Funding to TRIO programs is reduced in areas that have limited evidence on the overall effectiveness in improving student outcomes. The Budget funds GEAR UP continuation awards only, pending the completion of an upcoming rigorous evaluation of a portion of the program.
- Eliminates or reduces over 20 categorical programs that do not address national needs, duplicate other programs, or are more appropriately supported with State, local, or private funds, including Striving Readers, Teacher Quality Partnership, Impact Aid Support Payments for Federal Property, and International Education programs.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

The Department of Energy (DOE) is charged with ensuring the Nation's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental, and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions. The Budget for DOE demonstrates the Administration's commitment to reasserting the proper role of what has become a sprawling Federal Government and reducing deficit spending. It reflects an increased reliance on the private sector to fund later-stage research, development, and commercialization of energy technologies and focuses resources toward early-stage research and development. It emphasizes energy technologies best positioned to enable American energy independence and domestic job-growth in the near to mid-term. It also ensures continued progress on cleaning up sites contaminated from nuclear weapons production and energy research and includes a path forward to accelerate progress on the disposition of nuclear waste. At the same time, the Budget demonstrates the Administration's strong support for the United States' nuclear security enterprise and ensures that we have a nuclear force that is second to none.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $28.0 billion for DOE, a $1.7 billion or 5.6 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Budget would strengthen the Nation's nuclear capability by providing a $1.4 billion increase above the 2017 annualized CR level for the National Nuclear Security Administration, an 11 percent increase.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Provides $120 million to restart licensing activities for the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository and initiate a robust interim storage program. These investments would accelerate progress on fulfilling the Federal Government's obligations to address nuclear waste, enhance national security, and reduce future taxpayer burden.
- Supports the goals of moving toward a responsive nuclear infrastructure and advancing the existing program of record for warhead life extension programs through elimination of defense sequestration for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA).
- Enables NNSA to begin to address its critical infrastructure maintenance backlog.
- Protects human health and the environment by providing $6.5 billion to advance the Environmental Management program mission of cleaning up the legacy of waste and contamination from energy research and nuclear weapons production, including addressing excess facilities to support modernization of the nuclear security enterprise.
- Eliminates the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, the Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program, and the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Program because

the private sector is better positioned to finance disruptive energy research and development and to commercialize innovative technologies.

- Ensures the Office of Science continues to invest in the highest priority basic science and energy research and development as well as operation and maintenance of existing scientific facilities for the community. This includes a savings of approximately $900 million compared to the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Focuses funding for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, the Office of Nuclear Energy, the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, and the Fossil Energy Research and Development program on limited, early-stage applied energy research and development activities where the Federal role is stronger. In addition, the Budget eliminates the Weatherization Assistance Program and the State Energy Program to reduce Federal intervention in State-level energy policy and implementation. Collectively, these changes achieve a savings of approximately $2 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Supports the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability's capacity to carry out cybersecurity and grid resiliency activities that would help harden and evolve critical grid infrastructure that the American people and the economy rely upon.
- Continues the necessary research, development, and construction to support the Navy's current nuclear fleet and enhance the capabilities of the future fleet.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) works to enhance the health and well-being of Americans by providing effective health and human services and by fostering sound, sustained advances in the sciences underlying medicine, public health, and social services. The Budget supports the core mission of HHS through the most efficient and effective health and human service programs. In 2018, HHS funds the highest priorities, such as: health services through community health centers, Ryan White HIV/AIDS providers, and the Indian Health Service; early care and education; and medical products review and innovation. In addition, it funds urgent public health issues, such as prescription drug overdose, and program integrity for Medicare and Medicaid. The Budget eliminates programs that are duplicative or have limited impact on public health and well-being. The Budget allows HHS to continue to support priority activities that reflect a new and sustainable approach to long-term fiscal stability across the Federal Government.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $69.0 billion for HHS, a $15.1 billion or 17.9 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level. This funding level excludes certain mandatory spending changes but includes additional funds for program integrity and implementing the 21st Century CURES Act.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Supports direct health care services, such as those delivered by community health centers, Ryan White HIV/AIDS providers, and the Indian Health Service. These safety net providers deliver critical health care services to low-income and vulnerable populations.
- Strengthens the integrity and sustainability of Medicare and Medicaid by investing in activities to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse and promote high quality and efficient health care. Additional funding for the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control (HCFAC) program has allowed the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in recent years to shift away from a "pay-and-chase" model toward identifying and preventing fraudulent or improper payments from being paid in the first place. The return on investment for the HCFAC account was $5 returned for every $1 expended from 2014-2016. The Budget proposes HCFAC discretionary funding of $751 million in 2018, which is $70 million higher than the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Supports efficient operations for Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program and focuses spending on the highest priority activities necessary to effectively operate these programs.

- Supports substance abuse treatment services for the millions of Americans struggling with substance abuse disorders. The opioid epidemic, which took more than 33,000 lives in calendar year 2015, has a devastating effect on America's families and communities. In addition to funding Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration substance abuse treatment activities, the Budget also includes a $500 million increase above 2016 enacted levels to expand opioid misuse prevention efforts and to increase access to treatment and recovery services to help Americans who are misusing opioids get the help they need.
- Recalibrates Food and Drug Administration (FDA) medical product user fees to over $2 billion in 2018, approximately $1 billion over the 2017 annualized CR level, and replaces the need for new budget authority to cover pre-market review costs. To complement the increase in medical product user fees, the Budget includes a package of administrative actions designed to achieve regulatory efficiency and speed the development of safe and effective medical products. In a constrained budget environment, industries that benefit from FDA's approval can and should pay for their share.
- Reduces the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) spending relative to the 2017 annualized CR level by $5.8 billion to $25.9 billion. The Budget includes a major reorganization of NIH's Institutes and Centers to help focus resources on the highest priority research and training activities, including: eliminating the Fogarty International Center; consolidating the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality within NIH; and other consolidations and structural changes across NIH organizations and activities. The Budget also reduces administrative costs and rebalance Federal contributions to research funding.
- Reforms key public health, emergency preparedness, and prevention programs. For example, the Budget restructures similar HHS preparedness grants to reduce overlap and administrative costs and directs resources to States with the greatest need. The Budget also creates a new Federal Emergency Response Fund to rapidly respond to public health outbreaks, such as Zika Virus Disease. The Budget also reforms the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through a new $500 million block grant to increase State flexibility and focus on the leading public health challenges specific to each State.
- Invests in mental health activities that are awarded to high-performing entities and focus on high priority areas, such as suicide prevention, serious mental illness, and children's mental health.
- Eliminates $403 million in health professions and nursing training programs, which lack evidence that they significantly improve the Nation's health workforce. The Budget continues to fund health workforce activities that provide scholarships and loan repayments in exchange for service in areas of the United States where there is a shortage of health professionals.
- Eliminates the discretionary programs within the Office of Community Services, including the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), a savings of $4.2 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. Compared to other income support programs that serve similar populations, LIHEAP is a lower-impact program and is unable to demonstrate strong performance outcomes. CSBG funds services that are duplicative of other Federal programs, such as emergency food assistance and employment services, and is also a limited-impact program.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has a vital mission: to secure the Nation from the many threats it faces. This requires the dedication of more than 240,000 employees in jobs that ensure the security of the U.S. borders, support the integrity of its immigration system, protect air travelers and national leaders, reduce the threat of cyber attacks, and stand prepared for emergency response and disaster recovery. The Budget prioritizes DHS law enforcement operations, proposes critical investments in frontline border security, and funds continued development of strong cybersecurity defenses. The Budget would aggressively implement the President's commitment to construct a physical wall along the southern border as directed by his January 25, 2017 Executive Order, and ensures robust funding for other important DHS missions.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $44.1 billion in net discretionary budget authority for DHS, a $2.8 billion or 6.8 percent increase from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Budget would allocate $4.5 billion in additional funding for programs to strengthen the security of the Nation's borders and enhance the integrity of its immigration system. This increased investment in the Nation's border security and immigration enforcement efforts now would ultimately save Federal resources in the future.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Secures the borders of the United States by investing $2.6 billion in high-priority tactical infrastructure and border security technology, including funding to plan, design, and construct a physical wall along the southern border as directed by the President's January 25, 2017 Executive Order. This investment would strengthen border security, helping stem the flow of people and drugs illegally crossing the U.S. borders.

- Advances the President's plan to strengthen border security and immigration enforcement with $314 million to recruit, hire, and train 500 new Border Patrol Agents and 1,000 new Immigration and Customs Enforcement law enforcement personnel in 2018, plus associated support staff. These new personnel would improve the integrity of the immigration system by adding capacity to interdict those aliens attempting to cross the border illegally, as well as to identify and remove those already in the United States who entered illegally.

- Enhances enforcement of immigration laws by proposing an additional $1.5 billion above the 2017 annualized CR level for expanded detention, transportation, and removal of illegal immigrants.

These funds would ensure that DHS has sufficient detention capacity to hold prioritized aliens, including violent criminals and other dangerous individuals, as they are processed for removal.

- Invests $15 million to begin implementation of mandatory nationwide use of the E-Verify Program, an internet-based system that allows businesses to determine the eligibility of their new employees to work in the United States. This investment would strengthen the employment verification process and reduce unauthorized employment across the U.S.

- Safeguards cyberspace with $1.5 billion for DHS activities that protect Federal networks and critical infrastructure from an attack. Through a suite of advanced cyber security tools and more assertive defense of Government networks, DHS would share more cybersecurity incident information with other Federal agencies and the private sector, leading to faster responses to cybersecurity attacks directed at Federal networks and critical infrastructure.

- Restructures selected user fees for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to ensure that the cost of Government services is not subsidized by taxpayers who do not directly benefit from those programs. The Budget proposes to raise the Passenger Security Fee to recover 75 percent of the cost of TSA aviation security operations. The Budget proposes eliminating the discretionary appropriation for the NFIP's Flood Hazard Mapping Program, a savings of $190 million, to instead explore other more effective and fair means of funding flood mapping efforts.

- Eliminates or reduces State and local grant funding by $667 million for programs administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that are either unauthorized by the Congress, such as FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, or that must provide more measurable results and ensure the Federal Government is not supplanting other stakeholders' responsibilities, such as the Homeland Security Grant Program. For that reason, the Budget also proposes establishing a 25 percent non-Federal cost match for FEMA preparedness grant awards that currently require no cost match. This is the same cost-sharing approach as FEMA's disaster recovery grants. The activities and acquisitions funded through these grant programs are primarily State and local functions.

- Eliminates and reduces unauthorized and underperforming programs administered by TSA in order to strengthen screening at airport security checkpoints, a savings of $80 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. These savings include reductions to the Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response program, which achieves few Federal law enforcement priorities, and elimination of TSA grants to State and local jurisdictions, a program intended to incentivize local law enforcement patrols that should already be a high priority for State and local partners. In addition, the Budget reflects TSA's decision in the summer of 2016 to eliminate the Behavior Detection Officer program, reassigning all of those personnel to front line airport security operations. Such efforts refocus TSA on its core mission of protecting travelers and ensuring Federal security standards are enforced throughout the transportation system.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) promotes decent, safe, and affordable housing for Americans and provides access to homeownership opportunities. This Budget reflects the President's commitment to fiscal responsibility while supporting critical functions that provide rental assistance to low-income and vulnerable households and help work-eligible families achieve self-sufficiency. The Budget also recognizes a greater role for State and local governments and the private sector to address community and economic development needs.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $40.7 billion in gross discretionary funding for HUD, a $6.2 billion or 13.2 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Provides over $35 billion for HUD's rental assistance programs and proposes reforms that reduce costs while continuing to assist 4.5 million low-income households.

- Eliminates funding for the Community Development Block Grant program, a savings of $3 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Federal Government has spent over $150 billion on this block grant since its inception in 1974, but the program is not well-targeted to the poorest populations and has not demonstrated results. The Budget devolves community and economic development activities to the State and local level, and redirects Federal resources to other activities.

- Promotes fiscal responsibility by eliminating funding for a number of lower priority programs, including the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Choice Neighborhoods, and the Self-help Homeownership Opportunity Program, a savings of over $1.1 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. State and local governments are better positioned to serve their communities based on local needs and priorities.

- Promotes healthy and lead-safe homes by providing $130 million, an increase of $20 million over the 2017 annualized CR level, for the mitigation of lead-based paint and other hazards in low-income homes, especially those in which children reside. This also funds enforcement, education, and research activities to further support this goal, all of which contributes to lower healthcare costs and increased productivity.

- Eliminates funding for Section 4 Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing, a savings of $35 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. This program is duplicative of efforts funded by philanthropy and other more flexible private sector investments.

- Supports homeownership through provision of Federal Housing Administration mortgage insurance programs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The Department of the Interior (DOI) is responsible for protecting and managing vast areas of U.S. lands and waters, providing scientific and other information about its natural resources, and meeting the Nation's trust responsibilities and other commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and U.S.-affiliated island communities. The Budget requests an increase in funding for core energy development programs while supporting DOI's priority agency mission and trust responsibilities, including public safety, land conservation and revenue management. It eliminates funding for unnecessary or duplicative programs while reducing funds for lower priority activities, such as acquiring new lands.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $11.6 billion for DOI, a $1.5 billion or 12 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Strengthens the Nation's energy security by increasing funding for DOI programs that support environmentally responsible development of energy on public lands and offshore waters. Combined with administrative reforms already in progress, this would allow DOI to streamline permitting processes and provide industry with access to the energy resources America needs, while ensuring taxpayers receive a fair return from the development of these public resources.

- Sustains funding for DOI's Office of Natural Resources Revenue, which manages the collection and disbursement of roughly $10 billion annually from mineral development, an important source of revenue to the Federal Treasury, States, and Indian mineral owners.

- Eliminates unnecessary, lower priority, or duplicative programs, including discretionary Abandoned Mine Land grants that overlap with existing mandatory grants, National Heritage Areas that are more appropriately funded locally, and National Wildlife Refuge fund payments to local governments that are duplicative of other payment programs.

- Supports stewardship capacity for land management operations of the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Land Management. The Budget streamlines operations while providing the necessary resources for DOI to continue to protect and conserve America's public lands and beautiful natural resources, provide access to public lands for the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts, and ensure visitor safety.

- Supports tribal sovereignty and self-determination across Indian Country by focusing on core funding and services to support ongoing tribal government operations. The Budget reduces funding for more recent demonstration projects and initiatives that only serve a few Tribes.

- Reduces funding for lower priority activities, such as new major acquisitions of Federal land. The Budget reduces land acquisition funding by more than $120 million from the 2017 annualized CR level and would instead focus available discretionary funds on investing in, and maintaining, existing national parks, refuges and public lands.

- Ensures that the National Park Service assets are preserved for future generations by increasing investment in deferred maintenance projects. Reduces funds for other DOI construction and major maintenance programs, which can rely on existing resources for 2018.

- Provides more than $900 million for DOI's U.S. Geological Survey to focus investments in essential science programs. This includes funding for the Landsat 9 ground system, as well as research and data collection that informs sustainable energy development, responsible resource management, and natural hazard risk reduction.

- Leverages taxpayer investment with public and private resources through wildlife conservation, historic preservation, and recreation grants. These voluntary programs encourage partnerships by providing matching funds that produce greater benefits to taxpayers for the Federal dollars invested.

- Budgets responsibly for wildland fire suppression expenses. The Budget would directly provide the full 10-year rolling average of suppression expenditures.

- Invests over $1 billion in safe, reliable, and efficient management of water resources throughout the western United States.

- Supports counties through discretionary funding for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program at a reduced level, but in line with average funding for PILT over the past decade.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Department of Justice is charged with enforcing the laws and defending the interests of the United States, ensuring public safety against foreign and domestic threats, providing Federal leadership in preventing and controlling crime, seeking just punishment for those guilty of unlawful behavior, and ensuring the fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans. The budget for the Department of Justice saves taxpayer dollars by consolidating, reducing, streamlining, and making its programs and operations more efficient. The Budget also makes critical investments to confront terrorism, reduce violent crime, tackle the Nation's opioid epidemic, and combat illegal immigration.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $27.7 billion for the Department of Justice, a $1.1 billion or 3.8 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level. This program level excludes mandatory spending changes involving the Crime Victims Fund and the Assets Forfeiture Fund. However, significant targeted increases would enhance the ability to address key issues, including public safety, law enforcement, and national security. Further, the Administration is concerned about so-called sanctuary jurisdictions and will be taking steps to mitigate the risk their actions pose to public safety.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Strengthens counterterrorism, counterintelligence, and Federal law enforcement activities by providing an increase of $249 million, or 3 percent, above the 2017 annualized CR level for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The FBI would devote resources toward its world-class cadre of special agents and intelligence analysts, as well as invest $61 million more to fight terrorism and combat foreign intelligence and cyber threats and address public safety and national security risks that result from malicious actors' use of encrypted products and services. In addition, the FBI would dedicate $35 million to gather and share intelligence data with partners and together with the Department of Defense (DOD) lead Federal efforts in biometric identity resolution, research, and development. The FBI would also spend an additional $9 million to provide accurate and timely response for firearms purchase background checks, and develop and refine evidence and data to target violent crime in some cities and communities.

- Supports efforts at the Department's law enforcement components by providing a combined increase of $175 million above the 2017 annualized CR level to target the worst of the worst criminal organizations and drug traffickers in order to address violent crime, gun-related deaths, and the opioid epidemic.

- Enhances national security and counterterrorism efforts by linking skilled prosecutors and intelligence attorneys with law enforcement investigations and the intelligence community to stay ahead of threats.

- Combats illegal entry and unlawful presence in the United States by providing an increase of nearly $80 million, or 19 percent, above the 2017 annualized CR level to hire 75 additional immigration judge teams to bolster and more efficiently adjudicate removal proceedings—bringing the total number of funded immigration judge teams to 449.

- Enhances border security and immigration enforcement by providing 60 additional border enforcement prosecutors and 40 deputy U.S. Marshals for the apprehension, transportation, and prosecution of criminal aliens.

- Supports the addition of 20 attorneys to pursue Federal efforts to obtain the land and holdings necessary to secure the Southwest border and another 20 attorneys and support staff for immigration litigation assistance.

- Assures the safety of the public and law enforcement officers by providing $171 million above the 2017 annualized CR level for additional short-term detention space to hold Federal detainees, including criminal aliens, parole violators, and other offenders awaiting trial or sentencing.

- Safeguards Federal grants to State, local, and tribal law enforcement and victims of crime to ensure greater safety for law enforcement personnel and the people they serve. Critical programs aimed at protecting the life and safety of State and local law enforcement personnel, including Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement Officer Resilience and Survivability and the Bulletproof Vest Partnership, are protected.

- Eliminates approximately $700 million in unnecessary spending on outdated programs that either have met their goal or have exceeded their usefulness, including $210 million for the poorly targeted State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, in which two-thirds of the funding primarily reimburses four States for the cost of incarcerating certain illegal criminal aliens.

- Achieves savings of almost a billion dollars from the 2017 annualized CR level in Federal prison construction spending due to excess capacity resulting from an approximate 14 percent decrease in the prison population since 2013. However, the Budget provides $80 million above the 2017 annualized CR level for the activation of an existing facility to reduce high security Federal inmate overcrowding and a total of $113 million to repair and modernize outdated prisons.

- Increases bankruptcy-filing fees to produce an additional $150 million over the 2017 annualized CR level to ensure that those that use the bankruptcy court system pay for its oversight. By increasing quarterly filing fees, the total estimated United States Trustee Program offsetting receipts would reach $289 million in 2018.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Department of Labor fosters the welfare of wage earners, job seekers, and retirees by safeguarding their working conditions, benefits, and wages. With the need to rebuild the Nation's military without increasing the deficit, this Budget focuses the Department of Labor on its highest priority functions and disinvests in activities that are duplicative, unnecessary, unproven, or ineffective.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $9.6 billion for the Department of Labor, a $2.5 billion or 21 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Expands Reemployment and Eligibility Assessments, an evidence-based activity that saves an average of $536 per claimant in unemployment insurance benefit costs by reducing improper payments and getting claimants back to work more quickly and at higher wages.

- Reduces funding for ineffective, duplicative, and peripheral job training grants. As part of this, eliminates the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), for a savings of $434 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. SCSEP is ineffective in meeting its purpose of transitioning low-income unemployed seniors into unsubsidized jobs. As many as one-third of participants fail to complete the program and of those who do, only half successfully transition to unsubsidized employment.

- Focuses the Bureau of International Labor Affairs on ensuring that U.S. trade agreements are fair for American workers. The Budget eliminates the Bureau's largely noncompetitive and unproven grant funding, which would save at least $60 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Improves Job Corps for the disadvantaged youth it serves by closing centers that do a poor job educating and preparing students for jobs.

- Decreases Federal support for job training and employment service formula grants, shifting more responsibility for funding these services to States, localities, and employers.

- Helps States expand apprenticeship, an evidence-based approach to preparing workers for jobs.

- Refocuses the Office of Disability Employment Policy, eliminating less critical technical assistance grants and launching an early intervention demonstration project to allow States to test and evaluate methods that help individuals with disabilities remain attached to or reconnect to the labor market.

- Eliminates the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's unproven training grants, yielding savings of almost $11 million from the 2017 annualized CR level and focusing the agency on its central work of keeping workers safe on the job.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, USAID, AND TREASURY INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Department of the Treasury's International Programs help to advance the national security interests of the United States by building a more democratic, secure, and prosperous world. The Budget for the Department of State and USAID diplomatic and development activities is being refocused on priority strategic objectives and renewed attention is being placed on the appropriate U.S. share of international spending. In addition, the Budget seeks to reduce or end direct funding for international organizations whose missions do not substantially advance U.S. foreign policy interests, are duplicative, or are not well-managed. Additional steps will be taken to make the Department and USAID leaner, more efficient, and more effective. These steps to reduce foreign assistance free up funding for critical priorities here at home and put America first.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $25.6 billion in base funding for the Department of State and USAID, a $10.1 billion or 28 percent reduction from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Budget also requests $12.0 billion as Overseas Contingency Operations funding for extraordinary costs, primarily in war areas like Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan, for an agency total of $37.6 billion. The 2018 Budget also requests $1.5 billion for Treasury International Programs, an $803 million or 35 percent reduction from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Maintains robust funding levels for embassy security and other core diplomatic activities while implementing efficiencies. Consistent with the Benghazi Accountability Review Board recommendation, the Budget applies $2.2 billion toward new embassy construction and maintenance in 2018. Maintaining adequate embassy security levels requires the efficient and effective use of available resources to keep embassy employees safe.
- Provides $3.1 billion to meet the security assistance commitment to Israel, currently at an all-time high; ensuring that Israel has the ability to defend itself from threats and maintain its Qualitative Military Edge.
- Eliminates the Global Climate Change Initiative and fulfills the President's pledge to cease payments to the United Nations' (UN) climate change programs by eliminating U.S. funding related to the Green Climate Fund and its two precursor Climate Investment Funds.
- Provides sufficient resources on a path to fulfill the $1 billion U.S. pledge to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. This commitment helps support Gavi to vaccinate hundreds of millions of children in low-resource countries and save millions of lives.

- Provides sufficient resources to maintain current commitments and all current patient levels on HIV/AIDS treatment under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and maintains funding for malaria programs. The Budget also meets U.S. commitments to the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria by providing 33 percent of projected contributions from all donors, consistent with the limit currently in law.
- Shifts some foreign military assistance from grants to loans in order to reduce costs for the U.S. taxpayer, while potentially allowing recipients to purchase more American-made weaponry with U.S. assistance, but on a repayable basis.
- Reduces funding to the UN and affiliated agencies, including UN peacekeeping and other international organizations, by setting the expectation that these organizations rein in costs and that the funding burden be shared more fairly among members. The amount the U.S. would contribute to the UN budget would be reduced and the U.S. would not contribute more than 25 percent for UN peacekeeping costs.
- Refocuses economic and development assistance to countries of greatest strategic importance to the U.S. and ensures the effectiveness of U.S. taxpayer investments by rightsizing funding across countries and sectors.
- Allows for significant funding of humanitarian assistance, including food aid, disaster, and refugee program funding. This would focus funding on the highest priority areas while asking the rest of the world to pay their fair share. The Budget eliminates the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance account, a duplicative and stovepiped account, and challenges international and non-governmental relief organizations to become more efficient and effective.
- Reduces funding for the Department of State's Educational and Cultural Exchange (ECE) Programs. ECE resources would focus on sustaining the flagship Fulbright Program, which forges lasting connections between Americans and emerging leaders around the globe.
- Improves efficiency by eliminating overlapping peacekeeping and security capacity building efforts and duplicative contingency programs, such as the Complex Crises Fund. The Budget also eliminates direct appropriations to small organizations that receive funding from other sources and can continue to operate without direct Federal funds, such as the East-West Center.
- Recognizes the need for State and USAID to pursue greater efficiencies through reorganization and consolidation in order to enable effective diplomacy and development.
- Reduces funding for multilateral development banks, including the World Bank, by approximately $650 million over three years compared to commitments made by the previous administration. Even with the proposed decreases, the U.S. would retain its current status as a top donor while saving taxpayer dollars.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Department of Transportation (DOT) is responsible for ensuring a fast, safe, efficient, accessible, and convenient transportation system that meets our vital national interests and enhances the quality of life of the American people today, and into the future. The Budget request reflects a streamlined DOT that is focused on performing vital Federal safety oversight functions and investing in nationally and regionally significant transportation infrastructure projects. The Budget reduces or eliminates programs that are either inefficient, duplicative of other Federal efforts, or that involve activities that are better delivered by States, localities, or the private sector.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $16.2 billion for DOT's discretionary budget, a $2.4 billion or 13 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Initiates a multi-year reauthorization proposal to shift the air traffic control function of the Federal Aviation Administration to an independent, non-governmental organization, making the system more efficient and innovative while maintaining safety. This would benefit the flying public and taxpayers overall.

- Restructures and reduces Federal subsidies to Amtrak to focus resources on the parts of the passenger rail system that provide meaningful transportation options within regions. The Budget terminates Federal support for Amtrak's long distance train services, which have long been inefficient and incur the vast majority of Amtrak's operating losses. This would allow Amtrak to focus on better managing its State-supported and Northeast Corridor train services.

- Limits funding for the Federal Transit Administration's Capital Investment Program (New Starts) to projects with existing full funding grant agreements only. Future investments in new transit projects would be funded by the localities that use and benefit from these localized projects.

- Eliminates funding for the Essential Air Service (EAS) program, which was originally conceived of as a temporary program nearly 40 years ago to provide subsidized commercial air service to rural airports. EAS flights are not full and have high subsidy costs per passenger. Several EAS-eligible communities are relatively close to major airports, and communities that have EAS could be served by other existing modes of transportation. This proposal would result in a discretionary savings of $175 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Eliminates funding for the unauthorized TIGER discretionary grant program, which awards grants to projects that are generally eligible for funding under existing surface transportation formula programs, saving $499 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. Further, DOT's Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects grant program, authorized by the FAST Act of 2015, supports larger highway and multimodal freight projects with demonstrable national or regional benefits. This grant program is authorized at an annual average of $900 million through 2020.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

The Department of the Treasury is charged with maintaining a strong economy, promoting conditions that enable economic growth and stability, protecting the integrity of the financial system, and managing the U.S. Government's finances and resources effectively. The Budget will bring renewed discipline to the Department by focusing resources on collecting revenue, managing the Nation's debt, protecting the financial system from threats, and combating financial crime and terrorism financing.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $12.1 billion in discretionary resources for the Department of the Treasury's domestic programs, a $519 million or 4.1 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level. This program level excludes mandatory spending changes involving the Treasury Forfeiture Fund.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Preserves key operations of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to ensure that the IRS could continue to combat identity theft, prevent fraud, and reduce the deficit through the effective enforcement and administration of tax laws. Diverting resources from antiquated operations that are still reliant on paper-based review in the era of electronic tax filing would achieve significant savings, a funding reduction of $239 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Strengthens cybersecurity by investing in a Department-wide plan to strategically enhance existing security systems and preempt fragmentation of information technology management across the bureaus, positioning Treasury to anticipate and nimbly respond in the event of a cyberattack.

- Prioritizes funding for Treasury's array of economic enforcement tools. Key Treasury programs that freeze the accounts of terrorists and proliferators, implement sanctions on rogue nations, and link law enforcement agencies with financial institutions are critical to the continued safety and financial stability of the Nation.

- Eliminates funding for Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund grants, a savings of $210 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. The CDFI Fund was created more than 20 years ago to jump-start a now mature industry where private institutions have ready access to the capital needed to extend credit and provide financial services to underserved communities.

- Empowers the Treasury Secretary, as Chairperson of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, to end taxpayer bailouts and foster economic growth by advancing financial regulatory reforms that promote market discipline and ensure the accountability of financial regulators.

- Shrinks the Federal workforce and increases its efficiency by redirecting resources away from duplicative policy offices to staff that manage the Nation's finances.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides health care and a wide variety of benefits to military veterans and their survivors. The 2018 Budget fulfills the President's commitment to the Nation's veterans by requesting the resources necessary to provide the support our veterans have earned through sacrifice and service to our Nation. The Budget significantly increases funding for VA Medical Care so that VA can continue to meet the ever-growing demand for health care services while building an integrated system of care that strengthens services within VA and makes effective use of community services. The Budget request includes increased funding for and extension of the Veterans Choice Program, making it easier for eligible veterans to access the medical care they need, close to home.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $78.9 billion in discretionary funding for VA, a $4.4 billion or 6 percent increase from the 2017 enacted level. The Budget also requests legislative authority and $3.5 billion in mandatory budget authority in 2018 to continue the Veterans Choice Program.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Ensures the Nation's veterans receive high-quality health care and timely access to benefits and services. An estimated 11 million veterans participate in VA programs. This Budget provides the resources necessary to ensure veterans receive the care and support earned through their service to the Nation.
- Provides a $4.6 billion increase in discretionary funding for VA health care to improve patient access and timeliness of medical care services for over nine million enrolled veterans. This funding would enable the Department to provide a broad range of primary care, specialized care, and related medical and social support services to enrolled veterans, including services that are uniquely related to veterans' health and special needs.
- Extends and funds the Veterans Choice Program to ensure that every eligible veteran continues to have the choice to seek care at VA or through a private provider. Without action, this critical program will expire in August 2017, which would result in veterans having fewer choices of where to receive care.
- Supports VA programs that provide services to homeless and at-risk veterans and their families to help keep them safe and sheltered.
- Provides access to education benefits, enhanced services, and other programs to assist veterans' transition to civilian life. VA partners with other agencies to provide critical training, support services, and counseling throughout a veteran's transition and their post-military career.

- Continues critical investments aimed at optimizing productivity and transforming VA's claims processes. Provides resources to reduce the time required to process and adjudicate veterans' disability compensation claims.
- Invests in information technology to improve the efficiency and efficacy of VA services. Provides sufficient funding for sustainment, development, and modernization initiatives that would improve the quality of services provided to veterans and avoid the costs of maintaining outdated, inefficient systems.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for protecting human health and the environment. The budget for EPA reflects the success of environmental protection efforts, a focus on core legal requirements, the important role of the States in implementing the Nation's environmental laws, and the President's priority to ease the burden of unnecessary Federal regulations that impose significant costs for workers and consumers without justifiable environmental benefits. This would result in approximately 3,200 fewer positions at the agency. EPA would primarily support States and Tribes in their important role protecting air, land, and water in the 21st Century.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $5.7 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency, a savings of $2.6 billion, or 31 percent, from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Provides robust funding for critical drinking and wastewater infrastructure. These funding levels further the President's ongoing commitment to infrastructure repair and replacement and would allow States, municipalities, and private entities to continue to finance high priority infrastructure investments that protect human health. The Budget includes $2.3 billion for the State Revolving Funds, a $4 million increase over the 2017 annualized CR level. The Budget also provides $20 million for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act program, equal to the funding provided in the 2017 annualized CR. This credit subsidy could potentially support $1 billion in direct Federal loans.
- Discontinues funding for the Clean Power Plan, international climate change programs, climate change research and partnership programs, and related efforts—saving over $100 million for the American taxpayer compared to 2017 annualized CR levels. Consistent with the President's America First Energy Plan, the Budget reorients EPA's air program to protect the air we breathe without unduly burdening the American economy.
- Reins in Superfund administrative costs and emphasizes efficiency efforts by funding the Hazardous Substance Superfund Account at $762 million, $330 million below the 2017 annualized CR level. The agency would prioritize the use of existing settlement funds to clean up hazardous waste sites and look for ways to remove some of the barriers that have delayed the program's ability to return sites to the community.
- Avoids duplication by concentrating EPA's enforcement of environmental protection violations on programs that are not delegated to States, while providing oversight to maintain consistency and assistance across State, local, and tribal programs. This reduces EPA's Office of Enforcement

and Compliance Assurance budget to $419 million, which is $129 million below the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Better targets EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) at a level of approximately $250 million, which would result in a savings of $233 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. ORD would prioritize activities that support decision-making related to core environmental statutory requirements, as opposed to extramural activities, such as providing STAR grants.
- Supports Categorical Grants with $597 million, a $482 million reduction below 2017 annualized CR levels. These lower levels are in line with the broader strategy of streamlining environmental protection. This funding level eliminates or substantially reduces Federal investment in State environmental activities that go beyond EPA's statutory requirements.
- Eliminates funding for specific regional efforts such as the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the Chesapeake Bay, and other geographic programs. These geographic program eliminations are $427 million lower than the 2017 annualized CR levels. The Budget returns the responsibility for funding local environmental efforts and programs to State and local entities, allowing EPA to focus on its highest national priorities.
- Eliminates more than 50 EPA programs, saving an additional $347 million compared to the 2017 annualized CR level. Lower priority and poorly performing programs and grants are not funded, nor are duplicative functions that can be absorbed into other programs or that are State and local responsibilities. Examples of eliminations in addition to those previously mentioned include: Energy Star; Targeted Airshed Grants; the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program; and infrastructure assistance to Alaska Native Villages and the Mexico Border.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is responsible for increasing understanding of the universe and our place in it, advancing America's world-leading aerospace technology, inspiring the Nation, and opening the space frontier. The Budget increases cooperation with industry through the use of public-private partnerships, focuses the Nation's efforts on deep space exploration rather than Earth-centric research, and develops technologies that would help achieve U.S. space goals and benefit the economy.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $19.1 billion for NASA, a 0.8 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level, with targeted increases consistent with the President's priorities.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Supports and expands public-private partnerships as the foundation of future U.S. civilian space efforts. The Budget creates new opportunities for collaboration with industry on space station operations, supports public-private partnerships for deep-space habitation and exploration systems, funds data buys from companies operating small satellite constellations, and supports work with industry to develop and commercialize new space technologies.
- Paves the way for eventual over-land commercial supersonic flights and safer, more efficient air travel with a strong program of aeronautics research. The Budget provides $624 million for aeronautics research and development.
- Reinvigorates robotic exploration of the Solar System by providing $1.9 billion for the Planetary Science program, including funding for a mission to repeatedly fly by Jupiter's icy ocean moon Europa and a Mars rover that would launch in 2020. To preserve the balance of NASA's science portfolio and maintain flexibility to conduct missions that were determined to be more important by the science community, the Budget provides no funding for a multi-billion-dollar mission to land on Europa. The Budget also supports initiatives that use smaller, less expensive satellites to advance science in a cost-effective manner.
- Provides $3.7 billion for continued development of the Orion crew vehicle, Space Launch System, and associated ground system, to send American astronauts on deep-space missions. To accommodate increasing development costs, the Budget cancels the multi-billion-dollar Asteroid Redirect Mission. NASA will investigate approaches for reducing the costs of exploration missions to enable a more expansive exploration program.
- Provides $1.8 billion for a focused, balanced Earth science portfolio that supports the priorities of the science and applications communities, a savings of $102 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Budget terminates four Earth science missions (PACE, OCO-3, DSCOVR

Earth-viewing instruments, and CLARREO Pathfinder) and reduces funding for Earth science research grants.

- Eliminates the $115 million Office of Education, resulting in a more focused education effort through NASA's Science Mission Directorate. The Office of Education has experienced significant challenges in implementing a NASA-wide education strategy and is performing functions that are duplicative of other parts of the agency.
- Restructures a duplicative robotic satellite refueling demonstration mission to reduce its cost and better position it to support a nascent commercial satellite servicing industry, resulting in a savings of $88 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Strengthens NASA's cybersecurity capabilities, safeguarding critical systems and data.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Small Business Administration (SBA) ensures that small businesses have the tools and resources needed to start and develop their operations, drive U.S. competitiveness, and help grow the economy. The President is committed to assisting small businesses succeed through reducing the regulatory and tax burdens that can impede the development of small firms. The Budget increases efficiency through responsible reductions to redundant programs and by eliminating programs that deliver services better provided by the private sector.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $826.5 million for SBA, a $43.2 million or 5.0 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Supports more than $45 billion in loan guarantees to assist America's small business owners with access to affordable capital to start or expand their businesses.
- Strengthens SBA's outreach center programs by reducing duplicative services, coordinating best practices, and investing in communities that would benefit from SBA's business center support. As a result, SBA would be better positioned to strengthen local partnerships and more efficiently serve program participants while achieving savings over the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Supports over $1 billion in disaster relief lending to businesses, homeowners, renters, and property owners to help American communities recover quickly in the wake of declared disasters. Through the disaster loan program, SBA is able to provide affordable, accessible, and immediate direct assistance to those hardest hit when disaster strikes.
- Achieves $12 million in cost savings from the 2017 annualized CR level through identifying and eliminating those SBA grant programs where the private sector provides effective mechanisms to foster local business development and investment. Eliminations include PRIME technical assistance grants, Regional Innovation Clusters, and Growth Accelerators.
- Provides training and support services for transitioning service members and veterans to promote entrepreneurship and business ownership. These programs help to fulfill the President's commitment to support the Nation's veterans by providing business counseling, lending, and contracting assistance.
- Maintains $28 million in microloan financing and technical assistance to help serve, strengthen, and sustain the smallest of small businesses and startups.
- Allows SBA to advocate and assist small businesses in accessing Federal contracts and small business research opportunities Government-wide.

Summary Tables

Table 1. Proposed Discretionary Caps for 2018 Budget

(Budget authority in billions of dollars)

	Caps	
	2017	**2018**
Current Law Base Caps: [1]		
Defense	551	549
Non-Defense	519	516
Total, Current Law Base Caps	**1,070**	**1,065**
Proposed Base Cap Changes: [2]		
Defense	*+25*	*+54*
Non-Defense	*–15*	*–54*
Total, Proposed Changes	***+10***	.....
Proposed Base Caps:		
Defense	576	603
Non-Defense	504	462
Total, Proposed Base Caps	**1,080**	**1,065**
Enacted and Proposed Cap Adjustments:		
Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) [2]	89	77
Emergency Funding	3	.....
Program Integrity	2	2
Disaster Relief	8	7
Total, Cap Adjustments	**102**	**86**
Total, Discretionary Budget Authority	**1,181**	**1,151**
21st Century CURES appropriations [3]	*1*	*1*

[1] The caps presented here are equal to the levels specified for 2017 and 2018 in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended (BBEDCA). The 2017 caps were revised in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 and the 2018 caps include OMB estimates of Joint Committee enforcement (also known as "sequestration").

[2] The Administration proposes an increase in the existing defense caps for 2017 and 2018 that is offset with decreases to the non-defense caps. About 60 percent of the 2017 defense increase is offset by non-defense decreases in 2017 while the entire defense increase in 2018 is offset by non-defense decreases. An additional $5 billion in defense funding is proposed as OCO in 2017.

[3] The 21st Century CURES Act permitted funds to be appropriated each year for certain activities outside of the discretionary caps so long as the appropriations were specifically provided for the authorized purposes. These amounts are displayed outside of the discretionary totals for this reason.

Table 2. 2018 Discretionary Overview by Major Agency

(Net discretionary BA in billions of dollars)

	2017 CR/Enacted [1,2]	2018 Request [2]	2018 Request Less 2017 CR/Enacted	
			Dollar	Percent
Base Discretionary Funding:				
Cabinet Departments:				
Agriculture [3]	22.6	17.9	–4.7	–20.7%
Commerce	9.2	7.8	–1.5	–15.7%
Defense	521.7	574.0	+52.3	+10.0%
Education	68.2	59.0	–9.2	–13.5%
Energy	29.7	28.0	–1.7	–5.6%
National Nuclear Security Administration	*12.5*	*13.9*	*+1.4*	*+11.3%*
Other Energy	*17.2*	*14.1*	*–3.1*	*–17.9%*
Health and Human Services [4]	77.7	65.1	–12.6	–16.2%
Homeland Security	41.3	44.1	+2.8	+6.8%
Housing and Urban Development (HUD):				
HUD gross total (excluding receipts)	*46.9*	*40.7*	*–6.2*	*–13.2%*
HUD receipts [5]	*–10.9*	*–9.0*	*+1.9*	*N/A*
Interior	13.2	11.6	–1.5	–11.7%
Justice (DOJ):				
DOJ program level (excluding offsets)	*28.8*	*27.7*	*–1.1*	*–3.8%*
DOJ mandatory spending changes (CHIMPs)	*–8.5*	*–11.5*	*–2.9*	*N/A*
Labor	12.2	9.6	–2.5	–20.7%
State, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and Treasury International Programs [3]	38.0	27.1	–10.9	–28.7%
Transportation	18.6	16.2	–2.4	–12.7%
Treasury	11.7	11.2	–0.5	–4.4%
Veterans Affairs	74.5	78.9	+4.4	+5.9%
Major Agencies:				
Corps of Engineers	6.0	5.0	–1.0	–16.3%
Environmental Protection Agency	8.2	5.7	–2.6	–31.4%
General Services Administration	0.3	0.5	+0.3	N/A
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	19.2	19.1	–0.2	–0.8%
Small Business Administration	0.9	0.8	-*	–5.0%
Social Security Administration [4]	9.3	9.3	+*	+0.2%
Other Agencies	29.4	26.5	–2.9	–9.8%
Subtotal, Discretionary Base Budget Authority	**1,068.1**	**1,065.4**	**–2.7**	**–0.3%**
Cap Adjustment Funding:				
Overseas Contingency Operations:				
Defense	65.0	64.6	–0.4	–0.6%
State and USAID	19.2	12.0	–7.2	–37.4%
Other Agencies	0.2	.....	–0.2	–100.0%
Subtotal, Overseas Contingency Operations	84.3	76.6	–7.8	–9.2%
Emergency Requirements:				
Transportation	1.0	.....	–1.0	–100.0%
Corps of Engineers	1.0	.....	–1.0	–100.0%
Other Agencies	0.7	.....	–0.7	–100.0%
Subtotal, Emergency Requirements	2.7	.....	–2.7	–100.0%
Program Integrity:				
Health and Human Services	0.4	0.4	+0.1	+17.3%
Social Security Administration	1.2	1.5	+0.3	+26.8%
Subtotal, Program Integrity	1.5	1.9	+0.4	+24.5%

Table 2. 2018 Discretionary Overview by Major Agency—Continued

(Net discretionary BA in billions of dollars)

	2017 CR/Enacted [1,2]	2018 Request [2]	2018 Request Less 2017 CR/Enacted	
			Dollar	Percent
Disaster Relief: [6]				
Homeland Security and Other Agencies	6.7	7.4	+0.7	+9.7%
Housing and Urban Development	1.4	.....	–1.4	–100.0%
Subtotal, Disaster Relief	8.1	7.4	–0.8	–9.4%
Subtotal, Cap Adjustment Funding	**96.7**	**85.9**	**–10.8**	**–11.2%**
Total, Discretionary Budget Authority	**1,164.8**	**1,151.2**	**–13.6**	**–1.2%**
Memorandum: 21st Century CURES appropriations [7]				
Health and Human Services	*0.9*	*1.1*	*+0.2*	*+21.1%*

* $50 million or less.

[1] The 2017 CR/Enacted column reflects enacted appropriations and levels of continuing appropriations provided under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (Division C of Public Law 114–223, as amended by Division A of Public Law 114–254) that are due to expire on April 28. The levels presented here are the amounts OMB scores under the caps; therefore, the levels for 2017 may differ in total from those on Table 1.

[2] Enacted, continuing, and proposed changes in mandatory programs (CHIMPs) are included in both 2017 and 2018. Some agency presentations in this volume where noted reflect a program level that excludes these amounts.

[3] Funding for Food for Peace Title II Grants is included in the State, USAID, and Treasury International programs total. Although the funds are appropriated to the Department of Agriculture, the funds are administered by USAID.

[4] Funding from the Hospital Insurance and Supplementary Medical Insurance trust funds for administrative expenses incurred by the Social Security Administration that support the Medicare program are included in the Health and Human Services total and not in the Social Security Administration total.

[5] HUD receipt levels for 2018 are a placeholder and subject to change as detailed estimates under the Administration's economic and technical assumptions for the full Budget are finalized.

[6] The Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 authorizes an adjustment to the discretionary spending caps for appropriations that are designated by the Congress as being for "disaster relief" provided those appropriations are for activities carried out pursuant to a determination under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. Currently, based on enacted and continuing appropriations, OMB estimates the total adjustment available for disaster funding for 2018 at $7,366 million. Further details, including any revisions necessary to account for final 2017 appropriations and the specific amounts of disaster relief funding requested for individual agencies in 2018 authorized to administer disaster relief programs, will be provided in subsequent Administration proposals.

[7] The 21st Century CURES Act permitted funds to be appropriated each year for certain activities outside of the discretionary caps so long as the appropriations were specifically provided for the authorized purposes. These amounts are displayed outside of the discretionary totals for this reason.

Table 3. Major 2018 Budget Changes from Current Law

(Budget authority in billions of dollars)

	2018 Caps [1]		Change:	
	Current Law [2]	Proposed	Dollars	Percent
Discretionary Categories:				
Defense	549	603	+54	+10%
Non-Defense	516	462	–54	–10%
Total, 2018 Base Caps	**1,065**	**1,065**	.....	.....

* $500 million or less.

[1] Only base funding caps are represented on this table and cap adjustments permitted by the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 for overseas contingency operations, disaster relief, program integrity, and emergency requirements are excluded.

[2] The current law caps are equal to the levels specified for 2018 in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, including OMB estimates for Joint Committee enforcement (also known as "sequestration").

Table 4. Major 2017 Changes from Security Supplemental Request

(Budget authority in billions of dollars)

	2017 Caps		Change:	
	Current Law	Proposed [1]	Dollars	Percent
Discretionary Categories:				
Defense	551	576	+25	+5%
Non-Defense	519	504	–15	–3%
Major Changes:				
Border Wall and implementation of Executive Orders	.....	*3*	*+3*	*N/A*
Other Non-Defense programs	*519*	*501*	*–18*	*–3%*
Total, 2018 Base Caps	1,070	1,080	+10	+1%
Cap Adjustments:				
Defense Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO)	65	70	+5	+8%

[1] The Administration proposes an increase in the existing defense cap for 2017 that is partially offset with a decrease to the non-defense cap while an additional $5 billion defense request in 2017 is requested as OCO.

Executive Office of the President

From:	Amy Lueders
To:	Charisa_Morris@fws.gov
Cc:	Mary Elder; Aaron Archibeque; jeffrey_m_fleming@fws.gov
Subject:	Fwd: NM and AZ Briefing Papers
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 5:19:33 PM
Attachments:	ATT00001.htm 022019 Briefing Paper Arizona.docx 022019 Briefing Paper New Mexico.docx ATT00002.htm

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Here you go. Let us know if you have any questions

Sent from my iPhone

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

DATE: February 19, 2019
FROM: Amy Lueders, Southwest Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
SUBJECT: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Issues of Interest in Arizona

I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Provide information on key U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) issues of Congressional or other significant interest in the state of Arizona.

II. BACKGROUND

The State of Arizona is 113,998 square miles. The FWS has approximately 163 staff in the state that support the FWS mission through a number of programs. Arizona has nine National Wildlife Refuges that total 1.73 million acres and provide hunting and angling opportunities to visitors, as well as being actively engaged in recovering endangered species such as the Sonoran pronghorn. Arizona is home to the largest national wildlife refuge in the lower 48 states, Cabeza Prieta. The three National Fish Hatcheries spawn, raise and release imperiled desert fishes, as well as several trout species for angling, including the threatened Apache trout. The Arizona Ecological Services Field Office manages protection and recovery for 64 listed species in the state including the Mexican wolf, the lesser long-nosed bat, the Gila topminnow, the ocelot and the jaguar. Arizona is also home to the Navajo Nation Tribal Eagle aviary.

III. DISCUSSION

Mexican wolves

The Mexican gray wolf subspecies was listed as endangered under Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1976; the subspecies-level listing was incorporated into a species-level listing of the gray wolf in 1978. The FWS established a nonessential experimental population (NEP) of the Mexican gray wolf in Arizona and New Mexico in 1998, with the first wolves released that year. In 2015, FWS separately listed the Mexican gray wolf subspecies as endangered and revised regulations for the NEP under ESA section 10(j). In 2017, FWS published a final revised recovery plan that was endorsed by the affected states. In January 2018, several environmental groups filed litigation against the final recovery plan. FWS and DOJ filed a motion to dismiss and are awaiting the judge's decision. The FWS continues to work with partners to further Mexican gray wolf recovery.

The 2017 annual population survey documents a minimum of 114 wolves in the wild. The 2018 survey results will be announced in March 2019. In 2018, there were 20 total wolf mortalities, which is most in a single year. In 2018, there were 99 total confirmed livestock depredations, which is 2.5 times above normal. We still consider this to be in normal levels, because we also had the highest number of collared wolves (~85), which helps us detect mortalities.

Arizona Water Settlement Act

The FWS is a Cooperating Agency with numerous federal, state, and local partners on the Arizona Water Settlement Act (AWSA), New Mexico Central Arizona Project Unit (NM Unit). Partners include Bureau of Reclamation, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the NM Unit. The AWSA allows New Mexico to divert an annual average of 14,000 acre-feet of water from the Gila and San Francisco basins (not to exceed 140,000 acre-feet over a 10-year period). Numerous ESA listed species occur in the project area. The AWSA includes provisions that allow funds to be expended on municipal water conservation and reclamation efforts. Currently, the Bureau of Reclamation is drafting an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a Biological Assessment. The very complex analyses and documents are well underway but are behind schedule. The FWS is working closely with BOR on this project.

Drought Contingency Plan: Colorado River Basin

The Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) is a seven-basin state effort to adjust water allocations temporarily to combat impacts of the current drought. Water allocated in the lower basin is in danger of disruption should lake elevation in Lake Mead drop below 1,075 feet, resulting in a series of Shortage Criteria in which full water allocations will not be delivered. The state of Arizona is one of the first states to be most impacted by water withholding, and is overall a strong proponent of the DCP. It is predicted that Lake Mead elevations will dip below 1,071 by 2021 resulting in triggering Shortage Criteria. The FWS has long committed resources to coordinate with Federal, State and Tribal partners to address environmental ramifications of current river conditions or any DCP plan to provide ESA compliance where necessary. We are partners in the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program and the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP); both of these provide environmental compliance for river operations and water allocations from Glen Canyon Dam to Mexico. ESA compliance by these programs are necessary to mitigate impacts to the four endangered Colorado River fishes, and at least five other listed terrestrial species that rely on the river corridor. The LCR MSCP is a large Section 7 and Section 10/HCP hybrid that provides ESA coverage for 57 Federal, State, and Tribal entities. This program addresses the needs of 27 species that either are listed under the ESA or are otherwise sensitive. At the request of LCR MSCP Steering Committee members, we are regularly meeting to discuss options for amending the existing program to cover additional compliance needs as a result of the DCP.

Border Barrier on Southern Arizona National Wildlife Refuges

Along Arizona's International Border with Mexico, National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) System lands have experienced significant habitat damage due to illegal border-related activities such as trail networks, litter, dumping, illegal roads and abandoned vehicles. In 2008, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) installed vehicle barriers or fencing in combination with monitoring and sensing technology which significantly reduced habitat damage and conflicts with the public. It is important to note that the barriers were developed to meet specific needs. The designs allow for limited movement of wildlife and do not restrict potential floodwaters at specific locations. Like other areas along the US/Mexican border, the combination of border barriers, surveillance towers, number of agents, and tactics used by CBP has been effective in reducing illegal activities occurring on Arizona's southern NWR's.

Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge: The 860,000-acre Cabeza Prieta NWR shares 56 miles of border with Mexico and exhibits both a 4-foot tall Normandy-style barrier and a 4-foot tall concrete bollard-style barrier. Both barriers are effective at prohibiting vehicles from crossing but allow wildlife passage. Prior to the border barrier installation, drug smugglers coming from Mexico created significant illegal roads, before abandoning the vehicles on refuge property. While not stopping foot traffic, the current border barriers have been very effective in stopping drug smuggling vehicles while still allowing for wildlife movement, including the endangered Sonoran pronghorn.

Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge: The 117,500-acre Buenos Aires NWR is located in south-central Arizona and shares about 5.26 miles of border with Mexico. A barbed wire barrier along the International Border separated the refuge from Mexico until 2007/2008, when Department of Homeland Security (DHS) contractors constructed a 15-foot tall iron and concrete bollard-style barrier along the south boundary of Buenos Aires NWR. While this style of barrier raised concern for migration patterns of large mammals such as jaguar, its installation has also created habitat benefits to the semi-desert grasslands. This DHS barrier allows for some water and wildlife movement, and provides the important tactical advantage of agents and surveillance towers being able to view potential opponents/threats through the barrier (rather than the view being obstructed by a solid barrier). The combination of towers, border barrier and CBP agents have significantly decreased the volume of discarded trash, allowed restoration of grassland conditions, and allowed safe public access into Buenos Aires NWR areas that were previously deemed dangerous and were therefore closed to public entry for over a decade.

San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuge: The 2,369-acre San Bernardino NWR is located in southeastern Arizona and shares about 2.65 miles of border with Mexico and utilizes a combination of vehicle barriers, surveillance towers, and CBP agents. San Bernardino NWR constructed a 4-foot tall iron and concrete bollard-style vehicle barrier along their south boundary in 2005 to prevent habitat-damaging vehicle incursions from Mexico. In 2008, DHS contractors constructed a 4-foot tall mix of iron Normandy-style barrier and iron and concrete bollard-style barrier along the U.S/Mexico border parallel to the existing NWR barrier. Both the San Bernardino NWR and DHS vehicle barriers allow water and wildlife movement.

Southern Arizona NWRs will continue to work with CBP on opportunities for border infrastructure that allows for international security as well as wildlife and habitat considerations.

No More Deaths – Humanitarian Aid on Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge

Cabeza Prieta NWR shares 56 miles of border with Mexico where illegal border crossings and drug smuggling are ongoing issues on USFWS lands. Humanitarian aid workers deposit supply caches for cross border violators along trails and within designated wilderness, often in conflict with USFWS regulations and CBP operations. To date, the refuge has permitted life-saving measures such as rescue beacons, 55-gallon water stations and blue flags at systems that provide water for wildlife. In July 2017, the access permit for Cabeza Prieta NWR, Barry M. Goldwater Range (DOD), and Sonoran Desert National Monument (BLM) was revised emphasizing current refuge regulation to remove all personal property. The USFWS issued nine citations to humanitarian aid workers in 2018 for driving in wilderness areas, abandonment of property, trespass and failing to obtain an access permit. All violators were involved in distributing supply caches in the wilderness area. The Assistant U.S. Attorney's Office is prosecuting these cases. In

January 2018, the first three defendants were found guilty on all counts. The remaining cases are pending trial.

Closure of Roads on Kofa National Wildlife Refuge

Mr. Allen Armstrong owns the Castle Dome and Hull Mine in-holdings within Kofa NWR. In 2017 he gated the Castle Dome Road that passes through his inholdings, preventing access to refuge lands via a route that had been available to the public for decades. His stated reasons for the closure were concerns about noise, dust, and traffic conflicts between refuge visitors and patrons to his Castle Dome Museum/Hull Mine. Mr. Armstrong has expressed no interest in providing an easement across his properties. The Castle Dome Road closure and potential closure of other roads significantly affect refuge staff and visitors. The FWS was able to come to an agreement with Mr. Armstrong that he will re-open the road until an alternative road is created. The FWS has initiated an Environmental Assessment (EA) for rerouting the Castle Dome Road with a goal of ensuring continued access for Refuge visitors and the least disruption to their traditional use. The FWS will continue efforts to maintain public access and anticipates completing the EA and moving forward with a proposed route in summer 2019.

Apache trout

FWS biologists are immersed in recovering threatened Apache trout in concert with the White Mountain Apache Tribe and Arizona Game and Fish Department and to providing many opportunities to angle for this rare yellow trout. The FWS's Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office staff seeks to expand Apache trout populations into waters where the fish naturally occurred in the past. Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery staff consults with geneticists at the Southwestern Native Fish and Aquatic Resources and Recovery Center in Dexter, New Mexico, to manage hatchery broodstock at the genetic level to maintain a robust captive stock. Apache trout is Arizona's state fish and lives naturally only in streams pouring off the White Mountains of eastern Arizona on the Ft. Apache Indian Reservation and Apache Sitgreaves National Forest. Angling for Apache trout generates excise taxes for the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program.

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

DATE: February 19, 2019
FROM: Amy Lueders, Southwest Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
SUBJECT: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Issues of Interest in New Mexico

I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Provide information on key U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) issues of Congressional or other significant interest in the state of New Mexico.

II. BACKGROUND

The State of New Mexico is 121,697 square miles. Albuquerque is home to the Southwest Regional Office. The FWS has approximately 343 staff in the state that support the FWS mission through a number of programs. New Mexico has nine National Wildlife Refuges that total 389,224 acres and provide hunting and angling opportunities. The Southwest Region's first urban refuge, Valle de Oro, is a 580-acre urban oasis on a former dairy farm. Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is the largest refuge in the state and home to the Sevilleta Wolf Management Facility. The Mora National Fish Hatchery has the only captive broodstock of threatened Gila trout. The New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office manages protection and recovery for 53 listed species in the State of New Mexico including the Mexican wolf, the New Mexico meadow jumping mouse, the Rio Grande silvery minnow, the lesser prairie-chicken and dunes sagebrush lizard. New Mexico is also home to the Pueblo of Zuni and Pueblo of Jemez Tribal Eagle aviaries.

III. DISCUSSION

Lesser Prairie-Chicken

In April 2014, FWS listed the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC) as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) with a special 4(d) rule providing ESA compliance for activities carried out under *The Lesser Prairie-Chicken Range-wide Conservation Plan* (RWP). In 2014, the Permian Basin Petroleum Association and four New Mexico counties filed a lawsuit challenging the listing rule. In 2015, a court vacated the rule; FWS did not appeal. Prior to the 2015 court ruling, FWS began work on a species status assessment (SSA) for the LPC to help inform future actions. The SSA included input from the five range states, the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), and many other scientific experts. The SSA has undergone independent peer review and uses the best available information to characterize current science, threats, and conservation efforts. The results of the SSA are included within a draft SSA report that has not been publicly released. In 2016, FWS was again petitioned to list the LPC as endangered. FWS published a positive 90-day finding, but has not made a 12-month finding. On February 14, 2019, the petitioners (CBD, Defenders, and WEG) filed a notice of intent to sue FWS for failure to make a 12-month finding for the lesser prairie-chicken.

Mexican wolves

The Mexican gray wolf subspecies was listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act in 1976; the subspecies-level listing was incorporated into a species-level listing of the gray wolf in 1978. The FWS established a nonessential experimental population (NEP) of the Mexican gray wolf in Arizona and New Mexico in 1998, with the first wolves released that year. In 2015, FWS separately listed the Mexican gray wolf subspecies as endangered and revised regulations for the NEP under ESA section 10(j). In 2017, FWS published a final revised recovery plan that was endorsed by the affected states. The FWS continues to work with partners to further Mexican gray wolf recovery.

The 2017 annual year-end population surveys documents a minimum of 114 wolves in the wild (2016 = 113, 2015 = 97). The 2018 survey results will be announced in March 2019. In 2018, there were a total of 99 confirmed livestock depredations, which is 2.5 times above normal (2017 = 28, 2016 = 50, 2015 = 49, 2014 = 30). In 2018, there were a total of 20 Mexican wolf mortalities, which is the highest in a single year. We still consider this to be in normal levels, because we also had the highest number of collared wolves (~85), which helps us detect mortalities.

Arizona Water Settlement Act

The FWS is a Cooperating Agency with numerous federal, state, and local partners on the Arizona Water Settlement Act (AWSA), New Mexico Central Arizona Project Unit (NM Unit). Partners include Bureau of Reclamation, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the NM Unit. The AWSA allows New Mexico to divert an annual average of 14,000 acre-feet of water from the Gila and San Francisco basins (not to exceed 140,000 acre-feet over a 10-year period). Numerous ESA listed species occur in the project area. The AWSA includes provisions that allow funds to be expended on municipal water conservation and reclamation efforts. Currently, the Bureau of Reclamation is drafting an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a Biological Assessment. The very complex analyses and documents are well underway but are behind schedule. The FWS is working closely with BOR on this project.

Native American Eagle Aviary

In order to provide assistance to Federally Recognized Tribes within the United States, in accordance with 50 CFR 22, the ability to possess for religious use, live non-releasable eagles, the FWS Southwest Region, Migratory Bird Permit Office implemented the Native American Eagle Aviary Permit. Eagles housed in the aviaries are birds rescued from the wild because of sickness or injury and treated by wildlife rehabilitators, but the nature or severity of injuries prevent the birds from being returned to the wild. These eagles are then cared for, for the remainder of their lives at the aviary. Through the permitted aviary, Native Americans have an additional source of eagle feathers (through molting) for the cultural and religious needs. The Pueblo of Zuni, in 1990, was the first Tribe in the Nation to propose plans for a sanctuary to house non-releasable eagles for cultural and religious use. Currently the aviary houses 12 bald eagles and 15 golden eagles. The Pueblo of Jemez, located in the Jemez Reservation, was the second Tribe in New Mexico to receive an Eagle Aviary - Live permit. The Pueblo has two

satellite aviaries, each housing one golden eagle. Each satellite caretaker is a member of an Eagle Watching Society.

New Mexico Water Right on National Wildlife Refuges

Both the FWS and Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) have concerns that the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer's (NMOSE) administration of water rights used for environmental purposes is inaccurate and negatively impacts Federal interests. The Department of Interior's (DOI) Office of the Solicitor is coordinating an effort with the NMOSE to address DOI concerns regarding the State's administration of water rights that affect the following three National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) units:

Bitter Lake NWR: According to NMOSE, if this refuge changes the use of its water rights from agriculture to wetlands, this refuge may see a net reduction of 30% of its diversionary water rights. NMOSE has argued that wetland use is solely consumptive in nature. In fact, these wetlands consume about half as much water as required by a comparable agricultural operation.

Valle de Oro NWR: Similarly, NMOSE estimates that there will also be a 30% reduction to this refuge's water rights if water is used to manage wetlands and not for agriculture. Reclamation shares the refuge's concern as a co-owner of this refuge's water rights.

Bosque del Apache NWR: In NMOSE's files, this refuge's water right is defined as both an agricultural right and as a wetland flow-through right. This unresolved discrepancy has complicated efforts to defend the refuge's water rights. The DOI Solicitor's Office is engaged with both the FWS and Reclamation with these water right challenges and is coordinating this effort to resolve these issues with the NMOSE.

Gallinas River "inter se" phase of the State of New Mexico Pecos River General Stream Adjudication

The Gallinas River section of the Pecos River adjudication was initiated by the State of New Mexico in 1985 to make final determinations regarding the validity of water right claims in the Gallinas River basin, including water rights for the Las Vegas NWR. The adjudication has two broad phases: initial determination of water rights by the State Engineer and challenges or objections to those determinations in the "*inter se*" phase, which is now underway. Las Vegas NWR holds the largest water right in the basin but with a priority date of 1909, it is one of the most junior in the system. As part of the adjudication process, the Department of Justice (DOJ) and FWS will strive to ensure that water rights with more senior claims are adjudicated fairly so Las Vegas NWR receives water to which it is legally entitled. On average, Las Vegas NWR receives only about 25 percent of its entitled water. In March 2018, DOJ filed objections on behalf of the FWS to the State Engineer's findings on 41 (of approximately 2,000) claims associated with the Gallinas River. As part of the *inter se* process, which began in June of 2018, DOJ met with almost all water claimants to gather further evidence about their claimed water rights. The DOJ is now in the process of withdrawing or settling the majority of the FWS objections. Currently, DOJ expects it will only litigate the FWS objections to two or three remaining claims. The water rights holders impacted by the Gallinas adjudication may not fully understand the adjudication process and may have misconceptions about the FWS role. It is important to note the FWS is the only Federal agency in the adjudication and the only entity to have filed objections in the *inter se* phase.

Proposed Addition to Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge

Mr. Gordon Herkenhoff owns Indian Hill Farms, adjacent to Sevilleta NWR. Approximately 600 acres are in cultivation and 650 acres support native upland habitat. Approximately 975 acres are east of I-25 and 275 acres lie west of I-25. The property includes a significant amount of pre-1907 water rights which are the most valuable and senior water rights recognized by the State of New Mexico and are rarely available for purchase. Addition of this property to Sevilleta NWR would advance wildlife habitat restoration of wetlands, uplands, and riparian corridors. It would also provide opportunities to expand recreational access. The FWS intends to utilize Migratory Bird Conservation Fund dollars to acquire the property as a phased, multi-year project, beginning in FY 2019.

Rio Mora National Wildlife Refuge

The Rio Mora National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area (CA), a 300,000-acre landscape conservation effort, is a partnership-driven initiative for the protection and enhancement (via acquisition of conservation easement or fee title interest or through technical assistance) of the 950,000-acre Mora River watershed in Mora, San Miguel and Colfax counties. Rio Mora NWR was established through initial donation of the 4,224-acre Wind River Ranch, which continues to support research, restoration, outreach, interpretation and environmental education in cooperation with the Denver Zoological Foundation (Denver Zoo), the Pueblo of Pojoaque, and New Mexico Highlands University. The $1.7 million startup funding provided by Thaw Charitable Trust to Denver Zoo was expended in 2017; the Denver Zoo is exploring grants and fund raising to continue their work on Rio Mora NWR and the FWS provides offices, equipment, fuel and housing to support the partnership. There is a Memorandum of Understanding between the FWS, Denver Zoo, the Pueblo of Pojoaque and New Mexico Highlands University. Additionally, the Biophilia Foundation's planned donation of the 3,300-acre Pritzlaff Ranch to the FWS is in the title-clearing phase. The ranch, which will become a unit of Rio Mora NWR and CA, is operated as a forest and watershed restoration and educational site for private citizens, public school and university students, local landowners, and environmental professionals.

Recovering Threatened Gila Trout

Mora National Fish Hatchery is a place of refuge for the rare Gila trout as well as where leading-edge science is employed for their betterment. The hatchery holds five genetically distinct lineages of Gila trout, native only to the uppermost reaches of the Gila River. Hatchery staff consults with geneticists at the Southwestern Native Fish and Aquatic Resources and Recovery Center in Dexter, New Mexico, to manage hatchery broodstock at the genetic level to maintain robust captive stocks. Hatchery staff work in concert with USFWS's New Mexico Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and U.S. Forest Service to return Gila trout to streams occupied by the fish in the past. Expanding the trout's range is essential to eventual delisting and provides more fishing opportunities, which generates excise taxes for the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program.

From:	Campbell, Tina
To:	Charisa Morris
Subject:	Fwd: DRAFT 2 / EMAIL: Due Thursday, Aug. 24 -- Input for First Quarter 90-day List
Date:	Thursday, August 10, 2017 1:38:57 PM
Attachments:	DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx CALL for FY18Q1 OMB reg report.docx

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Charisa,

We need to get the data call out for the 90-day list asap. Sara prepared a formal memo which should be downtown tomorrow, but she also prepared the following email for me to send out to the Deputies requesting input. Is it OK if I send it or do you want to send it?

Tina

Tina A. Campbell
Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Telephone: 703-358-2676
Fax: 703-358-1997

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Prigan, Sara** <sara_prigan@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 4:03 PM
Subject: DRAFT 2 / EMAIL: Due Thursday, Aug. 24 -- Input for First Quarter 90-day List
To: Tina Campbell <tina_campbell@fws.gov>, "Wilkinson, Susan" <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>

The Department has requested the Service's input for the quarterly regulatory report to the Office of Management and Budget for the first quarter of FY 2018 (October through December 2017).

Please provide your input via email to Sara Prigan in PPM (sara_prigan@fws.gov) no later than **Thursday, August 24, 2017**. Please cc Susan Wilkinson and Anissa Craghead.

The assignment is described in detail in this attachment, which you should read first:
CALL for FY18Q1 OMB reg report.docx

Also attached is the draft list. Please add your changes **USING TRACK CHANGES AND YELLOW HIGHLIGHTING** and then return to PPM.
Draft Q4 list filename:
DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx

If you wish to create new RINs, we will need to obtain approval from the policy people up through the Secretary's office before we can create them. You will fill out **one** of the following attached forms to begin that process:
ESA RIN: Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx
or

Non-ESA RIN: Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx

Thanks in advance for helping us meet out deadline for getting our 90-day list to the Office of the Secretary, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate contact one of us.

Tina

Tina A. Campbell
Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Telephone: 703-358-2676
Fax: 703-358-1997

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of September 18 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/7/17 Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350. OMB comment on Q417: Propose OMB RMO review since addressing fee increases. (Megan suggested we send a briefing paper.)	9/29/17 Pending final review within FWS; will be sent to FWS Director's Office in early September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ69 Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls) 50 CFR 21	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Jerry Thompson (703) 358-2016.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/7/17~~ Published 7/25/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-25/pdf/2017-15471.pdf

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~9/29/17~~ In development in the Bureau; expect to be ready for FWS surname in December 2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.	~~7/01/17~~ In bureau development; to FWS Director's Office week of 8/7/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1705.	7/5/17 Pending Office of the Secretary clearance (per our Aug 4 update to OES) Remove?

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Proposed rule has yet to clear DOI and publish, so the final rule is being pushed back (per our Aug 4 update to OES); will remove

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-October; to FWS Director's Office early November 2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~8/18/17~~ Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 7 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA76 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish 50 CFR 100; 50 CFR 242	FR	Not Significant. Not Major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	8/30/17 Surnamed by SOL; awaiting surname from Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	~~8/31/17~~ Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 14 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/14/17~~ Cleared DOI 8/1/17; will be sent to OFR week of 8/7/17

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.** **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	8/15/17 Will go to SOL and Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska on 8/8/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB24 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale 50 CFR 92	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will amend the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska to enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/01/17~~ Published 7/24/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-24/pdf/2017-15465.pdf

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796,~~	~~8/15/17~~ Prop. Rule/6-month extension published 8/10/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-10/pdf/2017-16887.pdf Final rule moved to February 2018

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2017–18 season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 7/26/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-26/pdf/2017-15472.pdf
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	~~8/30/17~~ In AS/FWP for signature; to the Office of the Secretary next (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Pending AS/FWP clearance; to the Office of the Secretary next (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Pursuing a 6-month extension, to publish September 29; final rule moved to March 2018 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by early August; to FWS Director's Office week of August 27 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Back with AS/FWP for revision following Office of the Secretary review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Pending Bureau clearance (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by early August; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** The Service will announce a 6-month extension of the final determination of whether to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant species from southern California, as a threatened species. We also are reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days. We are taking this action based on substantial disagreement regarding the potential impact of Argentine ant invasion on the pollination ecology of the San Fernando Valley spineflower and scientific uncertainty related to establishment of this species by seeding suitable, unoccupied areas.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Published 7/19/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-19/pdf/2017-15126.pdf

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. FWS annually prescribes outside limits (frameworks) within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018–19 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2019 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**Note:** This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/15/17~~ Published 8/3/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-03/pdf/2017-16353.pdf

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	8/15/17 To SOL week of 8/7/17; to FWS Director's Office for surname week of 8/14/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is proposing to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678.~~ ~~**OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 8/10/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-10/pdf/2017-16374.pdf

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito Gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of October 16 (FY18 Q1) (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of August 18 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal Q1, 2018; in FWS Director's Office week of November 13 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
‡1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 5/0 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal publication FY18 Q1 10/31/2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	8/1/17 Included in the 2017 Unified Agenda; will update briefing information and reroute for approval to publish (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Moved goal publication to FY18 Q1; 10/6/17 ready for review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal publication FY18 Q1 10/10/17 ready for review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-October; to FWS Director's Office early November; (FY18 Q1) (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC16 Listing Determination (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs. We responded that critical habitat is not being proposed for these species at this time. If prudent and determinable, the critical habitat will be proposed under this RIN at a later stage. The requested information will be made available at that time. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC20 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Blackfin Sucker	PR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does**: We will make a listing determination for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. The blackfin sucker is a fish found in Kentucky. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703 358-1796	9/15/17 Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ ~~**Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC32 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Eastern Population of the Boreal Toad	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ ~~**Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:**~~ ~~The purpose of this action under the Endangered Species Act was, if found to be prudent and determinable, to propose to designate critical habitat for the Kirtland's snake. The Kirtland's snake is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. However, this agenda item is being withdrawn as it has been combined with the listing determination for this species under RIN 1018-BC22.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:**~~ ~~None.~~ ~~**Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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~~‡1018-BC36 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Oregon Cascades California Population of the Black-Backed Woodpecker~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We will make a listing determination for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act. This population is found in California, North Dakota, and Oregon. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡1018-BC38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Pacific Walrus 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We will make a listing determination for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in Alaska. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** The State of Alaska, the Eskimo Walrus Commission, and many native Alaska communities will be opposed to a listing rule for the walrus.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC42 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Big Blue Springs Cave Crayfish and Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Big Blue Springs cave crayfish and Woodville Karst cave crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. These species are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for these species under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796. OMB comment on Q417: Request briefing paper.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	~~7/6/17~~ In review in the FWS Director's Office; will go to AS/FWP (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

Request for a Regulation Identifier Number (RIN)
for ESA Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations
[List Rule Stage, Rule Citation, Rule Title]
[Popular Short Name, if applicable]

I. ESA RULE'S PURPOSE

[Check all that apply]

- ☐ **Listing**
- ☐ **Listing reclassification**
  - ☐ **uplisting**
  - ☐ **downlisting**
- ☐ **Delisting**
- ☐ **4(d) special rule**
- ☐ **Critical habitat designation**
- ☐ **Removal or revision of critical habitat designation**
- ☐ **Other**

If listing and CH are not being proposed concurrently, please explain. [Explain.]

II. NEED FOR ESA RULE

A. Petition? [Yes/No] **If so, who is the petitioner?** [Describe.]

B. Court order or settlement? [Describe.]

C. Other manner this action mandated by law? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

D. Part of the 7-year plan? [Yes/No]

E. Status review initiated by the agency? [Yes/No]

F. Current candidate? [Yes/No]

III. WHO RULE MAY AFFECT

A. International or Domestic Species?

B. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be affected by this rule, and how? [Describe.]

C. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be interested in this rule, and why? [Describe.]

IV. REGULATORY AGENDA AND 90-DAY LIST

A. Has this regulatory action previously had a RIN? If so:

1. **What was the previous RIN?** [Describe.]
2. **When was the previous RIN issued?** [Describe.]
3. **Under what circumstances was the previous RIN withdrawn?** [Describe.]

B. Has this regulatory action appeared on a 90-day list yet? [Yes/No] **If so, which 90-day list did it appear on?** [Provide month/year list covered.]

V. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATORY REFORM INITIATIVE

[Skip this section if the action is a listing, delisting, or listing reclassification.]

A. Is this a significant new action, a non-significant new action, or a deregulatory action? [Identify.]

1. If this is a significant new action:

[Delisting or downlisting actions may be included under a. below, but not under b.]

a. What are the two deregulatory actions and their status? [Describe.]

b. What are the deregulatory actions that provide offsets to the costs? [Describe.]

2. If this is a de-regulatory action:

a. How is it a de-regulatory action (does it rescind, revise, or streamline)? [Describe.]

b. Is it included in the EO 13771 spreadsheet? [Yes/No.]

c. What is the estimated cost/burden saving, if known? [Provide estimate.]
[Skip this question if the action is a delisting or downlisting.]

3. Full or partial exemptions

a. Do you believe this regulatory action is fully or partially exempt from E.O. 13771? [Yes/No.] **If so, explain the basis. (See attachment for list of exemptions).** [Explain.]

b. Have you submitted an exemption request to the Office of the Executive Secretariat for presentation to OIRA[1] yet? [Yes/No.] **If so, what is the status of that request?** [Explain.]

B. How does this rule meet the goals of EO 13777?

EO 13777 Goals

Goal 1 - Identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification, considering (at a minimum) which regulations:

- Eliminate jobs, or inhibit job creation;
- Are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;
- Impose costs that exceed benefits;
- Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform;
- Are inconsistent with the requirements of laws or guidance intended to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information disseminated by Federal agencies under the Paperwork Reduction Act; or
- Derive from or implement E.O.s or other Presidential directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified.

Continued on next page…

[1] *See* Q 33 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs".

EO 13777 Goals (Continued from previous page)

Goal 2 - Improve implementation of existing regulatory initiatives and policies:

- E.O. 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), as amended
- E.O. 13771 (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs)
- E.O. 13563 § 6 ("Retrospective Review")
- Termination…, of programs and activities that derive from or implement… documents… that have been rescinded.

[Describe.]

C. Have we received any comments on this regulatory action through the regulatory reform comment solicitation? [Describe.]

VI. COORDINATION

A. Identify any potentially affected Interior bureaus or offices and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

B. Identify any potentially affected Federal or State agencies and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

C. Identify whether this regulatory action potentially affects any Indian tribes and, if so, what consultation has taken place or is planned? [Identify and describe.]

D. Does this rule involve negotiated rulemaking or other collaborative rulemaking? [Identify and describe.]

VII. TIMING

A. Timeline: [Fill in dates.]

Action	Date (Estimated or Actual)	Is the deadline statutory or court ordered?
ANPRM		
NPRM		
Comment Period End		
Final Rule		
Final Rule Effective		

B. Are there any timing constraints? If so, what are the consequences of missing the deadline(s)?
[Describe what is driving each date – e.g., citation to a statutory deadline, and consequences of missing the date.]

VIII. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Are there any issues or controversy (e.g., litigation, high profile) related to this rule? [Identify and explain.]

B. How will this rule be announced to the public?

[Describe.]

IX. FURTHER INFORMATION

A. Background: [Briefly provide any background information, in understandable language, that will help a reader quickly understand what the document is trying to do and why, and any other useful additional information. Assume the reader knows little about the subject matter. Minimize use of acronyms or abbreviations and do not use them at all unless they are clearly defined.]

B. Primary contact for additional information:

Name: [List.]
Phone: [List.]
Email: [List.]

X. APPROVALS

This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Director:

_____ _____
Director **Date**

***This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Assistant Secretary*:**

_____ _____
Assistant Secretary **Date**

Potential Exemptions

Automatically Exempt

- Routine hunting & fishing regulations – Regulatory actions that are routine hunting and fishing actions that establish annual harvest limits are exempt from the requirement to be offset (and ineligible to be used as cost savings). This includes migratory bird hunting frameworks under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and fishery management plans and amendments under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This exemption does not apply to regulatory actions that affect hunting and fishing activity that are not routine regulatory actions.[2]

Exempt with OIRA Determination

The following categories of EO 13771 regulatory actions may qualify for a full or partial exemption from EO 13771's requirements. These categories are not exhaustive. If the agency believes it qualifies for an exemption, it should submit an exemption request to OIRA prior to submitting the action to OMB for review under EO 12866 or prior to publication of the EO 13771 regulatory action if it was not subject to EO 12866 review.

- Expressly exempt – EO 13771 expressly exempts regulations issued with respect to a military, national security[3], or foreign affairs function, and regulations related to agency organization, management, or personnel. These actions qualify for a full exemption.

- Emergencies - EO 13771 regulatory actions addressing emergencies such as critical health, safety, financial, non-exempt national security matters, or for some other compelling reason, may qualify for an exemption. In most cases, exemptions for such rules will be granted with respect to the timing of required offsets, allowing the agency to address the emergency before identifying and issuing EO 13771 deregulatory actions. Agencies will generally still be required to offset such actions. If necessary, the costs of such actions, and the requirement to identify for repeal at least two existing regulations, will be moved to the subsequent fiscal year for purposes of determining EO 13771 compliance.

- Statutorily or judicially required - EO 13771 does not prevent agencies from issuing regulatory actions in order to comply with an imminent statutory or judicial deadline, even if they are not able to satisfy EO 13771 's requirements by the time of issuance. However, agencies will be required to offset any such EO 13771 regulatory actions as soon as practicable thereafter. In addition, this flexibility may not apply to discretionary provisions attached to EO 13771 regulatory actions required to comply with statutory or judicial deadlines.

- De minimis -EO 13771 regulatory actions with de minimis costs may qualify for an exemption. For example, if OIRA designates a proposed rule as significant under EO 12866 because it raises novel legal or policy issues, and the agency estimates the action would have present value costs of $50,000 spread over a large number of persons and/or entities, OIRA may exempt the action from some or all of the requirements of EO 13771.[4]

In addition, the following category may be exempt and agencies should submit an exemption request to OIRA in accordance with the process above.

- Income Transfer – A regulatory action may be exempt from E.O. 13771 Section 2's requirements if it causes only income transfers from taxpayers to program beneficiaries, establishes a new fee or changes the existing fee for a service without imposing new costs, or establishes new penalties or fines or changes those already in existence?[5]

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[2] *See* Q 23 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."
[3] *See* Ibid. at Q 7.
[4] *See* Ibid. at Q 23.
[5] *See* Q 13 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."

[Bureau/Agency]
[Sub-agency, if applicable]

Request for a Regulation Identifier Number (RIN)
[List Rule Stage, Rule Citation, Rule Title]
[Popular Short Name, if applicable]

I. RULE'S PURPOSE

[Summarize, in one or two sentences, what the rule's purpose is.]

II. LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR RULE

[List the statutes or other legal authorities for this action.]

III. NEED FOR RULE

A. What is prompting this regulatory action? [Describe.]

B. How is this regulatory action in the public interest? [Describe.]

C. Is this action mandated by law? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

D. Is this action in response to litigation? [If yes, provide case information and explanation.]

E. Is this action a de-regulatory effort identified in an Executive Order or Secretary's Order? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

IV. WHO RULE MAY AFFECT

A. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be affected by this rule, and how? [Describe.]

B. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be interested in this rule, and why? [Describe.]

V. REGULATORY AGENDA AND 90-DAY LIST

A. Has this regulatory action previously had a RIN? If so:

1. **What was the previous RIN?** [Describe.]

2. **When was the previous RIN issued?** [Describe.]

3. **Under what circumstances was the previous RIN withdrawn?** [Describe.]

B. What is the bureau's recommended significance determination under E.O. 12866? Please ensure the recommendation is realistic and defensible to OIRA. [Significant or Non-Significant]

1. **If significant:**
   a. Identify the basis for significance: [Check.]
   - ☐ Have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity,

competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments or communities.

- ☐ Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency.
- ☐ Materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof.
- ☐ Raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President's priorities, or the principles set forth in this Executive order.

b. Explain how this regulatory action meets the above basis for significance. [Explain.]

2. **Has this regulatory action appeared on a 90-day list yet?** [Yes/No] **If so:**

a. Which 90-day list did it appear on and was it under a prior RIN? [Provide month/year list covered and prior RIN, if applicable.]

b. Has OMB made a significance determination yet? [Yes/No]

c. If OMB determined the regulatory action is significant, explain OMB's rationale for the basis checked above (if different from above). [Explain.]

C. Is this regulatory action potentially major and economically significant? [Yes/No and Explain.]

D. Could this regulatory action have a significant effect on small entities (as defined under the Regulatory Flexibility Act)? [Yes/No and Explain.]

E. Does this regulatory action involve study, experiment, or survey requiring peer review under Information Quality Act? [Yes/No and Explain.]

F. Is there an information collection(s) associated with this document? [Yes/No]

- **If yes, does it have a currently approved OMB Control Number?** [Yes/No]
- **OMB Control Number(s):** [Yes/No]
- **Does it require a new OMB Control Number or a renewal of an existing approval?** [New/Renewal]
- **If a new number or renewal is required, what is the current status?** [Describe.]

VI. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATORY REFORM INITIATIVE

A. Is this a significant new action, a non-significant new action, or a deregulatory action? [Identify.]

1. If this is a significant new action:

a. What are the two deregulatory actions and their status? [Describe.]

b. What are the deregulatory actions that provide offsets to the costs? [Describe which, if any, deregulatory actions you have identified as offsets or what your plans are for identifying deregulatory actions.]

2. If this is a de-regulatory action:

a. How is it a de-regulatory action (does it rescind, revise, or streamline)? [Describe.]

b. Is it included in the EO 13771 spreadsheet? [Yes/No.]

c. Is the expected source of the cost/burden saving a regulatory provision, an information collection burden reduction, or both? [Describe.]

d. What is the estimated cost/burden saving? [Provide any estimates or ranges of estimates you currently have or plans for estimating savings and when you expect to have the estimates available.]

3. Full or partial exemptions for significant new actions

a. Do you believe this regulatory action is fully or partially exempt from E.O. 13771? [Yes/No.] **If so, explain the basis. (See attachment for list of exemptions).** [Explain.]

b. Have you submitted an exemption request to the Office of the Executive Secretariat for presentation to OIRA[1] yet? [Yes/No.] **If so, what is the status of that request?** [Explain.]

B. How does this rule meet the goals of EO 13777?

EO 13777 Goals

Goal 1 - Identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification, considering (at a minimum) which:

- Eliminate jobs, or inhibit job creation;
- Are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;
- Impose costs that exceed benefits;
- Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform;
- Are inconsistent with the requirements of laws or guidance intended to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information disseminated by Federal agencies under the Paperwork Reduction Act; or
- Derive from or implement E.O.s or other Presidential directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified.

Goal 2 - Improve implementation of existing regulatory initiatives and policies:

- E.O. 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), as amended
- E.O. 13771 (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs)
- E.O. 13563 § 6 ("Retrospective Review")
- Termination…, of programs and activities that derive from or implement… documents… that have been rescinded.

[Describe.]

[1] *See* Q 33 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs".

C. Have we received any comments on this regulatory action through the regulatory reform comment solicitation? [Identify the commenters and describe the nature of the comments.]

VII. COORDINATION

A. Identify any potentially affected Interior bureaus or offices and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

B. Identify any potentially affected Federal, State, or local agencies and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

C. Identify whether this regulatory action potentially affects any Indian tribes and, if so, what consultation has taken place or is planned? [Identify and describe.]

D. Does this rule involve negotiated rulemaking or other collaborative rulemaking? [Identify and describe.]

VIII. TIMING

A. Timeline: [Fill in dates.]

Action	Date (Estimated or Actual)	Is the deadline statutory or court ordered?
ANPRM		
NPRM		
Comment Period End		
Final Rule		
Final Rule Effective		

B. Are there any timing constraints? If so, what are the consequences of missing the deadline(s)?
[Describe what is driving each date – e.g., citation to a statutory deadline, and consequences of missing the date.]

IX. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Are there any issues or controversy (e.g., litigation, high profile) related to this rule? [Identify and explain.]

B. How will this rulemaking (i.e., the fact that this rule is being pursued) be announced to the public?
[Describe.]

X. FURTHER INFORMATION

A. Background: [Briefly provide any background information, in understandable language, that will help a reader quickly understand what the document is trying to do and why, and any other useful additional information. Assume the reader knows little about the subject matter. Minimize use of acronyms or abbreviations and do not use them at all unless they are clearly defined.]

B. Primary contact for additional information:

Name: [List.]
Phone: [List.]
Email: [List.]

XI. APPROVALS

This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Director :

_____ _____
Director **Date**

***This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Assistant Secretary*:**

_____ _____
Assistant Secretary **Date**

Potential Exemptions

Automatically Exempt

- Routine hunting & fishing regulations – Regulatory actions that are routine hunting and fishing actions that establish annual harvest limits are exempt from the requirement to be offset (and ineligible to be used as cost savings). This includes migratory bird hunting frameworks under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and fishery management plans and amendments under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This exemption does not apply to regulatory actions that affect hunting and fishing activity that are not routine regulatory actions.[2]

Exempt with OIRA Determination

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- Expressly exempt – EO 13771 expressly exempts regulations issued with respect to a military, national security[3], or foreign affairs function, and regulations related to agency organization, management, or personnel. These actions qualify for a full exemption.

- Emergencies - EO 13771 regulatory actions addressing emergencies such as critical health, safety, financial, non-exempt national security matters, or for some other compelling reason, may qualify for an exemption. In most cases, exemptions for such rules will be granted with respect to the timing of required offsets, allowing the agency to address the emergency before identifying and issuing EO 13771 deregulatory actions. Agencies will generally still be required to offset such actions. If necessary, the costs of such actions, and the requirement to identify for repeal at least two existing regulations, will be moved to the subsequent fiscal year for purposes of determining EO 13771 compliance.

- Statutorily or judicially required - EO 13771 does not prevent agencies from issuing regulatory actions in order to comply with an imminent statutory or judicial deadline, even if they are not able to satisfy EO 13771 's requirements by the time of issuance. However, agencies will be required to offset any such EO 13771 regulatory actions as soon as practicable thereafter. In addition, this flexibility may not apply to discretionary provisions attached to EO 13771 regulatory actions required to comply with statutory or judicial deadlines.

- De minimis -EO 13771 regulatory actions with de minimis costs may qualify for an exemption. For example, if OIRA designates a proposed rule as significant under EO 12866 because it raises novel legal or policy issues, and the agency estimates the action would have present value costs of $50,000 spread over a large number of persons and/or entities, OIRA may exempt the action from some or all of the requirements of EO 13 771.[4]

In addition, the following category may be exempt and agencies should submit an exemption request to OIRA in accordance with the process above.

- Income Transfer – A regulatory action may be exempt from E.O. 13771 Section 2's requirements if it causes only income transfers from taxpayers to program beneficiaries, establishes a new fee or changes the existing fee for a service without imposing new costs, or establishes new penalties or fines or changes those already in existence?[5]

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[2] *See* Q 23 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."
[3] *See* Ibid. at Q 7.
[4] *See* Ibid. at Q 23.
[5] *See* Q 13 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."

Call for FY17Q4 Quarterly Regulatory Report Input

The Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs (OES) in the Department of the Interior (DOI) requests the Service's input for the quarterly regulatory report to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the first quarter (Q4) of FY 2018 (**October through December 2017**). Please provide your input to the Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs (PPM) by **Thursday, August 24, 2017**.

Why do we do the quarterly report?

OMB will use the information on the report to decide which actions are "significant" as defined by Executive Order 12866 and, therefore, must be submitted to OMB for review.

What do I put on the quarterly report?

Use the attached draft report (filename **DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx**). Do not delete anything in the file. Include all of the regulatory and policy documents that you project will complete Service and Department of the Interior (DOI) review during the October through December 2017 timeframe, whether or not the items have been on a previous quarterly report, **but please try to be realistic when identifying items for inclusion**. Also, provide updates for all items in the draft report.

What if I plan to begin work on a new rulemaking action?

NEW: Before PPM can assign a RIN for any new rule, we must get policy clearance up through the Secretary's Office. You should fill out one of the following forms for each new desired rule (i.e., rulemaking action that does not have a RIN yet):

- *ESA RINs:* **Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx**
- *Non-ESA RINs:* **Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff_07-01-17).docx**

(We no longer have to do reg alert forms.)
However, please be aware that if your rule did not appear on the most recent published Unified Agenda, OMB must grant a waiver from Executive Order 13771 before PPM can include your action on this 90-day list. At this point in time, DOI will seek such a waiver from OMB only for extraordinary circumstances.

What format do I use to present my quarterly report input?

You may make your changes in the attached draft report and then email it back to PPM. **However, PLEASE USE TRACK CHANGES AND YELLOW HIGHLIGHTING. Do not delete anything.** Filename for attached draft report is **DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx**.

- Please follow the format in the attached draft report, down to the use of line breaks, bold text, commas, etc.
- Text corrections can be pasted in or typed in, with track changes turned on.
- New entries can be pasted in, with track changes turned on.
- If you wants to remove an entire entry, just make a note in the final column to that effect, or use crossout-text formatting (as seen in some entries in the attached); do not delete using track changes.
- Each entry expected to be ready for OMB review during Q1 must have a specific date in the "Ready for Review" column that falls during Q1. This is the date the action would be ready for OMB review, which is also the date that you project the document to have cleared DOI. "Specific date" means, for example, rather than "Q1" or "mid-October," put in 10/18/17.
- If you have items from Q4 that have not completed OMB review yet, but you believe they will complete OMB review before October and thus do not need to be included again, please put a note to that effect in the right-hand column.
- If you have an action (i.e., one RIN) that will go through more than one stage during Q1 (i.e., separate stages under the same Regulation Identifier Number (RIN); e.g, proposed rule, final rule), include separate entries for each of the stages on your quarterly report input, i.e., each stage in a separate row.
- If you have items from Q4 that have not completed OMB review yet, but you believe they will complete OMB review before October, and they were **not** on the Q4 report, include them and put a note to that effect in the right-hand column.
- For actions that were on Q4 but are now being pushed forward, please try to put in the quarter in which the action will move forward.

What if I have to change my report input after I send it to PPM?

Be specific and clear about what the changes are. If you have only a handful of changes, send an email. If you have a larger number, you may resend your original table; **however, start with a clean document (no previous tracked changes or highlighting) and make sure all of the changes are shown with NEW tracked changes and yellow highlighting.**

Do I have to wait to get clearance through program officials before I send my report input to PPM?

No. To expedite collation of the all-FWS list, **please send your input to PPM at the same time you are clearing your data with the officials.** Then follow up later with forwarded email or other evidence of clearance from your program officials when it is available.

What if I have questions?

Please contact Sara Prigan via email at Sara_Prigan@fws.gov, or via phone at 703-358-2508. If Sara is out of the office, contact Susan Wilkinson, via email at Susan_Wilkinson@fws.gov or

phone at 703-358-2506, or Anissa Craghead, via email at Anissa_Craghead@fws.gov or phone at 703-358-2445.

To whom do I send my program's input?

Please send input via email to Sara Prigan in PPM (contact information above) by **Thursday, August 24, 2017**. Please cc Susan Wilkinson and Anissa Craghead.

From:	Morris, Charisa
To:	Campbell, Tina
Subject:	Re: DRAFT 2 / EMAIL: Due Thursday, Aug. 24 -- Input for First Quarter 90-day List
Date:	Thursday, August 10, 2017 2:52:16 PM
Attachments:	DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx CALL for FY18Q1 OMB reg report.docx

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Quick question - Is this only for AD deps, or RD deps as well?

The Department has requested the Service's input for the quarterly regulatory report to the Office of Management and Budget for the first quarter of FY 2018 (October through December 2017).

Please provide your input via email to Sara Prigan in PPM (sara_prigan@fws.gov) no later than **Thursday, August 24, 2017**. Please cc Susan Wilkinson and Anissa Craghead.

The assignment is described in detail in this attachment, which you should read first:

CALL for FY18Q1 OMB reg report.docx

Also attached is the draft list. Please add your changes **USING TRACK CHANGES AND YELLOW HIGHLIGHTING** and then return to PPM.
Draft Q4 list filename:

DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx

If you wish to create new RINs, we will need to obtain approval from the policy people up through the Secretary's office before we can create them. You will fill out **one** of the following attached forms to begin that process:

ESA RIN: Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx
or
Non-ESA RIN: Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff_07-01-17).docx

Thanks in advance for helping us meet out deadline for getting our 90-day list to the Office of the Secretary, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate contact one of us.

Tina

Tina A. Campbell
Chief, Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
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Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please

dial cell: 301-875-8937

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of September 18 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/7/17 Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350. OMB comment on Q417: Propose OMB RMO review since addressing fee increases. (Megan suggested we send a briefing paper.)	9/29/17 Pending final review within FWS; will be sent to FWS Director's Office in early September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ69 Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls) 50 CFR 21	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Jerry Thompson (703) 358-2016.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/7/17~~ Published 7/25/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-25/pdf/2017-15471.pdf

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~9/29/17~~ In development in the Bureau; expect to be ready for FWS surname in December 2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.	~~7/01/17~~ In bureau development; to FWS Director's Office week of 8/7/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1705.	7/5/17 Pending Office of the Secretary clearance (per our Aug 4 update to OES) Remove?

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‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Proposed rule has yet to clear DOI and publish, so the final rule is being pushed back (per our Aug 4 update to OES); will remove

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-October; to FWS Director's Office early November 2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~8/18/17~~ Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 7 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA76 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish 50 CFR 100; 50 CFR 242	FR	Not Significant. Not Major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	8/30/17 Surnamed by SOL; awaiting surname from Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	~~8/31/17~~ Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 14 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/14/17~~ Cleared DOI 8/1/17; will be sent to OFR week of 8/7/17

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‡1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.** **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	8/15/17 Will go to SOL and Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska on 8/8/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB24 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale 50 CFR 92	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will amend the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska to enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/01/17~~ Published 7/24/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-24/pdf/2017-15465.pdf

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‡1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796,~~	~~8/15/17~~ Prop. Rule/6-month extension published 8/10/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-10/pdf/2017-16887.pdf Final rule moved to February 2018

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‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2017–18 season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 7/26/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-26/pdf/2017-15472.pdf
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	~~8/30/17~~ In AS/FWP for signature; to the Office of the Secretary next (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Pending AS/FWP clearance; to the Office of the Secretary next (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Pursuing a 6-month extension, to publish September 29; final rule moved to March 2018 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by early August; to FWS Director's Office week of August 27 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Back with AS/FWP for revision following Office of the Secretary review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Pending Bureau clearance (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by early August; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** The Service will announce a 6-month extension of the final determination of whether to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant species from southern California, as a threatened species. We also are reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days. We are taking this action based on substantial disagreement regarding the potential impact of Argentine ant invasion on the pollination ecology of the San Fernando Valley spineflower and scientific uncertainty related to establishment of this species by seeding suitable, unoccupied areas.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Published 7/19/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-19/pdf/2017-15126.pdf

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. FWS annually prescribes outside limits (frameworks) within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018–19 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2019 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**Note:** This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/15/17~~ Published 8/3/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-03/pdf/2017-16353.pdf

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	8/15/17 To SOL week of 8/7/17; to FWS Director's Office for surname week of 8/14/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is proposing to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678.~~ ~~**OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 8/10/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-10/pdf/2017-16374.pdf

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito Gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of October 16 (FY18 Q1) (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of August 18 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal Q1, 2018; in FWS Director's Office week of November 13 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
‡1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 5/0 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal publication FY18 Q1 10/31/2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	8/1/17 Included in the 2017 Unified Agenda; will update briefing information and reroute for approval to publish (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Moved goal publication to FY18 Q1; 10/6/17 ready for review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal publication FY18 Q1 10/10/17 ready for review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-October; to FWS Director's Office early November; (FY18 Q1) (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC16 Listing Determination ~~and Critical Habitat Designation~~ for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs. We responded that critical habitat is not being proposed for these species at this time. If prudent and determinable, the critical habitat will be proposed under this RIN at a later stage. The requested information will be made available at that time. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC20 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Blackfin Sucker	PR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does**: We will make a listing determination for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. The blackfin sucker is a fish found in Kentucky. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703 358-1796	9/15/17 Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ ~~**Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC32 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Eastern Population of the Boreal Toad	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ ~~**Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:**~~ ~~The purpose of this action under the Endangered Species Act was, if found to be prudent and determinable, to propose to designate critical habitat for the Kirtland's snake. The Kirtland's snake is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. However, this agenda item is being withdrawn as it has been combined with the listing determination for this species under RIN 1018-BC22.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:**~~ ~~None.~~ ~~**Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
~~‡1018-BC36 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Oregon Cascades California Population of the Black-Backed Woodpecker~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We will make a listing determination for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act. This population is found in California, North Dakota, and Oregon. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Pacific Walrus 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We will make a listing determination for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in Alaska. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** The State of Alaska, the Eskimo Walrus Commission, and many native Alaska communities will be opposed to a listing rule for the walrus.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC42 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Big Blue Springs Cave Crayfish and Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Big Blue Springs cave crayfish and Woodville Karst cave crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. These species are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for these species under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796. OMB comment on Q417: Request briefing paper.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	~~7/6/17~~ In review in the FWS Director's Office; will go to AS/FWP (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

Request for a Regulation Identifier Number (RIN)
for ESA Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations
[List Rule Stage, Rule Citation, Rule Title]
[Popular Short Name, if applicable]

I. ESA RULE'S PURPOSE

[Check all that apply]

- ☐ **Listing**
- ☐ **Listing reclassification**
  - ☐ **uplisting**
  - ☐ **downlisting**
- ☐ **Delisting**
- ☐ **4(d) special rule**
- ☐ **Critical habitat designation**
- ☐ **Removal or revision of critical habitat designation**
- ☐ **Other**

If listing and CH are not being proposed concurrently, please explain. [Explain.]

II. NEED FOR ESA RULE

A. Petition? [Yes/No] **If so, who is the petitioner?** [Describe.]

B. Court order or settlement? [Describe.]

C. Other manner this action mandated by law? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

D. Part of the 7-year plan? [Yes/No]

E. Status review initiated by the agency? [Yes/No]

F. Current candidate? [Yes/No]

III. WHO RULE MAY AFFECT

A. International or Domestic Species?

B. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be affected by this rule, and how? [Describe.]

C. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be interested in this rule, and why? [Describe.]

IV. REGULATORY AGENDA AND 90-DAY LIST

A. Has this regulatory action previously had a RIN? If so:

1. **What was the previous RIN?** [Describe.]
2. **When was the previous RIN issued?** [Describe.]
3. **Under what circumstances was the previous RIN withdrawn?** [Describe.]

B. Has this regulatory action appeared on a 90-day list yet? [Yes/No] **If so, which 90-day list did it appear on?** [Provide month/year list covered.]

V. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATORY REFORM INITIATIVE

[Skip this section if the action is a listing, delisting, or listing reclassification.]

A. Is this a significant new action, a non-significant new action, or a deregulatory action? [Identify.]

1. If this is a significant new action:

[Delisting or downlisting actions may be included under a. below, but not under b.]

a. What are the two deregulatory actions and their status? [Describe.]

b. What are the deregulatory actions that provide offsets to the costs? [Describe.]

2. If this is a de-regulatory action:

a. How is it a de-regulatory action (does it rescind, revise, or streamline)? [Describe.]

b. Is it included in the EO 13771 spreadsheet? [Yes/No.]

c. What is the estimated cost/burden saving, if known? [Provide estimate.]
[Skip this question if the action is a delisting or downlisting.]

3. Full or partial exemptions

a. Do you believe this regulatory action is fully or partially exempt from E.O. 13771? [Yes/No.] **If so, explain the basis. (See attachment for list of exemptions).** [Explain.]

b. Have you submitted an exemption request to the Office of the Executive Secretariat for presentation to OIRA[1] yet? [Yes/No.] **If so, what is the status of that request?** [Explain.]

B. How does this rule meet the goals of EO 13777?

EO 13777 Goals

Goal 1 - Identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification, considering (at a minimum) which regulations:

- Eliminate jobs, or inhibit job creation;
- Are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;
- Impose costs that exceed benefits;
- Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform;
- Are inconsistent with the requirements of laws or guidance intended to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information disseminated by Federal agencies under the Paperwork Reduction Act; or
- Derive from or implement E.O.s or other Presidential directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified.

Continued on next page…

[1] *See* Q 33 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs".

EO 13777 Goals (Continued from previous page)

Goal 2 - Improve implementation of existing regulatory initiatives and policies:

- E.O. 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), as amended
- E.O. 13771 (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs)
- E.O. 13563 § 6 ("Retrospective Review")
- Termination…, of programs and activities that derive from or implement… documents… that have been rescinded.

[Describe.]

C. Have we received any comments on this regulatory action through the regulatory reform comment solicitation? [Describe.]

VI. COORDINATION

A. Identify any potentially affected Interior bureaus or offices and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

B. Identify any potentially affected Federal or State agencies and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

C. Identify whether this regulatory action potentially affects any Indian tribes and, if so, what consultation has taken place or is planned? [Identify and describe.]

D. Does this rule involve negotiated rulemaking or other collaborative rulemaking? [Identify and describe.]

VII. TIMING

A. Timeline: [Fill in dates.]

Action	Date (Estimated or Actual)	Is the deadline statutory or court ordered?
ANPRM		
NPRM		
Comment Period End		
Final Rule		
Final Rule Effective		

B. Are there any timing constraints? If so, what are the consequences of missing the deadline(s)?
[Describe what is driving each date – e.g., citation to a statutory deadline, and consequences of missing the date.]

VIII. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Are there any issues or controversy (e.g., litigation, high profile) related to this rule? [Identify and explain.]

B. How will this rule be announced to the public?

[Describe.]

IX. FURTHER INFORMATION

A. Background: [Briefly provide any background information, in understandable language, that will help a reader quickly understand what the document is trying to do and why, and any other useful additional information. Assume the reader knows little about the subject matter. Minimize use of acronyms or abbreviations and do not use them at all unless they are clearly defined.]

B. Primary contact for additional information:

Name: [List.]
Phone: [List.]
Email: [List.]

X. APPROVALS

This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Director:

_____ _____
Director **Date**

***This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Assistant Secretary*:**

_____ _____
Assistant Secretary **Date**

Potential Exemptions

Automatically Exempt

- Routine hunting & fishing regulations – Regulatory actions that are routine hunting and fishing actions that establish annual harvest limits are exempt from the requirement to be offset (and ineligible to be used as cost savings). This includes migratory bird hunting frameworks under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and fishery management plans and amendments under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This exemption does not apply to regulatory actions that affect hunting and fishing activity that are not routine regulatory actions.[2]

Exempt with OIRA Determination

The following categories of EO 13771 regulatory actions may qualify for a full or partial exemption from EO 13771's requirements. These categories are not exhaustive. If the agency believes it qualifies for an exemption, it should submit an exemption request to OIRA prior to submitting the action to OMB for review under EO 12866 or prior to publication of the EO 13771 regulatory action if it was not subject to EO 12866 review.

- Expressly exempt – EO 13771 expressly exempts regulations issued with respect to a military, national security[3], or foreign affairs function, and regulations related to agency organization, management, or personnel. These actions qualify for a full exemption.

- Emergencies - EO 13771 regulatory actions addressing emergencies such as critical health, safety, financial, non-exempt national security matters, or for some other compelling reason, may qualify for an exemption. In most cases, exemptions for such rules will be granted with respect to the timing of required offsets, allowing the agency to address the emergency before identifying and issuing EO 13771 deregulatory actions. Agencies will generally still be required to offset such actions. If necessary, the costs of such actions, and the requirement to identify for repeal at least two existing regulations, will be moved to the subsequent fiscal year for purposes of determining EO 13771 compliance.

- Statutorily or judicially required - EO 13771 does not prevent agencies from issuing regulatory actions in order to comply with an imminent statutory or judicial deadline, even if they are not able to satisfy EO 13771 's requirements by the time of issuance. However, agencies will be required to offset any such EO 13771 regulatory actions as soon as practicable thereafter. In addition, this flexibility may not apply to discretionary provisions attached to EO 13771 regulatory actions required to comply with statutory or judicial deadlines.

- De minimis -EO 13771 regulatory actions with de minimis costs may qualify for an exemption. For example, if OIRA designates a proposed rule as significant under EO 12866 because it raises novel legal or policy issues, and the agency estimates the action would have present value costs of $50,000 spread over a large number of persons and/or entities, OIRA may exempt the action from some or all of the requirements of EO 13771.[4]

In addition, the following category may be exempt and agencies should submit an exemption request to OIRA in accordance with the process above.

- Income Transfer – A regulatory action may be exempt from E.O. 13771 Section 2's requirements if it causes only income transfers from taxpayers to program beneficiaries, establishes a new fee or changes the existing fee for a service without imposing new costs, or establishes new penalties or fines or changes those already in existence?[5]

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[2] *See* Q 23 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."
[3] *See* Ibid. at Q 7.
[4] *See* Ibid. at Q 23.
[5] *See* Q 13 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."

[Bureau/Agency]
[Sub-agency, if applicable]

Request for a Regulation Identifier Number (RIN)
[List Rule Stage, Rule Citation, Rule Title]
[Popular Short Name, if applicable]

I. RULE'S PURPOSE

[Summarize, in one or two sentences, what the rule's purpose is.]

II. LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR RULE

[List the statutes or other legal authorities for this action.]

III. NEED FOR RULE

A. What is prompting this regulatory action? [Describe.]

B. How is this regulatory action in the public interest? [Describe.]

C. Is this action mandated by law? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

D. Is this action in response to litigation? [If yes, provide case information and explanation.]

E. Is this action a de-regulatory effort identified in an Executive Order or Secretary's Order? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

IV. WHO RULE MAY AFFECT

A. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be affected by this rule, and how? [Describe.]

B. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be interested in this rule, and why? [Describe.]

V. REGULATORY AGENDA AND 90-DAY LIST

A. Has this regulatory action previously had a RIN? If so:

1. **What was the previous RIN?** [Describe.]

2. **When was the previous RIN issued?** [Describe.]

3. **Under what circumstances was the previous RIN withdrawn?** [Describe.]

B. What is the bureau's recommended significance determination under E.O. 12866? Please ensure the recommendation is realistic and defensible to OIRA. [Significant or Non-Significant]

1. **If significant:**
   a. Identify the basis for significance: [Check.]
   - ☐ Have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity,

competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments or communities.

- ☐ Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency.
- ☐ Materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof.
- ☐ Raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President's priorities, or the principles set forth in this Executive order.

b. Explain how this regulatory action meets the above basis for significance. [Explain.]

2. **Has this regulatory action appeared on a 90-day list yet?** [Yes/No] **If so:**

a. Which 90-day list did it appear on and was it under a prior RIN? [Provide month/year list covered and prior RIN, if applicable.]

b. Has OMB made a significance determination yet? [Yes/No]

c. If OMB determined the regulatory action is significant, explain OMB's rationale for the basis checked above (if different from above). [Explain.]

C. Is this regulatory action potentially major and economically significant? [Yes/No and Explain.]

D. Could this regulatory action have a significant effect on small entities (as defined under the Regulatory Flexibility Act)? [Yes/No and Explain.]

E. Does this regulatory action involve study, experiment, or survey requiring peer review under Information Quality Act? [Yes/No and Explain.]

F. Is there an information collection(s) associated with this document? [Yes/No]

- **If yes, does it have a currently approved OMB Control Number?** [Yes/No]
- **OMB Control Number(s):** [Yes/No]
- **Does it require a new OMB Control Number or a renewal of an existing approval?** [New/Renewal]
- **If a new number or renewal is required, what is the current status?** [Describe.]

VI. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATORY REFORM INITIATIVE

A. Is this a significant new action, a non-significant new action, or a deregulatory action? [Identify.]

1. If this is a significant new action:

a. What are the two deregulatory actions and their status? [Describe.]

b. What are the deregulatory actions that provide offsets to the costs? [Describe which, if any, deregulatory actions you have identified as offsets or what your plans are for identifying deregulatory actions.]

2. If this is a de-regulatory action:

a. How is it a de-regulatory action (does it rescind, revise, or streamline)? [Describe.]

b. Is it included in the EO 13771 spreadsheet? [Yes/No.]

c. Is the expected source of the cost/burden saving a regulatory provision, an information collection burden reduction, or both? [Describe.]

d. What is the estimated cost/burden saving? [Provide any estimates or ranges of estimates you currently have or plans for estimating savings and when you expect to have the estimates available.]

3. Full or partial exemptions for significant new actions

a. Do you believe this regulatory action is fully or partially exempt from E.O. 13771? [Yes/No.] **If so, explain the basis. (See attachment for list of exemptions).** [Explain.]

b. Have you submitted an exemption request to the Office of the Executive Secretariat for presentation to OIRA[1] yet? [Yes/No.] **If so, what is the status of that request?** [Explain.]

B. How does this rule meet the goals of EO 13777?

EO 13777 Goals

Goal 1 - Identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification, considering (at a minimum) which:

- Eliminate jobs, or inhibit job creation;
- Are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;
- Impose costs that exceed benefits;
- Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform;
- Are inconsistent with the requirements of laws or guidance intended to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information disseminated by Federal agencies under the Paperwork Reduction Act; or
- Derive from or implement E.O.s or other Presidential directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified.

Goal 2 - Improve implementation of existing regulatory initiatives and policies:

- E.O. 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), as amended
- E.O. 13771 (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs)
- E.O. 13563 § 6 ("Retrospective Review")
- Termination…, of programs and activities that derive from or implement… documents… that have been rescinded.

[Describe.]

[1] *See* Q 33 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs".

C. Have we received any comments on this regulatory action through the regulatory reform comment solicitation? [Identify the commenters and describe the nature of the comments.]

VII. COORDINATION

A. Identify any potentially affected Interior bureaus or offices and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

B. Identify any potentially affected Federal, State, or local agencies and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

C. Identify whether this regulatory action potentially affects any Indian tribes and, if so, what consultation has taken place or is planned? [Identify and describe.]

D. Does this rule involve negotiated rulemaking or other collaborative rulemaking? [Identify and describe.]

VIII. TIMING

A. Timeline: [Fill in dates.]

Action	Date (Estimated or Actual)	Is the deadline statutory or court ordered?
ANPRM		
NPRM		
Comment Period End		
Final Rule		
Final Rule Effective		

B. Are there any timing constraints? If so, what are the consequences of missing the deadline(s)?
[Describe what is driving each date – e.g., citation to a statutory deadline, and consequences of missing the date.]

IX. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Are there any issues or controversy (e.g., litigation, high profile) related to this rule? [Identify and explain.]

B. How will this rulemaking (i.e., the fact that this rule is being pursued) be announced to the public?
[Describe.]

X. FURTHER INFORMATION

A. Background: [Briefly provide any background information, in understandable language, that will help a reader quickly understand what the document is trying to do and why, and any other useful additional information. Assume the reader knows little about the subject matter. Minimize use of acronyms or abbreviations and do not use them at all unless they are clearly defined.]

B. Primary contact for additional information:

Name: [List.]
Phone: [List.]
Email: [List.]

XI. APPROVALS

This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Director :

_____ _____
Director **Date**

***This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Assistant Secretary*:**

_____ _____
Assistant Secretary **Date**

Potential Exemptions

Automatically Exempt

- Routine hunting & fishing regulations – Regulatory actions that are routine hunting and fishing actions that establish annual harvest limits are exempt from the requirement to be offset (and ineligible to be used as cost savings). This includes migratory bird hunting frameworks under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and fishery management plans and amendments under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This exemption does not apply to regulatory actions that affect hunting and fishing activity that are not routine regulatory actions.[2]

Exempt with OIRA Determination

The following categories of EO 13771 regulatory actions may qualify for a full or partial exemption from EO 13771's requirements. These categories are not exhaustive. If the agency believes it qualifies for an exemption, it should submit an exemption request to OIRA prior to submitting the action to OMB for review under EO 12866 or prior to publication of the EO 13771 regulatory action if it was not subject to EO 12866 review.

- Expressly exempt – EO 13771 expressly exempts regulations issued with respect to a military, national security[3], or foreign affairs function, and regulations related to agency organization, management, or personnel. These actions qualify for a full exemption.

- Emergencies - EO 13771 regulatory actions addressing emergencies such as critical health, safety, financial, non-exempt national security matters, or for some other compelling reason, may qualify for an exemption. In most cases, exemptions for such rules will be granted with respect to the timing of required offsets, allowing the agency to address the emergency before identifying and issuing EO 13771 deregulatory actions. Agencies will generally still be required to offset such actions. If necessary, the costs of such actions, and the requirement to identify for repeal at least two existing regulations, will be moved to the subsequent fiscal year for purposes of determining EO 13771 compliance.

- Statutorily or judicially required - EO 13771 does not prevent agencies from issuing regulatory actions in order to comply with an imminent statutory or judicial deadline, even if they are not able to satisfy EO 13771 's requirements by the time of issuance. However, agencies will be required to offset any such EO 13771 regulatory actions as soon as practicable thereafter. In addition, this flexibility may not apply to discretionary provisions attached to EO 13771 regulatory actions required to comply with statutory or judicial deadlines.

- De minimis -EO 13771 regulatory actions with de minimis costs may qualify for an exemption. For example, if OIRA designates a proposed rule as significant under EO 12866 because it raises novel legal or policy issues, and the agency estimates the action would have present value costs of $50,000 spread over a large number of persons and/or entities, OIRA may exempt the action from some or all of the requirements of EO 13 771.[4]

In addition, the following category may be exempt and agencies should submit an exemption request to OIRA in accordance with the process above.

- Income Transfer – A regulatory action may be exempt from E.O. 13771 Section 2's requirements if it causes only income transfers from taxpayers to program beneficiaries, establishes a new fee or changes the existing fee for a service without imposing new costs, or establishes new penalties or fines or changes those already in existence?[5]

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[2] *See* Q 23 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."
[3] *See* Ibid. at Q 7.
[4] *See* Ibid. at Q 23.
[5] *See* Q 13 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."

Call for FY17Q4 Quarterly Regulatory Report Input

The Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs (OES) in the Department of the Interior (DOI) requests the Service's input for the quarterly regulatory report to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the first quarter (Q4) of FY 2018 (**October through December 2017**). Please provide your input to the Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs (PPM) by **Thursday, August 24, 2017**.

Why do we do the quarterly report?

OMB will use the information on the report to decide which actions are "significant" as defined by Executive Order 12866 and, therefore, must be submitted to OMB for review.

What do I put on the quarterly report?

Use the attached draft report (filename **DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx**). Do not delete anything in the file. Include all of the regulatory and policy documents that you project will complete Service and Department of the Interior (DOI) review during the October through December 2017 timeframe, whether or not the items have been on a previous quarterly report, **but please try to be realistic when identifying items for inclusion**. Also, provide updates for all items in the draft report.

What if I plan to begin work on a new rulemaking action?

NEW: Before PPM can assign a RIN for any new rule, we must get policy clearance up through the Secretary's Office. You should fill out one of the following forms for each new desired rule (i.e., rulemaking action that does not have a RIN yet):

- *ESA RINs:* **Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx**
- *Non-ESA RINs:* **Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff_07-01-17).docx**

(We no longer have to do reg alert forms.)
However, please be aware that if your rule did not appear on the most recent published Unified Agenda, OMB must grant a waiver from Executive Order 13771 before PPM can include your action on this 90-day list. At this point in time, DOI will seek such a waiver from OMB only for extraordinary circumstances.

What format do I use to present my quarterly report input?

You may make your changes in the attached draft report and then email it back to PPM. **However, PLEASE USE TRACK CHANGES AND YELLOW HIGHLIGHTING. Do not delete anything.** Filename for attached draft report is **DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx**.

- Please follow the format in the attached draft report, down to the use of line breaks, bold text, commas, etc.
- Text corrections can be pasted in or typed in, with track changes turned on.
- New entries can be pasted in, with track changes turned on.
- If you wants to remove an entire entry, just make a note in the final column to that effect, or use crossout-text formatting (as seen in some entries in the attached); do not delete using track changes.
- Each entry expected to be ready for OMB review during Q1 must have a specific date in the "Ready for Review" column that falls during Q1. This is the date the action would be ready for OMB review, which is also the date that you project the document to have cleared DOI. "Specific date" means, for example, rather than "Q1" or "mid-October," put in 10/18/17.
- If you have items from Q4 that have not completed OMB review yet, but you believe they will complete OMB review before October and thus do not need to be included again, please put a note to that effect in the right-hand column.
- If you have an action (i.e., one RIN) that will go through more than one stage during Q1 (i.e., separate stages under the same Regulation Identifier Number (RIN); e.g, proposed rule, final rule), include separate entries for each of the stages on your quarterly report input, i.e., each stage in a separate row.
- If you have items from Q4 that have not completed OMB review yet, but you believe they will complete OMB review before October, and they were **not** on the Q4 report, include them and put a note to that effect in the right-hand column.
- For actions that were on Q4 but are now being pushed forward, please try to put in the quarter in which the action will move forward.

What if I have to change my report input after I send it to PPM?

Be specific and clear about what the changes are. If you have only a handful of changes, send an email. If you have a larger number, you may resend your original table; **however, start with a clean document (no previous tracked changes or highlighting) and make sure all of the changes are shown with NEW tracked changes and yellow highlighting.**

Do I have to wait to get clearance through program officials before I send my report input to PPM?

No. To expedite collation of the all-FWS list, **please send your input to PPM at the same time you are clearing your data with the officials.** Then follow up later with forwarded email or other evidence of clearance from your program officials when it is available.

What if I have questions?

Please contact Sara Prigan via email at Sara_Prigan@fws.gov, or via phone at 703-358-2508. If Sara is out of the office, contact Susan Wilkinson, via email at Susan_Wilkinson@fws.gov or

phone at 703-358-2506, or Anissa Craghead, via email at Anissa_Craghead@fws.gov or phone at 703-358-2445.

To whom do I send my program's input?

Please send input via email to Sara Prigan in PPM (contact information above) by **Thursday, August 24, 2017**. Please cc Susan Wilkinson and Anissa Craghead.

From:	Morris, Charisa
To:	Shaun Sanchez; Mike Johnson; Robert Curry; Edward Grace; John Schmerfeld; Gloria Bell; Gina Shultz; Seth Mott; Rebekah Giddings; Bloodsworth, Brian; Shelley Hartmann; Karen Clark
Subject:	Due Thursday, Aug. 24 -- Input for First Quarter 90-day List
Date:	Friday, August 11, 2017 3:02:29 PM
Attachments:	DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx CALL for FY18Q1 OMB reg report.docx

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Good afternoon-

The Department has requested the Service's input for the quarterly regulatory report to the Office of Management and Budget for the first quarter of FY 2018 (October through December 2017).

Please provide your input via email to Sara Prigan in PPM (sara_prigan@fws.gov) no later than **Thursday, August 24, 2017.** Please cc: Susan Wilkinson and Anissa Craghead. The assignment is described in detail in the *CALL for FY18Q1 OMB reg report* attachment, which you should read first.

Also attached is the draft list (*DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118)*). Please add your changes **USING TRACK CHANGES AND YELLOW HIGHLIGHTING** and then return to PPM.

If you wish to create new RINs, we will need to obtain approval from the policy people up through the Secretary's office before we can create them. You will fill out one of the following attached forms to begin that process:

- ESA RIN: *Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17)*
- Non-ESA RIN: *Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17)*

Thanks in advance for helping us meet out deadline for getting our 90-day list to the Office of the Secretary, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate contact Tina Campbell or her staff in PPM at 703-358-2676.

Have an extraordinary day!
Charisa

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Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of September 18 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/7/17 Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350. OMB comment on Q417: Propose OMB RMO review since addressing fee increases. (Megan suggested we send a briefing paper.)	9/29/17 Pending final review within FWS; will be sent to FWS Director's Office in early September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ69 Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls) 50 CFR 21	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Jerry Thompson (703) 358-2016.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/7/17~~ Published 7/25/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-25/pdf/2017-15471.pdf

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~9/29/17~~ In development in the Bureau; expect to be ready for FWS surname in December 2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.	~~7/01/17~~ In bureau development; to FWS Director's Office week of 8/7/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1705.	7/5/17 Pending Office of the Secretary clearance (per our Aug 4 update to OES) Remove?

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Proposed rule has yet to clear DOI and publish, so the final rule is being pushed back (per our Aug 4 update to OES); will remove

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-October; to FWS Director's Office early November 2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~8/18/17~~ Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 7 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA76 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish 50 CFR 100; 50 CFR 242	FR	Not Significant. Not Major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	8/30/17 Surnamed by SOL; awaiting surname from Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	~~8/31/17~~ Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 14 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/14/17~~ Cleared DOI 8/1/17; will be sent to OFR week of 8/7/17

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.** **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	8/15/17 Will go to SOL and Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska on 8/8/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB24 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale 50 CFR 92	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will amend the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska to enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/01/17~~ Published 7/24/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-24/pdf/2017-15465.pdf

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‡1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796,~~	~~8/15/17~~ Prop. Rule/6-month extension published 8/10/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-10/pdf/2017-16887.pdf Final rule moved to February 2018

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2017–18 season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 7/26/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-26/pdf/2017-15472.pdf
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	~~8/30/17~~ In AS/FWP for signature; to the Office of the Secretary next (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Pending AS/FWP clearance; to the Office of the Secretary next (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Pursuing a 6-month extension, to publish September 29; final rule moved to March 2018 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by early August; to FWS Director's Office week of August 27 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Back with AS/FWP for revision following Office of the Secretary review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Pending Bureau clearance (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by early August; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** The Service will announce a 6-month extension of the final determination of whether to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant species from southern California, as a threatened species. We also are reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days. We are taking this action based on substantial disagreement regarding the potential impact of Argentine ant invasion on the pollination ecology of the San Fernando Valley spineflower and scientific uncertainty related to establishment of this species by seeding suitable, unoccupied areas.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Published 7/19/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-19/pdf/2017-15126.pdf

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‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. FWS annually prescribes outside limits (frameworks) within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018–19 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2019 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**Note:** This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/15/17~~ Published 8/3/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-03/pdf/2017-16353.pdf

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‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	8/15/17 To SOL week of 8/7/17; to FWS Director's Office for surname week of 8/14/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is proposing to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678.~~ ~~**OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 8/10/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-10/pdf/2017-16374.pdf

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito Gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of October 16 (FY18 Q1) (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of August 18 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal Q1, 2018; in FWS Director's Office week of November 13 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
‡1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 5/0 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal publication FY18 Q1 10/31/2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	8/1/17 Included in the 2017 Unified Agenda; will update briefing information and reroute for approval to publish (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Moved goal publication to FY18 Q1; 10/6/17 ready for review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal publication FY18 Q1 10/10/17 ready for review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-October; to FWS Director's Office early November; (FY18 Q1) (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC16 Listing Determination ~~and Critical Habitat Designation~~ for Three Southeast Darters 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs. We responded that critical habitat is not being proposed for these species at this time. If prudent and determinable, the critical habitat will be proposed under this RIN at a later stage. The requested information will be made available at that time. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC20 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Blackfin Sucker	PR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does**: We will make a listing determination for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. The blackfin sucker is a fish found in Kentucky. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703 358-1796	9/15/17 Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ ~~**Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC32 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Eastern Population of the Boreal Toad	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ ~~**Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:**~~ ~~The purpose of this action under the Endangered Species Act was, if found to be prudent and determinable, to propose to designate critical habitat for the Kirtland's snake. The Kirtland's snake is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. However, this agenda item is being withdrawn as it has been combined with the listing determination for this species under RIN 1018-BC22.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:**~~ ~~None.~~ ~~**Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
~~‡1018-BC36 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Oregon Cascades California Population of the Black-Backed Woodpecker~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We will make a listing determination for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act. This population is found in California, North Dakota, and Oregon. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Pacific Walrus 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We will make a listing determination for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in Alaska. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** The State of Alaska, the Eskimo Walrus Commission, and many native Alaska communities will be opposed to a listing rule for the walrus.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC42 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Big Blue Springs Cave Crayfish and Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Big Blue Springs cave crayfish and Woodville Karst cave crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. These species are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for these species under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796. OMB comment on Q417: Request briefing paper.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	~~7/6/17~~ In review in the FWS Director's Office; will go to AS/FWP (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

Request for a Regulation Identifier Number (RIN)
for ESA Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations
[List Rule Stage, Rule Citation, Rule Title]
[Popular Short Name, if applicable]

I. ESA RULE'S PURPOSE

[Check all that apply]

- ☐ **Listing**
- ☐ **Listing reclassification**
  - ☐ **uplisting**
  - ☐ **downlisting**
- ☐ **Delisting**
- ☐ **4(d) special rule**
- ☐ **Critical habitat designation**
- ☐ **Removal or revision of critical habitat designation**
- ☐ **Other**

If listing and CH are not being proposed concurrently, please explain. [Explain.]

II. NEED FOR ESA RULE

A. Petition? [Yes/No] **If so, who is the petitioner?** [Describe.]

B. Court order or settlement? [Describe.]

C. Other manner this action mandated by law? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

D. Part of the 7-year plan? [Yes/No]

E. Status review initiated by the agency? [Yes/No]

F. Current candidate? [Yes/No]

III. WHO RULE MAY AFFECT

A. International or Domestic Species?

B. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be affected by this rule, and how? [Describe.]

C. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be interested in this rule, and why? [Describe.]

IV. REGULATORY AGENDA AND 90-DAY LIST

A. Has this regulatory action previously had a RIN? If so:

1. **What was the previous RIN?** [Describe.]
2. **When was the previous RIN issued?** [Describe.]
3. **Under what circumstances was the previous RIN withdrawn?** [Describe.]

B. Has this regulatory action appeared on a 90-day list yet? [Yes/No] **If so, which 90-day list did it appear on?** [Provide month/year list covered.]

V. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATORY REFORM INITIATIVE

[Skip this section if the action is a listing, delisting, or listing reclassification.]

A. Is this a significant new action, a non-significant new action, or a deregulatory action? [Identify.]

1. If this is a significant new action:

[Delisting or downlisting actions may be included under a. below, but not under b.]

a. What are the two deregulatory actions and their status? [Describe.]

b. What are the deregulatory actions that provide offsets to the costs? [Describe.]

2. If this is a de-regulatory action:

a. How is it a de-regulatory action (does it rescind, revise, or streamline)? [Describe.]

b. Is it included in the EO 13771 spreadsheet? [Yes/No.]

c. What is the estimated cost/burden saving, if known? [Provide estimate.]
[Skip this question if the action is a delisting or downlisting.]

3. Full or partial exemptions

a. Do you believe this regulatory action is fully or partially exempt from E.O. 13771? [Yes/No.] **If so, explain the basis. (See attachment for list of exemptions).** [Explain.]

b. Have you submitted an exemption request to the Office of the Executive Secretariat for presentation to OIRA[1] yet? [Yes/No.] **If so, what is the status of that request?** [Explain.]

B. How does this rule meet the goals of EO 13777?

EO 13777 Goals

Goal 1 - Identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification, considering (at a minimum) which regulations:

- Eliminate jobs, or inhibit job creation;
- Are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;
- Impose costs that exceed benefits;
- Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform;
- Are inconsistent with the requirements of laws or guidance intended to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information disseminated by Federal agencies under the Paperwork Reduction Act; or
- Derive from or implement E.O.s or other Presidential directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified.

Continued on next page…

[1] *See* Q 33 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs".

EO 13777 Goals (Continued from previous page)

Goal 2 - Improve implementation of existing regulatory initiatives and policies:

- E.O. 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), as amended
- E.O. 13771 (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs)
- E.O. 13563 § 6 ("Retrospective Review")
- Termination…, of programs and activities that derive from or implement… documents… that have been rescinded.

[Describe.]

C. Have we received any comments on this regulatory action through the regulatory reform comment solicitation? [Describe.]

VI. COORDINATION

A. Identify any potentially affected Interior bureaus or offices and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

B. Identify any potentially affected Federal or State agencies and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

C. Identify whether this regulatory action potentially affects any Indian tribes and, if so, what consultation has taken place or is planned? [Identify and describe.]

D. Does this rule involve negotiated rulemaking or other collaborative rulemaking? [Identify and describe.]

VII. TIMING

A. Timeline: [Fill in dates.]

Action	Date (Estimated or Actual)	Is the deadline statutory or court ordered?
ANPRM		
NPRM		
Comment Period End		
Final Rule		
Final Rule Effective		

B. Are there any timing constraints? If so, what are the consequences of missing the deadline(s)?
[Describe what is driving each date – e.g., citation to a statutory deadline, and consequences of missing the date.]

VIII. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Are there any issues or controversy (e.g., litigation, high profile) related to this rule? [Identify and explain.]

B. How will this rule be announced to the public?

[Describe.]

IX. FURTHER INFORMATION

A. Background: [Briefly provide any background information, in understandable language, that will help a reader quickly understand what the document is trying to do and why, and any other useful additional information. Assume the reader knows little about the subject matter. Minimize use of acronyms or abbreviations and do not use them at all unless they are clearly defined.]

B. Primary contact for additional information:

Name: [List.]
Phone: [List.]
Email: [List.]

X. APPROVALS

This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Director:

_____ _____
Director **Date**

***This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Assistant Secretary*:**

_____ _____
Assistant Secretary **Date**

Potential Exemptions

Automatically Exempt

- Routine hunting & fishing regulations – Regulatory actions that are routine hunting and fishing actions that establish annual harvest limits are exempt from the requirement to be offset (and ineligible to be used as cost savings). This includes migratory bird hunting frameworks under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and fishery management plans and amendments under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This exemption does not apply to regulatory actions that affect hunting and fishing activity that are not routine regulatory actions.[2]

Exempt with OIRA Determination

The following categories of EO 13771 regulatory actions may qualify for a full or partial exemption from EO 13771's requirements. These categories are not exhaustive. If the agency believes it qualifies for an exemption, it should submit an exemption request to OIRA prior to submitting the action to OMB for review under EO 12866 or prior to publication of the EO 13771 regulatory action if it was not subject to EO 12866 review.

- Expressly exempt – EO 13771 expressly exempts regulations issued with respect to a military, national security[3], or foreign affairs function, and regulations related to agency organization, management, or personnel. These actions qualify for a full exemption.

- Emergencies - EO 13771 regulatory actions addressing emergencies such as critical health, safety, financial, non-exempt national security matters, or for some other compelling reason, may qualify for an exemption. In most cases, exemptions for such rules will be granted with respect to the timing of required offsets, allowing the agency to address the emergency before identifying and issuing EO 13771 deregulatory actions. Agencies will generally still be required to offset such actions. If necessary, the costs of such actions, and the requirement to identify for repeal at least two existing regulations, will be moved to the subsequent fiscal year for purposes of determining EO 13771 compliance.

- Statutorily or judicially required - EO 13771 does not prevent agencies from issuing regulatory actions in order to comply with an imminent statutory or judicial deadline, even if they are not able to satisfy EO 13771 's requirements by the time of issuance. However, agencies will be required to offset any such EO 13771 regulatory actions as soon as practicable thereafter. In addition, this flexibility may not apply to discretionary provisions attached to EO 13771 regulatory actions required to comply with statutory or judicial deadlines.

- De minimis -EO 13771 regulatory actions with de minimis costs may qualify for an exemption. For example, if OIRA designates a proposed rule as significant under EO 12866 because it raises novel legal or policy issues, and the agency estimates the action would have present value costs of $50,000 spread over a large number of persons and/or entities, OIRA may exempt the action from some or all of the requirements of EO 13771.[4]

In addition, the following category may be exempt and agencies should submit an exemption request to OIRA in accordance with the process above.

- Income Transfer – A regulatory action may be exempt from E.O. 13771 Section 2's requirements if it causes only income transfers from taxpayers to program beneficiaries, establishes a new fee or changes the existing fee for a service without imposing new costs, or establishes new penalties or fines or changes those already in existence?[5]

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[2] *See* Q 23 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."
[3] *See* Ibid. at Q 7.
[4] *See* Ibid. at Q 23.
[5] *See* Q 13 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."

[Bureau/Agency]
[Sub-agency, if applicable]

Request for a Regulation Identifier Number (RIN)
[List Rule Stage, Rule Citation, Rule Title]
[Popular Short Name, if applicable]

I. RULE'S PURPOSE

[Summarize, in one or two sentences, what the rule's purpose is.]

II. LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR RULE

[List the statutes or other legal authorities for this action.]

III. NEED FOR RULE

A. What is prompting this regulatory action? [Describe.]

B. How is this regulatory action in the public interest? [Describe.]

C. Is this action mandated by law? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

D. Is this action in response to litigation? [If yes, provide case information and explanation.]

E. Is this action a de-regulatory effort identified in an Executive Order or Secretary's Order? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

IV. WHO RULE MAY AFFECT

A. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be affected by this rule, and how? [Describe.]

B. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be interested in this rule, and why? [Describe.]

V. REGULATORY AGENDA AND 90-DAY LIST

A. Has this regulatory action previously had a RIN? If so:

1. **What was the previous RIN?** [Describe.]

2. **When was the previous RIN issued?** [Describe.]

3. **Under what circumstances was the previous RIN withdrawn?** [Describe.]

B. What is the bureau's recommended significance determination under E.O. 12866? Please ensure the recommendation is realistic and defensible to OIRA. [Significant or Non-Significant]

1. **If significant:**
   a. Identify the basis for significance: [Check.]
   - ☐ Have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity,

competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments or communities.

- ☐ Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency.
- ☐ Materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof.
- ☐ Raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President's priorities, or the principles set forth in this Executive order.

b. Explain how this regulatory action meets the above basis for significance. [Explain.]

2. **Has this regulatory action appeared on a 90-day list yet?** [Yes/No] **If so:**

a. Which 90-day list did it appear on and was it under a prior RIN? [Provide month/year list covered and prior RIN, if applicable.]

b. Has OMB made a significance determination yet? [Yes/No]

c. If OMB determined the regulatory action is significant, explain OMB's rationale for the basis checked above (if different from above). [Explain.]

C. Is this regulatory action potentially major and economically significant? [Yes/No and Explain.]

D. Could this regulatory action have a significant effect on small entities (as defined under the Regulatory Flexibility Act)? [Yes/No and Explain.]

E. Does this regulatory action involve study, experiment, or survey requiring peer review under Information Quality Act? [Yes/No and Explain.]

F. Is there an information collection(s) associated with this document? [Yes/No]

- **If yes, does it have a currently approved OMB Control Number?** [Yes/No]
- **OMB Control Number(s):** [Yes/No]
- **Does it require a new OMB Control Number or a renewal of an existing approval?** [New/Renewal]
- **If a new number or renewal is required, what is the current status?** [Describe.]

VI. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATORY REFORM INITIATIVE

A. Is this a significant new action, a non-significant new action, or a deregulatory action? [Identify.]

1. If this is a significant new action:

a. What are the two deregulatory actions and their status? [Describe.]

b. What are the deregulatory actions that provide offsets to the costs? [Describe which, if any, deregulatory actions you have identified as offsets or what your plans are for identifying deregulatory actions.]

2. If this is a de-regulatory action:

a. How is it a de-regulatory action (does it rescind, revise, or streamline)? [Describe.]

b. Is it included in the EO 13771 spreadsheet? [Yes/No.]

c. Is the expected source of the cost/burden saving a regulatory provision, an information collection burden reduction, or both? [Describe.]

d. What is the estimated cost/burden saving? [Provide any estimates or ranges of estimates you currently have or plans for estimating savings and when you expect to have the estimates available.]

3. Full or partial exemptions for significant new actions

a. Do you believe this regulatory action is fully or partially exempt from E.O. 13771? [Yes/No.] **If so, explain the basis. (See attachment for list of exemptions).** [Explain.]

b. Have you submitted an exemption request to the Office of the Executive Secretariat for presentation to OIRA[1] yet? [Yes/No.] **If so, what is the status of that request?** [Explain.]

B. How does this rule meet the goals of EO 13777?

EO 13777 Goals

Goal 1 - Identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification, considering (at a minimum) which:

- Eliminate jobs, or inhibit job creation;
- Are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;
- Impose costs that exceed benefits;
- Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform;
- Are inconsistent with the requirements of laws or guidance intended to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information disseminated by Federal agencies under the Paperwork Reduction Act; or
- Derive from or implement E.O.s or other Presidential directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified.

Goal 2 - Improve implementation of existing regulatory initiatives and policies:

- E.O. 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), as amended
- E.O. 13771 (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs)
- E.O. 13563 § 6 ("Retrospective Review")
- Termination…, of programs and activities that derive from or implement… documents… that have been rescinded.

[Describe.]

[1] *See* Q 33 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs".

C. Have we received any comments on this regulatory action through the regulatory reform comment solicitation? [Identify the commenters and describe the nature of the comments.]

VII. COORDINATION

A. Identify any potentially affected Interior bureaus or offices and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

B. Identify any potentially affected Federal, State, or local agencies and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

C. Identify whether this regulatory action potentially affects any Indian tribes and, if so, what consultation has taken place or is planned? [Identify and describe.]

D. Does this rule involve negotiated rulemaking or other collaborative rulemaking? [Identify and describe.]

VIII. TIMING

A. Timeline: [Fill in dates.]

Action	Date (Estimated or Actual)	Is the deadline statutory or court ordered?
ANPRM		
NPRM		
Comment Period End		
Final Rule		
Final Rule Effective		

B. Are there any timing constraints? If so, what are the consequences of missing the deadline(s)?
[Describe what is driving each date – e.g., citation to a statutory deadline, and consequences of missing the date.]

IX. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Are there any issues or controversy (e.g., litigation, high profile) related to this rule? [Identify and explain.]

B. How will this rulemaking (i.e., the fact that this rule is being pursued) be announced to the public?
[Describe.]

X. FURTHER INFORMATION

A. Background: [Briefly provide any background information, in understandable language, that will help a reader quickly understand what the document is trying to do and why, and any other useful additional information. Assume the reader knows little about the subject matter. Minimize use of acronyms or abbreviations and do not use them at all unless they are clearly defined.]

B. Primary contact for additional information:

Name: [List.]
Phone: [List.]
Email: [List.]

XI. APPROVALS

This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Director :

_____ _____
Director **Date**

***This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Assistant Secretary*:**

_____ _____
Assistant Secretary **Date**

Potential Exemptions

Automatically Exempt

- Routine hunting & fishing regulations – Regulatory actions that are routine hunting and fishing actions that establish annual harvest limits are exempt from the requirement to be offset (and ineligible to be used as cost savings). This includes migratory bird hunting frameworks under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and fishery management plans and amendments under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This exemption does not apply to regulatory actions that affect hunting and fishing activity that are not routine regulatory actions.[2]

Exempt with OIRA Determination

The following categories of EO 13771 regulatory actions may qualify for a full or partial exemption from EO 13771's requirements. These categories are not exhaustive. If the agency believes it qualifies for an exemption, it should submit an exemption request to OIRA prior to submitting the action to OMB for review under EO 12866 or prior to publication of the EO 13771 regulatory action if it was not subject to EO 12866 review.

- Expressly exempt – EO 13771 expressly exempts regulations issued with respect to a military, national security[3], or foreign affairs function, and regulations related to agency organization, management, or personnel. These actions qualify for a full exemption.

- Emergencies - EO 13771 regulatory actions addressing emergencies such as critical health, safety, financial, non-exempt national security matters, or for some other compelling reason, may qualify for an exemption. In most cases, exemptions for such rules will be granted with respect to the timing of required offsets, allowing the agency to address the emergency before identifying and issuing EO 13771 deregulatory actions. Agencies will generally still be required to offset such actions. If necessary, the costs of such actions, and the requirement to identify for repeal at least two existing regulations, will be moved to the subsequent fiscal year for purposes of determining EO 13771 compliance.

- Statutorily or judicially required - EO 13771 does not prevent agencies from issuing regulatory actions in order to comply with an imminent statutory or judicial deadline, even if they are not able to satisfy EO 13771 's requirements by the time of issuance. However, agencies will be required to offset any such EO 13771 regulatory actions as soon as practicable thereafter. In addition, this flexibility may not apply to discretionary provisions attached to EO 13771 regulatory actions required to comply with statutory or judicial deadlines.

- De minimis -EO 13771 regulatory actions with de minimis costs may qualify for an exemption. For example, if OIRA designates a proposed rule as significant under EO 12866 because it raises novel legal or policy issues, and the agency estimates the action would have present value costs of $50,000 spread over a large number of persons and/or entities, OIRA may exempt the action from some or all of the requirements of EO 13 771.[4]

In addition, the following category may be exempt and agencies should submit an exemption request to OIRA in accordance with the process above.

- Income Transfer – A regulatory action may be exempt from E.O. 13771 Section 2's requirements if it causes only income transfers from taxpayers to program beneficiaries, establishes a new fee or changes the existing fee for a service without imposing new costs, or establishes new penalties or fines or changes those already in existence?[5]

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[2] *See* Q 23 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."
[3] *See* Ibid. at Q 7.
[4] *See* Ibid. at Q 23.
[5] *See* Q 13 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."

Call for FY17Q4 Quarterly Regulatory Report Input

The Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs (OES) in the Department of the Interior (DOI) requests the Service's input for the quarterly regulatory report to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the first quarter (Q4) of FY 2018 (**October through December 2017**). Please provide your input to the Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs (PPM) by **Thursday, August 24, 2017**.

Why do we do the quarterly report?

OMB will use the information on the report to decide which actions are "significant" as defined by Executive Order 12866 and, therefore, must be submitted to OMB for review.

What do I put on the quarterly report?

Use the attached draft report (filename **DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx**). Do not delete anything in the file. Include all of the regulatory and policy documents that you project will complete Service and Department of the Interior (DOI) review during the October through December 2017 timeframe, whether or not the items have been on a previous quarterly report, **but please try to be realistic when identifying items for inclusion**. Also, provide updates for all items in the draft report.

What if I plan to begin work on a new rulemaking action?

NEW: Before PPM can assign a RIN for any new rule, we must get policy clearance up through the Secretary's Office. You should fill out one of the following forms for each new desired rule (i.e., rulemaking action that does not have a RIN yet):

- *ESA RINs:* **Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx**
- *Non-ESA RINs:* **Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff_07-01-17).docx**

(We no longer have to do reg alert forms.)
However, please be aware that if your rule did not appear on the most recent published Unified Agenda, OMB must grant a waiver from Executive Order 13771 before PPM can include your action on this 90-day list. At this point in time, DOI will seek such a waiver from OMB only for extraordinary circumstances.

What format do I use to present my quarterly report input?

You may make your changes in the attached draft report and then email it back to PPM. **However, PLEASE USE TRACK CHANGES AND YELLOW HIGHLIGHTING. Do not delete anything.** Filename for attached draft report is **DRAFT 90-Day List_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118).docx**.

- Please follow the format in the attached draft report, down to the use of line breaks, bold text, commas, etc.
- Text corrections can be pasted in or typed in, with track changes turned on.
- New entries can be pasted in, with track changes turned on.
- If you wants to remove an entire entry, just make a note in the final column to that effect, or use crossout-text formatting (as seen in some entries in the attached); do not delete using track changes.
- Each entry expected to be ready for OMB review during Q1 must have a specific date in the "Ready for Review" column that falls during Q1. This is the date the action would be ready for OMB review, which is also the date that you project the document to have cleared DOI. "Specific date" means, for example, rather than "Q1" or "mid-October," put in 10/18/17.
- If you have items from Q4 that have not completed OMB review yet, but you believe they will complete OMB review before October and thus do not need to be included again, please put a note to that effect in the right-hand column.
- If you have an action (i.e., one RIN) that will go through more than one stage during Q1 (i.e., separate stages under the same Regulation Identifier Number (RIN); e.g, proposed rule, final rule), include separate entries for each of the stages on your quarterly report input, i.e., each stage in a separate row.
- If you have items from Q4 that have not completed OMB review yet, but you believe they will complete OMB review before October, and they were **not** on the Q4 report, include them and put a note to that effect in the right-hand column.
- For actions that were on Q4 but are now being pushed forward, please try to put in the quarter in which the action will move forward.

What if I have to change my report input after I send it to PPM?

Be specific and clear about what the changes are. If you have only a handful of changes, send an email. If you have a larger number, you may resend your original table; **however, start with a clean document (no previous tracked changes or highlighting) and make sure all of the changes are shown with NEW tracked changes and yellow highlighting.**

Do I have to wait to get clearance through program officials before I send my report input to PPM?

No. To expedite collation of the all-FWS list, **please send your input to PPM at the same time you are clearing your data with the officials.** Then follow up later with forwarded email or other evidence of clearance from your program officials when it is available.

What if I have questions?

Please contact Sara Prigan via email at Sara_Prigan@fws.gov, or via phone at 703-358-2508. If Sara is out of the office, contact Susan Wilkinson, via email at Susan_Wilkinson@fws.gov or

phone at 703-358-2506, or Anissa Craghead, via email at Anissa_Craghead@fws.gov or phone at 703-358-2445.

To whom do I send my program's input?

Please send input via email to Sara Prigan in PPM (contact information above) by **Thursday, August 24, 2017**. Please cc Susan Wilkinson and Anissa Craghead.

From:	Prigan, Sara
To:	Stephanie Brady; Clifton Horton; Craig Hoover; Craig Martin; Edward Maillett; Eliza Savage; Jeff Rupert; Jeff Underwood; Julie Jackson; Katherine Garrity; Krista Holloway; Laurie Shaffer; Lisa Van Alstyne; Mark Phillips; Michael Murray; Mike Johnson; Ronald Kokel; Rosemarie Gnam; Sara Prigan; Sarah Mott; Susan Jewell; Susan Wilkinson; Theo Matuskowitz; Tim Vannorman; Tina Campbell; Eric Lawton; Wikoff, Peter; Brian Salem; Charles Hamilton; Zichlinsky, Marlene; Sara Ritter; Diane Bowen; Noguchi, Laura; Covington, Scott; Collette Thogerson; Barlow, Peter; Lewis Gorman; Charisa Morris; Jerry Thompson; Aaron Mize; Shannon Smith; Carl Millegan; Jillian Cohen; Mary Cogliano; Paul Beiriger; Valerie Fellows; Madonna Baucum; Ford, Larisa; Kershner, Eric; Kayla Miller
Subject:	DUE Thurs. 8/24 -- First Quarter FY18 OMB Regulatory Report
Date:	Monday, August 14, 2017 9:06:25 AM
Attachments:	Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx DRAFT OMB reg rept_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118) 8.11.17.docx CALL for FY18Q1 OMB reg report 8.11.17.docx

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The Department has requested the Service's input for the quarterly regulatory report to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the first quarter of FY 2018 (October through December 2017). You may have received this data request already through your chain of command. Just in case you did not, I am sending it out again so that you are made aware as soon as possible.

Please provide your input via email to Sara Prigan in PPM (sara_prigan@fws.gov) no later than **Thursday, August 24, 2017**. (Please cc Susan Wilkinson and Anissa Craghead.)

The assignment is described in detail in this attachment, which you should read first:

CALL for FY18Q1 OMB reg report 8.11.17.docx

Also attached is the draft list. Please add your changes **USING TRACK CHANGES AND YELLOW HIGHLIGHTING** and then email your list to PPM.
Draft Q1 FY18 OMB regulatory report filename:

DRAFT OMB reg rept_Oct through Dec 2017_(Q118) 8.11.17.docx

If you wish to create new RINs, we will need to obtain approval from the Service up through the Assistant Secretary before we can create them. Depending on what kind of action you are planning, please fill out **one** of the following two attached forms to begin that process:

ESA listing and/or critical habitat RIN:
Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx
- or -
All other RINs:
Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx

Thanks in advance for helping us meet our deadline for getting the Service's regulatory report to the Office of the Secretary.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate contact one of us.

Thanks!

Sara Prigan
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Telephone: 703-358-2508

Request for a Regulation Identifier Number (RIN)
for ESA Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations
[List Rule Stage, Rule Citation, Rule Title]
[Popular Short Name, if applicable]

I. ESA RULE'S PURPOSE

[Check all that apply]

- ☐ **Listing**
- ☐ **Listing reclassification**
  - ☐ **uplisting**
  - ☐ **downlisting**
- ☐ **Delisting**
- ☐ **4(d) special rule**
- ☐ **Critical habitat designation**
- ☐ **Removal or revision of critical habitat designation**
- ☐ **Other**

If listing and CH are not being proposed concurrently, please explain. [Explain.]

II. NEED FOR ESA RULE

A. Petition? [Yes/No] **If so, who is the petitioner?** [Describe.]

B. Court order or settlement? [Describe.]

C. Other manner this action mandated by law? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

D. Part of the 7-year plan? [Yes/No]

E. Status review initiated by the agency? [Yes/No]

F. Current candidate? [Yes/No]

III. WHO RULE MAY AFFECT

A. International or Domestic Species?

B. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be affected by this rule, and how? [Describe.]

C. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be interested in this rule, and why? [Describe.]

IV. REGULATORY AGENDA AND 90-DAY LIST

A. Has this regulatory action previously had a RIN? If so:

1. **What was the previous RIN?** [Describe.]
2. **When was the previous RIN issued?** [Describe.]
3. **Under what circumstances was the previous RIN withdrawn?** [Describe.]

B. Has this regulatory action appeared on a 90-day list yet? [Yes/No] **If so, which 90-day list did it appear on?** [Provide month/year list covered.]

V. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATORY REFORM INITIATIVE

[Skip this section if the action is a listing, delisting, or listing reclassification.]

A. Is this a significant new action, a non-significant new action, or a deregulatory action? [Identify.]

1. If this is a significant new action:

[Delisting or downlisting actions may be included under a. below, but not under b.]

a. What are the two deregulatory actions and their status? [Describe.]

b. What are the deregulatory actions that provide offsets to the costs? [Describe.]

2. If this is a de-regulatory action:

a. How is it a de-regulatory action (does it rescind, revise, or streamline)? [Describe.]

b. Is it included in the EO 13771 spreadsheet? [Yes/No.]

c. What is the estimated cost/burden saving, if known? [Provide estimate.]
[Skip this question if the action is a delisting or downlisting.]

3. Full or partial exemptions

a. Do you believe this regulatory action is fully or partially exempt from E.O. 13771? [Yes/No.] **If so, explain the basis. (See attachment for list of exemptions).** [Explain.]

b. Have you submitted an exemption request to the Office of the Executive Secretariat for presentation to OIRA[1] yet? [Yes/No.] **If so, what is the status of that request?** [Explain.]

B. How does this rule meet the goals of EO 13777?

EO 13777 Goals

Goal 1 - Identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification, considering (at a minimum) which regulations:

- Eliminate jobs, or inhibit job creation;
- Are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;
- Impose costs that exceed benefits;
- Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform;
- Are inconsistent with the requirements of laws or guidance intended to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information disseminated by Federal agencies under the Paperwork Reduction Act; or
- Derive from or implement E.O.s or other Presidential directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified.

Continued on next page…

[1] *See* Q 33 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs".

EO 13777 Goals (Continued from previous page)

Goal 2 - Improve implementation of existing regulatory initiatives and policies:

- E.O. 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), as amended
- E.O. 13771 (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs)
- E.O. 13563 § 6 ("Retrospective Review")
- Termination…, of programs and activities that derive from or implement… documents… that have been rescinded.

[Describe.]

C. Have we received any comments on this regulatory action through the regulatory reform comment solicitation? [Describe.]

VI. COORDINATION

A. Identify any potentially affected Interior bureaus or offices and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

B. Identify any potentially affected Federal or State agencies and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

C. Identify whether this regulatory action potentially affects any Indian tribes and, if so, what consultation has taken place or is planned? [Identify and describe.]

D. Does this rule involve negotiated rulemaking or other collaborative rulemaking? [Identify and describe.]

VII. TIMING

A. Timeline: [Fill in dates.]

Action	Date (Estimated or Actual)	Is the deadline statutory or court ordered?
ANPRM		
NPRM		
Comment Period End		
Final Rule		
Final Rule Effective		

B. Are there any timing constraints? If so, what are the consequences of missing the deadline(s)?
[Describe what is driving each date – e.g., citation to a statutory deadline, and consequences of missing the date.]

VIII. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Are there any issues or controversy (e.g., litigation, high profile) related to this rule? [Identify and explain.]

B. How will this rule be announced to the public?

[Describe.]

IX. FURTHER INFORMATION

A. Background: [Briefly provide any background information, in understandable language, that will help a reader quickly understand what the document is trying to do and why, and any other useful additional information. Assume the reader knows little about the subject matter. Minimize use of acronyms or abbreviations and do not use them at all unless they are clearly defined.]

B. Primary contact for additional information:

Name: [List.]
Phone: [List.]
Email: [List.]

X. APPROVALS

This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Director:

_____ _____
Director **Date**

***This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Assistant Secretary*:**

_____ _____
Assistant Secretary **Date**

Potential Exemptions

Automatically Exempt

- Routine hunting & fishing regulations – Regulatory actions that are routine hunting and fishing actions that establish annual harvest limits are exempt from the requirement to be offset (and ineligible to be used as cost savings). This includes migratory bird hunting frameworks under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and fishery management plans and amendments under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This exemption does not apply to regulatory actions that affect hunting and fishing activity that are not routine regulatory actions.[2]

Exempt with OIRA Determination

The following categories of EO 13771 regulatory actions may qualify for a full or partial exemption from EO 13771's requirements. These categories are not exhaustive. If the agency believes it qualifies for an exemption, it should submit an exemption request to OIRA prior to submitting the action to OMB for review under EO 12866 or prior to publication of the EO 13771 regulatory action if it was not subject to EO 12866 review.

- Expressly exempt – EO 13771 expressly exempts regulations issued with respect to a military, national security[3], or foreign affairs function, and regulations related to agency organization, management, or personnel. These actions qualify for a full exemption.

- Emergencies - EO 13771 regulatory actions addressing emergencies such as critical health, safety, financial, non-exempt national security matters, or for some other compelling reason, may qualify for an exemption. In most cases, exemptions for such rules will be granted with respect to the timing of required offsets, allowing the agency to address the emergency before identifying and issuing EO 13771 deregulatory actions. Agencies will generally still be required to offset such actions. If necessary, the costs of such actions, and the requirement to identify for repeal at least two existing regulations, will be moved to the subsequent fiscal year for purposes of determining EO 13771 compliance.

- Statutorily or judicially required - EO 13771 does not prevent agencies from issuing regulatory actions in order to comply with an imminent statutory or judicial deadline, even if they are not able to satisfy EO 13771 's requirements by the time of issuance. However, agencies will be required to offset any such EO 13771 regulatory actions as soon as practicable thereafter. In addition, this flexibility may not apply to discretionary provisions attached to EO 13771 regulatory actions required to comply with statutory or judicial deadlines.

- De minimis -EO 13771 regulatory actions with de minimis costs may qualify for an exemption. For example, if OIRA designates a proposed rule as significant under EO 12866 because it raises novel legal or policy issues, and the agency estimates the action would have present value costs of $50,000 spread over a large number of persons and/or entities, OIRA may exempt the action from some or all of the requirements of EO 13771.[4]

In addition, the following category may be exempt and agencies should submit an exemption request to OIRA in accordance with the process above.

- Income Transfer – A regulatory action may be exempt from E.O. 13771 Section 2's requirements if it causes only income transfers from taxpayers to program beneficiaries, establishes a new fee or changes the existing fee for a service without imposing new costs, or establishes new penalties or fines or changes those already in existence?[5]

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[2] *See* Q 23 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."
[3] *See* Ibid. at Q 7.
[4] *See* Ibid. at Q 23.
[5] *See* Q 13 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."

[Bureau/Agency]
[Sub-agency, if applicable]

Request for a Regulation Identifier Number (RIN)
[List Rule Stage, Rule Citation, Rule Title]
[Popular Short Name, if applicable]

I. RULE'S PURPOSE

[Summarize, in one or two sentences, what the rule's purpose is.]

II. LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR RULE

[List the statutes or other legal authorities for this action.]

III. NEED FOR RULE

A. What is prompting this regulatory action? [Describe.]

B. How is this regulatory action in the public interest? [Describe.]

C. Is this action mandated by law? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

D. Is this action in response to litigation? [If yes, provide case information and explanation.]

E. Is this action a de-regulatory effort identified in an Executive Order or Secretary's Order? [If yes, provide citation and explanation.]

IV. WHO RULE MAY AFFECT

A. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be affected by this rule, and how? [Describe.]

B. What populations, groups, Indian tribes, States/regions, or organizations may be interested in this rule, and why? [Describe.]

V. REGULATORY AGENDA AND 90-DAY LIST

A. Has this regulatory action previously had a RIN? If so:

1. **What was the previous RIN?** [Describe.]

2. **When was the previous RIN issued?** [Describe.]

3. **Under what circumstances was the previous RIN withdrawn?** [Describe.]

B. What is the bureau's recommended significance determination under E.O. 12866? Please ensure the recommendation is realistic and defensible to OIRA. [Significant or Non-Significant]

1. **If significant:**
   a. Identify the basis for significance: [Check.]
   - ☐ Have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity,

competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments or communities.

- ☐ Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency.
- ☐ Materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof.
- ☐ Raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President's priorities, or the principles set forth in this Executive order.

b. Explain how this regulatory action meets the above basis for significance. [Explain.]

2. **Has this regulatory action appeared on a 90-day list yet?** [Yes/No] **If so:**

a. Which 90-day list did it appear on and was it under a prior RIN? [Provide month/year list covered and prior RIN, if applicable.]

b. Has OMB made a significance determination yet? [Yes/No]

c. If OMB determined the regulatory action is significant, explain OMB's rationale for the basis checked above (if different from above). [Explain.]

C. Is this regulatory action potentially major and economically significant? [Yes/No and Explain.]

D. Could this regulatory action have a significant effect on small entities (as defined under the Regulatory Flexibility Act)? [Yes/No and Explain.]

E. Does this regulatory action involve study, experiment, or survey requiring peer review under Information Quality Act? [Yes/No and Explain.]

F. Is there an information collection(s) associated with this document? [Yes/No]

- **If yes, does it have a currently approved OMB Control Number?** [Yes/No]
- **OMB Control Number(s):** [Yes/No]
- **Does it require a new OMB Control Number or a renewal of an existing approval?** [New/Renewal]
- **If a new number or renewal is required, what is the current status?** [Describe.]

VI. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATORY REFORM INITIATIVE

A. Is this a significant new action, a non-significant new action, or a deregulatory action? [Identify.]

1. If this is a significant new action:

a. What are the two deregulatory actions and their status? [Describe.]

b. What are the deregulatory actions that provide offsets to the costs? [Describe which, if any, deregulatory actions you have identified as offsets or what your plans are for identifying deregulatory actions.]

2. If this is a de-regulatory action:

a. How is it a de-regulatory action (does it rescind, revise, or streamline)? [Describe.]

b. Is it included in the EO 13771 spreadsheet? [Yes/No.]

c. Is the expected source of the cost/burden saving a regulatory provision, an information collection burden reduction, or both? [Describe.]

d. What is the estimated cost/burden saving? [Provide any estimates or ranges of estimates you currently have or plans for estimating savings and when you expect to have the estimates available.]

3. Full or partial exemptions for significant new actions

a. Do you believe this regulatory action is fully or partially exempt from E.O. 13771? [Yes/No.] **If so, explain the basis. (See attachment for list of exemptions).** [Explain.]

b. Have you submitted an exemption request to the Office of the Executive Secretariat for presentation to OIRA[1] yet? [Yes/No.] **If so, what is the status of that request?** [Explain.]

B. How does this rule meet the goals of EO 13777?

EO 13777 Goals

Goal 1 - Identify regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification, considering (at a minimum) which:

- Eliminate jobs, or inhibit job creation;
- Are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;
- Impose costs that exceed benefits;
- Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform;
- Are inconsistent with the requirements of laws or guidance intended to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information disseminated by Federal agencies under the Paperwork Reduction Act; or
- Derive from or implement E.O.s or other Presidential directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified.

Goal 2 - Improve implementation of existing regulatory initiatives and policies:

- E.O. 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), as amended
- E.O. 13771 (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs)
- E.O. 13563 § 6 ("Retrospective Review")
- Termination…, of programs and activities that derive from or implement… documents… that have been rescinded.

[Describe.]

[1] *See* Q 33 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs".

C. Have we received any comments on this regulatory action through the regulatory reform comment solicitation? [Identify the commenters and describe the nature of the comments.]

VII. COORDINATION

A. Identify any potentially affected Interior bureaus or offices and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

B. Identify any potentially affected Federal, State, or local agencies and describe efforts to coordinate with them. [Identify and describe.]

C. Identify whether this regulatory action potentially affects any Indian tribes and, if so, what consultation has taken place or is planned? [Identify and describe.]

D. Does this rule involve negotiated rulemaking or other collaborative rulemaking? [Identify and describe.]

VIII. TIMING

A. Timeline: [Fill in dates.]

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B. Are there any timing constraints? If so, what are the consequences of missing the deadline(s)?
[Describe what is driving each date – e.g., citation to a statutory deadline, and consequences of missing the date.]

IX. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Are there any issues or controversy (e.g., litigation, high profile) related to this rule? [Identify and explain.]

B. How will this rulemaking (i.e., the fact that this rule is being pursued) be announced to the public?
[Describe.]

X. FURTHER INFORMATION

A. Background: [Briefly provide any background information, in understandable language, that will help a reader quickly understand what the document is trying to do and why, and any other useful additional information. Assume the reader knows little about the subject matter. Minimize use of acronyms or abbreviations and do not use them at all unless they are clearly defined.]

B. Primary contact for additional information:

Name: [List.]
Phone: [List.]
Email: [List.]

XI. APPROVALS

This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Director :

_____ _____
Director **Date**

***This request is [___ approved / ___ denied] by the Assistant Secretary*:**

_____ _____
Assistant Secretary **Date**

Potential Exemptions

Automatically Exempt

- Routine hunting & fishing regulations – Regulatory actions that are routine hunting and fishing actions that establish annual harvest limits are exempt from the requirement to be offset (and ineligible to be used as cost savings). This includes migratory bird hunting frameworks under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and fishery management plans and amendments under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This exemption does not apply to regulatory actions that affect hunting and fishing activity that are not routine regulatory actions.[2]

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In addition, the following category may be exempt and agencies should submit an exemption request to OIRA in accordance with the process above.

- Income Transfer – A regulatory action may be exempt from E.O. 13771 Section 2's requirements if it causes only income transfers from taxpayers to program beneficiaries, establishes a new fee or changes the existing fee for a service without imposing new costs, or establishes new penalties or fines or changes those already in existence?[5]

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[2] *See* Q 23 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."
[3] *See* Ibid. at Q 7.
[4] *See* Ibid. at Q 23.
[5] *See* Q 13 of OMB OIRA's April 5, 2017, Guidance Implementing Executive Order 13771, Titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs."

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AY05 Removal of the Eastern Cougar from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to delist the eastern cougar, formerly found in eastern North America, due to extinction. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of September 18 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-AZ02 Listing Determination for the Sonoyta Mud Turtle 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in freshwater habitats in Arizona, and also Mexico. **Controversy:** This species occurs near the U.S.-Mexico border; however, no conflicts with border activities or potential border wall construction have been identified at this time. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Critical Habitat Designation for Three Hawaiian Big Island Plant Species 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will designate critical habitat for three plant species on Hawaii Island and correct the maps for existing designations for an additional four species. FWS intends to exclude lands owned or managed by the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and other private landowners under section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** Resolved. FWS coordinated with the Queen Liliuokalani Trust, landowners, and government jurisdictions, and will exclude lands owned by these entities under section 4(b)(2) of the Act. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/7/17 Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-AZ65 General Permit Procedures; Fees and Clarifications 50 CFR 13	PR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This proposed rule would revise FWS general permitting regulations, primarily to propose increases in permit application fees for various programs. In addition, FWS proposes several changes to clarify the permit application reconsideration and appeal process, to correct contact information, and make other minor changes. **Controversy:** None anticipated. FWS proposes an increase in permit fees to be more in line with OMB circular A-25. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Timothy J. Van Norman, 703-358-2350. OMB comment on Q417: Propose OMB RMO review since addressing fee increases. (Megan suggested we send a briefing paper.)	9/29/17 Pending final review within FWS; will be sent to FWS Director's Office in early September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ69 Migratory Bird Permits; Control Order for Introduced Migratory Bird Species in Hawaii (Cattle Egrets and Barn Owls) 50 CFR 21	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule will add a control order to apply to cattle egrets and barn owls, two introduced and invasive migratory bird species in Hawaii. The ranges of both species have expanded to occupy all of the Hawaiian islands. Both species have been found to prey on endemic endangered or threatened species. Without this order, control of the two species would require issuing depredation permits, which would add to State and Federal agency costs for control activities that will benefit listed species.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Jerry Thompson (703) 358-2016.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/7/17~~ Published 7/25/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-25/pdf/2017-15471.pdf

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-AZ71 Importation, Exportation, and Transportation of Wildlife; Implementation of the International Trade Data System 50 CFR 14	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to change its regulations in response to mandates from Executive Order 13659, "Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses," and the Safe Port Act (Public Law 109-347), which lay out the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The proposed rule will address changes in declaration requirements and exemptions for wildlife as defined under the Endangered Species Act, including changes needed to operate within the single-window environment of ITDS, which enables interfacing with other Federal inspection agencies. The proposal will also clarify prior notification requirements and clearance and clearance refusal options, and add the ability for FWS to offer a conditional release of certain wildlife in order to coordinate release activities under ITDS among agencies operating at the borders. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Mark Phillips, 703-358-1741.	~~9/29/17~~ In development in the Bureau; expect to be ready for FWS surname in December 2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA31 Nonsubsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska 50 CFR 32 and 36	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This final rule published August 5, 2016 (81 FR 52248) and became effective September 6, 2016. The final rule was nullified by a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, signed by the President on April 3, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–20). This action conforms to Pub. L. 115–20 by changing the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the regulations as they existed before the final rule was nullified under the Congressional Review Act. **Controversy:** The original rulemaking action was controversial. This action is congressionally directed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448. **OMB's comments in response to Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.	~~7/01/17~~ In bureau development; to FWS Director's Office week of 8/7/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase would address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR. **Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1705.	7/5/17 Pending Office of the Secretary clearance (per our Aug 4 update to OES) Remove?

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA33 Administrative Requirements Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts; Phase 1 of 4 50 CFR 80	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This is the first in a four-phase process for directing State fish and wildlife agencies on how they must receive funds and implement conservation projects under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. Under these Acts, FWS distributes annual apportionments to States from trust funds derived from excise tax and fuel tax revenues. This phase will address definitions, requirements for licenses counted for apportionment of Federal financial assistance, program income, and other related issues. Further information, as it becomes available, will be posted at https://fawiki.fws.gov/display/WRR.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated. State fish and wildlife agencies, as well as other partners, support this final rule and have been closely involved in its development.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Peter Barlow, 703-358-2119.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Proposed rule has yet to clear DOI and publish, so the final rule is being pushed back (per our Aug 4 update to OES); will remove

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA43 Reclassifying the Borax Lake Chub from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Borax Lake chub from endangered to threatened. The primary threats to the species have been ameliorated; however, due to ongoing threats from geothermal development, FWS is proposing to reclassify the species to threatened status rather than delisting it. FWS is also proposing to correct the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to reflect the current scientifically accepted taxonomy of this species as *Siphateles boraxobius* (=*Gila boraxobius*). **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "If the downlisting is accompanied with a reduction in regulatory burden (e.g., an Endangered Species Act section 4d rule), it is a deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-October; to FWS Director's Office early November 2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BA74 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Guadalupe Fescue 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/09/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Guadalupe fescue, a grass species found in Texas and Mexico, as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Guadalupe fescue under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~8/18/17~~ Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 7 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA76 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Subsistence Taking of Fish and Shellfish 50 CFR 100; 50 CFR 242	FR	Not Significant. Not Major. **What the rule does:** FWS and the U.S. Forest Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) will revise the regulations for seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means for the taking of fish and shellfish for subsistence uses in Alaska during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 regulatory seasons. The Federal Subsistence Board will also address customary and traditional use determinations for fish and shellfish. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907 786-3867.	8/30/17 Surnamed by SOL; awaiting surname from Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA78 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Black Warrior Waterdog 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/06/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Black Warrior waterdog as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make a final determination on the designation of critical habitat for the Black Warrior waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. This salamander species is found in streams in the Black Warrior River Basin in Alabama. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BA80 Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands 50 CFR 17	FR	Not Significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** This rule will remove the textual descriptions of the critical habitat boundaries from certain entries at 50 CFR 17.99 (plants on the Hawaiian Islands) that have maps sufficient to stand as the official delineation of the critical habitat designation. This rule does not increase, decrease, or in any other way change the critical habitat designations from which we are removing the textual descriptions of boundaries. This action will save taxpayer resources. We are taking this action in accordance with our May 1, 2012, revision of the regulations related to publishing textual descriptions of critical habitat boundaries in the CFR and as part of our response to Executive Order 13563 (January 18, 2011), which directs Federal agencies to review their existing regulations and then to modify or streamline them in accordance with what they have learned. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Carey Galst, 703-358-1954.	~~8/31/17~~ Finalizing in HQ; to FWS Director's Office week of August 14 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB06 Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** Environ-Metal, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon, has applied for approval of shot composed of copper as nontoxic for waterfowl hunting in the United States. The shot formulation is at least 99.9 percent copper by weight, with a corrosion-inhibiting coating to prevent release of copper into terrestrial or aquatic environments. FWS has reviewed the shot as required under the criteria in the nontoxic shot approval procedures in FWS regulations. FWS' proposed approval of this shot formulation would increase the number of nontoxic shot options for hunters of migratory waterfowl.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/14/17~~ Cleared DOI 8/1/17; will be sent to OFR week of 8/7/17

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB22 Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Applicability and Scope; Tongass National Forest Submerged Lands 50 CFR 100; 36 CFR 242	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. No deadline; however, FWS needs to show the plaintiffs and the court that progress is being made.** **What the rule does:** The U.S. District Court for Alaska, in an October 17, 2011, order, enjoined the United States "to promptly initiate regulatory proceedings for the purpose of implementing the subsistence provisions in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) with respect to submerged public lands within Tongass National Forest," and directed entry of judgment. To comply with the order, the Federal Subsistence Board (FWS/DOI and USDA/Forest Service, joint rulemaking) published a proposed rule to identify those submerged lands within the Tongass that did not pass to the State of Alaska at Statehood and therefore are subject to the subsistence provisions of ANILCA. DOI/FWS and USDA/Forest Service will now finalize the proposed rule. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Theo Matuskowitz, 907-786-3867.	8/15/17 Will go to SOL and Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska on 8/8/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB24 Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Use of Inedible Bird Parts in Authentic Alaska Native Handicrafts for Sale 50 CFR 92	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will amend the permanent subsistence migratory bird harvest regulations in Alaska to enable Alaska Natives to sell authentic native articles of handicraft or clothing that contain inedible byproducts from migratory birds that were taken for food during the Alaska migratory bird subsistence harvest season. These regulations were developed under a co-management process involving the Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Native representatives.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Donna Dewhurst, 907-786-3499.~~ ~~**OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."~~	~~7/01/17~~ Published 7/24/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-24/pdf/2017-15465.pdf

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB34 Listing Determination for the Texas Hornshell 50 CFR 17	~~FR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: Final, 8/10/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a final determination on its proposal to list the Texas hornshell as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This mussel species is found in freshwater streams in Texas and New Mexico.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796,~~	~~8/15/17~~ Prop. Rule/6-month extension published 8/10/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-10/pdf/2017-16887.pdf Final rule moved to February 2018

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	~~FR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits for migratory game bird seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits the taking of designated species during the 2017–18 season.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel (703) 358-1967.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 7/26/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-26/pdf/2017-15472.pdf
‡1018-BB40 Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2017–18 Season 50 CFR 20	FR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS prescribes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2017–18 migratory bird hunting season. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	~~8/30/17~~ In AS/FWP for signature; to the Office of the Secretary next (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB41 Removing the Deseret Milk-Vetch from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to delist the Deseret milk-vetch, a plant species found in Utah, due to recovery. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444. **OMB's comment in response to Q317 list:** "Deregulatory action under E.O. 13771."	Not subject to OMB review Pending AS/FWP clearance; to the Office of the Secretary next (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB46 Listing Determination for the Louisiana Pinesnake 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Louisiana pinesnake as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in open pine forest and longleaf pine savannah in Louisiana and Texas. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Pursuing a 6-month extension, to publish September 29; final rule moved to March 2018 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB48 Listing Determination for Four Everglades Plants 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 10/11/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final listing determination on a proposal to list pineland sandmat, Florida pineland crabgrass, and Everglades bully as threatened species, and Florida prairie-clover as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. These plants are found in Florida. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB50 Listing Determination for the Kenk's Amphipod 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the Kenk's amphipod as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. This crustacean species is found in freshwater springs in Maryland. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by early August; to FWS Director's Office week of August 27 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB52 Listing Determination for Two Stoneflies 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 10/04/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will reopen the comment period on a proposal to list the meltwater lednian stonefly and western glacier stonefly as threatened species. The meltwater lednian stonefly is located in Montana, and the western glacier stonefly is located in Montana and Wyoming. **Controversy:** The State of Wyoming is opposed to listing the western glacier stonefly in Wyoming. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Back with AS/FWP for revision following Office of the Secretary review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB54 Listing Determination for the I'iwi 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: 9/20/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the i'iwi as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Hawaiian Islands. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Pending Bureau clearance (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB55 Listing Determination for the Pearl Darter 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/21/17, MDL settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a final determination on a proposal to list the pearl darter as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in freshwater streams of slow to moderate current in Mississippi. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by early August; to FWS Director's Office week of August 21 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB64 Listing Determination for the San Fernando Valley Spineflower 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: Final, 9/15/17, settlement agreement.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** The Service will announce a 6-month extension of the final determination of whether to list the San Fernando Valley spineflower, a plant species from southern California, as a threatened species. We also are reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species for an additional 30 days. We are taking this action based on substantial disagreement regarding the potential impact of Argentine ant invasion on the pollination ecology of the San Fernando Valley spineflower and scientific uncertainty related to establishment of this species by seeding suitable, unoccupied areas.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	Not subject to OMB review Published 7/19/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-19/pdf/2017-15126.pdf

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19 50 CFR 20	~~PR~~	~~**Significant. Major.** Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** This rule proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. FWS annually prescribes outside limits (frameworks) within which States may select hunting seasons. This proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, describes the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 2018–19 duck hunting seasons, requests proposals from Indian tribes that wish to establish special migratory game bird hunting regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands, and requests proposals for the 2019 spring and summer migratory bird subsistence season in Alaska. Migratory game bird hunting seasons provide opportunities for recreation and sustenance; aid Federal, State, and tribal governments in the management of migratory game birds; and permit harvests at levels compatible with migratory game bird population status and habitat conditions.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967.~~ ~~**Note:** This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/15/17~~ Published 8/3/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-03/pdf/2017-16353.pdf

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB73 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations, 2018–19; Supplemental 50 CFR 20	PR	**Significant. Major.** Not court driven. **What the rule does:** Proposes to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2018–19 hunting season. This supplement to the proposed rule provides the regulatory schedule, announces the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings, and provides Flyway Council recommendations resulting from the Council's March 2017 meetings. **Controversy:** None. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Ron Kokel, 703-358-1967. **Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities	8/15/17 To SOL week of 8/7/17; to FWS Director's Office for surname week of 8/14/17 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB75 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, 2017–18 50 CFR 32	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS is proposing to make additions to refuge-specific regulations for the 2017–18 hunting and sport fishing season. This action is part of an annual update for the National Wildlife Refuge System that ensures adequate public notice of openings and changes. FWS operates hunting and fishing programs on refuges to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directives to facilitate compatible priority wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.~~ ~~**Controversy:** Medium. Some oppose hunting on National Wildlife Refuges. However, failure to have regulations in place will cause issue/controversy with hunters.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Aaron Mize, 703-358-2678.~~ ~~**OMB's comment on Q317 list:** OMB requested a briefing paper.~~ ~~**Note**: This action is not subject to EO 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017) because it is issued with respect to routine hunting and fishing activities~~	~~7/1/17~~ Published 8/10/17 https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-08-10/pdf/2017-16374.pdf

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB76 Removal of the Monito Gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS proposes to remove the Monito gecko from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. The Monito gecko is endemic to the island of Monito, which is located 68 kilometers west of Puerto Rico. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of October 16 (FY18 Q1) (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB79 Removal of the Black-Capped Vireo from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the black-capped vireo, a bird species, from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring (PDM) plan. The black-capped vireo breeds and nests in south-central Oklahoma, Texas, and the northern states of Mexico (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas), and winters along Mexico's western coastal states. **Controversy:** A number of public comments opposed the delisting of the black-capped vireo, including one from the Office of Travis County Judge and one from a national park. Those concerns may be reflected in comments FWS receives on the draft PDM. A number of partner agencies have indicated concerns about having the necessary funds to implement the ongoing management needs (e.g., cow-bird removal) and monitoring identified for their lands, which may also result in concerns about the viability of both the delisting and the PDM plan. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; to FWS Director's Office week of August 18 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB87 Removal of the Gypsum Wild-Buckwheat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants; Draft Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan 50 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove *Eriogonum gypsophilum* (gypsum wild-buckwheat, a plant species) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The gypsum wild-buckwheat is a regionally endemic perennial plant in New Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal Q1, 2018; in FWS Director's Office week of November 13 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
‡1018-BB91 Removal of the Lesser Long-Nosed Bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 5/0 CFR 17	PR; NOA	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS plans to reopen the comment period for its proposed rule to remove the lesser long-nosed bat from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants, due to recovery, and open a comment period for the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. The lesser long-nosed bat is found from the southwestern United States southward through Mexico. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal publication FY18 Q1 10/31/2017 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BB92 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program 50 CFR 84	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) **Controversy:** None anticipated. States have asked for this change and have informed FWS about obstacles they wish to be addressed. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Lisa Van Alstyne, 703-358-1942.	8/1/17 Included in the 2017 Unified Agenda; will update briefing information and reroute for approval to publish (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BB96 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Island Marble Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the island marble butterfly, found in Washington State, under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the species. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Moved goal publication to FY18 Q1; 10/6/17 ready for review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC01 Reclassifying the Kirtland's warbler from Endangered to Threatened 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to reclassify the Kirtland's warbler from endangered to threatened, due to the impact of management actions in addressing the primary threats to the species and decreasing the overall magnitude of the primary threats. The Kirtland's warbler is found in Michigan, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Florida in the United States; in Canada during the breeding season; and in the Bahamas during the winter period. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Moved goal publication FY18 Q1 10/10/17 ready for review (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC09 Removal of the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will propose to remove the Foskett speckled dace, a fish in Oregon, from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery. This determination is based on a thorough review of the best available scientific and commercial information, which indicates that the threats to this species have been eliminated or reduced to the point that the species no longer meets the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We will also make available a post-delisting monitoring plan. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP**: None. **Contact**: Don Morgan, 703-358-2444.	Not subject to OMB review Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid-October; to FWS Director's Office early November; (FY18 Q1) (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC14 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Panama City Crayfish 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. This crayfish is found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Panama City crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC15 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Florida Keys Mole Skink and the Cedar Key Mole Skink 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink under the Endangered Species Act. These lizards are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Florida Keys mole skink and Cedar Key mole skink.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC16 (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement for listing determination for trispot darter and bridled darter. PR, 9/30/18, settlement agreement for listing determination for holiday darter.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. These fish are found in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the holiday darter, trispot darter, and bridled darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. OMB comment on Q417: Sent Qs. We responded that critical habitat is not being proposed for these species at this time. If prudent and determinable, the critical habitat will be proposed under this RIN at a later stage. The requested information will be made available at that time. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	9/15/17 Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC20 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Blackfin Sucker	PR	Not significant. Not major. **What the rule does**: We will make a listing determination for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. The blackfin sucker is a fish found in Kentucky. We will also, if prudent and determinable, propose to designate critical habitat for the blackfin sucker under the Endangered Species Act. **Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703 358-1796	9/15/17 Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC24 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment of the Fisher 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ ~~**Court driven: PR, 9/30/17, settlement agreement.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the northern Rocky Mountains distinct population segment (DPS) of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act. The fisher DPS is found in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the northern Rocky Mountains DPS of the fisher under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC26 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the White-Tailed Prairie Dog 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven.~~ **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act. The white-tailed prairie dog is found in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the white-tailed prairie dog under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

*** DRAFT ***

FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC28 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for the Carolina Madtom and Neuse River Waterdog 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is a fish, and the Neuse River waterdog is a newt. Both species are found only in North Carolina. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC32 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Eastern Population of the Boreal Toad	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ ~~**Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:**~~ ~~The purpose of this action under the Endangered Species Act was, if found to be prudent and determinable, to propose to designate critical habitat for the Kirtland's snake. The Kirtland's snake is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. However, this agenda item is being withdrawn as it has been combined with the listing determination for this species under RIN 1018-BC22.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:**~~ ~~None.~~ ~~**Contact**: Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC34 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Wright's Marsh Thistle 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. This plant species is found in Arizona and New Mexico. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Wright's marsh thistle under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
~~‡1018-BC36 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Oregon Cascades California Population of the Black-Backed Woodpecker~~	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We will make a listing determination for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act. This population is found in California, North Dakota, and Oregon. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Oregon Cascades California population of the black-backed woodpecker under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme 703-358-1796~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC38 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Pacific Walrus 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.**~~ ~~**What the rule does:** We will make a listing determination for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act. This species is found in Alaska. We will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Pacific walrus under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** The State of Alaska, the Eskimo Walrus Commission, and many native Alaska communities will be opposed to a listing rule for the walrus.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC40 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Bicknell's Thrush 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act. This migratory songbird is found in the northeastern United States. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Bicknell's thrush under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC42 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Big Blue Springs Cave Crayfish and Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** ~~**What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Big Blue Springs cave crayfish and Woodville Karst cave crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. These species are found in Florida. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for these species under the Endangered Species Act.~~ ~~**Controversy:** None anticipated.~~ ~~**Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None.~~ ~~**Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC44 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Candy Darter 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. **Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.** **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. This fish species is found in Virginia and West Virginia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the candy darter under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Finalizing in Region; in HQ by mid August; to FWS Director's Office week of September 4 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC46 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for Barbour's Map Turtle 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make a listing determination for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act. This turtle is found in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for Barbour's map turtle under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC50 Listing Determinations and Critical Habitat Designations for 14 Southern Nevada Springsnails 50 CFR 17	~~PR~~	~~Not significant. Not major.~~ **~~Court driven. Settlement agreement deadline of 9/30/17.~~** **~~What the rule does:~~** ~~FWS will make listing determinations for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act. These snails are found in Nevada and Utah. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for 14 species of springsnails under the Endangered Species Act.~~ **~~Controversy:~~** ~~None anticipated.~~ **~~Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:~~** ~~None.~~ **~~Contact:~~** ~~Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.~~	~~9/15/17~~ Preliminary "not warranted" finding has been made for this species, and thus we will not proceed with rulemaking; finding will be included in a batched notice; publication target late September (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC56 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Tinian Monarch 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. This bird species is found in the Northern Mariana Islands. FWS will, if deemed prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Tinian monarch under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796. OMB comment on Q417: Request briefing paper.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BC57 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the Hermes Copper Butterfly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. This butterfly is found in California, and is currently a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the Hermes copper butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

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FWS Regulations Ready for Review from October through December 2017 (Q118)

RIN, Title, CFR Citation	Type	Description (Including whether or not rule is significant or major and the name and phone number of a contact)	Ready for OES Review
‡1018-BC59 Listing Determination and Critical Habitat Designation for the San Joaquin Valley Giant Flower-Loving Fly 50 CFR 17	PR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** FWS will make a listing determination for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. This insect species is found in California. FWS will, if prudent and determinable, also propose to designate critical habitat for the San Joaquin Valley giant flower-loving fly under the Endangered Species Act. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Sarah Quamme, 703-358-1796.	~~9/15/17~~ Coming forward FY18 Q1 (per our Aug 4 update to OES)
‡1018-BC64 Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey 50 CFR 17	FR	Not significant. Not major. Not court driven. **What the rule does:** We are removing the endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey from certain regulations that apply only to primates that are listed as threatened species (50 CFR 17.40). Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys were included in these regulations when this species was listed as threatened. However, this species was reclassified as endangered in 1990. Therefore, the provisions of the regulations for threatened primates no longer apply to Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys, and, accordingly, we are correcting this error in the Code of Federal Regulations. **Controversy:** None anticipated. **Dates of any briefs provided to EOP:** None. **Contact:** Janine Van Norman, 703-358-2370	~~7/6/17~~ In review in the FWS Director's Office; will go to AS/FWP (per our Aug 4 update to OES)

Key to abbreviations: FR - Final rule; PR - Proposed rule; AN - Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; IFR – Interim final rule; PD - Non-rulemaking policy document

‡Appeared on a previous 90-day list; OMB concurred re E.O. 12866 significance determination.

Call for FY18 First Quarter OMB Quarterly Regulatory Report Input

The Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs (OES) in the Department of the Interior (DOI) requests the Service's input for the quarterly regulatory report to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the first quarter (Q1) of FY 2018 (**October through December 2017**). Please email your OMB regulatory report input, along with any "Approval Request for New RIN" forms, to the Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs (PPM) by **Thursday, August 24, 2017**.

Why do we do the quarterly report?

OMB will use the information on the report to decide which actions are "significant" as defined by Executive Order 12866 and, therefore, must be submitted to OMB for review.

What do I put on the quarterly report?

Include all of the regulatory and policy documents that you project will complete Service and Department of the Interior (DOI) review during the October through December 2017 timeframe, whether or not the items have been on a previous quarterly report, **but please try to be realistic when identifying items for inclusion**. Also, provide updates for **all** items in the draft report we are providing to you.

What if I plan to begin work on a new rulemaking action?

NEW: The Department has instituted a new process for obtaining new **Regulation Identifier Numbers (RINs)**. The new process requires that we obtain the approval of our Director's Office and Assistant Secretary before PPM can obtain a RIN for a new rulemaking action. OMB issues RINs to track all Federal rulemaking actions in the Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions (Unified Agenda). All entries on the quarterly regulatory report must have a RIN.

OES developed two new forms we must use to gather the information required to obtain a new RIN. One form is specifically for ESA listing determinations and/or critical habitat, and the other is for all other types of rulemaking actions. Once the forms are complete, they are considered to be for internal use only and should not be distributed outside the Federal Government.

We recognize that the forms are rather long, and that your staff may not be able to provide all of the information requested (e.g., many will not be able to populate the section regarding Compliance with Regulatory Reform Initiative). Our best advice is to complete as much of the form as possible.

PPM will submit the received forms to the Director's Office and then to the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks for approval or disapproval. All of the approved RIN requests will then be sent to OES. We will ask for RIN requests twice a year prior to each Unified Agenda cycle. If you need to request a RIN at other times, PPM will handle those requests on a case-by-case basis. Please note that we have not received a request for input for the Fall 2017 Unified Agenda, and we do not have any information on when we may be asked to provide input at this time.

If you wish to obtain a new RIN, please have your staff complete the appropriate form and submit it to Sara Prigan (sara_prigan@fws.gov) in PPM by August 24, 2017 (cc Susan Wilkinson and Anissa Cragead).

Fill out one of the following forms for each new desired rule (i.e., rulemaking action that does not have a RIN yet):

- *For ESA listing and/or critical habitat RINs:* **Approval Request for New RIN (ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx**
- *For all other types of RINs (e.g., non-ESA RINs):* **Approval Request for New RIN (non-ESA Rule) (eff 07-01-17).docx**

What format do I use to present my quarterly report input?

Use the format in the provided draft report (filename **DRAFT OMB reg rept Oct through Dec 2017 (Q118) 8.11.17.docx**).
You may make your changes in the attached draft report and then email it back to PPM. **However, PLEASE USE TRACK CHANGES AND YELLOW HIGHLIGHTING. Do not delete anything.**

- Please follow the format in the attached draft report, down to the use of line breaks, bold text, commas, etc.
- Text corrections can be pasted in or typed in, with track changes turned on. Please add yellow highlighting as well.
- New entries can be pasted in, with track changes turned on.
- If you wants to remove an entire entry, just make a note in the final column to that effect, or use crossout-text formatting (as seen in some entries in the attached); **do not delete**.
- Each entry expected to be ready for OMB review during Q1 must have a specific date in the "Ready for Review" column that falls during Q1. This is the date the action would be ready for OMB review, which is also the date that you project the document to have cleared DOI. "Specific date" means, for example, rather than "Q1" or "mid-October," put in 10/18/17.
- If you have items from Q4 that have not completed OMB review yet, but you believe they will complete OMB review before October and thus do not need to be included again, please put a note to that effect in the right-hand column. Do not delete them.
- If you have an action (i.e., one RIN) that will go through more than one stage during Q1 (i.e., separate stages under the same RIN; e.g, proposed rule, final rule), put each stage in a separate row.

- For actions that were on Q4 but are now being pushed forward, if possible please try to put in the quarter in which the action will move forward.

What if I have to change my report input after I send it to PPM?

Be specific and clear about what the changes are. If you have only a handful of changes, send an email describing them. If you have a larger number, you may resend your original table; **however, start with a clean document (no previous tracked changes or highlighting) and make sure all of the changes are shown with NEW tracked changes and blue highlighting.**

Do I have to wait to get clearance through program officials before I send my report input to PPM?

No. To expedite collation of the all-Service list, **please send your input to PPM at the same time you are clearing your data with the officials.** Then follow up later with forwarded email or other evidence of clearance from your program officials when it is available.

What if I have questions?

Please contact Sara Prigan via email at Sara_Prigan@fws.gov, or via phone at 703-358-2508; Susan Wilkinson, via email at Susan_Wilkinson@fws.gov or phone at 703-358-2506; or Anissa Craghead, via email at Anissa_Craghead@fws.gov or phone at 703-358-2445.

To whom do I send my program's input?

Please send regulatory report input, and any "Approval Request for New RIN" forms, via email to Sara Prigan in PPM (contact information above) by **Thursday, August 24, 2017**. Please cc Susan Wilkinson and Anissa Craghead.

From: Blair, Charles
To: Cynthia Martinez; Charisa Morris
Cc: Aaron Archibeque; Willey, Seth
Subject: Important Resource Information on Border Fence Impacts
Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 9:14:28 AM

Cynthia/Charisa

Region 2 folks have compiled a list of important resources that may be impacted by new border fence activities. This product was initiated after a meeting in MIB on the same subject which I described in an earlier email. I should have the finalized spreadsheet later today.

I am looking for some guidance on how we want to share with DHS. Do we provide to John Andrews. Do with need the AD's to approve before sharing?

Charles W Blair
Acting Deputy Chief, NWRS
612-214-8803

From: Willey, Seth
To: Blair, Charles
Cc: Cynthia Martinez; Charisa Morris; Aaron Archibeque
Subject: Re: Important Resource Information on Border Fence Impacts
Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 9:43:06 AM

Please hold (pause) on this for now. Give me a call if you want to chat.

Seth

****
Seth L. Willey
Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
Southwest Region, USFWS
Seth_Willey@fws.gov
Work: 505-248-6492
Cell: 505-697-7600
****

On Mon, Mar 20, 2017 at 10:14 AM, Blair, Charles <charles_blair@fws.gov> wrote:

> Cynthia/Charisa
>
> Region 2 folks have compiled a list of important resources that may be impacted by new border fence activities. This product was initiated after a meeting in MIB on the same subject which I described in an earlier email. I should have the finalized spreadsheet later today.
>
> I am looking for some guidance on how we want to share with DHS. Do we provide to John Andrews. Do with need the AD's to approve before sharing?
>
> Charles W Blair
> Acting Deputy Chief, NWRS
> 612-214-8803

From: Charisa Morris
To: Blair, Charles
Cc: Cynthia Martinez
Subject: Re: Important Resource Information on Border Fence Impacts
Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 10:25:39 AM

Charlie-

Give me a call about this when you get a chance.

-Charisa

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 20, 2017, at 12:43 PM, Willey, Seth <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:

> Please hold (pause) on this for now. Give me a call if you want to chat.
>
> Seth
>
> **********
> Seth L. Willey
> Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
> Southwest Region, USFWS
> Seth_Willey@fws.gov
> Work: 505-248-6492
> Cell: 505-697-7600
> **********
>
> On Mon, Mar 20, 2017 at 10:14 AM, Blair, Charles <charles_blair@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Cynthia/Charisa
> >
> > Region 2 folks have compiled a list of important resources that may be impacted by new border fence activities. This product was initiated after a meeting in MIB on the same subject which I described in an earlier email. I should have the finalized spreadsheet later today.
> >
> > I am looking for some guidance on how we want to share with DHS. Do we provide to John Andrews. Do with need the AD's to approve before sharing?
> >
> > Charles W Blair
> > Acting Deputy Chief, NWRS
> > 612-214-8803

From: Charisa Morris
To: charles_blair@fws.gov
Subject: Fwd: Border fence information
Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 12:24:48 PM

Hi Charlie-

Did you ever receive the email below?

Thanks!
Charisa

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** charisa_morris@fws.gov
> **Date:** March 11, 2017 at 3:50:07 PM EST
> **To:** Charles Blair <charles_blair@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <Matthew_Huggler@fws.gov>
> **Cc:** "cynthia_martinez@fws.gov" <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Re: Border fence information**
>
> Good afternoon, Charlie-
>
> I am looping in Matthew Huggler, who is managing the weekly transition assignments for delivery to Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.
>
> We need to offer the folks in the previous thread an important clarification rather immediately, as we are not soliciting the concerns that our agency may have with the wall. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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Thanks, Charlie, and please feel free to give Matt or I a shout if you have any questions.

Have a great weekend,
Charisa

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 10, 2017, at 5:16 PM, Charles Blair <charles_blair@fws.gov> wrote:
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> Charisa
>
> The previous email on this subject is in reference to Steve Guertin's request that if we have concern for sensitive areas or resources we get it on the table right away. I think he made that request before you arrived at the meeting. I sent notes of the meeting to Cynthia and copied the Refuge Chief in Region 2. I assume he passed it along to his folks.
>
> Is there a format that we want to use to compile the information?
>
> Sent from my iPad

From: Blair, Charles
To: Charisa Morris
Subject: Re: Border fence information
Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 1:24:39 PM

I have not seen this Charisa.

Charles W Blair
Regional Chief
612-713-5401

On Mon, Mar 20, 2017 at 2:23 PM, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hi Charlie-
>
> Did you ever receive the email below?
>
> Thanks!
> Charisa
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> **From:** charisa_morris@fws.gov
> **Date:** March 11, 2017 at 3:50:07 PM EST
> **To:** Charles Blair <charles_blair@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <Matthew_Huggler@fws.gov>
> **Cc:** "cynthia_martinez@fws.gov" <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Re: Border fence information**
>
> Good afternoon, Charlie-
>
> I am looping in Matthew Huggler, who is managing the weekly transition assignments for delivery to Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.
>
> We need to offer the folks in the previous thread an important clarification rather immediately, as we are not soliciting the concerns that our agency may have with the wall. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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Have a great weekend,
Charisa

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his folks.

Is there a format that we want to use to compile the information?

Sent from my iPad

From:	Gale, Michael
To:	Charisa Morris; Stephen Guertin; Jim Kurth
Cc:	Greg Sheehan; Zachariah Gambill
Subject:	Notes from Directorate Meeting
Date:	Monday, December 11, 2017 9:21:49 AM
Attachments:	USFWS Directorate Mtg Notes - Dec 2017.docx AFWA - USFWS Mtg Notes - Dec 2017.docx USFWS Directorate Mtg SUMMARY - Dec 2017.docx

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Hello Charisa, Steve, and Jim,

Attached are the various documents that I've pulled together to capture all the great discussions that were had at last week's **USFWS Directorate Meeting**, which are:

- **Notes** (detailed notes)
- **AFWA - FWS Notes** (just the first half-day of discussions - the thinking was to share this document with AFWA)
- **Summary** (just the Action Items, Motions, and high-level highlights)

Pasted below are just the action items so that you have an immediate reference to them.

Please let me know what you think the next steps should be in terms of reviewing and disseminating this information.

Thanks!

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)
571.982.2158 (cell)

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ACTION ITEMS / MOTIONS

o **Action Item**: Prepare a shared letter of commitment between AFWA and USFWS to identify areas of common interest.

o **Action Item**: In the next AFWA newsletter, include information about Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to help connect state agencies to the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs

o **Action Item (AFWA)**: AFWA will delegate to staff the follow-up work on the items discussed today.

o **Action Item (AFWA)**: Task the Wildlife Policy with polling among the states for those existing agreements with FWS.

- **Action Item**: FWS and AFWA to provide feedback on draft policies and guideline document before the North American.

- **Action Item**: Calibrate the actions in the Secretarial Priorities with the Department's Strategic Plan

- **Action Item**: Go through the AFWA Committee list and put together Directorate leads and a plan for participating in the North American.

- **Action Item**: Submit nominations for the JAO Project Team (request to go out shortly).

- **Action Item**: Add the Regional Directors to the communications list for the S.O. 3356 implementation.

- **Motion** (Robyn Thorsen): agreement to fund proposals 1-4. Motion passed.

- **Action Item**: The proposal is for Brian Bloodsworth, Chris Nolin, and Shaun Sanchez to lead a small team that will be assigned to figure out how to pay for the enterprise investments, which will then be owned by the Director's Office.

- **Action Item**: Paul Rauch will re-send out the materials and put to a decision the furtherance of the EDC with the new charter, and then discuss this more at the next VTC.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Directorate Meeting
Skyline Headquarters in Falls Church in Virginia *December 5-7, 2017*

Participants:

Amy Lueders (R2)
Barbara Wainman (EA)
Benjamin Tuggle (SA)
Bob Broscheid (CO)
Carol Banbury (AFWA)
Curt Melcher (OR)
Cynthia Martinez (NWRS)
David Hoskins (FAC)
Deb Rocque (R5)
Ed Carter (TN)
Ed Grace (LE)
Gary Frazer (ES)
Glenn Normandeau (NH)
Gloria Bell (IA)
Gordon Myers (NC)
Greg Sheehan (FWS)
Greg Siekaniec (R7)
Janine Velasco (BMO)
Jay Slack (NCTC)
Jen Mock Schaffer (AFWA)
Jerome Ford (MB)
Jim Douglas (NE)
Jim Kurth (FWS)
Kelly Hepler (SD)
Ken Taylor (IRTM)
Mark Humpert (AFWA)
Mike Oetker (R4)
Nick Wiley (FL)
Noreen Walsh (R6)
Paul Rauch (WSFR)
Paul Souza (R8)
Robyn Thorsen (R1)
Ron Regan (AFWA)
Sara Pauley (MO)
Shaun Sanchez (NWRS)
Steve Guertin (FWS)
Tom Melius (R3)
Tony Wasley (NV)
Travis Ripley (Alberta)
Virgil Moore (ID)
Wendi Weber (R5)
Zack Gambill (FWS)

Staff:

Charisa Morris (FWS)
Michael Gale (FWS)

Tuesday, December 5, 2017
Rachel Carson Conference Room (1W104), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Steve Guertin

9:00am – 12:00pm
USFWS Directorate discussion with AFWA Executive Committee

Jim Kurth welcomed the group, particularly the state fish and wildlife agency colleagues. This morning, Greg Sheehan was called to a last minute meeting with Deputy Secretary Bernhardt.

9:00 ***Opening Remarks and Introductions***

Virgil Moore, Director, Idaho Fish and Game Department and President, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

This gathering of the FWS Directorate and the Executive Committee for AFWA is unprecedented and welcomed. AFWA has proposed three topics to guide this morning's discussions: hunting/fishing access, landscape conservation, and collaborative governance. FWS has unique legal responsibilities for some species; by and large, state fish and wildlife agencies are responsible for managing fish and wildlife populations. The change in the Administration creates new opportunities for working together.

Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Greg Sheehan welcomed the group. Greg talked about how he is able to speak from both sides of this group, having just a year ago been a member of the AFWA Executive Committee. The folks

and talent in this room represent the "best of the best" in fisheries and wildlife management, arguably in the world. From here on out, how do we cement these relationships? Now more than ever, we need to come together.

Collectively, we need to think about recruitment and retention. Nowadays, newer employees do not have the same long-term commitment to singular institutions as they once did. They move about more. There is also rampant urbanization, which is happening in every state in the country. ESA issues is an overlapping area with the states, as is sportsmen's access.

9:30 ***Topic One: SO 3356 and New Opportunities for Hunter and Angler Engagement***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Gordon Myers (NC)

Bob Broscheid: With Secretarial Order 3356, there is an opportunity to come up with a shared vision among partners with how the states can be helpful in implementing the S.O. This discussion should focus on high-level recommendations on what we can do together.

Steve Guertin gave an overview of the agency's work on S.O. 3347 and 3356. This is a big deal for FWS. We have met with both AFWA and the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) on this issue, including the idea of "First Catch" Centers. A focus of this work is returning veterans and people with disabilities. We also have an initiative, "Restoring the Refuges" that invests in access infrastructure.

We have reassigned one person in every Region as a Hunting and Fishing Chief, who will work individually with refuges to identify opportunities to enhance access. The other element is consistency with state regulations. For AFWA, we would like the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to meet with the state fish and wildlife agency leadership to hear their suggestions and frustrations.

Jim Douglas: At some point, this initiative has to come down to the state level with a joint assessment of where things are right now. The collaboration needs to involve both FWS and the state. Paul Souza: This is becoming the signature issue for conservation for us right now. Another step is bringing in key partners (e.g., Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited) to form a coalition around this issue. Jay Slack: Dave Chanda is working with NCTC to put together R3 training available to FWS, partners, and the states. Shaun Sanchez: On R3, we are tasking our people to go to the R3 Coordinators in the states and materials already developed to not reinvent the wheel. Paul Rauch: FWS needs to lead from behind on this; we want to be helpful.

Kelly Hepler: we all make value judgments in making regulations. We need to think about collective opportunities. Virgil Moore: we need to look at existing hunting and fishing rules and determine if there are problems that need to be addressed with deference to state laws. Noreen Walsh: it is not clear whether the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs are working with the states on the survey questions. Cynthia Martinez: we need to get through the assessment and start with quick wins to make hunting and fishing easier.

Glenn Normandeau: they have a process in New Hampshire for analyzing value-added efforts that could serve as a model. Nick Wiley: The earlier we engage, the better. There was a question about the authorities of the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs. Cynthia Martinez: The Chiefs have stayed in the Regions and report directly to Headquarters and are graded highly. Curt Melcher: One of the "elephants" in the room is predator management. We need to be able to direct market to our various constituencies, who have already showed interest in wildlife recreation.

- **Action Item**: Prepare a shared letter of commitment between AFWA and USFWS to identify areas of common interest.

- **Action Item**: In the next AFWA newsletter, include information about Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to help connect state agencies to the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs

Virgil Moore, Ron Regan, Greg Sheehan, and Jim Kurth signed an agreement to work together on the issues discussed at today's meeting.

10:15 ***Topic Two: Landscape Level Partnership Models***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Tony Wasely (NV)

To start off, there is great value to landscape-scale conservation and the value of partnerships. There are a myriad of successes in organizing landscape-scale conservation, including Joint Ventures, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs), National Fish Habitat Partnerships, etc. There are really two key factors to success: 1) underlying science that is best if coproduced, 2) a partnership to implement that science with opportunities to leverage funding.

AFWA conducted a survey (49 of 50 states) with a question specific to LCCs. There was really a divided opinion in terms of the states that saw value in LCCs (about a 50/50 split). The President's Budget zeroed out the LCC program, and right now is a good time to have a broader discussion about what LCCs look like. How do we respond to these challenges? We recognize the special relationship between FWS and the state fish and wildlife agencies. There is $25 million for conservation in the LCC budget.

Some options that have been discussed with the Executive Committee include:

1) Nexus to State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs) and a species-at-risk approach. This may be in conflict with the self-directed nature of LCCs.
    a. One of the challenges with LCCs is their geography where states are in multiple LCCs.
2) Issue-specific LCC (more like Joint Ventures, e.g., Monarch butterflies)
3) Administering them through a regional association
    a. Previously, AFWA had a recommendation on governance that came from a Joint Task Force that was previously established

Certainly the discussion is not limited to LCCs, but we wanted to have sufficient time to address LCCs, which have value in supporting landscape-scale conservation.

Benjamin Tuggle: We would want to emphasize is the peer-to-peer relationship with the state fish and wildlife agency directors. One of our recommendations is to erase the artificial boundaries of the LCCs and let the issue define the boundary. We have primary responsibility for managing fish and wildlife resources on the landscape. The Service's role in the organizational structure is going to change – those resources being deployed are being directed by our mutual collaboration for specific issues in those geographies.

Paul Souza: We have great conservation capacity within the LCCs; how can we spend that money in a way that would maximize our returns? We can learn from our experiences and support these partnerships in ways that make sense. Benjamin Tuggle: What is fundamental is how we direct these resources for mutual benefits. Wendi Weber: In the Northeast, these partnerships have worked well together around shared issues, such as prelisting conservation. Gary Frazer: three years ago, the Western Governors Association (WGA) had a species-based effort that is going to use landscape approaches (i.e., integrating species conservation, forest health, invasive species, and other issues into a strategic approach). Other discussion points included that the other part of LCCs is engage those broader NGO collaborations, who are part of the SWAPs. LCCs were addressing both science and outreach, which created some challenges.

11:00 ***Topic Three: Collaborative Governance Models***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Virgil Moore (ID)

One of the areas AFWA is looking at is with collaboratives across the nation, and LCCs are part of that. With our senior status, we have all been involved with collaboratives, but have we tried to roll that up with any kind of analysis to drive better wildlife management? Collaboratives not only includes institutions such as the Joint Ventures as well as collaborative initiatives such as sage brush. We have to have respect, trust, and a science-based foundation. How do we as leaders precede with building the necessary elements to move forward?

One of the areas we have been working with the U.S. Forest Service and Christopher Moyer to look at every single MOU that exists between USFS and AFWA. We do not have the same level of MOUs with the FWS. AFWA would propose having more of these with the FWS.

Greg Sheehan: what often drives us apart is disagreement over policy issues. Paul Souza: The states are more nimble and better with public engagement. They are also more engaged with politics. Federal agencies tend to move slower but at least allows for engagement that results in better decisions. Tom Melius: MOUs should have some specifics. There is general support for more discussion on this idea. Sara Pauley: Need to set aside time to talk about what is it going to take for fish and wildlife management (i.e., science needs, social science, future look)? Benjamin

Tuggle: In-person discussions are an important part of this. MOUs can be haphazard at times. Jay Slack: Having routine communications and meetings are helpful.

Steve Guertin: There is talk at the Department of the Interior about "Joint Management Areas," and we have these conversations going on. Virgil Moore: What we are asking for is some sort of primacy given to us as leaders of fish and wildlife management in this nation. We have a number of agreements with other institutions, but we have nothing like that with FWS and your legal and sovereign responsibilities. There has been issues in the past in terms of "marching to the beat of the same drum." It's a plea to FWS as leadership for us both to think about this differently. Once we agree on the objectives, how it is implemented is less consequential (i.e., going up the mountain analogy). LCCs were an attempt at getting to common objectives but got bogged down it the process. Sage grouse is a good example of how we gave a governance structure to an issue that created a space for common objectives.

AFWA passed out a draft template for *Policies and Guidelines for Joint Governance Between [State Agency] and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*.

Noreen Walsh: If those of us who have co-responsibility over these issues cannot come together to make progress, then the challenges coming from the public are going to overtake us. An MOU is one way to put some structure around this, but we should consider other options such as reconvening this meeting. Nick Wiley: There should be a process for monitoring and amending the agreement. Within FWS, there is so much pressure for initiatives that the states often feel left behind. Kelly Hepler: We need to identify next steps with broader communication on all three topics. Jim Kurth: We need to build on the successes we already have. For example, we signed a policy in development with AFWA on refuge management.

Steve Guertin summarized the FWS interest in signing such an agreement where we identify common goals in the three areas discussed today with periodic review. Ron Regan: on the landscape discussion, we have not pinned it on the wall quite yet.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: AFWA will delegate to staff the follow-up work on the items discussed today.

In terms of timing, the next meeting is the North American, which would be a point where there would be a check-in on this discussion in a more formal fashion.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: Task the Wildlife Policy with polling among the states for those existing agreements with FWS.
- **Action Item**: FWS and AFWA to provide feedback on draft policies and guideline document before the North American.

Virgil Moore gave an official recognition to Nick Wiley for his service to President at AFWA.

11:45 R3 Update, John Frampton

Based on the preliminary results of the National Hunting and Fishing Survey, there is real risk for the decline of hunting, fishing, and shooting sports. The Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports has identified recommendations and a national plan. A staff working with the Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) has organized workshops around the country. RBFF has also developed a plan for fishing. We are committed to working with FWS on this issue (perhaps an MOU is involved). There is a national R3 Symposium planned in Lincoln, Nebraska on May 21-23, 2018.

The group took a break to sign joint guidance on SWAPs.

BREAK FOR LUNCH

1:00pm – 3:00pm
Budget Updates, *Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin*
Additional Participants: Chris Nolin

Steve Guertin gave an overview of the current budget climate and the Administration's commitment to significant reductions in domestic programs. To meet the requirements for reductions while keeping on personnel and mission achievement, those reductions were applied to our portfolio of grant programs. For FY18, Congress had taken on different views that the President's budget. They restored field program services to the best that they could, and they were also able to restore some of the grant programs. On Science and the LCCs, there was a heated debate and in the end there were more supporters than not, and so funding was included.

On the FY19 Budget, the budget is in a state of flux. A budget was formulated based planning guidance with an emphasis on access, infrastructure, and energy. The passback from OMB drove down the budget even further another $70-80 million, which also included cuts to science and the Listing program. We do not know where it is going to come out. We are hopeful for an upward trend but should expect major cuts.

Chris Nolin handed out budget tables for FY18.

There was a question about infrastructure. Despite the Administration's interest in infrastructure and addressing maintenance backlogs, there has not been any move on that front. Jim Cason is coordinating an exercise related to public-private partnerships as an approach, which ties into the "Restoring the Refuges" initiative. Recently, there was an announcement of a $227 million investment in the Memorial Bridge, which was paid for through reprioritized funding within the National Park Service.

Ed Grace: the issue in Law Enforcement is to get the hiring through the hiring freeze. Jay Slack: Senate mark-up restored funding for NCTC, which is still struggling with salary costs. In the

budget, Migratory Birds and Fisheries are good. For Refuges (126X accounts), the House and Senate is holding steady, which means a decrease. Workforce planning continues with the Regional Refuge Chiefs. In Partners and Coastal (1121, 1124), these are programs that keeps getting hit. International Affairs is back to FY17 levels and the Arctic Council was funded.

For Ecological Services, it's a mix: for the Listing program, the Administration proposed a 50% decrease, which the House and Senate accepted. There is a risk for increased litigation with less responses to petitions. There was also a reduction in candidate conservation. For recovery, there was an increase in partnerships for captive breeding and augmentation work with zoos and aquariums. Janine Velasco: the Regions should be careful of the 1664 accounts, which are overspending for this year. There was a discussion about the FY18 Work Plan for Ecological Services and whether there are the resources in place to meet the deliverables in the plan.

Greg Siekaniec: where are we in terms of increased costs for benefits and then the analysis on attrition? Steve Guertin: we expected 400 people to leave, and only a couple of dozen have left. For FY19, we need to think about planning and communications. External Affairs has been tasked with a communications plan for the budget roll-out. It's important to communicate with employees even when there is not a lot of uncertainty. There was also a question about VERA/VSIP and the current status of that. Jay Slack: we should make a statement about where there would never be application of VERA/VSIP, which would be very helpful for employees in those areas. Robyn Thorsen: the attrition rate might be driven by folks just working longer.

Rebekah Giddings: On October 1 last year compared to this year, we pretty much are in the same place personnel-wise. We have 3,500 employees who are retirement eligible. Right now, we have 350 people with 36 years or more of service (i.e., likely to retire), and they are more in the GS-12 and 13 levels. Steve Guertin: There is an issue with transition planning (i.e., the "brain drain" issue). We are looking at a possible 10 to 20% turnover.

On a different note, we are also planning for a government shutdown, just in case.

3:00pm – 4:00pm
USFWS Priorities, *Greg Sheehan*

Greg provided an overview of the Secretary's Priorities and the step-down efforts for FWS priorities. The first three have to do with Ecological Services, and we are on track with them (minor changes could occur). The recovery of the black-capped vireo is a great conservation success. Mitigation policies are currently under review at the Departmental level's policy leadership. This includes a focus on NEPA (i.e., S.O. 3355). On the third priority, there is a discrepancy between the Department's Strategic Plan and the Secretarial Priorities document on the timing of a recovery outline.

- **Action Item**: Calibrate the actions in the Secretarial Priorities with the Department's Strategic Plan

On "Restoring the Refuges," there's a challenge in promoting this without an infrastructure package and the ongoing budget reductions. There are other ways that dollars can come to us (i.e., public-private partnerships). Amy Lueders: suggested to frame it more around assets that protect ecosystems (i.e., storm barriers from coastal habitat). Paul Souza: this is also about increasing hunting and fishing access that tells a bigger story. On the issue of adding fish hatcheries, they are part of the initiative but not the branding.

Wendi Weber had a question about "green infrastructure" and resilience. Chris Nolin: there is a Minority amendment in the supplemental to add money for resilience. Cynthia Martinez: the deferred maintenance list Noreen Walsh: we do have infrastructure issues at other facilities, such as the Black-footed Ferret Center and the Puerto Rican Parrot Facility. Greg Sheehan: Yes, it's much broader than refuges.

On hunting and fishing access, we are doing a lot to be responsive. Greg asked of the RDs: the recommendations of the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs might include some difficult things that refuge managers are not going to want do them for various reasons. At the RD level, the RDs should be firm in their support of these Hunting and Fishing Chiefs and their work – it's a priority of the Administration. The Hunting and Fishing Chiefs need to be communicating with the Regional Director's Office. We are asking the RDs not to task the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs in the way they normally would. If there is resistance, it's the responsibility of the RDs to manage that. Greg Siekaniec had a question about NEPA and litigation risk. Jim Kurth: we do better application of NEPA through the annual hunt/fish rule. In terms of population objectives, we defer to the environmental analysis on say the migratory bird framework or the SWAPs.

Paul Rauch: we don't want to lose sight of the number of hunters and not just the acreage of access. Shaun Sanchez: the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs are working with the Natural Resource Program Center and the Inventorying and Monitoring program on the social science and surveying aspect. Noreen Walsh: there needs to be constant communication between the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs and the RDs. Cynthia Martinez: We are trying to connect the dots.

On enhancing border protection, this was a significant issue of public interest. For FWS, we manage 150 miles along the southern border. Zack Gambill: Despite some joking around about Canada, there has been some terror cells that came into Montana from Canada, so broadly it's an issue for all borders. Cynthia Martinez: After the situation with Malhuer NWR, we established a risk and threat coordinator position. Jim Kurth: For the barrier, the Department of Homeland Security would need evoke a waiver. Amy Lueders: for any new construction, there is a plan to use a waiver. Janine Velasco: Appreciate the broader tone on the importance of safety.

We worked a fair amount this morning on the working with states piece. Paul Rauch: we have an opportunity with the upcoming North American meeting. One area we can really improve in is with the preparation for the AFWA Committee meetings (even coordination among ourselves).

- **Action Item**: Go through the AFWA Committee list and put together Directorate leads and a plan for participating in the North American.

Tom Melius: On working with Tribes, sometimes they prefer to work with FWS in a government-to-government context. We can always rely on the science. Paul Souza: there is much less structure on the Tribal piece. There is a new policy on tribal consultation and added training. Amy Lueders: there was a suggestion to split the issues of states and tribes in terms of the Secretary's Priorities. The issue of the ESA Joint Task Force (JTF) was brought up.

On working with industry, the Department organized an industry roundtable that is turning into an advisory group. DOI has hired Rick May to work on this issue full-time within the Office of the Secretary. On organizational transformation, there are still some unknowns in terms of moving operations out west. Fundamentally, this effort is still being looked at and ongoing. Steve Guertin: the new administrative reorganization approach is portable and mobile.

Greg Siekaniec: the Transformation Team had a number of recommendations broader than the administrative reorganization. Is any of that moving? Greg Sheehan: No, I haven't heard anything. Jim Kurth: we have stories to tell of the work that we do that support the Secretary's Priorities, particularly with our conservation stewardship legacy and being good neighbors. Let's keep the conservation work we do front and center with the Secretary.

Wednesday, December 6, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Jim Kurth

11:00am – 12:00pm
ABA Transformation, *Steve Guertin, Janine Velasco, Denise Sheehan, Ken Taylor, and Brian Bloodsworth*

We are moving forward with a reprogramming request to Congress to consolidate administrative programs into a shared service provider. The hiring freeze / approval process applies to these grade series throughout the organization. The Road Ahead – starting in December, we will assemble the Joint Administrative Officers (JAO) Project Team. There will be diverse representation on this team to include managers and other stakeholders. We will also pull together a more detailed implementation plan, particularly for merging the regional capacities. Through the summer, we will be moving this proposal through the appropriations process. By next spring, we plan to have initial deployment of the HQ functions, and over the following year we would focus on the Regions. This will take about two years to complete this process.

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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP. We have 57 grants programs in the Service. Some individuals are in CGS while others are in WSFR and the programs. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (e.g. in Alaska, there are already consolidated service groups across the region between different bureaus).

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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP We have about 2,000 people in FWS who have some role in grant making. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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- **Action Item**: Submit nominations for the JAO Project Team (request to go out shortly).

There are two areas of follow-up work:

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2:00pm – 3:30pm
Meet and Greet with Jason Larrabee

Jason Larrabee has been with the Department for about 10 weeks now. Jason was born and raised in northern California and has hunted and fished his whole life. He spent 12 ½ years on Capitol Hill in policy and appropriations work. He was most recently the Chief of Staff for Representative Denham. Jason provided his cell phone number: (b) (6).

In terms of the Secretary's Priorities, there is a focus on access and making the "R" in recreation a little stronger. He wants all folks to enjoy all lands. The Secretary supports recreation with a leave no trace philosophy. The Secretary is also interested in thinking about the Department for the next 100 years. There is a lot of value in using technology and advancing what we do. We can reform government and make it work better for everyone.

Robyn Thorsen asked if there are going to be opportunities for the political officials to get out into the field, and Jason said there is a strong interest in that. Wendi Weber mentioned the

"Conservation Without Conflict" approach that involves the preclude the need to list (Jason is interested in learning more about this) [redacted] Jay Slack mentioned the R3 (Recruitment, Retention, Reengagement/Reinvestment) program with the states to get more people interested in the outdoors with hunting and fishing.

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There was a general discussion about Departmental issues.

3:30pm – 5:00pm
Science Program, *Ben Tuggle and Seth Mott*

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Thursday, December 7, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderators: Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin

For the Holiday Breakfast, we served food to 350 people, collected over 200 toys for Toys for Tots (along with over $300 of donations), and sold 25 Federal Duck Stamps.

8:30am – 10:00am
Regulatory Updates, *Cynthia Martinez, Gloria Bell, Gary Frazer and Jerome Ford*

National Wildlife Refuge System:

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We also have an EA for seismic activity in the 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. (b)(5) DPP
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In addition, the Predator Rule was removed from Congressional review, which was removed from the Code of Federal Regulations in November.

On Hunting and Fishing, we are very focused on that. Aaron Mize has been reassigned as the Hunting and Fishing Chief overseeing the Regional H/F Chiefs (along with Kate Harrigan, Presidential Management Fellow) and Linh Phu has been assigned as the Coordinator for S.). 3356. Also, Alice Garret is working on "Restoring the Refuges."

- **Action Item**: Add the Regional Directors to the communications list for the S.O. 3356 implementation.

Amy Lueders: communicating successes for the hunting and fishing initiatives is going to be important. Shaun Sanchez: there are a lot of successes and stories that we should be telling.

International Affairs:

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Ecological Services:

We published a notice that our mitigation policies are open for comment. The notice focuses on the mitigation goals, particularly the net conservation benefit piece (b)(5) DPP

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We also put out a notice on CCAA policy regulations to make the issuance standard more clear and consistent with Safe Harbor Agreements.

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On wolves, there is appropriations language specific to western Great Lakes and Wyoming wolves in addition to language related to using funding for management of Gray wolves. On red wolf, there is Senate language to provide a report-out given the failure of the species recovery.

Migratory Birds:

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(b)(5) DPP They are working on a Heritage Stamp. A month ago, they published an EA on cormorants (take up to 50,000 birds). Finally, they are also working on Tribal Hunting Regulations that will hopefully publish next week. A couple of years ago, the Tribes from the Midwest said they should have access to 50% of the surplus given their treaty rights, which promulgated a negotiation with the Tribes. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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10:00am – 11:00pm
Report from the Deputies Group, *Shaun Sanchez*

The Deputies Group has been working on the FY18 Operations Plan and allocations. The three areas we are presenting to the Directorate are enterprise costs, national priority initiatives, and the investment proposals.

On enterprise costs, we are working on getting the reimburables squared away. Before anything gets added to enterprise costs, they would come back to the Deputies Group. The "what" is taken care of, and we are still working on the "how."

On investment proposals, we had been talking with what to do with FY18 carryover funding. We wanted to focus that funding into corporate investments (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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- **Motion** (Robyn Thorsen): agreement to fund proposals 1-4. Motion passed.

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- **Action Item**: The proposal is for Brian Bloodsworth, Chris Nolin, and Shaun Sanchez to lead a small team that will be assigned to figure out how to pay for the enterprise investments, which will then be owned by the Director's Office.

On the national priority initiatives, Jim Kurth provided an overview of the current status. For Gulf and Sage Grouse, these have now been appropriated. On monarchs, we agreed to a $4 million commitment every year for five years, which comes off the top. For NCTC, there currently is a budget proposal. There was agreement to support past decisions (b)(5) DPP
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11:00am – 12:00pm
Legislative Updates, *Barbara Wainman*

We provided a summary on the bills that are out there. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP The Congressional Review Act was used to undo a number of rules from the last Administration. We work closely with the Budget Office on the appropriations riders.

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(b)(5) DPP. For example, there were about 15 visits around the cormorants issue that were very well received. Also, a lot of Members are reaching out directly to Greg Sheehan. We have also been working more with the Fish and Wildlife and Parks office, with whom there is now a weekly meeting related to communications. John Tanner is now the new director of the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs (OCL), who came from Senator Orrin Hatch's office. Micah Chambers is now the Deputy for OCL (he had been the acting director).

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1:00pm – 2:00pm
Diversity, *Jim Kurth, Paul Rauch, Inez Uhl*

On hiring people with disabilities, we have about 10% participation in FWS, which is just below the goal of 12%. We are less successful with our efforts for people with "targeted disabilities."

Currently we are sitting at 17.7% of minority participation rate, and we have had a target of 20.6%. Last year, our accessions were 19.7% but our separations were 21.9%. This means that we are not reaching our goal and are actually going backwards. We should have hired 26% of minorities to move the needle closer to our goal.

Greg Sheehan had asked how we compare to the rest of the federal sector and Interior. DOI has 26.3% minority participation. FWS is second to last from the bottom in DOI (only USGS has a lower participation rate - 13.7%). Across the federal sector, it is 35.9%. There is a lack of representation of African Americans within DOI. Last year, we hired 66 minorities but lost 66 minorities.(b)(5) DPP

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Becky Giddings: About this time last year, we started in a national hiring mode. We held off in June and July with the "fab four" series (i.e., mission area series) so that we could do a group hire. This was accomplished within 6 weeks. There were 72 positions posted and 67 people were hired; we shortened the amount of panels, and they were very aggressive with applicants (there were over 4,000 applicants). (b)(5)
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One of the objectives of the national hiring approach was to get a more diverse applicant pool. The focus was limited to entry level positions among the "fab four" series (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
(b)(5) DPP They also standardized the PDs and vacancy announcements. They recruited from 20 specific colleges and universities.

Of the 4,000 applicants, there were 667 minorities, 2,286 identified as non-minorities (others not identified). There were 583 minorities who were qualified. Of those, 144 were referred (i.e., the best qualified category). We made 10 selections of minority candidates. From the other pool, 61 qualified, 53 were referred, and 3 were selected. There were minorities on the certificates at over 60 duty stations.

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- **Action Item**: Paul Rauch will re-send out the materials and put to a decision the furtherance of the EDC with the new charter, and then discuss this more at the next VTC.

2:00pm – 3:00pm
Hurricane Update, *Cynthia Martinez, Terrina Harford*

Our resources were stretched incredibly thin with three hurricanes while being at a PL5 level for fire. It's incredible what we were able to do as a bureau. This was a "hyper active" hurricane season with three major hurricanes (Category 3 or higher) – Harvey (200 employees impacted, 26 stations), Irma (426 and 67), and Maria (61 and 11).

We responded with an Incident Management Team (IMT) with a measured, necessary, yet significant response. A total of 61 people and 24 pieces of equipment were deployed. IMT operated out of Balcones Canyonlands NWR. Amy Lueders: called out how well people in FWS took care of each other like a family. Six employees are still in temporary housing.

For Irma, we had a unique response requirement with the key deer population to think about. We deployed Spanish speaking law enforcement agents. When we have a diverse workforce, it makes us better for it and better federal partners. We had people in real need, particularly at Vieques, and FWS was there to help. Mike Oetker: with Irma, the flood damage was on the Atlantic coast with impacts to impacted species. Maria tested the capabilities with not only our agency but also FEMA. One of the populations of Puerto Rican parrots were decimated. Today, everything is still on emergency power and communications is a challenge. Cynthia Martinez: when you have a hurricane impacting an island, it's a whole different set of considerations.

At the same time, we were providing support at the federal level with a number of Emergency Support Functions (ESF) and Recovery Support Functions (RSF). At peak period, FWS provided over 50% of the DOI deployed personnel. Over 150 FWS personnel deployed to meet external and internal response needs. Keenan Adams is on an extended detail in Puerto Rico as part of the recovery efforts. The FWS Supplemental Request is for $210 million, which was submitted on November 21st. This was estimated based on projections of replacement value.

Now we are undergoing after-action review. Aviation will be an asset that will be used more in the future. Some pre-identified potential AAR themes include information management / reporting, intra-agency and inter-agency coordination, and financial/acquisition/administrative. They will also develop focused task forces, further use of IQCS/ROSS (database of responders) for All-Hazards, and full-time regional emergency management coordinators.

3:00pm – 4:00pm

FEVS Update, *Steve Guertin*

The Secretary has promoted the FEVS program as a measurement of how we are doing. There is a focus on the Department's work climate. The National Park Service has a concerted approach to address sexual harassment, and we can look to that as a model. Employee engagement matters, and we are getting after some of their primary concerns.

Our employee engagement effort is in its fourth year. We've built awareness and empowered leaders and managers and using the information to drive change. We have 60% participation in 2017. We are seeing positive, generally increasing scores in a transition year. (b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP

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The Partnership for Public Service has just released its ranking of best places to work. DOI is #9 of 16 large agencies and FWS is #43 out of 150 across government (for comparison, USGS is #41, BLM is #115, and NPS is #128). The Director's Memo is scheduled to go out on December 15th. We have a communications plan that will run from February – April in 2018. The next survey will be open May – June with results provided to the agencies in August.

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4:00pm – 4:30pm
Wrap-up, *Jim Kurth*

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Directorate Meeting
Skyline Headquarters in Falls Church in Virginia *December 5-7, 2017*

Participants:

Amy Lueders (R2)
Barbara Wainman (EA)
Benjamin Tuggle (SA)
Bob Broscheid (CO)
Carol Banbury (AFWA)
Curt Melcher (OR)
Cynthia Martinez (NWRS)
David Hoskins (FAC)
Deb Rocque (R5)
Ed Carter (TN)
Ed Grace (LE)
Gary Frazer (ES)
Glenn Normandeau (NH)
Gloria Bell (IA)
Gordon Myers (NC)
Greg Sheehan (FWS)
Greg Siekaniec (R7)
Janine Velasco (BMO)
Jay Slack (NCTC)
Jen Mock Schaffer (AFWA)
Jerome Ford (MB)
Jim Douglas (NE)
Jim Kurth (FWS)
Kelly Hepler (SD)
Ken Taylor (IRTM)
Mark Humpert (AFWA)
Mike Oetker (R4)
Nick Wiley (FL)
Noreen Walsh (R6)
Paul Rauch (WSFR)
Paul Souza (R8)
Robyn Thorsen (R1)
Ron Regan (AFWA)
Sara Pauley (MO)
Shaun Sanchez (NWRS)
Steve Guertin (FWS)
Tom Melius (R3)
Tony Wasley (NV)
Travis Ripley (Alberta)
Virgil Moore (ID)
Wendi Weber (R5)
Zack Gambill (FWS)

Staff:

Charisa Morris (FWS)
Michael Gale (FWS)

Tuesday, December 5, 2017
Rachel Carson Conference Room (1W104), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Steve Guertin

9:00am – 12:00pm
USFWS Directorate discussion with AFWA Executive Committee

Jim Kurth welcomed the group, particularly the state fish and wildlife agency colleagues. This morning, Greg Sheehan was called to a last minute meeting with Deputy Secretary Bernhardt.

9:00 ***Opening Remarks and Introductions***

Virgil Moore, Director, Idaho Fish and Game Department and President, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

This gathering of the FWS Directorate and the Executive Committee for AFWA is unprecedented and welcomed. AFWA has proposed three topics to guide this morning's discussions: hunting/fishing access, landscape conservation, and collaborative governance. FWS has unique legal responsibilities for some species; by and large, state fish and wildlife agencies are responsible for managing fish and wildlife populations. The change in the Administration creates new opportunities for working together.

Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Greg Sheehan welcomed the group. Greg talked about how he is able to speak from both sides of this group, having just a year ago been a member of the AFWA Executive Committee. The folks

and talent in this room represent the "best of the best" in fisheries and wildlife management, arguably in the world. From here on out, how do we cement these relationships? Now more than ever, we need to come together.

Collectively, we need to think about recruitment and retention. Nowadays, newer employees do not have the same long-term commitment to singular institutions as they once did. They move about more. There is also rampant urbanization, which is happening in every state in the country. ESA issues is an overlapping area with the states, as is sportsmen's access.

9:30 ***Topic One: SO 3356 and New Opportunities for Hunter and Angler Engagement***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Gordon Myers (NC)

Bob Broscheid: With Secretarial Order 3356, there is an opportunity to come up with a shared vision among partners with how the states can be helpful in implementing the S.O. This discussion should focus on high-level recommendations on what we can do together.

Steve Guertin gave an overview of the agency's work on S.O. 3347 and 3356. This is a big deal for FWS. We have met with both AFWA and the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) on this issue, including the idea of "First Catch" Centers. A focus of this work is returning veterans and people with disabilities. We also have an initiative, "Restoring the Refuges" that invests in access infrastructure.

We have reassigned one person in every Region as a Hunting and Fishing Chief, who will work individually with refuges to identify opportunities to enhance access. The other element is consistency with state regulations. For AFWA, we would like the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to meet with the state fish and wildlife agency leadership to hear their suggestions and frustrations.

Jim Douglas: At some point, this initiative has to come down to the state level with a joint assessment of where things are right now. The collaboration needs to involve both FWS and the state. Paul Souza: This is becoming the signature issue for conservation for us right now. Another step is bringing in key partners (e.g., Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited) to form a coalition around this issue. Jay Slack: Dave Chanda is working with NCTC to put together R3 training available to FWS, partners, and the states. Shaun Sanchez: On R3, we are tasking our people to go to the R3 Coordinators in the states and materials already developed to not reinvent the wheel. Paul Rauch: FWS needs to lead from behind on this; we want to be helpful.

Kelly Hepler: we all make value judgments in making regulations. We need to think about collective opportunities. Virgil Moore: we need to look at existing hunting and fishing rules and determine if there are problems that need to be addressed with deference to state laws. Noreen Walsh: it is not clear whether the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs are working with the states on the survey questions. Cynthia Martinez: we need to get through the assessment and start with quick wins to make hunting and fishing easier.

Glenn Normandeau: they have a process in New Hampshire for analyzing value-added efforts that could serve as a model. Nick Wiley: The earlier we engage, the better. There was a question about the authorities of the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs. Cynthia Martinez: The Chiefs have stayed in the Regions and report directly to Headquarters and are graded highly. Curt Melcher: One of the "elephants" in the room is predator management. We need to be able to direct market to our various constituencies, who have already showed interest in wildlife recreation.

- **Action Item**: Prepare a shared letter of commitment between AFWA and USFWS to identify areas of common interest.

- **Action Item**: In the next AFWA newsletter, include information about Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to help connect state agencies to the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs

Virgil Moore, Ron Regan, Greg Sheehan, and Jim Kurth signed an agreement to work together on the issues discussed at today's meeting.

10:15 ***Topic Two: Landscape Level Partnership Models***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Tony Wasely (NV)

To start off, there is great value to landscape-scale conservation and the value of partnerships. There are a myriad of successes in organizing landscape-scale conservation, including Joint Ventures, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs), National Fish Habitat Partnerships, etc. There are really two key factors to success: 1) underlying science that is best if coproduced, 2) a partnership to implement that science with opportunities to leverage funding.

AFWA conducted a survey (49 of 50 states) with a question specific to LCCs. There was really a divided opinion in terms of the states that saw value in LCCs (about a 50/50 split). The President's Budget zeroed out the LCC program, and right now is a good time to have a broader discussion about what LCCs look like. How do we respond to these challenges? We recognize the special relationship between FWS and the state fish and wildlife agencies. There is $25 million for conservation in the LCC budget.

Some options that have been discussed with the Executive Committee include:

1) Nexus to State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs) and a species-at-risk approach. This may be in conflict with the self-directed nature of LCCs.
    a. One of the challenges with LCCs is their geography where states are in multiple LCCs.
2) Issue-specific LCC (more like Joint Ventures, e.g., Monarch butterflies)
3) Administering them through a regional association
    a. Previously, AFWA had a recommendation on governance that came from a Joint Task Force that was previously established

Certainly the discussion is not limited to LCCs, but we wanted to have sufficient time to address LCCs, which have value in supporting landscape-scale conservation.

Benjamin Tuggle: We would want to emphasize is the peer-to-peer relationship with the state fish and wildlife agency directors. One of our recommendations is to erase the artificial boundaries of the LCCs and let the issue define the boundary. We have primary responsibility for managing fish and wildlife resources on the landscape. The Service's role in the organizational structure is going to change – those resources being deployed are being directed by our mutual collaboration for specific issues in those geographies.

Paul Souza: We have great conservation capacity within the LCCs; how can we spend that money in a way that would maximize our returns? We can learn from our experiences and support these partnerships in ways that make sense. Benjamin Tuggle: What is fundamental is how we direct these resources for mutual benefits. Wendi Weber: In the Northeast, these partnerships have worked well together around shared issues, such as prelisting conservation. Gary Frazer: three years ago, the Western Governors Association (WGA) had a species-based effort that is going to use landscape approaches (i.e., integrating species conservation, forest health, invasive species, and other issues into a strategic approach). Other discussion points included that the other part of LCCs is engage those broader NGO collaborations, who are part of the SWAPs. LCCs were addressing both science and outreach, which created some challenges.

11:00 ***Topic Three: Collaborative Governance Models***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Virgil Moore (ID)

One of the areas AFWA is looking at is with collaboratives across the nation, and LCCs are part of that. With our senior status, we have all been involved with collaboratives, but have we tried to roll that up with any kind of analysis to drive better wildlife management? Collaboratives not only includes institutions such as the Joint Ventures as well as collaborative initiatives such as sage brush. We have to have respect, trust, and a science-based foundation. How do we as leaders precede with building the necessary elements to move forward?

One of the areas we have been working with the U.S. Forest Service and Christopher Moyer to look at every single MOU that exists between USFS and AFWA. We do not have the same level of MOUs with the FWS. AFWA would propose having more of these with the FWS.

Greg Sheehan: what often drives us apart is disagreement over policy issues. Paul Souza: The states are more nimble and better with public engagement. They are also more engaged with politics. Federal agencies tend to move slower but at least allows for engagement that results in better decisions. Tom Melius: MOUs should have some specifics. There is general support for more discussion on this idea. Sara Pauley: Need to set aside time to talk about what is it going to take for fish and wildlife management (i.e., science needs, social science, future look)? Benjamin

Tuggle: In-person discussions are an important part of this. MOUs can be haphazard at times. Jay Slack: Having routine communications and meetings are helpful.

Steve Guertin: There is talk at the Department of the Interior about "Joint Management Areas," and we have these conversations going on. Virgil Moore: What we are asking for is some sort of primacy given to us as leaders of fish and wildlife management in this nation. We have a number of agreements with other institutions, but we have nothing like that with FWS and your legal and sovereign responsibilities. There has been issues in the past in terms of "marching to the beat of the same drum." It's a plea to FWS as leadership for us both to think about this differently. Once we agree on the objectives, how it is implemented is less consequential (i.e., going up the mountain analogy). LCCs were an attempt at getting to common objectives but got bogged down it the process. Sage grouse is a good example of how we gave a governance structure to an issue that created a space for common objectives.

AFWA passed out a draft template for *Policies and Guidelines for Joint Governance Between [State Agency] and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*.

Noreen Walsh: If those of us who have co-responsibility over these issues cannot come together to make progress, then the challenges coming from the public are going to overtake us. An MOU is one way to put some structure around this, but we should consider other options such as reconvening this meeting. Nick Wiley: There should be a process for monitoring and amending the agreement. Within FWS, there is so much pressure for initiatives that the states often feel left behind. Kelly Hepler: We need to identify next steps with broader communication on all three topics. Jim Kurth: We need to build on the successes we already have. For example, we signed a policy in development with AFWA on refuge management.

Steve Guertin summarized the FWS interest in signing such an agreement where we identify common goals in the three areas discussed today with periodic review. Ron Regan: on the landscape discussion, we have not pinned it on the wall quite yet.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: AFWA will delegate to staff the follow-up work on the items discussed today.

In terms of timing, the next meeting is the North American, which would be a point where there would be a check-in on this discussion in a more formal fashion.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: Task the Wildlife Policy with polling among the states for those existing agreements with FWS.
- **Action Item**: FWS and AFWA to provide feedback on draft policies and guideline document before the North American.

Virgil Moore gave an official recognition to Nick Wiley for his service to President at AFWA.

11:45 R3 Update, John Frampton

Based on the preliminary results of the National Hunting and Fishing Survey, there is real risk for the decline of hunting, fishing, and shooting sports. The Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports has identified recommendations and a national plan. A staff working with the Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) has organized workshops around the country. RBFF has also developed a plan for fishing. We are committed to working with FWS on this issue (perhaps an MOU is involved). There is a national R3 Symposium planned in Lincoln, Nebraska on May 21-23, 2018.

The group took a break to sign joint guidance on SWAPs.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Directorate Meeting
Skyline Headquarters in Falls Church in Virginia *December 5-7, 2017*

Tuesday, December 5, 2017
Rachel Carson Conference Room (1W104), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Steve Guertin

9:00am – 12:00pm
USFWS Directorate discussion with AFWA Executive Committee

Jim Kurth welcomed the group, particularly the state fish and wildlife agency colleagues. Virgil Moore, Director, Idaho Fish and Game Department and President, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, gave remarks. The topics covered included:

Topic One: SO 3356 and New Opportunities for Hunter and Angler Engagement

- **Action Item**: Prepare a shared letter of commitment to identify areas of common interest.
- **Action Item**: In the next AFWA newsletter, include information about Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to help connect state agencies to the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs

Topic Two: Landscape Level Partnership Models

Topic Three: Collaborative Governance Models

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: AFWA will delegate to staff the follow-up work on the items discussed today.
- **Action Item (AFWA)**: Task the Wildlife Policy with polling among the states for those existing agreements with FWS.
- **Action Item**: FWS and AFWA to provide feedback on draft policies and guideline document before the North American.

John Frampton gave an update on R3 efforts.

1:00pm – 3:00pm
Budget Updates, *Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin*
Additional Participants: Chris Nolin

Steve Guertin gave an overview of the current budget climate and the Administration's commitment to significant reductions in domestic programs, and Chris Nolin handed out budget tables for FY18. FY19 was also discussed.

3:00pm – 4:00pm
USFWS Priorities, *Greg Sheehan*

Greg provided an overview of the Secretary's Priorities and the step-down efforts for FWS priorities.

- **Action Item**: Calibrate the actions in the Secretarial Priorities with the Department's Strategic Plan
- **Action Item**: Go through the AFWA Committee list and put together Directorate leads and a plan for participating in the North American.

Wednesday, December 6, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Jim Kurth

11:00am – 12:00pm
ABA Transformation, *Steve Guertin, Janine Velasco, Denise Sheehan, Ken Taylor, and Brian Bloodsworth*

We are moving forward with a reprogramming request to Congress to consolidate administrative programs into a shared service provider, including work with a contractor for implementation.

- **Action Item**: Submit nominations for the JAO Project Team (request to go out shortly).

There are two areas of follow-up work:
1) All of the items in "Analysis Required" is now part of "Inside Scope" even though they may not be fully considered.
2) We need to have clear criteria for what is decided to be centralized with clear decision points with the Deputies and the Directorate.

2:00pm – 3:30pm
Meet and Greet with Jason Larrabee

Jason Larrabee introduced him and they had a general discussion about Departmental issues.

3:30pm – 5:00pm
Science Program, *Ben Tuggle and Seth Mott*

The conversation continued as a follow-up to the landscape conservation discussion in the morning with AFWA. Several options were discussed but none were decided upon specifically.

Thursday, December 7, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderators: Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin

8:30am – 10:00am
Regulatory Updates, *Cynthia Martinez, Gloria Bell, Gary Frazer and Jerome Ford*

Updates were provided from the National Wildlife Refuge System, Ecological Services, International Affairs, and Migratory Birds.

- **Action Item**: Add the Regional Directors to the communications list for the S.O. 3356 implementation.

10:00am – 11:00pm
Report from the Deputies Group, *Shaun Sanchez*

The Deputies Group has been working on the FY18 Operations Plan and allocations. The three areas we are presenting to the Directorate are enterprise costs, national priority initiatives, and the investment proposals.

- **Motion** (Robyn Thorsen): agreement to fund proposals 1-4. Motion passed.

Alternative Proposal: choose between the two methodologies (i.e., FTE and Carryover) and then leave it up to the programs how best to pay for it. There was an interest in the FTE approach being more equitable.

- **Action Item**: The proposal is for Brian Bloodsworth, Chris Nolin, and Shaun Sanchez to lead a small team that will be assigned to figure out how to pay for the enterprise investments, which will then be owned by the Director's Office.

On the national priority initiatives, Jim Kurth provided an overview of the current status.

11:00am – 12:00pm
Legislative Updates, *Barbara Wainman*

We provided a summary on the bills that are out there. We are not operating under "regular order." We would like to do more courtesy Congressional visits that are not focused on "hot-button" issues.

1:00pm – 2:00pm
Diversity, *Jim Kurth, Paul Rauch, Inez Uhl*

A progress report was provided from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the results of the national hiring process. The data from this effort shows that there is possible discrimination in that minorities were selected at half the rate of their Caucasian counterparts. The Executive Committee for Diversity will continue with a focus on implementing the Diversity and Inclusion Plan.

- **Action Item**: Paul Rauch will re-send out the materials and put to a decision the furtherance of the EDC with the new charter, and then discuss this more at the next VTC.

2:00pm – 3:00pm
Hurricane Update, *Cynthia Martinez, Terrina Harford*

Our resources were stretched incredibly thin with our agency's response to three hurricanes while also being at a PL5 level for fire. Now we are undergoing after-action review.

3:00pm – 4:00pm
FEVS Update, *Steve Guertin*

Our employee engagement effort is in its fourth year. We have 60% participation in 2017.
The Partnership for Public Service has just released its ranking of best places to work. DOI is #9 of 16 large agencies and FWS is #43 out of 150 across government (for comparison, USGS is #41, BLM is #115, and NPS is #128).

4:00pm – 4:30pm
Wrap-up, *Jim Kurth*

Meeting adjourned.

From: Gale, Michael
To: Tollefson, Chris
Cc: Charisa Morris
Subject: Re: Greg"s priorities - Directorate discussion
Date: Monday, December 11, 2017 10:43:28 AM
Attachments: USFWS Directorate Mtg Notes - Dec 2017.docx

Hi Chris,

Attached are the draft notes from the Directorate meeting. These are close hold, draft, and have not been reviewed. Please do not share.

Michael

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 12:22 PM, Tollefson, Chris <chris_tollefson@fws.gov> wrote:

> Guys,
>
> I got the PowerPoint from Barbara outlining Greg's priorities from the Directorate Meeting. I'm working on putting talking points together for him for the upcoming regional visits. It would really help me flesh these out if you could share the notes from this discussion with me. Any chance you could send them to me? Just want to make sure I capture everything as accurately as possible.
>
> Thanks in advance! Have a great weekend!
>
> Chris
>
> **Chris Tollefson - Press Secretary and Senior Communications Advisor**
> U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: EA - Falls Church, VA 22041
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Michael Gale

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Directorate Meeting
Skyline Headquarters in Falls Church in Virginia *December 5-7, 2017*

Participants:

Amy Lueders (R2)
Barbara Wainman (EA)
Benjamin Tuggle (SA)
Bob Broscheid (CO)
Carol Banbury (AFWA)
Curt Melcher (OR)
Cynthia Martinez (NWRS)
David Hoskins (FAC)
Deb Rocque (R5)
Ed Carter (TN)
Ed Grace (LE)
Gary Frazer (ES)
Glenn Normandeau (NH)
Gloria Bell (IA)
Gordon Myers (NC)
Greg Sheehan (FWS)
Greg Siekaniec (R7)
Janine Velasco (BMO)
Jay Slack (NCTC)
Jen Mock Schaffer (AFWA)
Jerome Ford (MB)
Jim Douglas (NE)
Jim Kurth (FWS)
Kelly Hepler (SD)
Ken Taylor (IRTM)
Mark Humpert (AFWA)
Mike Oetker (R4)
Nick Wiley (FL)
Noreen Walsh (R6)
Paul Rauch (WSFR)
Paul Souza (R8)
Robyn Thorsen (R1)
Ron Regan (AFWA)
Sara Pauley (MO)
Shaun Sanchez (NWRS)
Steve Guertin (FWS)
Tom Melius (R3)
Tony Wasley (NV)
Travis Ripley (Alberta)
Virgil Moore (ID)
Wendi Weber (R5)
Zack Gambill (FWS)

Staff:

Charisa Morris (FWS)
Michael Gale (FWS)

Tuesday, December 5, 2017
Rachel Carson Conference Room (1W104), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Steve Guertin

9:00am – 12:00pm
USFWS Directorate discussion with AFWA Executive Committee

Jim Kurth welcomed the group, particularly the state fish and wildlife agency colleagues. This morning, Greg Sheehan was called to a last minute meeting with Deputy Secretary Bernhardt.

9:00 ***Opening Remarks and Introductions***

Virgil Moore, Director, Idaho Fish and Game Department and President, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

This gathering of the FWS Directorate and the Executive Committee for AFWA is unprecedented and welcomed. AFWA has proposed three topics to guide this morning's discussions: hunting/fishing access, landscape conservation, and collaborative governance. FWS has unique legal responsibilities for some species; by and large, state fish and wildlife agencies are responsible for managing fish and wildlife populations. The change in the Administration creates new opportunities for working together.

Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Greg Sheehan welcomed the group. Greg talked about how he is able to speak from both sides of this group, having just a year ago been a member of the AFWA Executive Committee. The folks

and talent in this room represent the "best of the best" in fisheries and wildlife management, arguably in the world. From here on out, how do we cement these relationships? Now more than ever, we need to come together.

Collectively, we need to think about recruitment and retention. Nowadays, newer employees do not have the same long-term commitment to singular institutions as they once did. They move about more. There is also rampant urbanization, which is happening in every state in the country. ESA issues is an overlapping area with the states, as is sportsmen's access.

9:30 ***Topic One: SO 3356 and New Opportunities for Hunter and Angler Engagement***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Gordon Myers (NC)

Bob Broscheid: With Secretarial Order 3356, there is an opportunity to come up with a shared vision among partners with how the states can be helpful in implementing the S.O. This discussion should focus on high-level recommendations on what we can do together.

Steve Guertin gave an overview of the agency's work on S.O. 3347 and 3356. This is a big deal for FWS. We have met with both AFWA and the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) on this issue, including the idea of "First Catch" Centers. A focus of this work is returning veterans and people with disabilities. We also have an initiative, "Restoring the Refuges" that invests in access infrastructure.

We have reassigned one person in every Region as a Hunting and Fishing Chief, who will work individually with refuges to identify opportunities to enhance access. The other element is consistency with state regulations. For AFWA, we would like the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to meet with the state fish and wildlife agency leadership to hear their suggestions and frustrations.

Jim Douglas: At some point, this initiative has to come down to the state level with a joint assessment of where things are right now. The collaboration needs to involve both FWS and the state. Paul Souza: This is becoming the signature issue for conservation for us right now. Another step is bringing in key partners (e.g., Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited) to form a coalition around this issue. Jay Slack: Dave Chanda is working with NCTC to put together R3 training available to FWS, partners, and the states. Shaun Sanchez: On R3, we are tasking our people to go to the R3 Coordinators in the states and materials already developed to not reinvent the wheel. Paul Rauch: FWS needs to lead from behind on this; we want to be helpful.

Kelly Hepler: we all make value judgments in making regulations. We need to think about collective opportunities. Virgil Moore: we need to look at existing hunting and fishing rules and determine if there are problems that need to be addressed with deference to state laws. Noreen Walsh: it is not clear whether the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs are working with the states on the survey questions. Cynthia Martinez: we need to get through the assessment and start with quick wins to make hunting and fishing easier.

Glenn Normandeau: they have a process in New Hampshire for analyzing value-added efforts that could serve as a model. Nick Wiley: The earlier we engage, the better. There was a question about the authorities of the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs. Cynthia Martinez: The Chiefs have stayed in the Regions and report directly to Headquarters and are graded highly. Curt Melcher: One of the "elephants" in the room is predator management. We need to be able to direct market to our various constituencies, who have already showed interest in wildlife recreation.

- **Action Item**: Prepare a shared letter of commitment between AFWA and USFWS to identify areas of common interest.

- **Action Item**: In the next AFWA newsletter, include information about Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to help connect state agencies to the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs

Virgil Moore, Ron Regan, Greg Sheehan, and Jim Kurth signed an agreement to work together on the issues discussed at today's meeting.

10:15 ***Topic Two: Landscape Level Partnership Models***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Tony Wasely (NV)

To start off, there is great value to landscape-scale conservation and the value of partnerships. There are a myriad of successes in organizing landscape-scale conservation, including Joint Ventures, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs), National Fish Habitat Partnerships, etc. There are really two key factors to success: 1) underlying science that is best if coproduced, 2) a partnership to implement that science with opportunities to leverage funding.

AFWA conducted a survey (49 of 50 states) with a question specific to LCCs. There was really a divided opinion in terms of the states that saw value in LCCs (about a 50/50 split). The President's Budget zeroed out the LCC program, and right now is a good time to have a broader discussion about what LCCs look like. How do we respond to these challenges? We recognize the special relationship between FWS and the state fish and wildlife agencies. There is $25 million for conservation in the LCC budget.

Some options that have been discussed with the Executive Committee include:

1) Nexus to State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs) and a species-at-risk approach. This may be in conflict with the self-directed nature of LCCs.
    a. One of the challenges with LCCs is their geography where states are in multiple LCCs.
2) Issue-specific LCC (more like Joint Ventures, e.g., Monarch butterflies)
3) Administering them through a regional association
    a. Previously, AFWA had a recommendation on governance that came from a Joint Task Force that was previously established

Certainly the discussion is not limited to LCCs, but we wanted to have sufficient time to address LCCs, which have value in supporting landscape-scale conservation.

Benjamin Tuggle: We would want to emphasize is the peer-to-peer relationship with the state fish and wildlife agency directors. One of our recommendations is to erase the artificial boundaries of the LCCs and let the issue define the boundary. We have primary responsibility for managing fish and wildlife resources on the landscape. The Service's role in the organizational structure is going to change – those resources being deployed are being directed by our mutual collaboration for specific issues in those geographies.

Paul Souza: We have great conservation capacity within the LCCs; how can we spend that money in a way that would maximize our returns? We can learn from our experiences and support these partnerships in ways that make sense. Benjamin Tuggle: What is fundamental is how we direct these resources for mutual benefits. Wendi Weber: In the Northeast, these partnerships have worked well together around shared issues, such as prelisting conservation. Gary Frazer: three years ago, the Western Governors Association (WGA) had a species-based effort that is going to use landscape approaches (i.e., integrating species conservation, forest health, invasive species, and other issues into a strategic approach). Other discussion points included that the other part of LCCs is engage those broader NGO collaborations, who are part of the SWAPs. LCCs were addressing both science and outreach, which created some challenges.

11:00 ***Topic Three: Collaborative Governance Models***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Virgil Moore (ID)

One of the areas AFWA is looking at is with collaboratives across the nation, and LCCs are part of that. With our senior status, we have all been involved with collaboratives, but have we tried to roll that up with any kind of analysis to drive better wildlife management? Collaboratives not only includes institutions such as the Joint Ventures as well as collaborative initiatives such as sage brush. We have to have respect, trust, and a science-based foundation. How do we as leaders precede with building the necessary elements to move forward?

One of the areas we have been working with the U.S. Forest Service and Christopher Moyer to look at every single MOU that exists between USFS and AFWA. We do not have the same level of MOUs with the FWS. AFWA would propose having more of these with the FWS.

Greg Sheehan: what often drives us apart is disagreement over policy issues. Paul Souza: The states are more nimble and better with public engagement. They are also more engaged with politics. Federal agencies tend to move slower but at least allows for engagement that results in better decisions. Tom Melius: MOUs should have some specifics. There is general support for more discussion on this idea. Sara Pauley: Need to set aside time to talk about what is it going to take for fish and wildlife management (i.e., science needs, social science, future look)? Benjamin

Tuggle: In-person discussions are an important part of this. MOUs can be haphazard at times. Jay Slack: Having routine communications and meetings are helpful.

Steve Guertin: There is talk at the Department of the Interior about "Joint Management Areas," and we have these conversations going on. Virgil Moore: What we are asking for is some sort of primacy given to us as leaders of fish and wildlife management in this nation. We have a number of agreements with other institutions, but we have nothing like that with FWS and your legal and sovereign responsibilities. There has been issues in the past in terms of "marching to the beat of the same drum." It's a plea to FWS as leadership for us both to think about this differently. Once we agree on the objectives, how it is implemented is less consequential (i.e., going up the mountain analogy). LCCs were an attempt at getting to common objectives but got bogged down it the process. Sage grouse is a good example of how we gave a governance structure to an issue that created a space for common objectives.

AFWA passed out a draft template for *Policies and Guidelines for Joint Governance Between [State Agency] and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*.

Noreen Walsh: If those of us who have co-responsibility over these issues cannot come together to make progress, then the challenges coming from the public are going to overtake us. An MOU is one way to put some structure around this, but we should consider other options such as reconvening this meeting. Nick Wiley: There should be a process for monitoring and amending the agreement. Within FWS, there is so much pressure for initiatives that the states often feel left behind. Kelly Hepler: We need to identify next steps with broader communication on all three topics. Jim Kurth: We need to build on the successes we already have. For example, we signed a policy in development with AFWA on refuge management.

Steve Guertin summarized the FWS interest in signing such an agreement where we identify common goals in the three areas discussed today with periodic review. Ron Regan: on the landscape discussion, we have not pinned it on the wall quite yet.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: AFWA will delegate to staff the follow-up work on the items discussed today.

In terms of timing, the next meeting is the North American, which would be a point where there would be a check-in on this discussion in a more formal fashion.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: Task the Wildlife Policy with polling among the states for those existing agreements with FWS.
- **Action Item**: FWS and AFWA to provide feedback on draft policies and guideline document before the North American.

Virgil Moore gave an official recognition to Nick Wiley for his service to President at AFWA.

11:45 R3 Update, John Frampton

Based on the preliminary results of the National Hunting and Fishing Survey, there is real risk for the decline of hunting, fishing, and shooting sports. The Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports has identified recommendations and a national plan. A staff working with the Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) has organized workshops around the country. RBFF has also developed a plan for fishing. We are committed to working with FWS on this issue (perhaps an MOU is involved). There is a national R3 Symposium planned in Lincoln, Nebraska on May 21-23, 2018.

The group took a break to sign joint guidance on SWAPs.

BREAK FOR LUNCH

1:00pm – 3:00pm
Budget Updates, *Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin*
Additional Participants: Chris Nolin

Steve Guertin gave an overview of the current budget climate and the Administration's commitment to significant reductions in domestic programs. To meet the requirements for reductions while keeping on personnel and mission achievement, those reductions were applied to our portfolio of grant programs. For FY18, Congress had taken on different views that the President's budget. They restored field program services to the best that they could, and they were also able to restore some of the grant programs. On Science and the LCCs, there was a heated debate and in the end there were more supporters than not, and so funding was included.

On the FY19 Budget, the budget is in a state of flux. A budget was formulated based planning guidance with an emphasis on access, infrastructure, and energy. The passback from OMB drove down the budget even further another $70-80 million, which also included cuts to science and the Listing program. We do not know where it is going to come out. We are hopeful for an upward trend but should expect major cuts.

Chris Nolin handed out budget tables for FY18.

There was a question about infrastructure. Despite the Administration's interest in infrastructure and addressing maintenance backlogs, there has not been any move on that front. Jim Cason is coordinating an exercise related to public-private partnerships as an approach, which ties into the "Restoring the Refuges" initiative. Recently, there was an announcement of a $227 million investment in the Memorial Bridge, which was paid for through reprioritized funding within the National Park Service.

Ed Grace: the issue in Law Enforcement is to get the hiring through the hiring freeze. Jay Slack: Senate mark-up restored funding for NCTC, which is still struggling with salary costs. In the

budget, Migratory Birds and Fisheries are good. For Refuges (126X accounts), the House and Senate is holding steady, which means a decrease. Workforce planning continues with the Regional Refuge Chiefs. In Partners and Coastal (1121, 1124), these are programs that keeps getting hit. International Affairs is back to FY17 levels and the Arctic Council was funded.

For Ecological Services, it's a mix: for the Listing program, the Administration proposed a 50% decrease, which the House and Senate accepted. There is a risk for increased litigation with less responses to petitions. There was also a reduction in candidate conservation. For recovery, there was an increase in partnerships for captive breeding and augmentation work with zoos and aquariums. Janine Velasco: the Regions should be careful of the 1664 accounts, which are overspending for this year. There was a discussion about the FY18 Work Plan for Ecological Services and whether there are the resources in place to meet the deliverables in the plan.

Greg Siekaniec: where are we in terms of increased costs for benefits and then the analysis on attrition? Steve Guertin: we expected 400 people to leave, and only a couple of dozen have left. For FY19, we need to think about planning and communications. External Affairs has been tasked with a communications plan for the budget roll-out. It's important to communicate with employees even when there is not a lot of uncertainty. There was also a question about VERA/VSIP and the current status of that. Jay Slack: we should make a statement about where there would never be application of VERA/VSIP, which would be very helpful for employees in those areas. Robyn Thorsen: the attrition rate might be driven by folks just working longer.

Rebekah Giddings: On October 1 last year compared to this year, we pretty much are in the same place personnel-wise. We have 3,500 employees who are retirement eligible. Right now, we have 350 people with 36 years or more of service (i.e., likely to retire), and they are more in the GS-12 and 13 levels. Steve Guertin: There is an issue with transition planning (i.e., the "brain drain" issue). We are looking at a possible 10 to 20% turnover.

On a different note, we are also planning for a government shutdown, just in case.

3:00pm – 4:00pm
USFWS Priorities, *Greg Sheehan*

Greg provided an overview of the Secretary's Priorities and the step-down efforts for FWS priorities. The first three have to do with Ecological Services, and we are on track with them (minor changes could occur). The recovery of the black-capped vireo is a great conservation success. Mitigation policies are currently under review at the Departmental level's policy leadership. This includes a focus on NEPA (i.e., S.O. 3355). On the third priority, there is a discrepancy between the Department's Strategic Plan and the Secretarial Priorities document on the timing of a recovery outline.

- **Action Item**: Calibrate the actions in the Secretarial Priorities with the Department's Strategic Plan

On "Restoring the Refuges," there's a challenge in promoting this without an infrastructure package and the ongoing budget reductions. There are other ways that dollars can come to us (i.e., public-private partnerships). Amy Lueders: suggested to frame it more around assets that protect ecosystems (i.e., storm barriers from coastal habitat). Paul Souza: this is also about increasing hunting and fishing access that tells a bigger story. On the issue of adding fish hatcheries, they are part of the initiative but not the branding.

Wendi Weber had a question about "green infrastructure" and resilience. Chris Nolin: there is a Minority amendment in the supplemental to add money for resilience. Cynthia Martinez: the deferred maintenance list Noreen Walsh: we do have infrastructure issues at other facilities, such as the Black-footed Ferret Center and the Puerto Rican Parrot Facility. Greg Sheehan: Yes, it's much broader than refuges.

On hunting and fishing access, we are doing a lot to be responsive. Greg asked of the RDs: the recommendations of the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs might include some difficult things that refuge managers are not going to want do them for various reasons. At the RD level, the RDs should be firm in their support of these Hunting and Fishing Chiefs and their work – it's a priority of the Administration. The Hunting and Fishing Chiefs need to be communicating with the Regional Director's Office. We are asking the RDs not to task the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs in the way they normally would. If there is resistance, it's the responsibility of the RDs to manage that. Greg Siekaniec had a question about NEPA and litigation risk. Jim Kurth: we do better application of NEPA through the annual hunt/fish rule. In terms of population objectives, we defer to the environmental analysis on say the migratory bird framework or the SWAPs.

Paul Rauch: we don't want to lose sight of the number of hunters and not just the acreage of access. Shaun Sanchez: the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs are working with the Natural Resource Program Center and the Inventorying and Monitoring program on the social science and surveying aspect. Noreen Walsh: there needs to be constant communication between the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs and the RDs. Cynthia Martinez: We are trying to connect the dots.

On enhancing border protection, this was a significant issue of public interest. For FWS, we manage 150 miles along the southern border. Zack Gambill: Despite some joking around about Canada, there has been some terror cells that came into Montana from Canada, so broadly it's an issue for all borders. Cynthia Martinez: After the situation with Malhuer NWR, we established a risk and threat coordinator position. Jim Kurth: For the barrier, the Department of Homeland Security would need evoke a waiver. Amy Lueders: for any new construction, there is a plan to use a waiver. Janine Velasco: Appreciate the broader tone on the importance of safety.

We worked a fair amount this morning on the working with states piece. Paul Rauch: we have an opportunity with the upcoming North American meeting. One area we can really improve in is with the preparation for the AFWA Committee meetings (even coordination among ourselves).

- **Action Item**: Go through the AFWA Committee list and put together Directorate leads and a plan for participating in the North American.

Tom Melius: On working with Tribes, sometimes they prefer to work with FWS in a government-to-government context. We can always rely on the science. Paul Souza: there is much less structure on the Tribal piece. There is a new policy on tribal consultation and added training. Amy Lueders: there was a suggestion to split the issues of states and tribes in terms of the Secretary's Priorities. The issue of the ESA Joint Task Force (JTF) was brought up.

On working with industry, the Department organized an industry roundtable that is turning into an advisory group. DOI has hired Rick May to work on this issue full-time within the Office of the Secretary. On organizational transformation, there are still some unknowns in terms of moving operations out west. Fundamentally, this effort is still being looked at and ongoing. Steve Guertin: the new administrative reorganization approach is portable and mobile.

Greg Siekaniec: the Transformation Team had a number of recommendations broader than the administrative reorganization. Is any of that moving? Greg Sheehan: No, I haven't heard anything. Jim Kurth: we have stories to tell of the work that we do that support the Secretary's Priorities, particularly with our conservation stewardship legacy and being good neighbors. Let's keep the conservation work we do front and center with the Secretary.

Wednesday, December 6, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Jim Kurth

11:00am – 12:00pm
ABA Transformation, *Steve Guertin, Janine Velasco, Denise Sheehan, Ken Taylor, and Brian Bloodsworth*

We are moving forward with a reprogramming request to Congress to consolidate administrative programs into a shared service provider. The hiring freeze / approval process applies to these grade series throughout the organization. The Road Ahead – starting in December, we will assemble the Joint Administrative Officers (JAO) Project Team. There will be diverse representation on this team to include managers and other stakeholders. We will also pull together a more detailed implementation plan, particularly for merging the regional capacities. Through the summer, we will be moving this proposal through the appropriations process. By next spring, we plan to have initial deployment of the HQ functions, and over the following year we would focus on the Regions. This will take about two years to complete this process.

For today's discussions, we want to discuss what functions get included. "In Scope" include IT, (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(

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- **Action Item**: Submit nominations for the JAO Project Team (request to go out shortly).

There are two areas of follow-up work:

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2:00pm – 3:30pm
Meet and Greet with Jason Larrabee

Jason Larrabee has been with the Department for about 10 weeks now. Jason was born and raised in northern California and has hunted and fished his whole life. He spent 12 ½ years on Capitol Hill in policy and appropriations work. He was most recently the Chief of Staff for Representative Denham. Jason provided his cell phone number: (b) (6)(b) (6)

In terms of the Secretary's Priorities, there is a focus on access and making the "R" in recreation a little stronger. He wants all folks to enjoy all lands. The Secretary supports recreation with a leave no trace philosophy. The Secretary is also interested in thinking about the Department for the next 100 years. There is a lot of value in using technology and advancing what we do. We can reform government and make it work better for everyone.

Robyn Thorsen asked if there are going to be opportunities for the political officials to get out into the field, and Jason said there is a strong interest in that. Wendi Weber mentioned the

"Conservation Without Conflict" approach that involves the preclude the need to list (Jason is interested in learning more about this). [redacted] Jay Slack mentioned the R3 (Recruitment, Retention, Reengagement/Reinvestment) program with the states to get more people interested in the outdoors with hunting and fishing.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

There was a general discussion about Departmental issues.

3:30pm – 5:00pm
Science Program, *Ben Tuggle and Seth Mott*

[redacted]

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[redacted]

Thursday, December 7, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderators: Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin

For the Holiday Breakfast, we served food to 350 people, collected over 200 toys for Toys for Tots (along with over $300 of donations), and sold 25 Federal Duck Stamps.

8:30am – 10:00am
Regulatory Updates, *Cynthia Martinez, Gloria Bell, Gary Frazer and Jerome Ford*

National Wildlife Refuge System:

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We also have an EA for seismic activity in the 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. (b)(5) DPP
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In addition, the Predator Rule was removed from Congressional review, which was removed from the Code of Federal Regulations in November.

On Hunting and Fishing, we are very focused on that. Aaron Mize has been reassigned as the Hunting and Fishing Chief overseeing the Regional H/F Chiefs (along with Kate Harrigan, Presidential Management Fellow) and Linh Phu has been assigned as the Coordinator for S.). 3356. Also, Alice Garret is working on "Restoring the Refuges."

- **Action Item**: Add the Regional Directors to the communications list for the S.O. 3356 implementation.

Amy Lueders: communicating successes for the hunting and fishing initiatives is going to be important. Shaun Sanchez: there are a lot of successes and stories that we should be telling.

International Affairs:

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Ecological Services:

We published a notice that our mitigation policies are open for comment. The notice focuses on the mitigation goals, particularly the net conservation benefit piece. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP

[redacted]
We also put out a notice on CCAA policy regulations to make the issuance standard more clear and consistent with Safe Harbor Agreements.

[redacted]

On wolves, there is appropriations language specific to western Great Lakes and Wyoming wolves in addition to language related to using funding for management of Gray wolves. On red wolf, there is Senate language to provide a report-out given the failure of the species recovery.

Migratory Birds:

[redacted] They are working on a Heritage Stamp. A month ago, they published an EA on cormorants (take up to 50,000 birds). Finally, they are also working on Tribal Hunting Regulations that will hopefully publish next week. A couple of years ago, the Tribes from the Midwest said they should have access to 50% of the surplus given their treaty rights, which promulgated a negotiation with the Tribes. [redacted]

10:00am – 11:00pm
Report from the Deputies Group, *Shaun Sanchez*

The Deputies Group has been working on the FY18 Operations Plan and allocations. The three areas we are presenting to the Directorate are enterprise costs, national priority initiatives, and the investment proposals.

On enterprise costs, we are working on getting the reimburables squared away. Before anything gets added to enterprise costs, they would come back to the Deputies Group. The "what" is taken care of, and we are still working on the "how."

On investment proposals, we had been talking with what to do with FY18 carryover funding. We wanted to focus that funding into corporate investments [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

- **Motion** (Robyn Thorsen): agreement to fund proposals 1-4. Motion passed.

[redacted]

[redacted]

- **Action Item**: The proposal is for Brian Bloodsworth, Chris Nolin, and Shaun Sanchez to lead a small team that will be assigned to figure out how to pay for the enterprise investments, which will then be owned by the Director's Office.

On the national priority initiatives, Jim Kurth provided an overview of the current status. For Gulf and Sage Grouse, these have now been appropriated. On monarchs, we agreed to a $4 million commitment every year for five years, which comes off the top. For NCTC, there currently is a budget proposal. There was agreement to support past decisions [redacted]

[redacted]

11:00am – 12:00pm
Legislative Updates, *Barbara Wainman*

We provided a summary on the bills that are out there.[redacted] he Senate is, as usual, more bipartisan. The Congressional Review Act was used to undo a number of rules from the last Administration. We work closely with the Budget Office on the appropriations riders.

We would like to do more courtesy Congressional visits that are not focused on "hot-button" issues. For example, there were about 15 visits around the cormorants issue that were very well received. Also, a lot of Members are reaching out directly to Greg Sheehan. We have also been working more with the Fish and Wildlife and Parks office, with whom there is now a weekly meeting related to communications. John Tanner is now the new director of the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs (OCL), who came from Senator Orrin Hatch's office. Micah Chambers is now the Deputy for OCL (he had been the acting director).

[redacted]

1:00pm – 2:00pm
Diversity, *Jim Kurth, Paul Rauch, Inez Uhl*

On hiring people with disabilities, we have about 10% participation in FWS, which is just below the goal of 12%. We are less successful with our efforts for people with "targeted disabilities."

Currently we are sitting at 17.7% of minority participation rate, and we have had a target of 20.6%. Last year, our accessions were 19.7% but our separations were 21.9%. This means that we are not reaching our goal and are actually going backwards. We should have hired 26% of minorities to move the needle closer to our goal.

Greg Sheehan had asked how we compare to the rest of the federal sector and Interior. DOI has 26.3% minority participation. FWS is second to last from the bottom in DOI (only USGS has a lower participation rate - 13.7%). Across the federal sector, it is 35.9%. There is a lack of representation of African Americans within DOI. Last year, we hired 66 minorities but lost 66 minorities.[redacted]

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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP There was an Executive Committee for Diversity that was put together, who put together the Diversity and Inclusion Plan in 2011. In 2015, a revised plan was presented, but there was no oversight for it. Everything in the plan helps us to do our mission, and everything in this plan is for everybody.

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(b)(5) DPP: About this time last year, we started in a national hiring mode. We held off in June and July with the "fab four" series (i.e., mission area series) so that we could do a group hire. This was accomplished within 6 weeks. There were 72 positions posted and 67 people were hired; we shortened the amount of panels, and they were very aggressive with applicants (there were over 4,000 applicants). (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)

One of the objectives of the national hiring approach was to get a more diverse applicant pool. The focus was limited to entry level positions among the "fab four" series. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP They also standardized the PDs and vacancy announcements. They recruited from 20 specific colleges and universities.

Of the 4,000 applicants, there were 667 minorities, 2,286 identified as non-minorities (others not identified). There were 583 minorities who were qualified. Of those, 144 were referred (i.e., the best qualified category). We made 10 selections of minority candidates. From the other pool, 61 qualified, 53 were referred, and 3 were selected. There were minorities on the certificates at over 60 duty stations.

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- **Action Item**: Paul Rauch will re-send out the materials and put to a decision the furtherance of the EDC with the new charter, and then discuss this more at the next VTC.

2:00pm – 3:00pm
Hurricane Update, *Cynthia Martinez, Terrina Harford*

Our resources were stretched incredibly thin with three hurricanes while being at a PL5 level for fire. It's incredible what we were able to do as a bureau. This was a "hyper active" hurricane season with three major hurricanes (Category 3 or higher) – Harvey (200 employees impacted, 26 stations), Irma (426 and 67), and Maria (61 and 11).

We responded with an Incident Management Team (IMT) with a measured, necessary, yet significant response. A total of 61 people and 24 pieces of equipment were deployed. IMT operated out of Balcones Canyonlands NWR. Amy Lueders: called out how well people in FWS took care of each other like a family. Six employees are still in temporary housing.

For Irma, we had a unique response requirement with the key deer population to think about. We deployed Spanish speaking law enforcement agents. When we have a diverse workforce, it makes us better for it and better federal partners. We had people in real need, particularly at Vieques, and FWS was there to help. Mike Oetker: with Irma, the flood damage was on the Atlantic coast with impacts to impacted species. Maria tested the capabilities with not only our agency but also FEMA. One of the populations of Puerto Rican parrots were decimated. Today, everything is still on emergency power and communications is a challenge. Cynthia Martinez: when you have a hurricane impacting an island, it's a whole different set of considerations.

At the same time, we were providing support at the federal level with a number of Emergency Support Functions (ESF) and Recovery Support Functions (RSF). At peak period, FWS provided over 50% of the DOI deployed personnel. Over 150 FWS personnel deployed to meet external and internal response needs. Keenan Adams is on an extended detail in Puerto Rico as part of the recovery efforts. The FWS Supplemental Request is for $210 million, which was submitted on November 21st. This was estimated based on projections of replacement value.

Now we are undergoing after-action review. Aviation will be an asset that will be used more in the future. Some pre-identified potential AAR themes include information management / reporting, intra-agency and inter-agency coordination, and financial/acquisition/administrative. They will also develop focused task forces, further use of IQCS/ROSS (database of responders) for All-Hazards, and full-time regional emergency management coordinators.

3:00pm – 4:00pm

FEVS Update, *Steve Guertin*

The Secretary has promoted the FEVS program as a measurement of how we are doing. There is a focus on the Department's work climate. The National Park Service has a concerted approach to address sexual harassment, and we can look to that as a model. Employee engagement matters, and we are getting after some of their primary concerns.

Our employee engagement effort is in its fourth year. We've built awareness and empowered leaders and managers and using the information to drive change. We have 60% participation in 2017. We are seeing positive, generally increasing scores in a transition year. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP

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The Partnership for Public Service has just released its ranking of best places to work. DOI is #9 of 16 large agencies and FWS is #43 out of 150 across government (for comparison, USGS is #41, BLM is #115, and NPS is #128). The Director's Memo is scheduled to go out on December 15th. We have a communications plan that will run from February – April in 2018. The next survey will be open May – June with results provided to the agencies in August.

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From:	Gale, Michael
To:	Morris, Charisa
Cc:	Kashyap Patel
Subject:	Re: Notes from Directorate Meeting
Date:	Tuesday, January 9, 2018 6:57:20 AM
Attachments:	USFWS Directorate Mtg SUMMARY - Dec 2017.docx AFWA - USFWS Mtg Notes - Dec 2017.docx USFWS Directorate Mtg Notes - Dec 2017.docx

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Hi Charisa,

Did you get any response on this request related to the Directorate Meeting notes?

It's really kept me up at night, unsure of whether they live on in the minds and hearts of those who could benefit from their grace. LOL :-)

I've reattached the documents and copied Kashyap so that he's in the loop. Up to you guys on how to proceed.

cheers,

Michael

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 10:45 AM, Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

> Checking in with the group to see if anybody had edits, or if we could add these to the google drive. If no response by COB today, I'm posting.
>
> Thanks!
> Charisa
>
> On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 12:21 PM, Gale, Michael <michael_gale@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hello Charisa, Steve, and Jim,
> >
> > Attached are the various documents that I've pulled together to capture all the great discussions that were had at last week's **USFWS Directorate Meeting**, which are:
> >
> > - **Notes** (detailed notes)
> > - **AFWA - FWS Notes** (just the first half-day of discussions - the thinking was to share this document with AFWA)
> > - **Summary** (just the Action Items, Motions, and high-level highlights)
> >
> > Pasted below are just the action items so that you have an immediate reference to them.
> >
> > Please let me know what you think the next steps should be in terms of reviewing and disseminating this information.
> >
> > Thanks!
> >
> > Michael
> >
> > --

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)
571.982.2158 (cell)

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ACTION ITEMS / MOTIONS

- **Action Item**: Prepare a shared letter of commitment between AFWA and USFWS to identify areas of common interest.

- **Action Item**: In the next AFWA newsletter, include information about Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to help connect state agencies to the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: AFWA will delegate to staff the follow-up work on the items discussed today.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: Task the Wildlife Policy with polling among the states for those existing agreements with FWS.

- **Action Item**: FWS and AFWA to provide feedback on draft policies and guideline document before the North American.

- **Action Item**: Calibrate the actions in the Secretarial Priorities with the Department's Strategic Plan

- **Action Item**: Go through the AFWA Committee list and put together Directorate leads and a plan for participating in the North American.

- **Action Item**: Submit nominations for the JAO Project Team (request to go out shortly).

- **Action Item**: Add the Regional Directors to the communications list for the S.O. 3356 implementation.

- **Motion** (Robyn Thorsen): agreement to fund proposals 1-4. Motion passed.

- **Action Item**: The proposal is for Brian Bloodsworth, Chris Nolin, and Shaun Sanchez to lead a small team that will be assigned to figure out how to pay for the enterprise investments, which will then be owned by the Director's Office.

- **Action Item**: Paul Rauch will re-send out the materials and put to a decision the furtherance of the EDC with the new charter, and then discuss this more at the next VTC.

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Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

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Michael Gale

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Directorate Meeting
Skyline Headquarters in Falls Church in Virginia *December 5-7, 2017*

Participants:

Amy Lueders (R2)
Barbara Wainman (EA)
Benjamin Tuggle (SA)
Bob Broscheid (CO)
Carol Banbury (AFWA)
Curt Melcher (OR)
Cynthia Martinez (NWRS)
David Hoskins (FAC)
Deb Rocque (R5)
Ed Carter (TN)
Ed Grace (LE)
Gary Frazer (ES)
Glenn Normandeau (NH)
Gloria Bell (IA)
Gordon Myers (NC)
Greg Sheehan (FWS)
Greg Siekaniec (R7)
Janine Velasco (BMO)
Jay Slack (NCTC)
Jen Mock Schaffer (AFWA)
Jerome Ford (MB)
Jim Douglas (NE)
Jim Kurth (FWS)
Kelly Hepler (SD)
Ken Taylor (IRTM)
Mark Humpert (AFWA)
Mike Oetker (R4)
Nick Wiley (FL)
Noreen Walsh (R6)
Paul Rauch (WSFR)
Paul Souza (R8)
Robyn Thorsen (R1)
Ron Regan (AFWA)
Sara Pauley (MO)
Shaun Sanchez (NWRS)
Steve Guertin (FWS)
Tom Melius (R3)
Tony Wasley (NV)
Travis Ripley (Alberta)
Virgil Moore (ID)
Wendi Weber (R5)
Zack Gambill (FWS)

Staff:

Charisa Morris (FWS)
Michael Gale (FWS)

Tuesday, December 5, 2017
Rachel Carson Conference Room (1W104), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Steve Guertin

9:00am – 12:00pm
USFWS Directorate discussion with AFWA Executive Committee

Jim Kurth welcomed the group, particularly the state fish and wildlife agency colleagues. This morning, Greg Sheehan was called to a last minute meeting with Deputy Secretary Bernhardt.

9:00 ***Opening Remarks and Introductions***

Virgil Moore, Director, Idaho Fish and Game Department and President, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

This gathering of the FWS Directorate and the Executive Committee for AFWA is unprecedented and welcomed. AFWA has proposed three topics to guide this morning's discussions: hunting/fishing access, landscape conservation, and collaborative governance. FWS has unique legal responsibilities for some species; by and large, state fish and wildlife agencies are responsible for managing fish and wildlife populations. The change in the Administration creates new opportunities for working together.

Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Greg Sheehan welcomed the group. Greg talked about how he is able to speak from both sides of this group, having just a year ago been a member of the AFWA Executive Committee. The folks

and talent in this room represent the "best of the best" in fisheries and wildlife management, arguably in the world. From here on out, how do we cement these relationships? Now more than ever, we need to come together.

Collectively, we need to think about recruitment and retention. Nowadays, newer employees do not have the same long-term commitment to singular institutions as they once did. They move about more. There is also rampant urbanization, which is happening in every state in the country. ESA issues is an overlapping area with the states, as is sportsmen's access.

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Some options that have been discussed with the Executive Committee include:

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Paul Souza: We have great conservation capacity within the LCCs; how can we spend that money in a way that would maximize our returns? We can learn from our experiences and support these partnerships in ways that make sense. Benjamin Tuggle: What is fundamental is how we direct these resources for mutual benefits. Wendi Weber: In the Northeast, these partnerships have worked well together around shared issues, such as prelisting conservation. Gary Frazer: three years ago, the Western Governors Association (WGA) had a species-based effort that is going to use landscape approaches (i.e., integrating species conservation, forest health, invasive species, and other issues into a strategic approach). Other discussion points included that the other part of LCCs is engage those broader NGO collaborations, who are part of the SWAPs. LCCs were addressing both science and outreach, which created some challenges.

11:00 ***Topic Three: Collaborative Governance Models***
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One of the areas AFWA is looking at is with collaboratives across the nation, and LCCs are part of that. With our senior status, we have all been involved with collaboratives, but have we tried to roll that up with any kind of analysis to drive better wildlife management? Collaboratives not only includes institutions such as the Joint Ventures as well as collaborative initiatives such as sage brush. We have to have respect, trust, and a science-based foundation. How do we as leaders precede with building the necessary elements to move forward?

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11:45 R3 Update, John Frampton

Based on the preliminary results of the National Hunting and Fishing Survey, there is real risk for the decline of hunting, fishing, and shooting sports. The Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports has identified recommendations and a national plan. A staff working with the Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) has organized workshops around the country. RBFF has also developed a plan for fishing. We are committed to working with FWS on this issue (perhaps an MOU is involved). There is a national R3 Symposium planned in Lincoln, Nebraska on May 21-23, 2018.

The group took a break to sign joint guidance on SWAPs.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Directorate Meeting
Skyline Headquarters in Falls Church in Virginia *December 5-7, 2017*

Participants:

Amy Lueders (R2)
Barbara Wainman (EA)
Benjamin Tuggle (SA)
Bob Broscheid (CO)
Carol Banbury (AFWA)
Curt Melcher (OR)
Cynthia Martinez (NWRS)
David Hoskins (FAC)
Deb Rocque (R5)
Ed Carter (TN)
Ed Grace (LE)
Gary Frazer (ES)
Glenn Normandeau (NH)
Gloria Bell (IA)
Gordon Myers (NC)
Greg Sheehan (FWS)
Greg Siekaniec (R7)
Janine Velasco (BMO)
Jay Slack (NCTC)
Jen Mock Schaffer (AFWA)
Jerome Ford (MB)
Jim Douglas (NE)
Jim Kurth (FWS)
Kelly Hepler (SD)
Ken Taylor (IRTM)
Mark Humpert (AFWA)
Mike Oetker (R4)
Nick Wiley (FL)
Noreen Walsh (R6)
Paul Rauch (WSFR)
Paul Souza (R8)
Robyn Thorsen (R1)
Ron Regan (AFWA)
Sara Pauley (MO)
Shaun Sanchez (NWRS)
Steve Guertin (FWS)
Tom Melius (R3)
Tony Wasley (NV)
Travis Ripley (Alberta)
Virgil Moore (ID)
Wendi Weber (R5)
Zack Gambill (FWS)

Staff:

Charisa Morris (FWS)
Michael Gale (FWS)

Tuesday, December 5, 2017
Rachel Carson Conference Room (1W104), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Steve Guertin

9:00am – 12:00pm
USFWS Directorate discussion with AFWA Executive Committee

Jim Kurth welcomed the group, particularly the state fish and wildlife agency colleagues. This morning, Greg Sheehan was called to a last minute meeting with Deputy Secretary Bernhardt.

9:00 ***Opening Remarks and Introductions***

Virgil Moore, Director, Idaho Fish and Game Department and President, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

This gathering of the FWS Directorate and the Executive Committee for AFWA is unprecedented and welcomed. AFWA has proposed three topics to guide this morning's discussions: hunting/fishing access, landscape conservation, and collaborative governance. FWS has unique legal responsibilities for some species; by and large, state fish and wildlife agencies are responsible for managing fish and wildlife populations. The change in the Administration creates new opportunities for working together.

Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Greg Sheehan welcomed the group. Greg talked about how he is able to speak from both sides of this group, having just a year ago been a member of the AFWA Executive Committee. The folks

and talent in this room represent the "best of the best" in fisheries and wildlife management, arguably in the world. From here on out, how do we cement these relationships? Now more than ever, we need to come together.

Collectively, we need to think about recruitment and retention. Nowadays, newer employees do not have the same long-term commitment to singular institutions as they once did. They move about more. There is also rampant urbanization, which is happening in every state in the country. ESA issues is an overlapping area with the states, as is sportsmen's access.

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BREAK FOR LUNCH

1:00pm – 3:00pm
Budget Updates, *Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin*
Additional Participants: Chris Nolin

Steve Guertin gave an overview of the current budget climate and the Administration's commitment to significant reductions in domestic programs. To meet the requirements for reductions while keeping on personnel and mission achievement, those reductions were applied to our portfolio of grant programs. For FY18, Congress had taken on different views that the President's budget. They restored field program services to the best that they could, and they were also able to restore some of the grant programs. On Science and the LCCs, there was a heated debate and in the end there were more supporters than not, and so funding was included.

On the FY19 Budget, the budget is in a state of flux. A budget was formulated based planning guidance with an emphasis on access, infrastructure, and energy. The passback from OMB drove down the budget even further another $70-80 million, which also included cuts to science and the Listing program. We do not know where it is going to come out. We are hopeful for an upward trend but should expect major cuts.

Chris Nolin handed out budget tables for FY18.

There was a question about infrastructure. Despite the Administration's interest in infrastructure and addressing maintenance backlogs, there has not been any move on that front. Jim Cason is coordinating an exercise related to public-private partnerships as an approach, which ties into the "Restoring the Refuges" initiative. Recently, there was an announcement of a $227 million investment in the Memorial Bridge, which was paid for through reprioritized funding within the National Park Service.

Ed Grace: the issue in Law Enforcement is to get the hiring through the hiring freeze. Jay Slack: Senate mark-up restored funding for NCTC, which is still struggling with salary costs. In the

budget, Migratory Birds and Fisheries are good. For Refuges (126X accounts), the House and Senate is holding steady, which means a decrease. Workforce planning continues with the Regional Refuge Chiefs. In Partners and Coastal (1121, 1124), these are programs that keeps getting hit. International Affairs is back to FY17 levels and the Arctic Council was funded.

For Ecological Services, it's a mix: for the Listing program, the Administration proposed a 50% decrease, which the House and Senate accepted. There is a risk for increased litigation with less responses to petitions. There was also a reduction in candidate conservation. For recovery, there was an increase in partnerships for captive breeding and augmentation work with zoos and aquariums. Janine Velasco: the Regions should be careful of the 1664 accounts, which are overspending for this year. There was a discussion about the FY18 Work Plan for Ecological Services and whether there are the resources in place to meet the deliverables in the plan.

Greg Siekaniec: where are we in terms of increased costs for benefits and then the analysis on attrition? Steve Guertin: we expected 400 people to leave, and only a couple of dozen have left. For FY19, we need to think about planning and communications. External Affairs has been tasked with a communications plan for the budget roll-out. It's important to communicate with employees even when there is not a lot of uncertainty. There was also a question about VERA/VSIP and the current status of that. Jay Slack: we should make a statement about where there would never be application of VERA/VSIP, which would be very helpful for employees in those areas. Robyn Thorsen: the attrition rate might be driven by folks just working longer.

Rebekah Giddings: On October 1 last year compared to this year, we pretty much are in the same place personnel-wise. We have 3,500 employees who are retirement eligible. Right now, we have 350 people with 36 years or more of service (i.e., likely to retire), and they are more in the GS-12 and 13 levels. Steve Guertin: There is an issue with transition planning (i.e., the "brain drain" issue). We are looking at a possible 10 to 20% turnover.

On a different note, we are also planning for a government shutdown, just in case.

3:00pm – 4:00pm
USFWS Priorities, *Greg Sheehan*

Greg provided an overview of the Secretary's Priorities and the step-down efforts for FWS priorities. The first three have to do with Ecological Services, and we are on track with them (minor changes could occur). The recovery of the black-capped vireo is a great conservation success. Mitigation policies are currently under review at the Departmental level's policy leadership. This includes a focus on NEPA (i.e., S.O. 3355). On the third priority, there is a discrepancy between the Department's Strategic Plan and the Secretarial Priorities document on the timing of a recovery outline.

- **Action Item**: Calibrate the actions in the Secretarial Priorities with the Department's Strategic Plan

On "Restoring the Refuges," there's a challenge in promoting this without an infrastructure package and the ongoing budget reductions. There are other ways that dollars can come to us (i.e., public-private partnerships). Amy Lueders: suggested to frame it more around assets that protect ecosystems (i.e., storm barriers from coastal habitat). Paul Souza: this is also about increasing hunting and fishing access that tells a bigger story. On the issue of adding fish hatcheries, they are part of the initiative but not the branding.

Wendi Weber had a question about "green infrastructure" and resilience. Chris Nolin: there is a Minority amendment in the supplemental to add money for resilience. Cynthia Martinez: the deferred maintenance list Noreen Walsh: we do have infrastructure issues at other facilities, such as the Black-footed Ferret Center and the Puerto Rican Parrot Facility. Greg Sheehan: Yes, it's much broader than refuges.

On hunting and fishing access, we are doing a lot to be responsive. Greg asked of the RDs: the recommendations of the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs might include some difficult things that refuge managers are not going to want do them for various reasons. At the RD level, the RDs should be firm in their support of these Hunting and Fishing Chiefs and their work – it's a priority of the Administration. The Hunting and Fishing Chiefs need to be communicating with the Regional Director's Office. We are asking the RDs not to task the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs in the way they normally would. If there is resistance, it's the responsibility of the RDs to manage that. Greg Siekaniec had a question about NEPA and litigation risk. Jim Kurth: we do better application of NEPA through the annual hunt/fish rule. In terms of population objectives, we defer to the environmental analysis on say the migratory bird framework or the SWAPs.

Paul Rauch: we don't want to lose sight of the number of hunters and not just the acreage of access. Shaun Sanchez: the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs are working with the Natural Resource Program Center and the Inventorying and Monitoring program on the social science and surveying aspect. Noreen Walsh: there needs to be constant communication between the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs and the RDs. Cynthia Martinez: We are trying to connect the dots.

On enhancing border protection, this was a significant issue of public interest. For FWS, we manage 150 miles along the southern border. Zack Gambill: Despite some joking around about Canada, there has been some terror cells that came into Montana from Canada, so broadly it's an issue for all borders. Cynthia Martinez: After the situation with Malhuer NWR, we established a risk and threat coordinator position. Jim Kurth: For the barrier, the Department of Homeland Security would need evoke a waiver. Amy Lueders: for any new construction, there is a plan to use a waiver. Janine Velasco: Appreciate the broader tone on the importance of safety.

We worked a fair amount this morning on the working with states piece. Paul Rauch: we have an opportunity with the upcoming North American meeting. One area we can really improve in is with the preparation for the AFWA Committee meetings (even coordination among ourselves).

- **Action Item**: Go through the AFWA Committee list and put together Directorate leads and a plan for participating in the North American.

Tom Melius: On working with Tribes, sometimes they prefer to work with FWS in a government-to-government context. We can always rely on the science. Paul Souza: there is much less structure on the Tribal piece. There is a new policy on tribal consultation and added training. Amy Lueders: there was a suggestion to split the issues of states and tribes in terms of the Secretary's Priorities. The issue of the ESA Joint Task Force (JTF) was brought up.

On working with industry, the Department organized an industry roundtable that is turning into an advisory group. DOI has hired Rick May to work on this issue full-time within the Office of the Secretary. On organizational transformation, there are still some unknowns in terms of moving operations out west. Fundamentally, this effort is still being looked at and ongoing. Steve Guertin: the new administrative reorganization approach is portable and mobile.

Greg Siekaniec: the Transformation Team had a number of recommendations broader than the administrative reorganization. Is any of that moving? Greg Sheehan: No, I haven't heard anything. Jim Kurth: we have stories to tell of the work that we do that support the Secretary's Priorities, particularly with our conservation stewardship legacy and being good neighbors. Let's keep the conservation work we do front and center with the Secretary.

Wednesday, December 6, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Jim Kurth

11:00am – 12:00pm
ABA Transformation, *Steve Guertin, Janine Velasco, Denise Sheehan, Ken Taylor, and Brian Bloodsworth*

We are moving forward with a reprogramming request to Congress to consolidate administrative programs into a shared service provider. The hiring freeze / approval process applies to these grade series throughout the organization. The Road Ahead – starting in December, we will assemble the Joint Administrative Officers (JAO) Project Team. There will be diverse representation on this team to include managers and other stakeholders. We will also pull together a more detailed implementation plan, particularly for merging the regional capacities. Through the summer, we will be moving this proposal through the appropriations process. By next spring, we plan to have initial deployment of the HQ functions, and over the following year we would focus on the Regions. This will take about two years to complete this process.

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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP We have 57 grants programs in the Service. Some individuals are in CGS while others are in WSFR and the programs. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP e.g. in Alaska, there are already consolidated service groups across the region between different bureaus).

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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP We have about 2,000 people in FWS who have some role in grant making. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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- **Action Item**: Submit nominations for the JAO Project Team (request to go out shortly).

There are two areas of follow-up work:

1) [redacted]

2:00pm – 3:30pm
Meet and Greet with Jason Larrabee

Jason Larrabee has been with the Department for about 10 weeks now. Jason was born and raised in northern California and has hunted and fished his whole life. He spent 12 ½ years on Capitol Hill in policy and appropriations work. He was most recently the Chief of Staff for Representative Denham. Jason provided his cell phone number [redacted].

In terms of the Secretary's Priorities, there is a focus on access and making the "R" in recreation a little stronger. He wants all folks to enjoy all lands. The Secretary supports recreation with a leave no trace philosophy. The Secretary is also interested in thinking about the Department for the next 100 years. There is a lot of value in using technology and advancing what we do. We can reform government and make it work better for everyone.

Robyn Thorsen asked if there are going to be opportunities for the political officials to get out into the field, and Jason said there is a strong interest in that. Wendi Weber mentioned the

"Conservation Without Conflict" approach that involves the preclude the need to list (Jason is interested in learning more about this). [redacted] Jay Slack mentioned the R3 (Recruitment, Retention, Reengagement/Reinvestment) program with the states to get more people interested in the outdoors with hunting and fishing.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] .

There was a general discussion about Departmental issues.

3:30pm – 5:00pm
Science Program, *Ben Tuggle and Seth Mott*

[redacted]

[redacted]

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Thursday, December 7, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderators: Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin

For the Holiday Breakfast, we served food to 350 people, collected over 200 toys for Toys for Tots (along with over $300 of donations), and sold 25 Federal Duck Stamps.

8:30am – 10:00am
Regulatory Updates, *Cynthia Martinez, Gloria Bell, Gary Frazer and Jerome Ford*

National Wildlife Refuge System:

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[redacted]
We also put out a notice on CCAA policy regulations to make the issuance standard more clear and consistent with Safe Harbor Agreements.

[redacted]

On wolves, there is appropriations language specific to western Great Lakes and Wyoming wolves in addition to language related to using funding for management of Gray wolves. On red wolf, there is Senate language to provide a report-out given the failure of the species recovery.

Migratory Birds:

[redacted]. They are working on a Heritage Stamp. A month ago, they published an EA on cormorants (take up to 50,000 birds). Finally, they are also working on Tribal Hunting Regulations that will hopefully publish next week. A couple of years ago, the Tribes from the Midwest said they should have access to 50% of the surplus given their treaty rights, which promulgated a negotiation with the Tribes. [redacted]

10:00am – 11:00pm
Report from the Deputies Group, *Shaun Sanchez*

The Deputies Group has been working on the FY18 Operations Plan and allocations. The three areas we are presenting to the Directorate are enterprise costs, national priority initiatives, and the investment proposals.

On enterprise costs, we are working on getting the reimburables squared away. Before anything gets added to enterprise costs, they would come back to the Deputies Group. The "what" is taken care of, and we are still working on the "how."

On investment proposals, we had been talking with what to do with FY18 carryover funding. We wanted to focus that funding into corporate investments [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

- **Motion** (Robyn Thorsen): agreement to fund proposals 1-4. Motion passed.

[redacted]

[redacted]

- **Action Item**: The proposal is for Brian Bloodsworth, Chris Nolin, and Shaun Sanchez to lead a small team that will be assigned to figure out how to pay for the enterprise investments, which will then be owned by the Director's Office.

On the national priority initiatives, Jim Kurth provided an overview of the current status. For Gulf and Sage Grouse, these have now been appropriated. On monarchs, we agreed to a $4 million commitment every year for five years, which comes off the top. For NCTC, there currently is a budget proposal. There was agreement to support past decisions. [redacted]

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11:00am – 12:00pm
Legislative Updates, *Barbara Wainman*

We provided a summary on the bills that are out there. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP he Senate is, as usual, more bipartisan. The Congressional Review Act was used to undo a number of rules from the last Administration. We work closely with the Budget Office on the appropriations riders.

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(b)(5) DPP. For example, there were about 15 visits around the cormorants issue that were very well received. Also, a lot of Members are reaching out directly to Greg Sheehan. We have also been working more with the Fish and Wildlife and Parks office, with whom there is now a weekly meeting related to communications. John Tanner is now the new director of the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs (OCL), who came from Senator Orrin Hatch's office. Micah Chambers is now the Deputy for OCL (he had been the acting director).

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1:00pm – 2:00pm
Diversity, *Jim Kurth, Paul Rauch, Inez Uhl*

On hiring people with disabilities, we have about 10% participation in FWS, which is just below the goal of 12%. We are less successful with our efforts for people with "targeted disabilities."

Currently we are sitting at 17.7% of minority participation rate, and we have had a target of 20.6%. Last year, our accessions were 19.7% but our separations were 21.9%. This means that we are not reaching our goal and are actually going backwards. We should have hired 26% of minorities to move the needle closer to our goal.

Greg Sheehan had asked how we compare to the rest of the federal sector and Interior. DOI has 26.3% minority participation. FWS is second to last from the bottom in DOI (only USGS has a lower participation rate - 13.7%). Across the federal sector, it is 35.9%. There is a lack of representation of African Americans within DOI. Last year, we hired 66 minorities but lost 66 minorities.(b)(5) DPP

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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP There was an Executive Committee for Diversity that was put together, who put together the Diversity and Inclusion Plan in 2011. In 2015, a revised plan was presented, but there was no oversight for it. Everything in the plan helps us to do our mission, and everything in this plan is for everybody.

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Becky Giddings: About this time last year, we started in a national hiring mode. We held off in June and July with the "fab four" series (i.e., mission area series) so that we could do a group hire. This was accomplished within 6 weeks. There were 72 positions posted and 67 people were hired; we shortened the amount of panels, and they were very aggressive with applicants (there were over 4,000 applicants). (
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One of the objectives of the national hiring approach was to get a more diverse applicant pool. The focus was limited to entry level positions among the "fab four" series. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP They also standardized the PDs and vacancy announcements. They recruited from 20 specific colleges and universities.

Of the 4,000 applicants, there were 667 minorities, 2,286 identified as non-minorities (others not identified). There were 583 minorities who were qualified. Of those, 144 were referred (i.e., the best qualified category). We made 10 selections of minority candidates. From the other pool, 61 qualified, 53 were referred, and 3 were selected. There were minorities on the certificates at over 60 duty stations.

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- **Action Item**: Paul Rauch will re-send out the materials and put to a decision the furtherance of the EDC with the new charter, and then discuss this more at the next VTC.

2:00pm – 3:00pm
Hurricane Update, *Cynthia Martinez, Terrina Harford*

Our resources were stretched incredibly thin with three hurricanes while being at a PL5 level for fire. It's incredible what we were able to do as a bureau. This was a "hyper active" hurricane season with three major hurricanes (Category 3 or higher) – Harvey (200 employees impacted, 26 stations), Irma (426 and 67), and Maria (61 and 11).

We responded with an Incident Management Team (IMT) with a measured, necessary, yet significant response. A total of 61 people and 24 pieces of equipment were deployed. IMT operated out of Balcones Canyonlands NWR. Amy Lueders: called out how well people in FWS took care of each other like a family. Six employees are still in temporary housing.

For Irma, we had a unique response requirement with the key deer population to think about. We deployed Spanish speaking law enforcement agents. When we have a diverse workforce, it makes us better for it and better federal partners. We had people in real need, particularly at Vieques, and FWS was there to help. Mike Oetker: with Irma, the flood damage was on the Atlantic coast with impacts to impacted species. Maria tested the capabilities with not only our agency but also FEMA. One of the populations of Puerto Rican parrots were decimated. Today, everything is still on emergency power and communications is a challenge. Cynthia Martinez: when you have a hurricane impacting an island, it's a whole different set of considerations.

At the same time, we were providing support at the federal level with a number of Emergency Support Functions (ESF) and Recovery Support Functions (RSF). At peak period, FWS provided over 50% of the DOI deployed personnel. Over 150 FWS personnel deployed to meet external and internal response needs. Keenan Adams is on an extended detail in Puerto Rico as part of the recovery efforts. The FWS Supplemental Request is for $210 million, which was submitted on November 21st. This was estimated based on projections of replacement value.

Now we are undergoing after-action review. Aviation will be an asset that will be used more in the future. Some pre-identified potential AAR themes include information management / reporting, intra-agency and inter-agency coordination, and financial/acquisition/administrative. They will also develop focused task forces, further use of IQCS/ROSS (database of responders) for All-Hazards, and full-time regional emergency management coordinators.

3:00pm – 4:00pm

FEVS Update, *Steve Guertin*

The Secretary has promoted the FEVS program as a measurement of how we are doing. There is a focus on the Department's work climate. The National Park Service has a concerted approach to address sexual harassment, and we can look to that as a model. Employee engagement matters, and we are getting after some of their primary concerns.

Our employee engagement effort is in its fourth year. We've built awareness and empowered leaders and managers and using the information to drive change. We have 60% participation in 2017. We are seeing positive, generally increasing scores in a transition year (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP

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The Partnership for Public Service has just released its ranking of best places to work. DOI is #9 of 16 large agencies and FWS is #43 out of 150 across government (for comparison, USGS is #41, BLM is #115, and NPS is #128). The Director's Memo is scheduled to go out on December 15th. We have a communications plan that will run from February – April in 2018. The next survey will be open May – June with results provided to the agencies in August.

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Directorate Meeting
Skyline Headquarters in Falls Church in Virginia *December 5-7, 2017*

Tuesday, December 5, 2017
Rachel Carson Conference Room (1W104), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Steve Guertin

9:00am – 12:00pm
USFWS Directorate discussion with AFWA Executive Committee

Jim Kurth welcomed the group, particularly the state fish and wildlife agency colleagues. Virgil Moore, Director, Idaho Fish and Game Department and President, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, gave remarks. The topics covered included:

Topic One: SO 3356 and New Opportunities for Hunter and Angler Engagement

- **Action Item**: Prepare a shared letter of commitment to identify areas of common interest.
- **Action Item**: In the next AFWA newsletter, include information about Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to help connect state agencies to the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs

Topic Two: Landscape Level Partnership Models

Topic Three: Collaborative Governance Models

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: AFWA will delegate to staff the follow-up work on the items discussed today.
- **Action Item (AFWA)**: Task the Wildlife Policy with polling among the states for those existing agreements with FWS.
- **Action Item**: FWS and AFWA to provide feedback on draft policies and guideline document before the North American.

John Frampton gave an update on R3 efforts.

1:00pm – 3:00pm
Budget Updates, *Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin*
Additional Participants: Chris Nolin

Steve Guertin gave an overview of the current budget climate and the Administration's commitment to significant reductions in domestic programs, and Chris Nolin handed out budget tables for FY18. FY19 was also discussed.

3:00pm – 4:00pm
USFWS Priorities, *Greg Sheehan*

Greg provided an overview of the Secretary's Priorities and the step-down efforts for FWS priorities.

- **Action Item**: Calibrate the actions in the Secretarial Priorities with the Department's Strategic Plan
- **Action Item**: Go through the AFWA Committee list and put together Directorate leads and a plan for participating in the North American.

Wednesday, December 6, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Jim Kurth

11:00am – 12:00pm
ABA Transformation, *Steve Guertin, Janine Velasco, Denise Sheehan, Ken Taylor, and Brian Bloodsworth*

We are moving forward with a reprogramming request to Congress to consolidate administrative programs into a shared service provider, including work with a contractor for implementation.

- **Action Item**: Submit nominations for the JAO Project Team (request to go out shortly).

There are two areas of follow-up work:
1) All of the items in "Analysis Required" is now part of "Inside Scope" even though they may not be fully considered.
2) We need to have clear criteria for what is decided to be centralized with clear decision points with the Deputies and the Directorate.

2:00pm – 3:30pm
Meet and Greet with Jason Larrabee

Jason Larrabee introduced him and they had a general discussion about Departmental issues.

3:30pm – 5:00pm
Science Program, *Ben Tuggle and Seth Mott*

The conversation continued as a follow-up to the landscape conservation discussion in the morning with AFWA. Several options were discussed but none were decided upon specifically.

Thursday, December 7, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderators: Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin

8:30am – 10:00am
Regulatory Updates, *Cynthia Martinez, Gloria Bell, Gary Frazer and Jerome Ford*

Updates were provided from the National Wildlife Refuge System, Ecological Services, International Affairs, and Migratory Birds.

- **Action Item**: Add the Regional Directors to the communications list for the S.O. 3356 implementation.

10:00am – 11:00pm
Report from the Deputies Group, *Shaun Sanchez*

The Deputies Group has been working on the FY18 Operations Plan and allocations. The three areas we are presenting to the Directorate are enterprise costs, national priority initiatives, and the investment proposals.

- **Motion** (Robyn Thorsen): agreement to fund proposals 1-4. Motion passed.

Alternative Proposal: choose between the two methodologies (i.e., FTE and Carryover) and then leave it up to the programs how best to pay for it. There was an interest in the FTE approach being more equitable.

- **Action Item**: The proposal is for Brian Bloodsworth, Chris Nolin, and Shaun Sanchez to lead a small team that will be assigned to figure out how to pay for the enterprise investments, which will then be owned by the Director's Office.

On the national priority initiatives, Jim Kurth provided an overview of the current status.

11:00am – 12:00pm
Legislative Updates, *Barbara Wainman*

We provided a summary on the bills that are out there. We are not operating under "regular order." We would like to do more courtesy Congressional visits that are not focused on "hot-button" issues.

1:00pm – 2:00pm
Diversity, *Jim Kurth, Paul Rauch, Inez Uhl*

A progress report was provided from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the results of the national hiring process. The data from this effort shows that there is possible discrimination in that minorities were selected at half the rate of their Caucasian counterparts. The Executive Committee for Diversity will continue with a focus on implementing the Diversity and Inclusion Plan.

- **Action Item**: Paul Rauch will re-send out the materials and put to a decision the furtherance of the EDC with the new charter, and then discuss this more at the next VTC.

2:00pm – 3:00pm
Hurricane Update, *Cynthia Martinez, Terrina Harford*

Our resources were stretched incredibly thin with our agency's response to three hurricanes while also being at a PL5 level for fire. Now we are undergoing after-action review.

3:00pm – 4:00pm
FEVS Update, *Steve Guertin*

Our employee engagement effort is in its fourth year. We have 60% participation in 2017.
The Partnership for Public Service has just released its ranking of best places to work. DOI is #9 of 16 large agencies and FWS is #43 out of 150 across government (for comparison, USGS is #41, BLM is #115, and NPS is #128).

4:00pm – 4:30pm
Wrap-up, *Jim Kurth*

Meeting adjourned.

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Jerome Ford (MB)
Jim Douglas (NE)
Jim Kurth (FWS)
Kelly Hepler (SD)
Ken Taylor (IRTM)
Mark Humpert (AFWA)
Mike Oetker (R4)
Nick Wiley (FL)
Noreen Walsh (R6)
Paul Rauch (WSFR)
Paul Souza (R8)
Robyn Thorsen (R1)
Ron Regan (AFWA)
Sara Pauley (MO)
Shaun Sanchez (NWRS)
Steve Guertin (FWS)
Tom Melius (R3)
Tony Wasley (NV)
Travis Ripley (Alberta)
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Zack Gambill (FWS)

Staff:

Charisa Morris (FWS)
Michael Gale (FWS)

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9:00 ***Opening Remarks and Introductions***

Virgil Moore, Director, Idaho Fish and Game Department and President, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

This gathering of the FWS Directorate and the Executive Committee for AFWA is unprecedented and welcomed. AFWA has proposed three topics to guide this morning's discussions: hunting/fishing access, landscape conservation, and collaborative governance. FWS has unique legal responsibilities for some species; by and large, state fish and wildlife agencies are responsible for managing fish and wildlife populations. The change in the Administration creates new opportunities for working together.

Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Greg Sheehan welcomed the group. Greg talked about how he is able to speak from both sides of this group, having just a year ago been a member of the AFWA Executive Committee. The folks

and talent in this room represent the "best of the best" in fisheries and wildlife management, arguably in the world. From here on out, how do we cement these relationships? Now more than ever, we need to come together.

Collectively, we need to think about recruitment and retention. Nowadays, newer employees do not have the same long-term commitment to singular institutions as they once did. They move about more. There is also rampant urbanization, which is happening in every state in the country. ESA issues is an overlapping area with the states, as is sportsmen's access.

9:30 ***Topic One: SO 3356 and New Opportunities for Hunter and Angler Engagement***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Gordon Myers (NC)

Bob Broscheid: With Secretarial Order 3356, there is an opportunity to come up with a shared vision among partners with how the states can be helpful in implementing the S.O. This discussion should focus on high-level recommendations on what we can do together.

Steve Guertin gave an overview of the agency's work on S.O. 3347 and 3356. This is a big deal for FWS. We have met with both AFWA and the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) on this issue, including the idea of "First Catch" Centers. A focus of this work is returning veterans and people with disabilities. We also have an initiative, "Restoring the Refuges" that invests in access infrastructure.

We have reassigned one person in every Region as a Hunting and Fishing Chief, who will work individually with refuges to identify opportunities to enhance access. The other element is consistency with state regulations. For AFWA, we would like the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to meet with the state fish and wildlife agency leadership to hear their suggestions and frustrations.

Jim Douglas: At some point, this initiative has to come down to the state level with a joint assessment of where things are right now. The collaboration needs to involve both FWS and the state. Paul Souza: This is becoming the signature issue for conservation for us right now. Another step is bringing in key partners (e.g., Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited) to form a coalition around this issue. Jay Slack: Dave Chanda is working with NCTC to put together R3 training available to FWS, partners, and the states. Shaun Sanchez: On R3, we are tasking our people to go to the R3 Coordinators in the states and materials already developed to not reinvent the wheel. Paul Rauch: FWS needs to lead from behind on this; we want to be helpful.

Kelly Hepler: we all make value judgments in making regulations. We need to think about collective opportunities. Virgil Moore: we need to look at existing hunting and fishing rules and determine if there are problems that need to be addressed with deference to state laws. Noreen Walsh: it is not clear whether the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs are working with the states on the survey questions. Cynthia Martinez: we need to get through the assessment and start with quick wins to make hunting and fishing easier.

Glenn Normandeau: they have a process in New Hampshire for analyzing value-added efforts that could serve as a model. Nick Wiley: The earlier we engage, the better. There was a question about the authorities of the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs. Cynthia Martinez: The Chiefs have stayed in the Regions and report directly to Headquarters and are graded highly. Curt Melcher: One of the "elephants" in the room is predator management. We need to be able to direct market to our various constituencies, who have already showed interest in wildlife recreation.

- **Action Item**: Prepare a shared letter of commitment between AFWA and USFWS to identify areas of common interest.

- **Action Item**: In the next AFWA newsletter, include information about Hunting and Fishing Chiefs to help connect state agencies to the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs

Virgil Moore, Ron Regan, Greg Sheehan, and Jim Kurth signed an agreement to work together on the issues discussed at today's meeting.

10:15 ***Topic Two: Landscape Level Partnership Models***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Tony Wasely (NV)

To start off, there is great value to landscape-scale conservation and the value of partnerships. There are a myriad of successes in organizing landscape-scale conservation, including Joint Ventures, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs), National Fish Habitat Partnerships, etc. There are really two key factors to success: 1) underlying science that is best if coproduced, 2) a partnership to implement that science with opportunities to leverage funding.

AFWA conducted a survey (49 of 50 states) with a question specific to LCCs. There was really a divided opinion in terms of the states that saw value in LCCs (about a 50/50 split). The President's Budget zeroed out the LCC program, and right now is a good time to have a broader discussion about what LCCs look like. How do we respond to these challenges? We recognize the special relationship between FWS and the state fish and wildlife agencies. There is $25 million for conservation in the LCC budget.

Some options that have been discussed with the Executive Committee include:

1) Nexus to State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs) and a species-at-risk approach. This may be in conflict with the self-directed nature of LCCs.
    a. One of the challenges with LCCs is their geography where states are in multiple LCCs.
2) Issue-specific LCC (more like Joint Ventures, e.g., Monarch butterflies)
3) Administering them through a regional association
    a. Previously, AFWA had a recommendation on governance that came from a Joint Task Force that was previously established

Certainly the discussion is not limited to LCCs, but we wanted to have sufficient time to address LCCs, which have value in supporting landscape-scale conservation.

Benjamin Tuggle: We would want to emphasize is the peer-to-peer relationship with the state fish and wildlife agency directors. One of our recommendations is to erase the artificial boundaries of the LCCs and let the issue define the boundary. We have primary responsibility for managing fish and wildlife resources on the landscape. The Service's role in the organizational structure is going to change – those resources being deployed are being directed by our mutual collaboration for specific issues in those geographies.

Paul Souza: We have great conservation capacity within the LCCs; how can we spend that money in a way that would maximize our returns? We can learn from our experiences and support these partnerships in ways that make sense. Benjamin Tuggle: What is fundamental is how we direct these resources for mutual benefits. Wendi Weber: In the Northeast, these partnerships have worked well together around shared issues, such as prelisting conservation. Gary Frazer: three years ago, the Western Governors Association (WGA) had a species-based effort that is going to use landscape approaches (i.e., integrating species conservation, forest health, invasive species, and other issues into a strategic approach). Other discussion points included that the other part of LCCs is engage those broader NGO collaborations, who are part of the SWAPs. LCCs were addressing both science and outreach, which created some challenges.

11:00 ***Topic Three: Collaborative Governance Models***
AFWA Discussion Lead: Virgil Moore (ID)

One of the areas AFWA is looking at is with collaboratives across the nation, and LCCs are part of that. With our senior status, we have all been involved with collaboratives, but have we tried to roll that up with any kind of analysis to drive better wildlife management? Collaboratives not only includes institutions such as the Joint Ventures as well as collaborative initiatives such as sage brush. We have to have respect, trust, and a science-based foundation. How do we as leaders precede with building the necessary elements to move forward?

One of the areas we have been working with the U.S. Forest Service and Christopher Moyer to look at every single MOU that exists between USFS and AFWA. We do not have the same level of MOUs with the FWS. AFWA would propose having more of these with the FWS.

Greg Sheehan: what often drives us apart is disagreement over policy issues. Paul Souza: The states are more nimble and better with public engagement. They are also more engaged with politics. Federal agencies tend to move slower but at least allows for engagement that results in better decisions. Tom Melius: MOUs should have some specifics. There is general support for more discussion on this idea. Sara Pauley: Need to set aside time to talk about what is it going to take for fish and wildlife management (i.e., science needs, social science, future look)? Benjamin

Tuggle: In-person discussions are an important part of this. MOUs can be haphazard at times. Jay Slack: Having routine communications and meetings are helpful.

Steve Guertin: There is talk at the Department of the Interior about "Joint Management Areas," and we have these conversations going on. Virgil Moore: What we are asking for is some sort of primacy given to us as leaders of fish and wildlife management in this nation. We have a number of agreements with other institutions, but we have nothing like that with FWS and your legal and sovereign responsibilities. There has been issues in the past in terms of "marching to the beat of the same drum." It's a plea to FWS as leadership for us both to think about this differently. Once we agree on the objectives, how it is implemented is less consequential (i.e., going up the mountain analogy). LCCs were an attempt at getting to common objectives but got bogged down it the process. Sage grouse is a good example of how we gave a governance structure to an issue that created a space for common objectives.

AFWA passed out a draft template for *Policies and Guidelines for Joint Governance Between [State Agency] and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*.

Noreen Walsh: If those of us who have co-responsibility over these issues cannot come together to make progress, then the challenges coming from the public are going to overtake us. An MOU is one way to put some structure around this, but we should consider other options such as reconvening this meeting. Nick Wiley: There should be a process for monitoring and amending the agreement. Within FWS, there is so much pressure for initiatives that the states often feel left behind. Kelly Hepler: We need to identify next steps with broader communication on all three topics. Jim Kurth: We need to build on the successes we already have. For example, we signed a policy in development with AFWA on refuge management.

Steve Guertin summarized the FWS interest in signing such an agreement where we identify common goals in the three areas discussed today with periodic review. Ron Regan: on the landscape discussion, we have not pinned it on the wall quite yet.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: AFWA will delegate to staff the follow-up work on the items discussed today.

In terms of timing, the next meeting is the North American, which would be a point where there would be a check-in on this discussion in a more formal fashion.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: Task the Wildlife Policy with polling among the states for those existing agreements with FWS.
- **Action Item**: FWS and AFWA to provide feedback on draft policies and guideline document before the North American.

Virgil Moore gave an official recognition to Nick Wiley for his service to President at AFWA.

11:45 R3 Update, John Frampton

Based on the preliminary results of the National Hunting and Fishing Survey, there is real risk for the decline of hunting, fishing, and shooting sports. The Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports has identified recommendations and a national plan. A staff working with the Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) has organized workshops around the country. RBFF has also developed a plan for fishing. We are committed to working with FWS on this issue (perhaps an MOU is involved). There is a national R3 Symposium planned in Lincoln, Nebraska on May 21-23, 2018.

The group took a break to sign joint guidance on SWAPs.

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Greg Sheehan: what often drives us apart is disagreement over policy issues. Paul Souza: The states are more nimble and better with public engagement. They are also more engaged with politics. Federal agencies tend to move slower but at least allows for engagement that results in better decisions. Tom Melius: MOUs should have some specifics. There is general support for more discussion on this idea. Sara Pauley: Need to set aside time to talk about what is it going to take for fish and wildlife management (i.e., science needs, social science, future look)? Benjamin

Tuggle: In-person discussions are an important part of this. MOUs can be haphazard at times. Jay Slack: Having routine communications and meetings are helpful.

Steve Guertin: There is talk at the Department of the Interior about "Joint Management Areas," and we have these conversations going on. Virgil Moore: What we are asking for is some sort of primacy given to us as leaders of fish and wildlife management in this nation. We have a number of agreements with other institutions, but we have nothing like that with FWS and your legal and sovereign responsibilities. There has been issues in the past in terms of "marching to the beat of the same drum." It's a plea to FWS as leadership for us both to think about this differently. Once we agree on the objectives, how it is implemented is less consequential (i.e., going up the mountain analogy). LCCs were an attempt at getting to common objectives but got bogged down it the process. Sage grouse is a good example of how we gave a governance structure to an issue that created a space for common objectives.

AFWA passed out a draft template for *Policies and Guidelines for Joint Governance Between [State Agency] and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*.

Noreen Walsh: If those of us who have co-responsibility over these issues cannot come together to make progress, then the challenges coming from the public are going to overtake us. An MOU is one way to put some structure around this, but we should consider other options such as reconvening this meeting. Nick Wiley: There should be a process for monitoring and amending the agreement. Within FWS, there is so much pressure for initiatives that the states often feel left behind. Kelly Hepler: We need to identify next steps with broader communication on all three topics. Jim Kurth: We need to build on the successes we already have. For example, we signed a policy in development with AFWA on refuge management.

Steve Guertin summarized the FWS interest in signing such an agreement where we identify common goals in the three areas discussed today with periodic review. Ron Regan: on the landscape discussion, we have not pinned it on the wall quite yet.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: AFWA will delegate to staff the follow-up work on the items discussed today.

In terms of timing, the next meeting is the North American, which would be a point where there would be a check-in on this discussion in a more formal fashion.

- **Action Item (AFWA)**: Task the Wildlife Policy with polling among the states for those existing agreements with FWS.
- **Action Item**: FWS and AFWA to provide feedback on draft policies and guideline document before the North American.

Virgil Moore gave an official recognition to Nick Wiley for his service to President at AFWA.

11:45 R3 Update, John Frampton

Based on the preliminary results of the National Hunting and Fishing Survey, there is real risk for the decline of hunting, fishing, and shooting sports. The Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports has identified recommendations and a national plan. A staff working with the Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) has organized workshops around the country. RBFF has also developed a plan for fishing. We are committed to working with FWS on this issue (perhaps an MOU is involved). There is a national R3 Symposium planned in Lincoln, Nebraska on May 21-23, 2018.

The group took a break to sign joint guidance on SWAPs.

BREAK FOR LUNCH

1:00pm – 3:00pm
Budget Updates, *Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin*
Additional Participants: Chris Nolin

Steve Guertin gave an overview of the current budget climate and the Administration's commitment to significant reductions in domestic programs. To meet the requirements for reductions while keeping on personnel and mission achievement, those reductions were applied to our portfolio of grant programs. For FY18, Congress had taken on different views that the President's budget. They restored field program services to the best that they could, and they were also able to restore some of the grant programs. On Science and the LCCs, there was a heated debate and in the end there were more supporters than not, and so funding was included.

On the FY19 Budget, the budget is in a state of flux. A budget was formulated based planning guidance with an emphasis on access, infrastructure, and energy. The passback from OMB drove down the budget even further another $70-80 million, which also included cuts to science and the Listing program. We do not know where it is going to come out. We are hopeful for an upward trend but should expect major cuts.

Chris Nolin handed out budget tables for FY18.

There was a question about infrastructure. Despite the Administration's interest in infrastructure and addressing maintenance backlogs, there has not been any move on that front. Jim Cason is coordinating an exercise related to public-private partnerships as an approach, which ties into the "Restoring the Refuges" initiative. Recently, there was an announcement of a $227 million investment in the Memorial Bridge, which was paid for through reprioritized funding within the National Park Service.

Ed Grace: the issue in Law Enforcement is to get the hiring through the hiring freeze. Jay Slack: Senate mark-up restored funding for NCTC, which is still struggling with salary costs. In the

budget, Migratory Birds and Fisheries are good. For Refuges (126X accounts), the House and Senate is holding steady, which means a decrease. Workforce planning continues with the Regional Refuge Chiefs. In Partners and Coastal (1121, 1124), these are programs that keeps getting hit. International Affairs is back to FY17 levels and the Arctic Council was funded.

For Ecological Services, it's a mix: for the Listing program, the Administration proposed a 50% decrease, which the House and Senate accepted. There is a risk for increased litigation with less responses to petitions. There was also a reduction in candidate conservation. For recovery, there was an increase in partnerships for captive breeding and augmentation work with zoos and aquariums. Janine Velasco: the Regions should be careful of the 1664 accounts, which are overspending for this year. There was a discussion about the FY18 Work Plan for Ecological Services and whether there are the resources in place to meet the deliverables in the plan.

Greg Siekaniec: where are we in terms of increased costs for benefits and then the analysis on attrition? Steve Guertin: we expected 400 people to leave, and only a couple of dozen have left. For FY19, we need to think about planning and communications. External Affairs has been tasked with a communications plan for the budget roll-out. It's important to communicate with employees even when there is not a lot of uncertainty. There was also a question about VERA/VSIP and the current status of that. Jay Slack: we should make a statement about where there would never be application of VERA/VSIP, which would be very helpful for employees in those areas. Robyn Thorsen: the attrition rate might be driven by folks just working longer.

Rebekah Giddings: On October 1 last year compared to this year, we pretty much are in the same place personnel-wise. We have 3,500 employees who are retirement eligible. Right now, we have 350 people with 36 years or more of service (i.e., likely to retire), and they are more in the GS-12 and 13 levels. Steve Guertin: There is an issue with transition planning (i.e., the "brain drain" issue). We are looking at a possible 10 to 20% turnover.

On a different note, we are also planning for a government shutdown, just in case.

3:00pm – 4:00pm
USFWS Priorities, *Greg Sheehan*

Greg provided an overview of the Secretary's Priorities and the step-down efforts for FWS priorities. The first three have to do with Ecological Services, and we are on track with them (minor changes could occur). The recovery of the black-capped vireo is a great conservation success. Mitigation policies are currently under review at the Departmental level's policy leadership. This includes a focus on NEPA (i.e., S.O. 3355). On the third priority, there is a discrepancy between the Department's Strategic Plan and the Secretarial Priorities document on the timing of a recovery outline.

- **Action Item**: Calibrate the actions in the Secretarial Priorities with the Department's Strategic Plan

On "Restoring the Refuges," there's a challenge in promoting this without an infrastructure package and the ongoing budget reductions. There are other ways that dollars can come to us (i.e., public-private partnerships). Amy Lueders: suggested to frame it more around assets that protect ecosystems (i.e., storm barriers from coastal habitat). Paul Souza: this is also about increasing hunting and fishing access that tells a bigger story. On the issue of adding fish hatcheries, they are part of the initiative but not the branding.

Wendi Weber had a question about "green infrastructure" and resilience. Chris Nolin: there is a Minority amendment in the supplemental to add money for resilience. Cynthia Martinez: the deferred maintenance list Noreen Walsh: we do have infrastructure issues at other facilities, such as the Black-footed Ferret Center and the Puerto Rican Parrot Facility. Greg Sheehan: Yes, it's much broader than refuges.

On hunting and fishing access, we are doing a lot to be responsive. Greg asked of the RDs: the recommendations of the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs might include some difficult things that refuge managers are not going to want do them for various reasons. At the RD level, the RDs should be firm in their support of these Hunting and Fishing Chiefs and their work – it's a priority of the Administration. The Hunting and Fishing Chiefs need to be communicating with the Regional Director's Office. We are asking the RDs not to task the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs in the way they normally would. If there is resistance, it's the responsibility of the RDs to manage that. Greg Siekaniec had a question about NEPA and litigation risk. Jim Kurth: we do better application of NEPA through the annual hunt/fish rule. In terms of population objectives, we defer to the environmental analysis on say the migratory bird framework or the SWAPs.

Paul Rauch: we don't want to lose sight of the number of hunters and not just the acreage of access. Shaun Sanchez: the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs are working with the Natural Resource Program Center and the Inventorying and Monitoring program on the social science and surveying aspect. Noreen Walsh: there needs to be constant communication between the Hunting and Fishing Chiefs and the RDs. Cynthia Martinez: We are trying to connect the dots.

On enhancing border protection, this was a significant issue of public interest. For FWS, we manage 150 miles along the southern border. Zack Gambill: Despite some joking around about Canada, there has been some terror cells that came into Montana from Canada, so broadly it's an issue for all borders. Cynthia Martinez: After the situation with Malhuer NWR, we established a risk and threat coordinator position. Jim Kurth: For the barrier, the Department of Homeland Security would need evoke a waiver. Amy Lueders: for any new construction, there is a plan to use a waiver. Janine Velasco: Appreciate the broader tone on the importance of safety.

We worked a fair amount this morning on the working with states piece. Paul Rauch: we have an opportunity with the upcoming North American meeting. One area we can really improve in is with the preparation for the AFWA Committee meetings (even coordination among ourselves).

- **Action Item**: Go through the AFWA Committee list and put together Directorate leads and a plan for participating in the North American.

Tom Melius: On working with Tribes, sometimes they prefer to work with FWS in a government-to-government context. We can always rely on the science. Paul Souza: there is much less structure on the Tribal piece. There is a new policy on tribal consultation and added training. Amy Lueders: there was a suggestion to split the issues of states and tribes in terms of the Secretary's Priorities. The issue of the ESA Joint Task Force (JTF) was brought up.

On working with industry, the Department organized an industry roundtable that is turning into an advisory group. DOI has hired Rick May to work on this issue full-time within the Office of the Secretary. On organizational transformation, there are still some unknowns in terms of moving operations out west. Fundamentally, this effort is still being looked at and ongoing. Steve Guertin: the new administrative reorganization approach is portable and mobile.

Greg Siekaniec: the Transformation Team had a number of recommendations broader than the administrative reorganization. Is any of that moving? Greg Sheehan: No, I haven't heard anything. Jim Kurth: we have stories to tell of the work that we do that support the Secretary's Priorities, particularly with our conservation stewardship legacy and being good neighbors. Let's keep the conservation work we do front and center with the Secretary.

Wednesday, December 6, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderator: Jim Kurth

11:00am – 12:00pm
ABA Transformation, *Steve Guertin, Janine Velasco, Denise Sheehan, Ken Taylor, and Brian Bloodsworth*

We are moving forward with a reprogramming request to Congress to consolidate administrative programs into a shared service provider. The hiring freeze / approval process applies to these grade series throughout the organization. The Road Ahead – starting in December, we will assemble the Joint Administrative Officers (JAO) Project Team. There will be diverse representation on this team to include managers and other stakeholders. We will also pull together a more detailed implementation plan, particularly for merging the regional capacities. Through the summer, we will be moving this proposal through the appropriations process. By next spring, we plan to have initial deployment of the HQ functions, and over the following year we would focus on the Regions. This will take about two years to complete this process.

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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP We have 57 grants programs in the Service. Some individuals are in CGS while others are in WSFR and the programs. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (e.g. in Alaska, there are already consolidated service groups across the region between different bureaus).

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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP We have about 2,000 people in FWS who have some role in grant making. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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- **Action Item**: Submit nominations for the JAO Project Team (request to go out shortly).

There are two areas of follow-up work:

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2:00pm – 3:30pm
Meet and Greet with Jason Larrabee

Jason Larrabee has been with the Department for about 10 weeks now. Jason was born and raised in northern California and has hunted and fished his whole life. He spent 12 ½ years on Capitol Hill in policy and appropriations work. He was most recently the Chief of Staff for Representative Denham. Jason provided his cell phone number: (b) (6)(b) (6).

In terms of the Secretary's Priorities, there is a focus on access and making the "R" in recreation a little stronger. He wants all folks to enjoy all lands. The Secretary supports recreation with a leave no trace philosophy. The Secretary is also interested in thinking about the Department for the next 100 years. There is a lot of value in using technology and advancing what we do. We can reform government and make it work better for everyone.

Robyn Thorsen asked if there are going to be opportunities for the political officials to get out into the field, and Jason said there is a strong interest in that. Wendi Weber mentioned the

"Conservation Without Conflict" approach that involves the preclude the need to list (Jason is interested in learning more about this). [redacted] Jay Slack mentioned the R3 (Recruitment, Retention, Reengagement/Reinvestment) program with the states to get more people interested in the outdoors with hunting and fishing.

[redacted]

[redacted]

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There was a general discussion about Departmental issues.

3:30pm – 5:00pm
Science Program, *Ben Tuggle and Seth Mott*

[redacted]

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Thursday, December 7, 2017
Murie Conference Room (3N057), Breaks within scheduled sessions
Moderators: Jim Kurth and Steve Guertin

For the Holiday Breakfast, we served food to 350 people, collected over 200 toys for Toys for Tots (along with over $300 of donations), and sold 25 Federal Duck Stamps.

8:30am – 10:00am
Regulatory Updates, *Cynthia Martinez, Gloria Bell, Gary Frazer and Jerome Ford*

National Wildlife Refuge System:

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[redacted]
We also put out a notice on CCAA policy regulations to make the issuance standard more clear and consistent with Safe Harbor Agreements.

[redacted]

On wolves, there is appropriations language specific to western Great Lakes and Wyoming wolves in addition to language related to using funding for management of Gray wolves. On red wolf, there is Senate language to provide a report-out given the failure of the species recovery.

Migratory Birds:

[redacted] They are working on a Heritage Stamp. A month ago, they published an EA on cormorants (take up to 50,000 birds). Finally, they are also working on Tribal Hunting Regulations that will hopefully publish next week. A couple of years ago, the Tribes from the Midwest said they should have access to 50% of the surplus given their treaty rights, which promulgated a negotiation with the Tribes. [redacted]

10:00am – 11:00pm
Report from the Deputies Group, *Shaun Sanchez*

The Deputies Group has been working on the FY18 Operations Plan and allocations. The three areas we are presenting to the Directorate are enterprise costs, national priority initiatives, and the investment proposals.

On enterprise costs, we are working on getting the reimburables squared away. Before anything gets added to enterprise costs, they would come back to the Deputies Group. The "what" is taken care of, and we are still working on the "how."

On investment proposals, we had been talking with what to do with FY18 carryover funding. We wanted to focus that funding into corporate investments [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

- **Motion** (Robyn Thorsen): agreement to fund proposals 1-4. Motion passed.

[redacted]

[redacted]

- **Action Item**: The proposal is for Brian Bloodsworth, Chris Nolin, and Shaun Sanchez to lead a small team that will be assigned to figure out how to pay for the enterprise investments, which will then be owned by the Director's Office.

On the national priority initiatives, Jim Kurth provided an overview of the current status. For Gulf and Sage Grouse, these have now been appropriated. On monarchs, we agreed to a $4 million commitment every year for five years, which comes off the top. For NCTC, there currently is a budget proposal. There was agreement to support past decisions. [redacted]

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11:00am – 12:00pm
Legislative Updates, *Barbara Wainman*

We provided a summary on the bills that are out there. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP The Senate is, as usual, more bipartisan. The Congressional Review Act was used to undo a number of rules from the last Administration. We work closely with the Budget Office on the appropriations riders.

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(b)(5) DPP. For example, there were about 15 visits around the cormorants issue that were very well received. Also, a lot of Members are reaching out directly to Greg Sheehan. We have also been working more with the Fish and Wildlife and Parks office, with whom there is now a weekly meeting related to communications. John Tanner is now the new director of the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs (OCL), who came from Senator Orrin Hatch's office. Micah Chambers is now the Deputy for OCL (he had been the acting director).

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1:00pm – 2:00pm
Diversity, *Jim Kurth, Paul Rauch, Inez Uhl*

On hiring people with disabilities, we have about 10% participation in FWS, which is just below the goal of 12%. We are less successful with our efforts for people with "targeted disabilities."

Currently we are sitting at 17.7% of minority participation rate, and we have had a target of 20.6%. Last year, our accessions were 19.7% but our separations were 21.9%. This means that we are not reaching our goal and are actually going backwards. We should have hired 26% of minorities to move the needle closer to our goal.

Greg Sheehan had asked how we compare to the rest of the federal sector and Interior. DOI has 26.3% minority participation. FWS is second to last from the bottom in DOI (only USGS has a lower participation rate - 13.7%). Across the federal sector, it is 35.9%. There is a lack of representation of African Americans within DOI. Last year, we hired 66 minorities but lost 66 minorities.(b)(5) DPP

look at retention. It's not about "retaining" but about inspiring people to stay. Greg also had a request to (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP

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(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP There was an Executive Committee for Diversity that was put together, who put together the Diversity and Inclusion Plan in 2011. In 2015, a revised plan was presented, but there was no oversight for it. Everything in the plan helps us to do our mission, and everything in this plan is for everybody.

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Becky Giddings: About this time last year, we started in a national hiring mode. We held off in June and July with the "fab four" series (i.e., mission area series) so that we could do a group hire. This was accomplished within 6 weeks. There were 72 positions posted and 67 people were hired; we shortened the amount of panels, and they were very aggressive with applicants (there were over 4,000 applicants). (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP

One of the objectives of the national hiring approach was to get a more diverse applicant pool. The focus was limited to entry level positions among the "fab four" series. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP They also standardized the PDs and vacancy announcements. They recruited from 20 specific colleges and universities.

Of the 4,000 applicants, there were 667 minorities, 2,286 identified as non-minorities (others not identified). There were 583 minorities who were qualified. Of those, 144 were referred (i.e., the best qualified category). We made 10 selections of minority candidates. From the other pool, 61 qualified, 53 were referred, and 3 were selected. There were minorities on the certificates at over 60 duty stations.

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- **Action Item**: Paul Rauch will re-send out the materials and put to a decision the furtherance of the EDC with the new charter, and then discuss this more at the next VTC.

2:00pm – 3:00pm
Hurricane Update, *Cynthia Martinez, Terrina Harford*

Our resources were stretched incredibly thin with three hurricanes while being at a PL5 level for fire. It's incredible what we were able to do as a bureau. This was a "hyper active" hurricane season with three major hurricanes (Category 3 or higher) – Harvey (200 employees impacted, 26 stations), Irma (426 and 67), and Maria (61 and 11).

We responded with an Incident Management Team (IMT) with a measured, necessary, yet significant response. A total of 61 people and 24 pieces of equipment were deployed. IMT operated out of Balcones Canyonlands NWR. Amy Lueders: called out how well people in FWS took care of each other like a family. Six employees are still in temporary housing.

For Irma, we had a unique response requirement with the key deer population to think about. We deployed Spanish speaking law enforcement agents. When we have a diverse workforce, it makes us better for it and better federal partners. We had people in real need, particularly at Vieques, and FWS was there to help. Mike Oetker: with Irma, the flood damage was on the Atlantic coast with impacts to impacted species. Maria tested the capabilities with not only our agency but also FEMA. One of the populations of Puerto Rican parrots were decimated. Today, everything is still on emergency power and communications is a challenge. Cynthia Martinez: when you have a hurricane impacting an island, it's a whole different set of considerations.

At the same time, we were providing support at the federal level with a number of Emergency Support Functions (ESF) and Recovery Support Functions (RSF). At peak period, FWS provided over 50% of the DOI deployed personnel. Over 150 FWS personnel deployed to meet external and internal response needs. Keenan Adams is on an extended detail in Puerto Rico as part of the recovery efforts. The FWS Supplemental Request is for $210 million, which was submitted on November 21st. This was estimated based on projections of replacement value.

Now we are undergoing after-action review. Aviation will be an asset that will be used more in the future. Some pre-identified potential AAR themes include information management / reporting, intra-agency and inter-agency coordination, and financial/acquisition/administrative. They will also develop focused task forces, further use of IQCS/ROSS (database of responders) for All-Hazards, and full-time regional emergency management coordinators.

3:00pm – 4:00pm

FEVS Update, *Steve Guertin*

The Secretary has promoted the FEVS program as a measurement of how we are doing. There is a focus on the Department's work climate. The National Park Service has a concerted approach to address sexual harassment, and we can look to that as a model. Employee engagement matters, and we are getting after some of their primary concerns.

Our employee engagement effort is in its fourth year. We've built awareness and empowered leaders and managers and using the information to drive change. We have 60% participation in 2017. We are seeing positive, generally increasing scores in a transition year. (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP

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The Partnership for Public Service has just released its ranking of best places to work. DOI is #9 of 16 large agencies and FWS is #43 out of 150 across government (for comparison, USGS is #41, BLM is #115, and NPS is #128). The Director's Memo is scheduled to go out on December 15th. We have a communications plan that will run from February – April in 2018. The next survey will be open May – June with results provided to the agencies in August.

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From:	Patel, Kashyap
To:	Jerome Ford; Cynthia Martinez
Cc:	Shaun Sanchez; Mike Johnson; Morris, Charisa
Subject:	Fwd: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
Date:	Tuesday, March 20, 2018 6:33:05 AM
Attachments:	Meeting Memo Secretary & Audobon Societydocx (2).docx

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Good morning Jerome and Cynthia,

Please see your handywork in the attached meeting memo format, and Greg's question below on (b)(5) DPP and (b)(5) DPP

Do you want additional bullets or are you good as is?

Thanks,
Kashyap

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Greg Sheehan** <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Mar 19, 2018 at 7:07 PM
Subject: Re: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
To: "Patel, Kashyap" <kashyap_patel@fws.gov>
Cc: Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>, Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>, "Morris, Charisa" <charisa_morris@fws.gov>

Might they also want to discuss (b)(5) DPP and the (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP? Lots of birding there that may be impacted depending on final decisions.

If so please add and otherwise I am fine as written.

Thanks
Greg

Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
202-208-4545 office
202-676-7675 cell

On Mar 19, 2018, at 3:44 PM, Patel, Kashyap <kashyap_patel@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hi Greg,
>
> Attached is our meeting memo for your edits/clearance.
>
> Thanks,
> Kashyap

On Sat, Mar 17, 2018 at 8:29 PM, Sheehan, Gregory <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov> wrote:

> Please see below. We will need a response to the Secretary's office by COB Monday. This will be for general information about the meeting. The meeting is Wednesday and our deadline for a final BP will be 3 pm Tuesday.
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> I suspect this will be mostly Migratory bird issues but could include some refuge issues as well, in the area or bird watching etc.
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> I am scheduled to join the Secretary for the meeting.
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> Thanks
> Greg
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> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> > **From:** "SIO, Scheduling" <scheduling_sio@ios.doi.gov>
> > **Date:** March 16, 2018 at 4:29:02 PM EDT
> > **To:** Roslyn Sellars <roslyn_sellars@fws.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>
> > **Subject: Fwd: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke**
> >
> > Attached and below is everything I have on the meeting request. We encourage whoever is preparing the briefing paper to reach out directly to them to confirm what they will bring up and expect to hear from the Secretary. Thank you!
> >
> > Leila Sepehri Getto
> > U.S. Department of the Interior
> > Immediate Office of the Secretary
> > Deputy Director, Scheduling and Advance
> > Direct: (202) 208-5359
> > Cell: (202) 706-9435
> >
> > ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> > From: **Magallanes, Downey** <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>
> > Date: Fri, Jan 26, 2018 at 2:26 PM
> > Subject: Fwd: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
> > To: Scheduling SIO <scheduling@ios.doi.gov>, "Getto, Leila" <leila_getto@ios.doi.gov>
> > Cc: Michael Argo <michael_argo@ios.doi.gov>

For consideration

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Gregg Hartley** <ghartley@hbstrategies.us>
Date: Fri, Jan 26, 2018 at 1:01 PM
Subject: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
To: "downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov"
<downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Courtney Ellis <cellis@hbstrategies.us>

Downey

Pursuant to prior discussions, I would appreciate assistance in scheduling a meeting for David Yarnold, the president and chief executive officer of the National Audubon Society, with Secretary Zinke. The purpose of the meeting would be to allow these two leaders to get to know each other and to discuss major policy issues where there is a nexus between current initiatives of the Department and central tenets of birding conservation as represented by the over one million members of Audubon. Yarnold comes to DC on a regular basis and it would be my hope the Office of the Secretary could accommodate such a meeting during one of the upcoming visits. Currently, Yarnold's schedule for DC includes the following dates and time slots:

February 14th: He arrives at 1pm on 14th at DCA. Free remainder of the day.

February 16th: 10:15 am to 1 pm. We have Hill meetings scheduled but could be flexible. Departs to NYC at 2pm

February 27th: 1 pm to 6 pm.

February 28th: Flexible during the day.

Your consideration and attention to this request is greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Gregg

Gregg Hartley | Executive Vice Chair & CEO

Husch Blackwell **Strategies**
300 M Street, SE, Suite 402
Washington, DC 20003
Direct: 202.899.3803
Mobile: 202.494.8735
Main: 202.899.3850
ghartley@hbstrategies.us

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Downey Magallanes
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy
U.S. Department of the Interior
downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov
202-706-9199

--
Kashyap_Patel@fws.gov | acting Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-4923 | Txt/Cell: 703-638-4640

<Meeting Memo Secretary & Audobon Societydocx.docx>

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Kashyap_Patel@fws.gov | acting Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-4923 | Txt/Cell: 703-638-4640

United States Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240
MEETING MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

DATE: March 19, 2018
TIME: March 21, 2018 at 2:15pm
FROM: Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
SUBJECT: Secretary Meeting with David Yarnold, President & CEO, Audubod Society

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I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To inform issues that may be raised by the National Audubon Society during their upcoming visit with the Secretary.

II. PARTICIPANTS

Internal
Secretary Zinke
Principal Deputy Director Sheehan
Downey Magallanes

External
David Yarnold

III. BACKGROUND

- The National Audubon Society has over 500 chapters and 1 million members
- The National Audubon Society has 5 main bird conservation initiatives
  1. **Bird Conservation**: Audubon is a consistent advocate for core laws protecting birds such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act, and Endangered Species Act, and also for the high-value bird habitat within the National Wildlife Refuge System. Audubon is currently focused on passing the Agreement for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, which would address persistent threats to some of the world's most imperiled birds.
  2. **Ecosystem Restoration**: Audubon advocates for protection and restoration of ecosystems from the Everglades to the Mississippi River to the sagebrush steppe.
  3. **Conservation Funding**: Audubon advocates for conservation programs with the greatest benefit for bird conservation, including State Wildlife Grants, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, and the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act.
  4. **Climate and Energy**: Audubon's new climate modeling shows that 314 North American bird species are threatened with extinction due to climate change. Audubon advocates for policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, climate adaptation strategies that protect birds, and energy siting policies and practices that allow renewable energy to be deployed with minimal impacts on birds and their habitats.
  5. **Alaska Conservation**: Audubon is the only national conservation group with both a significant presence in the state and also full time lobbying representation in Washington, and has lobbied to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from drilling for more than 25 years.

IV. DISCUSSION

- The National Audubon Society may be interested in discussing their conservation initiatives and how they line up with the Secretary's priorities
- Audubon has expressed an interest in finding ways to work together with the Department and the Fish and Wildlife Service for bird conservation
- Concerns that have been raised by Audubon recently include:
  1. Decreases in DOI budget and impacts to bird conservation programs
  2. Changes in bird conservation policy (related to the Department's M-Opinion)
  3. The importance of public lands for bird conservation and the use of public lands for energy development where they overlap with Important Bird Areas designated by Audubon

V. TALKING POINTS/REMARKS

- Wildlife watching was the most popular recreational activity on refuges, attracting a new all-time high of 35.6 million participants.
- In 2017, 13.9 million refuge visitors took wildlife and nature photos, an increase of 80 percent in participation in the last five years.
- There are more than 700 species of birds on National Wildlife Refuges.
- More than 200 refuges were created specifically to protect, manage and restore habitat for migratory birds.
- In 2014, five national wildlife refuges earned places on a USA Today "10 best" list for bird-watching. https://www.fws.gov/refuges/news/RefugesPollHighBirding.html
  #3 of 10: Bosque del Apache
  #5: Aransas NWR
  #6: Sanibel Island/Ding Darling NWR
  #9: Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas/Laguna Atascosa NWR and Santa Ana NWR

- In addition, local Audubon chapters often work closely with local refuges to organize bird walks, birding and nature festival field trips, presentations, and photography trips, and Audubon members also volunteer at refuges.

From:	Jerome Ford
To:	Patel, Kashyap
Cc:	Cynthia Martinez; Shaun Sanchez; Mike Johnson; Morris, Charisa
Subject:	Re: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
Date:	Tuesday, March 20, 2018 7:37:38 AM

Kashyap,

We called them yesterday and asked what they wanted to cover. All those topics are in the BP. They can always ask about something we did not cover.

I am inclined to move the BP forward as is.

Jerome E. Ford
Assistant Director
Migratory Birds Program

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Your consideration and attention to this request is greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Gregg

Gregg Hartley | Executive Vice Chair & CEO
Husch Blackwell **Strategies**
300 M Street, SE, Suite 402
Washington, DC 20003
Direct: 202.899.3803
Mobile: 202.494.8735
Main: 202.899.3850
ghartley@hbstrategies.us

--
Downey Magallanes
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy
U.S. Department of the Interior
downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov
202-706-9199

--
Kashyap_Patel@fws.gov | acting Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-4923 | Txt/Cell: 703-638-4640

<Meeting Memo Secretary & Audobon Societydocx.docx>

--
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<Meeting Memo Secretary & Audobon Societydocx (2).docx>

From: Patel, Kashyap
To: Greg Sheehan
Cc: Jim Kurth; Stephen Guertin; Morris, Charisa
Subject: Re: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
Date: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 7:42:55 AM

MigBird did touch base with the Audobon Society to coordinate anticipated topics and (b)(5) DPP didn't come up. We can of course come up with bullet TPs if that changes. (b)(5) DPP

On Mon, Mar 19, 2018 at 7:07 PM, Greg Sheehan <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov> wrote:

> Might they also want to discuss (b)(5) DPP and (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP ? Lots of birding there that may be impacted depending on final decisions.
>
> If so please add and otherwise I am fine as written.
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> Thanks
> Greg
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
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> > >
> > >
> > > Greg Sheehan

Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
202-208-4545 office
202-676-7675 cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "SIO, Scheduling" <scheduling_sio@ios.doi.gov>
Date: March 16, 2018 at 4:29:02 PM EDT
To: Roslyn Sellars <roslyn_sellars@fws.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke

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Leila Sepehri Getto
U.S. Department of the Interior
Immediate Office of the Secretary
Deputy Director, Scheduling and Advance
Direct: (202) 208-5359
Cell: (202) 706-9435

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Magallanes, Downey** <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 26, 2018 at 2:26 PM
Subject: Fwd: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
To: Scheduling SIO <scheduling@ios.doi.gov>, "Getto, Leila" <leila_getto@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Michael Argo <michael_argo@ios.doi.gov>

For consideration

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Gregg Hartley** <ghartley@hbstrategies.us>
Date: Fri, Jan 26, 2018 at 1:01 PM
Subject: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
To: "downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov" <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Courtney Ellis <cellis@hbstrategies.us>

Downey

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<Meeting Memo Secretary & Audobon Societydocx.docx>

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From: Martinez, Cynthia
To: Jerome Ford
Cc: Patel, Kashyap; Shaun Sanchez; Mike Johnson; Morris, Charisa
Subject: Re: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
Date: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 8:26:24 AM

Based on Jerome's email, I agree.

Thanks
Cynthia

On Tue, Mar 20, 2018 at 10:37 AM, Jerome Ford <jerome_ford@fws.gov> wrote:

> Kashyap,
>
> We called them yesterday and asked what they wanted to cover. All those topics are in the BP. They can always ask about something we did not cover.
>
> I am inclined to move the BP forward as is.
>
> Jerome E. Ford
> Assistant Director
> Migratory Birds Program
>
> On Mar 20, 2018, at 9:32 AM, Patel, Kashyap <kashyap_patel@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Good morning Jerome and Cynthia,
> >
> > Please see your handywork in the attached meeting memo format, and Greg's question below on (b)(5) DPP and (b)(5) DPP.
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> > From: **Greg Sheehan** <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
> > Date: Mon, Mar 19, 2018 at 7:07 PM
> > Subject: Re: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
> > To: "Patel, Kashyap" <kashyap_patel@fws.gov>
> > Cc: Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>, Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>, "Morris, Charisa" <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
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Greg

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Subject: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
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From: Kashyap Patel
To: Martinez, Cynthia
Cc: Jerome Ford; Shaun Sanchez; Mike Johnson; Morris, Charisa
Subject: Re: Meeting request for Secretary Zinke
Date: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 8:29:17 AM

Good copy. Moving it fwd.

On Mar 20, 2018, at 11:26, Martinez, Cynthia <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov> wrote:

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To: "downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov"
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<Meeting Memo Secretary & Audobon Societydocx (2).docx>

From: Nolin, Chris
To: Stephen Guertin; Cynthia Martinez
Subject: Border wall
Date: Thursday, April 19, 2018 11:18:05 AM
Attachments: On the lower Rio Grande, a glimpse at the border Trump wants - StarTribune.pdf

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See this story from the Associated Press on the border wall and Lower Rio Grande. It has a rather interesting line from a local resident "Santa Ana was spared, but nothing else was."

(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP

FYI - the Park Service had this issue raised with them, but apparently dropped for now.

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

NATIONAL

On the lower Rio Grande, a glimpse at the border Trump wants

By NOMAAN MERCHANT and JOHN L. MONE Associated Press APRIL 16, 2018 — 4:08PM

ROMA, Texas — Stymied by Congress and the courts, President Donald Trump has struggled to make good on his signature campaign promises to build a wall and stop migrants. But there is at least one place where his vision is becoming reality: the sinuous lower Rio Grande Valley, scene of more unauthorized crossings than any other stretch between the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.

This week, as Texas National Guard troops were taking up positions on the state's southern edge at Trump's request, the head of U.S. Customs and Border Protection told lawmakers that the agency hopes to award contracts by September for border wall construction near where the Rio Grande meets the Gulf. And the U.S. government's efforts to identify and begin the seizure of private land along the river "are well underway," CBP Commissioner Kevin McAleenan told a congressional subcommittee Thursday.

Last month, Congress rejected Trump's request for up to $25 billion to build the full length of his coveted wall, but he did win funding for 33 miles (53 kilometers) of barriers in the Rio Grande Valley.

(http://stmedia.startribune.com/images/TRUMP_BORDER_WAL
JOHN MONE, ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this April 10, 2018, file frame from video, a National Guard troop watches over Rio Grande River on the border in Roma, Texas.

And while the Guard will eventually withdraw, a wall could change the region forever.

This stretch of border is the only place where the National Guard is deployed and where Congress funded the construction of new walls, instead of replacing or fortifying existing barriers.

The current plans call for up to 25 miles (40 kilometers) of construction in Hidalgo County, which includes the city of McAllen and already has segments of stop-and-start border fencing, some of it installed well north of the river.

The remaining construction would go in Starr County, further west. CBP last year issued a map that marked off several cities in the county for construction, including Roma and Rio Grande City.

Roma was built on the bluffs overlooking the Rio Grande and Ciudad Miguel Aleman on the southern side of what Mexicans call el Rio Bravo del Norte — the furious river of the north. From the bluffs, visitors can hear roosters clucking in Miguel Aleman and see schoolchildren and traffic crossing a tiny bridge.

A group of Guard members this month set up below the bluffs, with rifle-carrying soldiers holding binoculars and peering south over the river.

Trump says the Guard is necessary to guard the border until the wall can be built across the U.S.-Mexico border. His administration and Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, a fellow Republican, have cited a recent increase in the number of border crossings and what they say are more smugglers and gang members trying to enter the United States.

Many people who live on the American side of the river see the situation differently. They say their communities are safe from the cartel-linked violence that has ravaged northern Mexico. And many border crossers entering the U.S. turn themselves in and try

to seek asylum. They include thousands of adults and children fleeing violence and instability in Central America.

Scott Nicol, a longtime valley resident who is co-chair of the Sierra Club's Borderlands team, argued that both the Guard deployment and the wall fit into a mistaken national narrative that "everybody who lives here is part of one giant smuggling operation."

"If you go into a neighborhood and all the houses have burglar bars, you assume that neighborhood has a high burglary rate, instead of assuming there's a really good burglar bar salesman," Nicol said.

Nicol and other advocates are particularly worried about the lasting damage building a wall could do.

In some places, CBP wants to clear forests and brush to install roads and lighting. Advocates say that could destroy critical habitats and speed up erosion. A wall could potentially restrict the movement of animals and plant seeds.

Depending on how it's built, a wall could also make the region more susceptible to flooding. In a natural disaster, it might push more water into Mexico, a potential violation of a treaty between the two countries.

It would also seal off many border cities from the region's defining cultural and economic feature.

"The river is basically everything," said Jim Chapman, another local resident who is part of the group Friends of the Wildlife Corridor. "It sustains the human population and it sustains much of the wildlife."

In places like the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, a dirt trail still leads visitors over a river levee and through a verdant forest with butterflies and birds. The trail ends at the north bank of the river.

CBP officials originally wanted to start construction on the Santa Ana levee, in part because the land is already owned by the government and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security can waive environmental reviews to build a wall. But Congress' March funding bill prohibits any construction in Santa Ana.

The agency has not said where it would start now. But advocates worry that to start construction sooner, CBP would target other refuge lands, including a collection of properties purchased over four decades known as the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Other environmentally sensitive areas like the National Butterfly Center also sit in the wall's potential path.

"Santa Ana was spared, but nothing else was," Chapman said.

Trump became the third U.S. president in a row to deploy the National Guard to the border. The law enforcement presence in South Texas aside from the Guard has grown steadily. The Border Patrol employs around 3,000 agents in the Rio Grande Valley, roughly eight times the number in 1992.

One former Guard member in a previous border security mission thinks the Guard can still help, but he questions the need for a border wall.

David Scott Kennedy served on the border as an Army National Guard member during Operation Jump Start, launched by former President George W. Bush in 2006. Kennedy was assigned to the McAllen area, watching border traffic and alerting Border Patrol agents when people were trying to cross. Sometimes he confronted them himself with the word "alto," Spanish for "stop."

In a recent interview, Kennedy said he still had fond memories of the agents he met and also gained a new respect for the struggles of migrants trying to cross the river. He said he supports the new Guard deployment, calling it a "fantastic idea."

But he said he laughs at the idea of a border wall.

"They'll find a way to get across," Kennedy said. "The border wall is, in my opinion, a waste of money. We should be doing other things."

From:	Martinez, Cynthia
To:	Guertin, Stephen
Cc:	Nolin, Chris; Sanchez Shaun; Giddings, Rebekah; Jim Kurth; Charisa Morris; Kashyap Patel
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
Date:	Monday, April 23, 2018 5:10:13 AM
Attachments:	FWS HQ - Resource Protection Structures FINAL (3).docx

Steve,

As requested, we worked with Chris and her folks on the attached briefing paper.

Please let us know if you have questions or need clarification.

Thanks,
Cynthia

On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 5:35 AM, Guertin, Stephen <stephen_guertin@fws.gov> wrote:

> Thanks for the update.
>
> Please work with Cynthia's team to prepare a BP on this issue so we can provide a thorough response back up the line through Greg so he has the comprehensive background. There will probably be a meeting with the political leadership team and the SOL team. On a tight deadline.
>
> - State the request
> - Analyze and address the question "does the FWS have the ability to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border?" ie what is our construction appropriations language, does this give us any flexibility for this purpose, are there any other laws, regs, or policies that allow this use of the account or forbid this use of the account?
> - List all the NWR holdings along the border in Texas and include a map (to respond to the particular statement about a two mile stretch in Texas)
> - Include the language from the Homeland Security Bill: "SEC 230. (c) None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge."
>
> On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 4:57 PM, Nolin, Chris <chris_nolin@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > I assume this is Santa Ana NWR? We don't have too many refuges on the border in Texas. If it is that, we have a specific provision against building a barrier there in the Homeland Security Bill: "SEC 230. (c) None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge."
> >
> > On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:30 PM, Giddings, Rebekah <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Please see Scott's message below...

Rebekah Giddings

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital

US Fish and Wildlife Service

703-358-2117

Warning: This email may contain Privacy Act Sensitive Data, which is intended only for the use of the individual to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected disclosure under applicable laws.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Stephen Guertin** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:29 PM
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: rebekah_giddings@fws.gov

Can u pls forward to Chris Nolin and division of budget. Thx

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Sheehan, Gregory" <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
> **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 2:00:03 PM EDT
> **To:** Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account**
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> > **From:** "Cameron, Scott" <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>

Date: April 17, 2018 at 11:38:03 AM EDT
To: Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, "Moss, Adrianne" <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>, Susan Combs <susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Jean Parrish <jean_parrish@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Flexibility in FWS construction account

All,

The question has been posed as to the authority and the ability of FWS to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border. Apparently there is a 2 mile stretch of land in Texas that is in question.

Jean, can you please schedule a meeting on this topic with POB, FW&P, FWS, and (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ?

Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

From:	Chris Nolin
To:	Martinez, Cynthia
Cc:	Guertin, Stephen; Sanchez Shaun; Giddings, Rebekah; Jim Kurth; Charisa Morris; Kashyap Patel
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
Date:	Monday, April 23, 2018 5:24:30 AM

Sorry if I was confusing. I intended them to be 2 separate papers, or at least to separate the argument clearly. The Santa Ana provision is all that is needed to say we cant do anything there. The other arguments apply to places other than Santa Ana - if for example they want to build a wall at Lower Rio Grande. I'm not sure that is clear in this version.

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 23, 2018, at 8:10 AM, Martinez, Cynthia <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov> wrote:

> Steve,
>
> As requested, we worked with Chris and her folks on the attached briefing paper.
>
> Please let us know if you have questions or need clarification.
>
> Thanks,
> Cynthia
>
> On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 5:35 AM, Guertin, Stephen <stephen_guertin@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> Thanks for the update.
>
> Please work with Cynthia's team to prepare a BP on this issue so we can provide a thorough response back up the line through Greg so he has the comprehensive background. There will probably be a meeting with the political leadership team and the SOL team. On a tight deadline.
>
> - State the request
> - Analyze and address the question "does the FWS have the ability to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border?" ie what is our construction appropriations language, does this give us any flexibility for this purpose, are there any other laws, regs, or policies that allow this use of the account or forbid this use of the account?
> - List all the NWR holdings along the border in Texas and include a map (to respond to the particular statement about a two mile stretch in Texas)
> - Include the language from the Homeland Security Bill: "SEC 230. (c) None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge."

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> Please see Scott's message below…
>
> *Rebekah Giddings*
>
> Deputy Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital
>
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
>
> 703-358-2117
>
> Warning: This email may contain Privacy Act Sensitive Data, which is intended only for the use of the individual to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected disclosure under applicable laws.
>
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> Can u pls forward to Chris Nolin and division of budget. Thx
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> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> **From:** "Sheehan, Gregory" <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
> **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 2:00:03 PM EDT
> **To:** Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account**

Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
202-208-4545 office
202-676-7675 cell

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Subject: Flexibility in FWS construction account

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Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

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Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

<FWS HQ - Resource Protection Structures FINAL (3).docx>

Draft

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY REFORM, COMMERCIAL AND ANTITRUST LAW

QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD TO
JEFFREY H. WOOD
ACTING ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION

Questions submitted for the Record from Subcommittee Chairman Marino

1. According to a 2013 report by the Chamber of Commerce, six sue-and-settle regulations under the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act impose up to $101 billion in annual costs. These include the Utility MACT rule and Reconsideration of 2008 Ozone NAAQS. Does DOJ factor the potential cost impacts of its settlements into its decisions over whether and how to craft settlements?

RESPONSE: (b) (5) [redacted]

consideration of costs.

Questions submitted for the Record from Judiciary Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr.

1. In your prepared statement, you describe certain "course corrections in key areas within the purview" of your Division. One of these directives pertains to reducing regulatory burdens with regard to energy development. How is this directive compatible with the Administration's apparent priority to protect clean air and clean water? If the Obama Administration's Clean Power Plan were implemented, would that have helped to protect clean air and reduce global warming?

RESPONSE: (b) (5) [redacted]

2. What are your views about the Endangered Species Act?

RESPONSE: (b) (5) [redacted]

Questions submitted for the Record from Subcommittee Ranking Member Cicilline

1. In your written testimony, you state that your Division will be involved in the property

condemnation process necessary to construct the Southwest Border Wall.

RESPONSE: (b) (5) [redacted]

2. How many miles of Border Wall will need to be built? How many private properties will be needed to be confiscated for this project?

RESPONSE: (b) (5) [redacted]

3. How do you anticipate the Division's condemnation activity related to the Border Wall to affect low-income individuals, ranchers, or other persons who live along the border?

RESPONSE: (b) (5) [redacted]

4. Will the Border Wall impinge on any environmentally sensitive areas or impact any endangered species? If so, will construction of the Border Wall trump these environmental concerns?

RESPONSE: (b) (5) [redacted]

5. Will the ENRD comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered

Species Act, and other applicable environmental protection statutes while acquiring privately owned lands for the purpose of constructing the Border Wall?

RESPONSE: (b) (5) [redacted]

Questions submitted for the Record from Ms. Pramila Jayapal

1. Since 2008, climate scientists in peer-reviewed research have recommended reducing atmospheric CO2 concentrations to 350ppm or less in order to avoid extreme risks of harm to current and future generations and irreversible climate change impacts, like sea level rise and species extinction. Since then, the two degree Celsius level of global warming above the preindustrial global average temperature was selected as a politically achievable target through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. How are you working within your division and with other agencies to ensure that this goal is met in order to prevent the negative public health and environmental impacts of climate change?

RESPONSE: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	25
Topic:	Environmental Impact
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: According to the Fish and Wildlife Service, at least 89 endangered or threatened species, 108 species of migratory bird, and four national wildlife refuges could potentially be affected by activities along the border region.

Has CBP reviewed the environmental harms to wildlife, wildlands, and waterways that would be done by construction and maintenance of a border wall?

Response: (b)(5) [redacted]

[redacted]

Question: Does CBP have a plan in place to mitigate the damage done to the environment?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	25
Topic:	Environmental Impact
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question#:	1
Topic:	Border Apprehensions
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: President Obama's lenient policies acted as a pull factor for illegal migration to the United States. People knew that they would unlikely be removed if they crossed the border. Thus, people were more willing to take the risk and come to the United States illegally under the Obama Administration.

Policies have changed under President Trump. The word is getting out that the United States is no longer going to tolerate illegal entry. If you enter the country illegally, you will be detained and you will be removed. This has forced Coyotes to raise their prices, according to one source, from $3,500 to $8,000. Additionally, would be illegal immigrants are deciding that their chances of success are not worth the risk.

The result has been a significant decrease in illegal migration in President Trump's first four months. In February, border apprehensions dropped by 35 percent from February 2016, March apprehensions dropped by 67 percent from March 2016, and April apprehensions have dropped 29 percent from April 2016.

Do you agree that President Trump's return to normal enforcement policies is a major reason for the decrease in border apprehensions and illegal entry to the United States?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	1
Topic:	Border Apprehensions
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	2
Topic:	Drug Trafficking
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: Last May, Brandon Judd, President of the National Border Patrol Council, testified that the Mexican drug cartels controlled illegal activity along the Southern border, including the trafficking and smuggling of people and drugs. He said that 174,000 individuals who were apprehended in the Rio Grande Valley had all paid the Gulf Cartel around $5,000 to be smuggled into the U.S.

Mr. Judd also testified that Drug cartels were not making money off of only smuggling people, but creating holes in the border for easier drug trafficking. Instead of having illegal immigrants turn themselves in, they would cross illegally and continue going, to force Border Patrol to chase after them. This created holes in the border that the drug traffickers used to bring drugs through.

Are you seeing a decrease in drug trafficking at the Southern Border with the decrease in illegal migration?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	2
Topic:	Drug Trafficking
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	3
Topic:	Border Security Measures
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: Our current law provides a lot of authorities that, if used, would secure our borders. In fact, the current administration's focus on the border security and immigration enforcement has already reduced illegal immigration significantly. In February, border apprehensions dropped by 35 percent from February 2016. March apprehensions dropped by 67 percent from March 2016.

Could you please explain what authorities you have under current law to secure the border and enforce our immigration laws?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: Is any new legislation necessary to help your agency better enforce the law, or is this really just a matter of resources?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	4
Topic:	Hiring Practices
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: President Trump required DHS Secretary Kelly to hire 5,000 additional Border Patrol Agents in his executive order on Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements. But in 2016 CBP's Assistant Commissioner of Human Resources testified that the agency was just "treading water" in terms of hiring. Years of under-funding has created a chronic cycle: the very lengthy hiring process, averaging 460 days, makes it impossible to overcome attrition, which is high because of low morale, and low morale is exacerbated by understaffing. It is not clear how CBP will be able to overcome these serious obstacles to increase staffing as President Trump demands.

One specific hiring problem has been with polygraphs. Records indicate that somewhere around sixty-five to seventy-five percent of CBP's applicants fail the polygraph test. I understand that some candidates show up with criminal records, and you aren't going to hire those individuals, but even some good candidates, who have prior law enforcement service, are not able to pass.

How many additional officers would you need to reach full operational control of the Southern border?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: What can you do to expedite the hiring of new officers?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	4
Topic:	Hiring Practices
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question: Why is CBP's polygraph so much harder to pass than other law enforcement polygraphs?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	4
Topic:	Hiring Practices
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

- (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	5
Topic:	Need for Funding
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: On February 20th, Secretary Kelly issued a memo that calls for enhanced enforcement of our immigration laws. It requires that immigrants be mandatorily detained, as required by the INA, it requires that parole be used only sparingly and only for significant humanitarian purposes and significant public benefit, as required by the INA, and it requires illegal entrants be returned to contiguous countries, as required by the INA. As I have mentioned already, these measures have already produced a reduction in illegal border crossings. The results of these actions shows that our current laws are sufficient to secure the border, what we need is funding. The Kelly memo asks for the hiring of 5,000 more border patrol agents and the building of a fence along the Southern Border, as required by the INA. These will require Congress to appropriate those funds.

How has CBP's workload increased in the last decade, and has CBP's funding been adequately increased in line with its workload?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

[redacted]

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	5
Topic:	Need for Funding
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	5
Topic:	Need for Funding
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question: How much funding do you estimate CBP needs in order to hire adequate personnel and purchase necessary equipment and technology?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	5
Topic:	Need for Funding
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

- (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: How much of the southern border remains unpatrolled because you lack adequate funding?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: What key investments in personnel, infrastructure, and technology has CBP been unable to make over the last eight years due to a lack of adequate funding?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	5
Topic:	Need for Funding
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Question#:	5
Topic:	Need for Funding
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Question#:	5
Topic:	Need for Funding
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	5
Topic:	Need for Funding
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question: With adequate funding from Congress, could your agency obtain operational border control with the authorities you have under current law?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	5
Topic:	Need for Funding
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	6
Topic:	Automated Entry and Exit Control System
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: In 1996, Congress required the implementation of an automated entry and exit control system at all points of entry that would monitor people entering and exiting the U.S. Such a system would provide better monitoring of people in the U.S. on a nonimmigrant visa. Since 1996, Congress has repassed and reaffirmed the need for an automated exit and control system eight separate times.

Just this week, the Department of Homeland Security announced its calculation that 1.25 percent of people whose visa expired in 2016, are still in the country. Among those are 128,806, 0.6 percent, of people who participated in the Visa Waiver Program, but have not left the country. Another 79,818, or 5.48 percent of students and exchange visitors on an F,M, or J visa, have overstayed, of which 2.81 percent, or 40,949, are believed to still be in-country.

Is funding of an automated exit and entry control system a necessary tool to secure the border from visa overstays?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	7
Topic:	Uptick in Illegal Entry
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: The number of border apprehensions has dropped significantly since January.

Are there any ports of entry or checkpoints where you have seen an uptick in illegal entry in light of stepped enforcement in other locations?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

[redacted]

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	8
Topic:	Rio Grande Sector
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: The Rio Grande Sector still seems to be the sector with the highest number of illegal border crossings into the United States.

What specific steps is CBP taking in the Rio Grande Valley to reduce those numbers?

Response: (b)(5) [redacted]

Question: Have you been able to put any new infrastructure or technology in place to address illegal crossings in the RGV?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	8
Topic:	Rio Grande Sector
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	9
Topic:	Northern Border
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: The Northern Border has also seen increases in traffic in terms of aliens transiting to Canada to seek asylum. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) has had some challenges with the new influx, especially by aliens crossing into Canada at remote locations.

How has CBP been working with Canada to help them deal with the influx of illegal border crossers?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	9
Topic:	Northern Border
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] (b) (5)

Question: Has DHS increased resources along the U.S. side of the Northern border in the more remote locations to help Canada stem the flow?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	10
Topic:	Cross-border Law Enforcement Cooperation
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: CBP has had a number of high profile seizures of drugs in the last few months (for example a recent seizure of liquid meth at the Hidalgo port of entry that had a street value of approximately $3.7 million).

CBP also has noted concerns with trafficking networks and Mexican transnational criminal organizations that control the majority of drug trafficking corridors, either directly or indirectly, mainly through the Tapachula Region of Mexico.

Has Mexican law enforcement been helpful in terms of interdicting drugs coming into the United or notifying U.S. officials of potential transit of illegal drugs?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: If not, what is DHS doing to improve cross-border cooperation with Mexico to enhance our efforts to combat drug trafficking?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	10
Topic:	Cross-border Law Enforcement Cooperation
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5)

Question#:	10
Topic:	Cross-border Law Enforcement Cooperation
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

[redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	10
Topic:	Cross-border Law Enforcement Cooperation
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	10
Topic:	Cross-border Law Enforcement Cooperation
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question: Do you think we need policy changes in our national intelligence priorities so that more national intelligence assets can be used to support the fight against these transnational criminal organizations?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	11
Topic:	Department of Defense Aerostats
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: We recently gave DHS funding to expand the use of government aerostats for surveillance on the Southern border. My understanding is that there are more than two dozen aerostats just sitting in Department of Defense (DoD) storage facilities that could be used for border security.

Is there an impediment to DHS securing these assets from DoD?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: If not, when will DHS be able to acquire these assets and deploy them for use on the Southern Border?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	12
Topic:	Restructuring
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: There has been a lot of discussion about moving CBP's Air and Marine Operations under the Border Patrol to better support U.S. Border patrol in the field?

What are your thoughts about such a restructuring?

Do you think this would increase CBP efficiencies along the Southern border and better support the border security mission?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	13
Topic:	Status of Current Hiring Efforts
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: In his January 25 Executive Order, the President directed CBP to increase its workforce by 5,000 border patrol agents.

What is the status of CBP's current hiring efforts?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: Has CBP been able to reallocate existing resources to the Southern border while it works towards increasing its current workforce?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	13
Topic:	Status of Current Hiring Efforts
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question: When does CBP anticipate that all 5,000 new border patrol agents will be on board?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	14
Topic:	Polygraph Requirement
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: With the surge in hiring, some are concerned that CBP will "water down" or waive the mandatory polygraph requirement altogether. The New York Times published an article over the weekend highlighting "rogue" agents and criticism of the Administration for considering lowering hiring requirements.

Can you set the record straight and explain exactly what CBP's process limitations are as it relates to polygraphs?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: There are a number of bills being considered that would allow CBP to hire veterans and other law enforcement personnel who have already had polygraphs administered by the military or their agencies. Do you think this change in hiring criteria will help CBP?

Question#:	14
Topic:	Polygraph Requirement
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5)

Question#:	15
Topic:	Infrastructure Improvements
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: It's no secret that the infrastructure at our ports of entry is aging and that CBP needs more funding to build new facilities and maintain existing ones. That is why I was glad to see additional appropriations provided to DHS to address facilities maintenance.

Which ports of entry along the Southern border has CBP prioritized for infrastructure improvements in FY 2017?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

Question: Which infrastructure projects does CBP consider critical and is there any additional legislative action that we can take to help address these priority projects?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	15
Topic:	Infrastructure Improvements
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	16
Topic:	Facial Recognition Technology
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: I also understand that CBP is working with new facial recognition technology at ports of entry to help improve inspections.

What are the benefits of using such technology?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: When do you anticipate CBP will be able to expand its use to all Southern and Northern ports of entry?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	16
Topic:	Facial Recognition Technology
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5)

Question#:	17
Topic:	Assaults on CBP Officers
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: Earlier this month, the DHS Office of Inspector General was asked to review the number of assaults on CBP officers in the past 2 fiscal years.

What steps has CBP taken to better protect officers on the front line, especially on the Southern border?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	18
Topic:	Agriculture
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: When you mention border security, most people think only of pedestrian, passenger vehicle, or commercial truck traffic crossing into our POEs. But another component of CBP's job is to protect homeland from dangerous pests, animals, and other prohibited agricultural products that could do huge damage to our farmland. I see CBP has had successes with intercepts of this kind.

How is CBP currently resourced at the ports of entry to inspect incoming produce, livestock, and other plant life?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5)

Question#:	18
Topic:	Agriculture
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable John Cornyn
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

Question#:	19
Topic:	Analogue Drugs
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: In your hearing, we discussed how dangerous drugs like fentanyl are coming across our borders from foreign countries and what U.S. Customs and Border Protection is doing to counter this threat. I also noted that I am leading bipartisan legislation, the SALTS Act, with Senator Graham to make it easier to prosecute the sale and distribution of analogue drugs.

Can you elaborate on the various types of analogue drugs that U.S. Customs and Border Protection has encountered, including analogues of fentanyl?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

[redacted]

Question#:	19
Topic:	Analogue Drugs
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	20
Topic:	Travel Waivers
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: The President's revised executive order targeting the refugee admissions program and banning travel from certain Muslim-majority countries authorizes U.S. Customs and Border Protection to make waivers in certain cases, including when denying entry would cause "undue hardship" and when the person's entry would be "in the national interest."

Although federal courts have blocked the implementation of this order, I would like to hear from you on how U.S. Customs and Border Protection would define the terms "undue hardship" and "in the national interest" with respect to processing these waivers?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted].

Question: How would U.S. Customs and Border Protection evaluate and issue these waivers on a case-by-case basis if the order were to take effect?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	21
Topic:	Road Maintenance
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Jeff Flake
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: I generally hear positive reports from Arizonans about the good work of the Border Patrol. However, one complaint that I am sure you are aware of is road maintenance; we often hear from ranchers and others that the Border Patrol utilizes local roads for surveillance, but is unable to maintain the same roads. I have since requested a GAO study on border road deterioration and maintenance and look forward to its results. The FY17 Appropriations provided funding for both border road maintenance ($22,400,000) and border road construction ($77,400,000).

I understand there are limitations for CBP with regard to border road maintenance, but how will you prioritize utilizing these funds to maintain border roads used heavily by the Border Patrol?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: Another issue I often hear about is border access for your agents. Arizona's rough terrain and intermittent roads hinder the ability of agents to apprehend criminal border crossers or drug runners in a timely fashion. How will new funding for border roads improve this situation?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: What else can Congress do to assist in these efforts?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	21
Topic:	Road Maintenance
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Jeff Flake
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question#:	22
Topic:	Consulting with Local Land Owners
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Jeff Flake
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: Local stakeholders in Arizona whom call the U.S.-Mexico border their home need to be consulted during the debate on securing the border. In fact, border ranchers and landowners have greatly helped my staff and me to better understand the situation on the border.

What efforts have been made to consult with local landowners during the discussions on the wall and border security generally?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted].

Question: How can Congress ensure that our constituents are heard by the Border Patrol and that their ideas and suggestions are taken under consideration?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	22
Topic:	Consulting with Local Land Owners
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Jeff Flake
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question#:	23
Topic:	Border Wall Land
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: Following the passage of the Secure Fence Act in 2006, the U.S. built nearly 700 miles of fencing along federal land in California and Arizona. In Texas, however, most of the land along the U.S.-Mexico border is privately owned. When the government attempted to take parts of that land, many owners sued. The government has spent years litigating the issues, and nearly 100 cases are still open. According to the Government Accountability Office, only about one-third of the land on which the President's proposed border wall would sit is owned by the federal government or Native American tribes.

Does DHS plan to use eminent domain to procure the land it needs to build the border wall?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: How much is the government prepared to spend fighting landowners in court?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: Is there guidance in place to determine the appropriate amount of "just compensation" to which landowners subject to eminent domain are constitutionally entitled?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	23
Topic:	Border Wall Land
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

(b) (5) [redacted]

[redacted]

Question#:	24
Topic:	Mexican Reimbursement
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: Is it the Administration's position that Mexico will reimburse the U.S. for the costs of litigation and compensation to landowners?

(b) (5) [redacted]

Question#:	25
Topic:	Environmental Impact
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: According to the Fish and Wildlife Service, at least 89 endangered or threatened species, 108 species of migratory bird, and four national wildlife refuges could potentially be affected by activities along the border region.

Has CBP reviewed the environmental harms to wildlife, wildlands, and waterways that would be done by construction and maintenance of a border wall?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

Question: Does CBP have a plan in place to mitigate the damage done to the environment?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	25
Topic:	Environmental Impact
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question#:	26
Topic:	Hiring Time Reductions
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: Recently, the Trump administration ordered the hiring of 5,000 additional border agents to be "assigned to duty stations as soon as practicable." However, given current hiring and retirement rates at CBP, it has been reported that it could take more than ten years to meet that goal. CBP has reduced the amount of time it takes to recruit and hire agents from an average of 469 days in January 2016 to 165 days in March 2017.

What changes has CBP made to reduce hiring times so dramatically since last year?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

Question: Are agents today less thoroughly vetted than they were a year ago?

Response: (b) (5)

[redacted]

Question#:	26
Topic:	Hiring Time Reductions
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: If so, then how can we assure that these changes will not compromise standards or otherwise impact the quality of hires at CBP? If not, then why did CBP not make these changes sooner?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Question#:	27
Topic:	Vetting Process Compromised
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: Can you assure the Committee with complete certainty that CBP's recent efforts to reduce hiring times will not compromise our vetting process for CBP hires?

(b) (5)

Question#:	28
Topic:	Agents Still Needed
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: With border apprehensions at a 40 year low, and lower this year than they have been at comparable points in each of the last five years, does it make sense for us to pour resources into border personnel, infrastructure, and surveillance? Is there a coherent strategy for the use of these funds?

Response: (b) (5)

Question#:	29
Topic:	Turning Away Asylum Seekers
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: The nonpartisan international human rights organization Human Rights First recently reported that CBP agents have been unlawfully turning away asylum seekers at the Mexican border, citing the Administration's executive order on border security from earlier this year as a justification for doing so.

Are you aware of these reports of instances where CBP agents have wrongfully turned away asylum seekers at the Mexican border?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Question: What is CBP doing, if anything, to investigate whether these reports are accurate and remedy these cases if they are?

Response: (b) (5) [redacted]

Ecological Services - Listing (Calvert, Simpson, Cole, McCollum, Amodei, Stewart)

1. **How will the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prioritize its listing decisions with the proposed spending cuts for the ESA Listing Program? What impact will the reduction have on the Service's ability to meet statutory deadlines that could result in increased litigation if those deadlines are missed?**

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

2. **Why is the Service proposing to remove the listing subcaps?**

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

3. **What is the status of the critical habitat designation for the Yellow-Billed Cuckoo? Is the Service considering eliminating reservoirs from future critical habitat designations?**

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

4. What is the Service doing to improve transparency in the data used to make listing determinations, and in particular, to share data with the States prior to listings?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

5. How can the Service include impacted stakeholders in settlement negotiations?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

ESA Recovery (Calvert, McCollum, Stewart, Cole)

6. **The ESA is premised on partnership with the States. Section 6(a) of the ESA says, ``In carrying out the program authorized by the Act, the Secretary shall cooperate to the maximum extent practicable with the States." What steps will the Service take to involve the states in all Recovery Plans?**

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

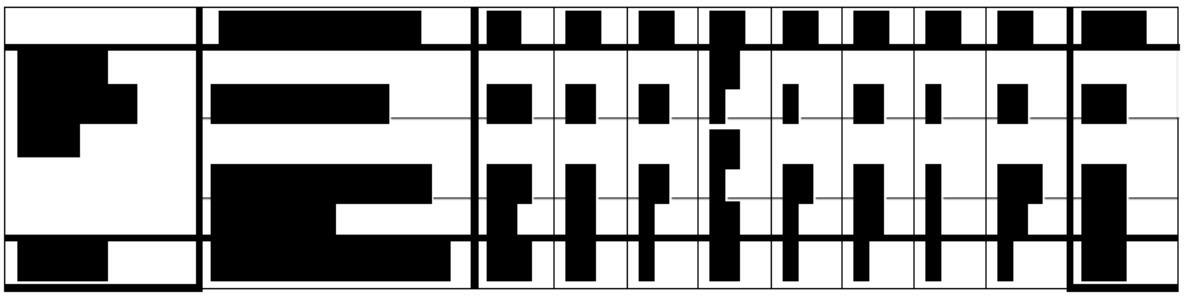
Five Year Reviews (Calvert, Simpson, Cole, McCollum, Amodei)

7. **How many 5-year reviews are outstanding? How many species were recommended for downlisting or delisting after the 5-year reviews, but no action was taken to downlist or delist them?**

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]



(b) (5)

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

8. With the proposed cuts, how will the Service go about implementing FY 2017 Omnibus direction to complete reviews within the statutory timeframe and apply the findings to delist or downlist species, as appropriate?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (Calvert, McCollum, Simpson, Cole, Amodei, Stewart)

9. Why is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposing to eliminate the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund program?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

10. How important is this funding to the implementation of Section 6 of the ESA?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

ESA Consultation (Calvert, Simpson, Cole, Stewart, Amodei, McCollum)

11. What steps will the Service take to "streamline" the permitting process for energy and infrastructure projects? What does the proposed $50,000 increase for energy consultation pay for?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

platform allows project applicants to quickly and easily identify Service-managed resources that

(b) (5) [redacted]

12. The recent Cottonwood court ruling in the 9th circuit has already caused significant delays in forest management projects and has the potential to affect hundreds more. Will you commit to supporting legislation that will alleviate this problem?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

13. FWS solicited comments on potential revisions to its mitigation policies, with public comments due on January 5th. The mitigation policy was originally finalized at the end of 2016 pursuant Secretarial Order 3349. Now that this most recent comment period is closed, what changes does FWS plan to propose?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

ESA Reform Statute/Improve Implementation (Calvert, Simpson, McCollum, Amodei, Cole, Stewart)

14. What can you tell us about pending ESA regulation changes included in the OMB Unified Agenda as "deregulation" for listing, critical habitat, and consultation? Does the Department have any plans for other regulatory reforms to the ESA, beyond those currently listed in the Unified Agenda?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

15. Does the Administration have a comprehensive plan of its own for ESA reform? Have you reviewed the Western Governors' Association recommendations for ESA reform? If so, which are you considering for implementation?

[lead: DCC/BLPS]

Response:

(b) (5)

[redacted]

***Sage Grouse* (Calvert, Simpson, Kilmer, Amodei)**

16. Secretary Zinke has stated he supports the conservation of sage grouse by the States. The FY 2017 Omnibus prohibits the use of funds for a proposed listing of the Greater sage grouse and the Columbia Basin Distinct Population Segment. What is the Service's current role in sage grouse management?

Response:

(b) (5)

[redacted]

[redacted]

***Lesser Prairie Chicken* (Cole, Calvert, McCollum, Simpson)**

17. The Service announced its plans to finalize a Species Status Assessment for the lesser-prairie chicken this fall, and make a decision whether to list the bird. What is the status of this effort, and how are you considering the conservation work of the range states, industry and landowners in this decision?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

18. What is the Service doing to increase participation in the Range-wide Plan?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Border Wall *(Calvert, McCollum, Stewart)*

19. How will the border wall affect threatened and endangered species and critical habitat along the US and Mexico border?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

20. What role with the Service play in reviewing and advising construction plans?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Delta Smelt (Calvert)

21. What is the status of implementing the Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation Act (WIIN) provisions? In particular, what is the status of the production of hatchery-raised Delta smelt?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

[redacted]

<u>Wolves</u> (Simpson, McCollum, Calvert, Stewart)

22. The Service determined that wolves are biologically recovered in the Western Great Lakes, yet a federal court recently held against the Service's delisting rule. What are the Service's next steps in light of this ruling? How are you ensuring that ranchers are not unduly burdened by unnecessary federal protections for these predators?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

[redacted]

-

23. Wolves under state management in eastern WA and OR are managed by the states, but wolves in the western portions of those states remain federally endangered. How is Service working to reduce the confusion and uncertainty facing landowners in these states?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

***Mexican Wolves* (Stewart, Calvert)**

24. The Service recently completed the revised recovery plan for Mexican Wolves. The Service's plan puts most of the responsibility for recovering these wolves on the United States, even though the vast majority of the Mexican wolf's historical range is in Mexico. What role does Mexico play in the recovery of this population?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

25. Has the Service conducted genetic testing and made a determination that Mexican wolves qualify as a listable entity under the ESA?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

***Red Wolves* (McCollum)**

26. What are the Service's next steps for Red Wolf recovery?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

27. Has the Service conducted genetic testing and made a determination that red wolves qualify as a listable entity under the ESA?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

Utah Prairie Dog (Stewart, Calvert)

28. How can the Service improve efforts to accelerate the recovery of the Utah Prairie Dog? What is the Service doing to ensure stability for development activities?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

American Burying Beetle (Cole, Stewart)

29. What is the status of the Service's ESA status review and conservation plan for the American Burying Beetle?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

30. Mitigation for the American burying beetle is costly and the Service has already missed the deadline on a decision whether to delist the beetle. What should I tell my constituents who are deciding whether or not they should wait to start important infrastructure projects?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

Prebles and New Mexico Jumping Mice (Calvert)

31. What is the status of the Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

32. What is the status of the New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Grizzly Bears (Simpson, McCollum, Udall, Calvert)

33. Several environmental groups are litigating the final delisting of grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Can you update us on that litigation and what it means for grizzly bear management in the GYE and the rest of the lower 48?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

34. FWS recently had a public comment period on the delisting of the Grizzly Bear. What is the timeline for finalizing delisting of the Yellowstone population of Grizzly Bears? Please describe the transition process from Federal protection to state management of grizzlies in affected populations.

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

[redacted]

-

35. In December the Service solicited public comments on how the Western Great Lakes wolf court ruling affects the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem grizzly DPS. What does this mean for grizzly bear management now and in the future?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

Canada Lynx

36. Recently, the Service released a species status review for Canada lynx that suggests this species may be recovered. What are the findings of the review, and what are the next steps?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

Dusky Gopher Frog

37. In light the question now before the Supreme Court, in Weyerhauser v. US Fish and Wildlife Service, does this Administration interpret the ESA to authorize the Service to designate private lands as "critical habitat" when it is not inhabited by the species and cannot supply suitable habitat without a radical change in land use?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

White-nose Syndrome (McCollum)

38. WNS continues to spread rapidly and is reported in 31 states and five Canadian provinces. Has this Administration slowed the effort to control the spread of this disease? If so, how does the Service envision addressing the devastation of affected bat species with its proposed reduction in funds?

Response

(b) (5) [redacted]

Environmental Response and Restoration

39. How will the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prioritize its spill response and natural resource damage assessment and restoration with the proposed spending cuts for the Environmental Response and Restoration Program?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

40. Environmental Response and Restoration Program supports various priorities for the Secretary of the Interior, how may these priorities be affected with the proposed spending cuts?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

41. The Service's Environmental Response and Restoration is premised on partnership with other Federal Agencies, States, and Tribes. What steps will the Service take to facilitate these partnerships?

Response

(b) (5)

[redacted]

(b) (5)

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>

OCL Report with Notes

Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov> Fri, Jan 19, 2018 at 9:07 AM
To: Martin Kodis <martin_kodis@fws.gov>
Cc: Merra Howe <marian_howe@fws.gov>

Hi Marty,

I added notes to ES items in the weekly report and added a blurb on the TX hornshell listing since R2 wants to call members.

Let me know if you want any more info for your OCL meeting.

Also, no Elizabeth Mabry call scheduled yet, but I'll add Micah to the call invite and add you as well as an FYI.

- Alyssa

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FWS CLA Weekly Report 1.18.18 vNotes.docx
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Weekly Report – January 18, 2018

Hearings

- No upcoming hearings with FWS witnesses.

Meetings

- No upcoming congressional meetings.

Congressional Visits in the Field

- (b) (5) [redacted]

Updates on Major Legislation of Interest to FWS

- No major updates on legislation.

Upcoming Announcements

- (b) (5) [redacted]
- (b) (5) [redacted]
- (b) (5) [redacted]

- (b) (5) [redacted]
- (b) (5) [redacted]
- (b) (5) [redacted]

Questions for the Record

- No pending Questions for the Record.

Reports to Congress

- (b) (5) [redacted]
- (b) (5) [redacted]

Hill Outreach

- (b) (5) [redacted]

- (b) (5)
  [redacted]

From: Nudel, Martha
Subject: notes from Management Team meeting March 27
Date: Thursday, March 29, 2018 6:33:18 AM
Attachments: Management Team meeting March 27.docx

Please see attached.

thanks

Martha Nudel
Division of Visitor Services and Communications
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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
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http://www.fws.gov/refuges/

Management Team
March 27, 2018

Thank You To:

- Kathy Korte, Rich Johnston and Zach Arnold for providing additional security for the Internal Wildlife Conservation Council (IWCC) meeting at the Main Interior Building on March 16.
- San Diego National Wildlife Refuge, CA, for hosting a memorable three-day meeting last week, including field trips, for the four funded Urban Wildlife Refuges.
- (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
- Anna Fisher, Division of Refuge Law Enforcement, and the Division of Visitor Service and Communications for continued efforts to promote Refuge Law Enforcement. These activities were recognized by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Law Enforcement during a Department of the Interior meeting on Refuge Law Enforcement.
- Samantha Fleming for her work to prepare background packages for the Division of Refuge Law Enforcement's National Hire Program candidates.
- Jo Ann Clark for her help in coordinating, prepping and participating in the Office of Federal Lands Highway transportation bill listening session in Atlanta last week. Also thanks to everyone who attended and represented the Service: Conrad Lamar, Steve Jackson, Keith Westlake and Carolyn Johnson.
- Dan Murphy from the Chesapeake Bay office for hosting staff from the Coastal & Marine Program and the National Wetlands Inventory. Dan showed the team several Coastal Wetland Grants and Coastal Program projects, including a nine-acre pollinator planting project that has been recently expanded to 25 acres with the support of the landowner. Also thank you to Marnie Pepper and Lisa Burh for sharing with team the work being done on nutria eradication.

Shaun Sanchez, Deputy Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System

- Cynthia Martinez is on leave this week and will be back on Monday.
- I spent yesterday at NCTC with our Wage Grade Academy.
- I'm in the office this week except for Thursday afternoon and Friday, March 29-30, when I'll be on leave.
- Monday through Thursday, April 2-5, I'm traveling to Boise, ID, to meet with our folks at the Fire Center.
- This is Jason Larrabee's last week as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. Bringing Monday, April 2, Susan Combs will be the Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.

Noah Matson, Acting Chief, Division of Natural Resources and Conservation Planning.

- More than 30 people participated in a three-day virtual Inventory and Monitoring Plan Workshop. The workshop included presentations from all regions on their innovations and challenges developing these plans. Peter Dratch was among the workshop organizers; follow-up related webinars are anticipated.

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Devin Helfrich, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

- The Keep our Refuges Operational Act, HR 3979, is expected to move in the Senate soon.
- Two highlights from the Omnibus appropriations action:
  - **Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge**, TX, funding prohibition language included in the FY18 omnibus appropriations act: *"(c) None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge."*
  - **Green River National Wildlife Refuge**, KY, establishment language included in the FY18 omnibus Joint Explanatory Statement: *"The agreement directs the Service to approve the establishment of the Green River National Wildlife Refuge in the Green River Bottoms area near the confluence of the Green River and Ohio River in Henderson County, Kentucky. The refuge should consist of approximately 24,000 acres - to be acquired from willing landowners. The Service should partner with other stakeholders on establishment of the refuge and look for opportunities related to environmental mitigation for interstate bridge construction projects in the area. The Service is directed to wait to establish final boundaries of the refuge until the new 1-69 interstate bridge corridor is selected. Within 120 days of the date of enactment of this Act, the Service is directed to report to the Committees on its progress toward establishment of the refuge."*

Ron Salz, Chief Cartographer

- Bridget Flanders-Wanner of Region 1 and Mark Pelz of Region 8 are taking over for the recently-retired Jan Taylor as liaisons between the Natural Resources Leadership Team (NRLT) and the Management Action GIS team.
- Karen Rank sent the hunt unit mapping work plan to Shaun Sanchez and Aaron Mize. Thank you to Karen, Dan Konzek, Allen Gilbert, Richard Easterbrook and Sean Killen.
- Peter Harms has started a project to scan all the historic (1936-2000) Annual Land reports. We will store them in ServCat and include access via the Realty SharePoint site.
- In January 2018 Executive Order 13821 was signed to streamline and expedite the siting of broadband facilities in rural America. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals (ASLM) is leading the effort for DOI. Aurelia Skipwith, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, asked the DOI agencies to attend a briefing by BLM, which demonstrated their work to date. Ken Fowler and I attended. The meeting included reps from NPS, BIA, BLM and ASLM. Ken and I will follow up on the data request. We feel we are in good position to assist, with data from Land Records System, Cadastral GIS and the mapped constructed real property.

Linh Phu, S.O. 3356 National Coordinator

- R3 (Recruitment, Retention, Reactivation) cross-programmatic coordination meeting with Refuge System, Fish & Aquatic Resources, WSFR, NCTC, and Human Dimensions staff.
- Finalizing Association of fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) e-newsletter article to introduce the chiefs of hunting and fishing.
- Working to finalize the SO 3347 Implementation Plan.

- I will be on annual leave Thursday-Friday, March 29-30.

Laura Whorton, Acting Chief, Branch of Transportation

- An $11 million Federal Lands Access Program grant was awarded to Nevada State DOT in partnership with the Service, which is providing a $1 million match, to construct safety improvements for vehicles turning into and exiting Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuge. In the past several years, there have been five crashes by vehicles accessing the refuge along with numerous near misses. Injuries have resulted. By leveraging funds and partnering with the state DOT, the Service will be able to complete this high priority safety project, which is projected to cost more than six times the Region 8 allocation for Federal Lands Transportation Program funds.

Janet Bruner, Acting Chief, Division of Realty

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David Robinson, Deputy Chief, Division of Budget, Performance and Workforce

- For HQ Only: Deadline for contracts over $500,000 are due by March 30.
- Some training dates for the Basic Financial Assistance Course have changed. The new training schedule can viewed online.

Rob Miller, Chief, Division of Facilities, Equipment and Transportation

- Brad and Scott are at Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuge, NV, with Art Shine this week. They are testing the draft annual condition assessment (ACA) tool with the field to get a better understanding of the workload associated with the requirements, and get input from Art on content and phasing of the ACA tool.

Linda Walker, Chief, Division of Visitor Services and Communications

- Plans are underway for a meeting of regional visitor services chiefs and HQ visitor services staff on April 17-19 at NCTC.

Jana Newman, Acting Director, Natural Resource Program Center

- The Wildlife Health office provided an update during the pre-North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference Fish and Wildlife Health Committee call.
- We are celebrating the one-year anniversary of the eradication of the New World screwworm from the Florida Key deer. An after-action meeting will be held in April to determine lessons learned and improve wildlife disease response in the future.
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- The Medicine Lake Baseline Air Quality study has been initiated. Air monitors have been set up by the BLM contractor, Colorado State University. This phase of the study will run until September. Thanks to Medicine Lake Refuge, MT, for assistance and for hosting the air monitoring site.
- Danielle Ross-Winslow traveled to San Diego, CA, last week for a meeting with the four funded Urban Wildlife Refuges and others. There were wide-ranging discussion about the Urban Wildlife Conservation Program, including how it contributes to meeting Secretarial Orders; how to measure outcomes; and learning from the refuges' efforts in how to connect with communities.
- Mark Chase and Natalie Sexton are attending the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Norfolk, VA, March 26-30.
- The Monarch Evaluation Workshop will be held at USGS in Fort Collins, CO, April 3-5.

Robert Eaton, Deputy Chief, Branch of Fire Management

- The National Preparedness Level is at a 1 (Low)**.** The Southern Area is at a PL 2 (Moderate). The Southwest Area and the Rocky Mountain Area are both at a PL 1 (Low).
- Gillian Fay, Branch of Fire Management budget officer, is on a six-week detail to the Office of Wildland Fire (Department of the Interior) as budget officer from March 4-April 14.
- Ted Mason represented the Branch of Fire Management at the National Fire Operations & Safety Team (NFOST) meeting last week at Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge, SC.
- I will be in Boise, ID, this week, meeting with staff and other Interagency Fire Partners. Service firefighters responded to 8 wildfires on Service lands last week in Wisconsin (Necedah and Horicon Refuges), Puerto Rico (Vieques Refuge), Georgia (Okefenokee and Harris Neck Refuges), Florida (St. Johns Refuge) and Kansas (Quivira and Marais des Cygnes Refuges). The Cottonwood Fire on the Quivira Refuge burned approximately 1,502 acres.
- Prescribed fires were conducted last week on 14 refuges in Regions 3, 4 and 6: Iowa, Port Louisa Refuge; Indiana, Big Oaks Refuge; Minnesota, Sherburne Refuge; Wisconsin, Necedah Refuge; South Carolina, Carolina Sandhills Refuge; Georgia, Piedmont Refuge; Mississippi, Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee and Mississippi Sandhill Crane Refuges; Florida, Merritt Island Refuge; and Utah, Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. Total acreage burned approximately **11,504.**
- Committed Service resources on assignment as of March 26: approximately 44.
- "All Agencies" Fires and Acres as of Friday, March 23:

Calendar Year to Date:	Fires: 9,649	Acres: 393,814
10 Year Average to Date:	Fires: 10,045	Acres: 409,593

Martha Nudel, Division of Visitor Services and Communications

- Send me your items for the April *News from Washington* by this Friday, March 30, or early next week.
- You can see an Open Spaces blog about Alaska Refuge Law Enforcement Chief Jim Hjelmgren and his community relations program online.

From:	Jones, Lisa
To:	Gary Frazer
Cc:	Wellman, Lois
Subject:	For Today"s Pre-Brief -- Practice Q&As
Date:	Monday, May 13, 2019 9:56:41 AM
Attachments:	HNR Budget Hearing Q and A.docx

Hi Gary,

For the hearing pre-brief with Margaret this afternoon, we plan to go over the attached practice Q&As. We'll focus on the ESA-related Q&As today, which are in the beginning of the doc (after a few general Qs).

We won't be doing a mock hearing, just reviewing the most high-profile Qs that we want to make sure we review and discuss. Feel free to jump in during the pre-brief with your thoughts on what is most important/anything you want to discuss and review with her. And of course we always value your feedback on the suggested answers.

In addition to CLA, Taylor Playforth from OCL will likely attend, as well as Melisa Beaumont and Chris Nolin.

Thanks again for joining us today!

Cheers,

Lisa

Lisa Hummon-Jones
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
703-358-2536 (o)
202-365-7255 (c)

From:	Crouse, Debby
To:	Jeff Newman; Gina Shultz; Morgan, Don
Subject:	BCH BP and IM with added sentence about border wall impacts or lack thereof
Date:	Tuesday, March 14, 2017 3:35:35 PM
Attachments:	Briefing Paper_BCH_90-day_finding_FWS_20170313.v3.docx IM Bone Cave harvestman Remand_90-day petition finding.v5_20170314.docx

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FYI, I am attaching these briefing papers with a added sentence about the border wall. Neither document speaks to the biology of the species, so I found it hard to find a place to insert.

Let me know if you think we should use these, whether they need edits, etc.

Debby

****

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Endangered Species Program
Branch of Recovery, Delisting and State Grants
MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Debby_Crouse@fws.gov
(p) 703-358-2471
(f) 703-358-1800

Check these out:

- Recovery Planning and Implementation google site for FWS staff: https://sites.google.com/a/fws.gov/recovery-planning-and-implementation/
- SSA Framework - google site for FWS staff: https://sites.google.com/a/fws.gov/ssa/

Briefing Paper for Departmental Clearance of Federal Register Documents

I. Title of document: 90-Day Finding on a Petition to Remove the Bone Cave harvestman (*Texella reyesi*) From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

II. Popular short name, if applicable: Bone Cave harvestman 90-day finding

III. DCN: FR 2890

IV. RIN (for rules) or notice tracking number (for notices): FWS-R2-ES-2017-0018

V. Summary: This is a 90-day finding addressing a petition to remove the endangered Bone Cave harvestman (occurring in Texas) from the Federal lists of endangered and threatened species. Based on our review and evaluation, we find that the petition does not present substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that delisting of the Bone Cave harvestman may be warranted.

VI. Is timing critical? ☒ Yes ☐No If yes, answer the following questions. If no, go to VII.

a. What is the target date for the FR document to clear DOI? 3/24/2017

b. What is driving the timing? A December 22, 2016, court order to submit the 90-day finding to the **Federal Register** by March 31, 2017.

c. What happens if the deadline is missed? We would be held in contempt of court for missing the court-ordered deadline.

VII. Background: On June 2, 2014, we received a petition from John Yearwood, Kathryn Heidemann, Charles and Cheryl Shell, the Walter Sidney Shell Management Trust, the American Stewards of Liberty, and Steven W. Carothers requesting that we remove the endangered Bone Cave harvestman from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. On June 1, 2015, the Service published a 90-day finding in the **Federal Register** (80 FR 30990) that the petition did not present substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that the petitioned action was warranted. On December 15, 2015, the American Stewards of Liberty, Charles and Cheryl Shell, Walter Sidney Shell Management Trust, Kathryn Heidemann, and Robert V. Harrison, Sr. challenged the 2015 90-day finding in Federal district court. The Service sought the court's permission to reconsider the 90-day finding. On December 22, 2016, the court ordered the Service to complete a new 90-day finding and deliver that finding to the **Federal Register** on or before March 31, 2017. This 90-day finding supersedes the Service's June 1, 2015, finding and is made pursuant to the court's December 22, 2016, order, the 2014 petition, and additional reference materials.

XIII. Primary contact:

Name: Gary Frazer, Assistant Director for Ecological Services, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Phone: 202-208-4646
Email: Gary_Frazer@fws.gov

March 10, 2017

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

FROM: Gary Frazer, Assistant Director, Endangered Species

CC: Regional Director, Southwest Region

SUBJECT: 90-day finding: Petition to delist the Bone Cave harvestman

I. INTRODUCTION

We are making a not-substantial 90-day finding on a petition to delist the Bone Cave harvestman (*Texella reyesi*), an endangered species that occurs in Texas. This action is based on our review of the information provided in the petition and is a statutory requirement under the Endangered Species Act.

II. BACKGROUND

b5-DPP

b5-DPP

From: Hausman, Alyssa
To: Aubrey, Craig
Cc: Gary Frazer; Gina Shultz; Jeff Newman; Foster Tori
Subject: Re: Review Requested: DHS QFRs on Southern Border
Date: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 8:49:16 AM
Attachments: CBP Vitiello (29) #1144374 OMB Clearance FWS edit Q25.doc

---

Hi All,

Region 8 agrees with your assessment (their note below)

I received the attached edits from R2. These are fairly general in nature and actually lessen the CBP's commitment for post-construction habitat conservation/restoration. I have doubts about the value of these edits considering that they need to go through Casey and Greg for review, but will defer to you all. Please let me know if you would like to move the attached comments forward.

Thanks,
Alyssa

> **R8 ARD**: Since this is really written from CBP point of view, I don't really have any edits. It does appear to be accurate based on our current understanding. I also called our solicitor who has been in on some recent conversations with DHS. We had heard previously that CBP may invoke a waiver of requirements for environmental laws (which would mean they are not required to do ESA/NEPA compliance, and probably not mitigate). She says that CBP has not yet invoked a waiver; they indicate that their current plans are to move forward with compliance.

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

On Wed, Jul 12, 2017 at 8:12 AM, Hausman, Alyssa <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov> wrote:

> Thank you very much, Craig.
>
> Alyssa Hausman
> Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> Office: (703) 358-2275
> Mobile: (703) 785-3402
> alyssa_hausman@fws.gov
>
> On Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 1:26 PM, Aubrey, Craig <craig_aubrey@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > They refer to "consults", "consultations" and "environmental assessments", which I understand were waived for previous work. I think they are using these terms in a broader sense (i.e., we don't own the word "consultation"), so I think it's probably not worth commenting on. But I wanted to flag it for senior management.

FYI... they do mention IPaC.

Otherwise, no issues.

Craig

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Hausman, Alyssa** <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 10:41 AM
Subject: Review Requested: DHS QFRs on Southern Border
To: Jeff Newman <jeff_newman@fws.gov>, Craig Aubrey <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>

Hi Jeff and Craig,

The Department is circulating DHS QFRs from a recent hearing on southern border security. Questions 25 and 26 from Sen. Hirono (D-HI) discuss impacts to wildlife. Can you please take a look at those questions in the attached document and let me know if you have any concerns/proposed edits by COB today? I am also sending these to Regions 2 and 8.

Sorry for the tight deadline, and thank you!

- Alyssa

Alyssa Hausman
Congressional and Legislative Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: (703) 358-2275
Mobile: (703) 785-3402
alyssa_hausman@fws.gov

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL REFERRAL

Subject: **HRG #60 - DHS Questions for the Record from 5/23/17 Hearing**

Re: Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border

Attached for review, please find draft DHS (CBP) QFRs from a May 23rd hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee's Immigration Subcommittee, titled "Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border."

Question#:	25
Topic:	Environmental Impact
Hearing:	Building America's Trust Through Border Security: Progress on the Southern Border
Primary:	The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee:	JUDICIARY (SENATE)

Question: According to the Fish and Wildlife Service, at least 89 endangered or threatened species, 108 species of migratory bird, and four national wildlife refuges could potentially be affected by activities along the border region.

Has CBP reviewed the environmental harms to wildlife, wildlands, and waterways that would be done by construction and maintenance of a border wall?

Response: (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP
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Question: Does CBP have a plan in place to mitigate the damage done to the environment?

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From: Ted Koch
To: Gary Frazer
Subject: Fwd: Ted: draft PP for your review
Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 2:13:04 PM
Attachments: ATT00001.htm
20171019_brf to HQ on Recovery plan v2.pptx

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Barrett, Sherry" <sherry_barrett@fws.gov>
> **To:** Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>
> **Cc:** Amy Lueders <Amy_Lueders@fws.gov>, Seth Willey <seth_willey@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Re: Ted: draft PP for your review**
>
> Here is the revised powerpoint - please give me feedback
>
> thanks
>
> On Tue, Oct 17, 2017 at 11:10 PM, Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov> wrote:
>> Sherry-
>>
>> b5-DPP [redacted]. Would you please try to make whatever changes you can?
>>
>> We can discuss tomorrow if you'd like.
>>
>> Thanks,
>>
>> Ted
>>
>> Sent from my iPhone
>>
>> Begin forwarded message:
>>
>>> **From:** "Frazer, Gary" <gary_frazer@fws.gov>
>>> **Date:** October 17, 2017 at 9:15:44 PM PDT
>>> **To:** Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>
>>> **Cc:** Amy Lueders <amy_lueders@fws.gov>
>>> **Subject: Re: Ted: draft PP for your review**

My thoughts, recognizing that it's Tues evening and the briefing for Greg is Thurs morning:

If this is too much to assimilate in the time available, I would suggest you do your best with Greg and then polish further before taking it to the next level. We really don't have time to postpone this briefing again. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Tue, Oct 17, 2017 at 4:11 PM, Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov> wrote:

> Your review is requested. I think it looks pretty good.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> **From:** "Barrett, Sherry" <sherry_barrett@fws.gov>
> **To:** Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>
> **Cc:** Seth Willey <seth_willey@fws.gov>, Amy Lueders <amy_lueders@fws.gov>

Subject: Ted: draft PP for your review

Hi Ted: attached is the draft PP for Thursday's Vidyo with HQ on the recovery plan. I have incorporated comments based on our pre-brief today. Amy asked that you and Gary Frazer also take a look at it and provide any comments back to me.

Thanks

--
Sherry Barrett
Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator
US Fish and Wildlife Service
2105 Osuna Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113
Office: (505) 761-4748
Cell: (505) 363-2797

--
Sherry Barrett
Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator
US Fish and Wildlife Service
2105 Osuna Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113
Office: (505) 761-4748
Cell: (505) 363-2797

Mexican Wolf Recovery Program

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Questions?
Jacquelyn M. F

Label: "FOIAs/FWS-2017-01049-Border-Wall"

Created by:noah_matson@fws.gov

Total Messages in label:20 (5 conversations)

Created: 05-21-2019 at 13:24 PM

Conversation Contents

Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Attachments:

/1. Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account/8.1 FWS HQ - Resource Protection Structures_4.18.2018.docx
/1. Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account/14.1 image.png

"Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>

From:	"Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 07:25:27 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>
CC:	Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>, Janet Bruner <janet_bruner@fws.gov>, Laura Whorton <laura_whorton@fws.gov>
Subject:	Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Brad,

I just spoke with Chris Nolan on this request. Please see the below short-notice request for a Briefing Paper on the Service's flexibility to construct resource protection structures along the Texas border. Would your group take the lead on this. I have included Noah (resource protection structure aspect) and Janet (holdings and map aspect).

I will try to find any language in Service authorizations regarding the topic.

DAVID C. ROBINSON
Deputy Chief
HQ NWRS Division of Budget, Performance, and Workforce

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
MS: NWRS
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Phone: 703-358-2262
E-mail: david_c_robinson@fws.gov

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Nolin, Chris** <chris_nolin@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:05 AM
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: David Robinson <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Guertin, Stephen** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 5:35 AM
Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: "Nolin, Chris" <chris_nolin@fws.gov>, Cynthia Martinez <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov>, Sanchez Shaun <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>
Cc: "Giddings, Rebekah" <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <Jim_Kurth@fws.gov>, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>, Kashyap Patel <kashyap_patel@fws.gov>

Thanks for the update.

Please work with Cynthia's team to prepare a BP on this issue so we can provide a thorough response back up the line through Greg so he has the comprehensive background. There will probably be a meeting with the political leadership team and the SOL team. On a tight deadline.

- State the request
- Analyze and address the question "does the FWS have the ability to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border?" ie what is our construction appropriations language, does this give us any flexibility for this purpose, are there any other laws, regs, or policies that allow this use of the account or forbid this use of the account?
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On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:30 PM, Giddings, Rebekah <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov> wrote:

> Please see Scott's message below…
>
> ***Rebekah Giddings***
>
> Deputy Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital
>
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
>
> 703-358-2117
>
> Warning: This email may contain Privacy Act Sensitive Data, which is intended only for the use of the individual to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected disclosure under applicable laws.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Stephen Guertin** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:29 PM
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: rebekah_giddings@fws.gov

Can u pls forward to Chris Nolin and division of budget. Thx

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Sheehan, Gregory" <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
> **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 2:00:03 PM EDT
> **To:** Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account**
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
> Begin forwarded message:
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> > **From:** "Cameron, Scott" <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>
> > **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 11:38:03 AM EDT
> > **To:** Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, "Moss, Adrianne" <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>, Susan Combs <susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Jean Parrish <jean_parrish@ios.doi.gov>
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Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>

From:	Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 07:38:10 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	"Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>
CC:	Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>, Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Janet Bruner <janet_bruner@fws.gov>, Laura Whorton <laura_whorton@fws.gov>
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Deputy Chief
HQ NWRS Division of Budget, Performance, and Workforce

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
MS: NWRS
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
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E-mail: david_c_robinson@fws.gov

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Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
202-208-4545 office
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5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>

From:	Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 07:40:49 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>
CC:	"Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>, Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>, Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>, Janet Bruner <janet_bruner@fws.gov>, Laura Whorton <laura_whorton@fws.gov>
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

No. We don't have time and we need to just focus on the authority.

Sent from my iPhone

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U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
MS: NWRS
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E-mail: david_c_robinson@fws.gov

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> Greg Sheehan

Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
202-208-4545 office
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Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service

703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
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5275 Leesburg Pike
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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

"Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>

From:	"Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 07:43:25 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	Holly Gaboriault <holly_t_gaboriault@fws.gov>, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>
Subject:	Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Holly,

Here is the request we discussed.

DAVID C. ROBINSON
Deputy Chief
HQ NWRS Division of Budget, Performance, and Workforce

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
MS: NWRS
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
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"Gaboriault, Holly" <holly_t_gaboriault@fws.gov>

From:	"Gaboriault, Holly" <holly_t_gaboriault@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 07:58:53 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Ok. David stopped in and said he was mainly wanting to see if we can check to see if there might be any policies or something in the CCP for Santa Ana that might prevent the construction. Sounds like he has others working the other components of the question, but the local on the ground management was his question....If it was legal, would there be something else that might be a barrier....

Holly T. Gaboriault (pronounced "Gaboreo")
Acting Deputy Chief for the Division of Natural Resources and Conservation Planning
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:NWRS
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
April 2- April 27

(o) 703-358-2106
(c) 912-313-4951

On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:38 AM, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov> wrote:

> FYI
> I'll think about it some more and happy to engage, but this seems like a legal interpretation question regarding the appropriate use of these construction funds, less of a Natural Resources question.
>
> Noah
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> **From:** "Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>
> **Date:** April 18, 2018 at 9:25:27 AM EDT
> **To:** Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>

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Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:05 AM
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: David Robinson <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>

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From: **Guertin, Stephen** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 5:35 AM
Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: "Nolin, Chris" <chris_nolin@fws.gov>, Cynthia Martinez <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov>, Sanchez Shaun <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>
Cc: "Giddings, Rebekah" <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <Jim_Kurth@fws.gov>, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>, Kashyap Patel <kashyap_patel@fws.gov>

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On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:30 PM, Giddings, Rebekah <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov> wrote:

> Please see Scott's message below...
>
> ***Rebekah Giddings***
>
> Deputy Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital
>
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
>
> 703-358-2117
>
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> **From:** "Sheehan, Gregory" <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>

Date: April 17, 2018 at 2:00:03 PM EDT
To: Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
202-208-4545 office
202-676-7675 cell

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From: "Cameron, Scott" <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>
Date: April 17, 2018 at 11:38:03 AM EDT
To: Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, "Moss, Adrianne" <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>, Susan Combs <susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov> (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Jean Parrish <jean_parrish@ios.doi.gov>
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Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

--
Chris Nolin

Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

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5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>

From:	Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 08:25:48 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	"Gaboriault, Holly" <holly_t_gaboriault@fws.gov>
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

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Noah

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April 2- April 27

(o) 703-358-2106
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Deputy Chief
HQ NWRS Division of Budget, Performance, and Workforce

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
MS: NWRS
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Phone: 703-358-2262
E-mail: david_c_robinson@fws.gov

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Rebekah Giddings

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital

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From:	"Gaboriault, Holly" <holly_t_gaboriault@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 09:00:32 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

I know so that seems like end of story right?!?

Holly T. Gaboriault (pronounced "Gaboreo")
Acting Deputy Chief for the Division of Natural Resources and Conservation Planning
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April 2- April 27

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"Whorton, Laura" <laura_whorton@fws.gov>

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Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 09:37:41 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	"Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>, Janet Bruner <janet_bruner@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) >, Marilyn Brower <Marilyn_brower@fws.gov>
CC:	Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>, Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Robert Miller <robert_miller@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) <(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) >
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
Attachments:	FWS HQ - Resource Protection Structures_4.18.2018.docx

Hi all,

Attached is a draft response to this question. Thanks to Brad, Marilyn, (b)(6), (b)(7), and Ken for their input. Is anything missing? Not clear? Anything else? Ken is working on the map.

(b)(6), (b)(7), I didn't include the part about the levee that runs through the refuge potentially being owned by the International Border Wall Commission since our map didn't show that and our SAMMS records said we owned it. But if there's additional information we can point to that corrects our records, then we can add that part back in.

Thanks,

Laura

Laura Whorton
Acting Transportation Branch Chief
National Wildlife Refuge System
Division of Facilities, Equipment & Transportation
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-1752 (direct)

On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:40 AM, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov> wrote:

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>
> Sent from my iPhone
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> **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 2:00:03 PM EDT
> **To:** Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account**
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> > **From:** "Cameron, Scott" <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>
> > **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 11:38:03 AM EDT
> > **To:** Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, "Moss, Adrianne" <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>, Susan Combs <susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>,

Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>,
Jean Parrish <jean_parrish@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Flexibility in FWS construction account

All,

The question has been posed as to the authority and the ability of FWS to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border. Apparently there is a 2 mile stretch of land in Texas that is in question.

Jean, can you please schedule a meeting on this topic with POB, FW&P, FWS, and Brent Range?

Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

--
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>

From:	Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 09:46:28 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	"Whorton, Laura" <laura_whorton@fws.gov>
CC:	"Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>, Janet Bruner <janet_bruner@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) <(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)>, Marilyn Brower <Marilyn_brower@fws.gov>, Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>, Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Robert Miller <robert_miller@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) <(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)>
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Looks good (b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP (b)(5) DPP

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Noah

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Laura Whorton
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National Wildlife Refuge System
Division of Facilities, Equipment & Transportation
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703-358-1752 (direct)

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> > > HQ NWRS Division of Budget, Performance, and Workforce
> > >
> > > U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
> > > MS: NWRS
> > > 5275 Leesburg Pike
> > > Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> > > Phone: 703-358-2262
> > > E-mail: david_c_robinson@fws.gov
> > >
> > > ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> > > From: **Nolin, Chris** <chris_nolin@fws.gov>
> > > Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:05 AM
> > > Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
> > > To: David Robinson <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>
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> > >
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From: **Guertin, Stephen** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 5:35 AM
Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: "Nolin, Chris" <chris_nolin@fws.gov>, Cynthia Martinez <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov>, Sanchez Shaun <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>
Cc: "Giddings, Rebekah" <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <Jim_Kurth@fws.gov>, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>, Kashyap Patel <kashyap_patel@fws.gov>

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>
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Rebekah Giddings

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital

US Fish and Wildlife Service

703-358-2117

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From: **Stephen Guertin** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:29 PM
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: rebekah_giddings@fws.gov

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<FWS HQ - Resource Protection Structures_4.18.2018.docx>

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Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 09:47:00 GMT-0600 (MDT)
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Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Thank you folks!!!

Laura- I have a couple minor edits before we send it forward. I'll come up to your office to discuss.

Shaun

Shaun M. Sanchez
Deputy Chief
National Wildlife Refuge System
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Office Phone: 703-358-2304
Cell: 702-533-9629

E-Mail: shaun_sanchez@fws.gov

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>
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>
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
>
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Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

All,

I believe we need to address the requirement for FWS to submit an operations plan for Congressional approval for the$50 million. This provides the option for FWS to request any projects. This goes against the appropriators intent since the funding is intended to address reported DM backlog. However, if we are submitting other projects that are full or partial capital improvement, we will have a tough time justifying why a these structures are different from the new construction requests in the 1002 area.

Thanks!

Rob Miller
Division Chief, FET
National Wildlife Refuge System
US Fish and Wildlife Service

P - 703-358-2385
C - 703-819-8027

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> > **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 11:38:03 AM EDT
> > **To:** Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, "Moss, Adrianne" <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>, Susan Combs <susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>,

Gregory Sheehan
<gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>,
Brent Range
<brent_range@ios.doi.gov>,
Jean Parrish
<jean_parrish@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Flexibility in FWS construction account

All,

The question has been posed as to the authority and the ability of FWS to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border. Apparently there is a 2 mile stretch of land in Texas that is in question.

Jean, can you please schedule a meeting on this topic with POB, FW&P, FWS, and Brent Range?

Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for
Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer

US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
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5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

<FWS HQ - Resource Protection Structures_4.18.2018.docx>

Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>

From:	Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 09:53:13 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	Robert Miller <robert_miller@fws.gov>
CC:	"Whorton, Laura" <laura_whorton@fws.gov>, "Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>, Janet Bruner <janet_bruner@fws.gov>, Richard Johnston <richard_a_johnston@fws.gov>, Marilyn Brower <Marilyn_brower@fws.gov>, Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Rodney Hansen <rodney_hansen@fws.gov>
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

I agree that we should discuss the $50M since that seems to be the target.

Thank you for pulling this together!

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 18, 2018, at 11:47 AM, Robert Miller <robert_miller@fws.gov> wrote:

> All,
>
> I believe we need to address the requirement for FWS to submit an operations plan for Congressional approval for the$50 million. This provides the option for FWS to request any projects. This goes against the appropriators intent since the funding is intended to address reported DM backlog. However, if we are submitting other projects that are full or partial capital improvement, we will have a tough time justifying why a these structures are different from the new construction requests in the 1002 area.
>
> Thanks!
>
> Rob Miller
> Division Chief, FET
> National Wildlife Refuge System
> US Fish and Wildlife Service

P - 703-358-2385
C - 703-819-8027

On Apr 18, 2018, at 10:37 AM, Whorton, Laura <laura_whorton@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hi all,
>
> Attached is a draft response to this question. Thanks to Brad, Marilyn, Rod, and Ken for their input. Is anything missing? Not clear? Anything else? Ken is working on the map.
>
> Rod, I didn't include the part about the levee that runs through the refuge potentially being owned by the International Border Wall Commission since our map didn't show that and our SAMMS records said we owned it. But if there's additional information we can point to that corrects our records, then we can add that part back in.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Laura

Laura Whorton
Acting Transportation Branch Chief
National Wildlife Refuge System
Division of Facilities, Equipment & Transportation
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-1752 (direct)

On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:40 AM, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov> wrote:

> No. We don't have time and we need to just focus on the authority.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Apr 18, 2018, at 9:38 AM, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov> wrote:
>
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> >
> > > Brad,
> > >
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DAVID C. ROBINSON
Deputy Chief
HQ NWRS Division of Budget, Performance, and Workforce

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
HEADQUARTERS
MS: NWRS
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Phone: 703-358-2262
E-mail: david_c_robinson@fws.gov

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From: **Nolin, Chris** <chris_nolin@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:05 AM
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: David Robinson <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>

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From: **Guertin, Stephen** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 5:35 AM
Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: "Nolin, Chris" <chris_nolin@fws.gov>, Cynthia Martinez <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov>, Sanchez Shaun <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>
Cc: "Giddings, Rebekah" <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <Jim_Kurth@fws.gov>, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>, Kashyap Patel <kashyap_patel@fws.gov>

Thanks for the update.

Please work with Cynthia's team to prepare a BP on this issue so we can provide a thorough response back up the line through Greg so he has the comprehensive background. There will probably be a meeting with the political leadership team and the SOL team. On a tight deadline.

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On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:30 PM, Giddings, Rebekah <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov> wrote:

> Please see Scott's message below...
>
> ***Rebekah Giddings***
>
> Deputy Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital
>
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
>
> 703-358-2117
>
> Warning: This email may contain Privacy Act Sensitive Data, which is intended only for the use of the individual to which it is

addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected disclosure under applicable laws.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Stephen Guertin** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:29 PM
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: rebekah_giddings@fws.gov

Can u pls forward to Chris Nolin and division of budget. Thx

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Sheehan, Gregory" <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
> **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 2:00:03 PM EDT
> **To:** Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account**
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> > **From:** "Cameron, Scott" <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>
> > **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 11:38:03 AM EDT
> > **To:** Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, "Moss, Adrianne" <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>, Susan Combs <susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>,

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Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
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--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service

703-358-2343 desk
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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

<FWS HQ - Resource Protection Structures_4.18.2018.docx>

"Ellis, Mitch" <mitch_ellis@fws.gov>

From: "Ellis, Mitch" <mitch_ellis@fws.gov>
Sent: Wed Apr 18 2018 10:00:06 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

The DHS budget language seems to prohibit any federal agency from building a barrier at Santa Ana, if that's what they're talking about. Otherwise, I'd be surprised if there's actual language that would prohibit us from spending construction dollars on a "resource protection barrier." The question is....why would we do that? Not our mission to construct vehicle or pedestrian barriers along the border, although I could envision a scenario where we might support vehicle barriers to protect sensitive areas. In fact we have at Cabeza and Buenos Aires (and San Bernardino too I think). Complicated question, but we have so many other needs for our limited construction dollars, I would not think its wise to spend it that way. But yes, definitely a Solicitor question.

Mitch Ellis
Chief of Refuges - Alaska
National Wildlife Refuge System
US Fish and Wildlife Service
(907)786-3667 wk
(907)947-4416 mob

On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 5:35 AM, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov> wrote:

> Given your experience not only in the NR division but more importantly along the border, FYI. Seems like a legal question regarding the appropriate use of these funds and less a NR div question.
>
> Noah

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>
Date: April 18, 2018 at 9:25:27 AM EDT
To: Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>
Cc: Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>, Janet Bruner <janet_bruner@fws.gov>, Laura Whorton <laura_whorton@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Brad,

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DAVID C. ROBINSON
Deputy Chief
HQ NWRS Division of Budget, Performance, and Workforce

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
MS: NWRS
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Phone: 703-358-2262
E-mail: david_c_robinson@fws.gov

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To: David Robinson <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>

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>
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Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
202-208-4545 office
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To: Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, "Moss, Adrianne" <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>, Susan Combs <susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>, Jean Parrish <jean_parrish@ios.doi.gov>
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"Brower, Marilyn" <marilyn_brower@fws.gov>

From:	"Brower, Marilyn" <marilyn_brower@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 10:01:32 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	"Whorton, Laura" <laura_whorton@fws.gov>
CC:	"Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>, Janet Bruner <janet_bruner@fws.gov>, Richard Johnston <richard_a_johnston@fws.gov>, Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>, Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Robert Miller <robert_miller@fws.gov>, Rodney Hansen <rodney_hansen@fws.gov>
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Laura.

The brief accurately cites the way forward if we need to make room in the FY 18 Construction Line-Item projects -- a Congressional reprogramming. If we pursue a Congressional then we should try to accommodate "bumped" projects in the $50 Construction-DM funding, to the extent that they are DM.

(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP(b)(5) DPP

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U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
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E-mail: david_c_robinson@fws.gov

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> Greg Sheehan
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> US Fish and Wildlife Service
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Scott J. Cameron
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Office of the Secretary of the Interior
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
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5275 Leesburg Pike
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--
Chief, Division of Engineering
marilyn_brower@fws.gov | (703) 358-1924
Attn: Marilyn Brower | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Headquarters
5275 Leesburg Pike – MS: BMO | Falls Church, Virginia 22041-3803

"Gaboriault, Holly" <holly_t_gaboriault@fws.gov>

From: "Gaboriault, Holly" <holly_t_gaboriault@fws.gov>
Sent: Wed Apr 18 2018 10:05:33 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Thanks for forwarding to me. Looks like they focused on the same section we were discussing.

Holly T. Gaboriault (pronounced "Gaboreo")
Acting Deputy Chief for the Division of Natural Resources and Conservation Planning
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:NWRS
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
April 2- April 27

(o) 703-358-2106
(c) 912-313-4951

On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 11:41 AM, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov> wrote:

> Noah
>
> Begin forwarded message:
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> **Cc:** Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>, Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Robert Miller <robert_miller@fws.gov>, Rodney Hansen <rodney_hansen@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Hi all,

Attached is a draft response to this question. Thanks to Brad, Marilyn, Rod, and Ken for their input. Is anything missing? Not clear? Anything else? Ken is working on the map.

Rod, I didn't include the part about the levee that runs through the refuge potentially being owned by the International Border Wall Commission since our map didn't show that and our SAMMS records said we owned it. But if there's additional information we can point to that corrects our records, then we can add that part back in.

Thanks,

Laura

Laura Whorton
Acting Transportation Branch Chief
National Wildlife Refuge System
Division of Facilities, Equipment & Transportation
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-1752 (direct)

On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:40 AM, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov> wrote:

> No. We don't have time and we need to just focus on the authority.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Apr 18, 2018, at 9:38 AM, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > I didn't see R2 listed in either email chain. Shouldn't they be?
> >
> > Noah
> >
> > On Apr 18, 2018, at 9:25 AM, Robinson, David <david_c_robinson@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Brad,
> > >
> > > I just spoke with Chris Nolan on this request. Please see the below short-notice request for a Briefing Paper on the Service's flexibility to construct resource protection structures along the Texas border. Would your group take the lead on this. I have included Noah (resource protection structure aspect) and Janet (holdings and map aspect).
> > >
> > > I will try to find any language in Service authorizations regarding the topic.

DAVID C. ROBINSON
Deputy Chief
HQ NWRS Division of Budget, Performance, and Workforce

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
MS: NWRS
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Phone: 703-358-2262
E-mail: david_c_robinson@fws.gov

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Nolin, Chris** <chris_nolin@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:05 AM
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: David Robinson <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Guertin, Stephen** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 5:35 AM
Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: "Nolin, Chris" <chris_nolin@fws.gov>, Cynthia Martinez <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov>, Sanchez Shaun <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>
Cc: "Giddings, Rebekah" <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <Jim_Kurth@fws.gov>, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>, Kashyap Patel <kashyap_patel@fws.gov>

Thanks for the update.

Please work with Cynthia's team to prepare a BP on this issue so we can provide a thorough response back up the line through Greg so he has the comprehensive background. There will probably be a meeting with the political leadership team and the SOL team. On a tight deadline.

- State the request
- Analyze and address the question "does the FWS have the ability to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border?" ie what is our construction appropriations language, does this give us any flexibility for this purpose, are there any other laws, regs, or policies that allow this use of the account or forbid this use of the account?
- List all the NWR holdings along the border in Texas and include a map (to respond to the particular statement about a two mile stretch in Texas)

- Include the language from the Homeland Security Bill: "SEC 230. (c) None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge."

On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 4:57 PM, Nolin, Chris <chris_nolin@fws.gov> wrote:

> I assume this is Santa Ana NWR? We don't have too many refuges on the border in Texas. If it is that, we have a specific provision against building a barrier there in the Homeland Security Bill: "SEC 230. (c) None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge."

On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:30 PM, Giddings, Rebekah <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov> wrote:

> Please see Scott's message below...
>
> ***Rebekah Giddings***
>
> Deputy Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital
>
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
>
> 703-358-2117
>
> Warning: This email may contain Privacy Act Sensitive Data, which is intended only for the use of the individual to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected disclosure under applicable laws.
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Stephen Guertin** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
> Date: Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:29 PM
> Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
> To: rebekah_giddings@fws.gov
>
> Can u pls forward to Chris Nolin and division of budget. Thx
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:

From: "Sheehan, Gregory" <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
Date: April 17, 2018 at 2:00:03 PM EDT
To: Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
202-208-4545 office
202-676-7675 cell

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Cameron, Scott" <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>
> **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 11:38:03 AM EDT
> **To:** Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, "Moss, Adrianne" <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>, Susan Combs <susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>, Brent Range <brent_range@ios.doi.gov>, Jean Parrish <jean_parrish@ios.doi.gov>
> **Subject: Flexibility in FWS construction account**
>
> All,
>
> The question has been posed as to the authority and the ability of FWS to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border. Apparently there is a 2 mile

stretch of land in Texas that is in question.

Jean, can you please schedule a meeting on this topic with POB, FW&P, FWS, and Brent Range?

Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) <(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)>

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) <(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)>

Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 10:21:06 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	"Whorton, Laura" <laura_whorton@fws.gov>
CC:	"Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>, Janet Bruner <janet_bruner@fws.gov> (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) <(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)>, Marilyn Brower <Marilyn_brower@fws.gov>, Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>, Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Robert Miller <robert_miller@fws.gov>
Subject:	Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

No problem Laura. The complete name of the agency that administers the flood levee is the International Boundary and Water Commission if you need it for future reference.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Risk and Threat Assessment Coordinator
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of Refuge Law Enforcement
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Office: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cell: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

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On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 11:37 AM, Whorton, Laura <laura whorton@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi all,

Attached is a draft response to this question. Thanks to Brad, Marilyn, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), and Ken for their input. Is anything missing? Not clear? Anything else? Ken is working on the map.

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Laura Whorton
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DAVID C. ROBINSON
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U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
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> Greg Sheehan
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> 202-208-4545 office
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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

State	Refuge, Hatchery, or Other Unit	Budget Request	This Bill
	National Wildlife Refuge System		
OK	Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)	$3,800,000	$3,800,000
AK	Alaska Maritime NWR	2,235,000	2,235,000
IL	Crab Orchard NWR	300,000	300,000
MO	Mingo NWR	800,000	800,000
GA	Okefenokee NWR	80,000	80,000
ID	Bear Lake NWR	50,000	50,000
WA	Inland Northwest NWR Complex	70,000	70,000
	National Fish Hatchery System		
MI	Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery	1,043,000	1,043,000
	Other		
N/A	Branch of Dam Safety (seismic investigations)	215,000	215,000
N/A	Branch of Dam Safety (inspections)	250,000	250,000
N/A	Information Resources & Technology Management	250,000	250,000
	Total, Line Item Construction	9,093,000	9,093,000

From: Finley, Rebecca
To: Gary Frazer
Subject: Fwd: Notes from today"s FWS Border wall a meeting
Date: Thursday, March 9, 2017 3:40:54 PM

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Chen, Linus** <linus.chen@sol.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 9, 2017 at 3:37 PM
Subject: Notes from today's FWS Border wall a meeting
To: "Jesup, Benjamin" <benjamin.jesup@sol.doi.gov>
Cc: "Brown-Kobil, Nancy" <nancy.brown-kobil@sol.doi.gov>, "Finley, Shawn" <Shawn.Finley@sol.doi.gov>

Notes from today's meeting with FWS. Attendees, beside FWS staff, included James Cason, Robert Johnston of DGL, and Jon Andrew. Jon did most of the talking.

On Thu, Mar 9, 2017 at 1:27 PM, Jesup, Benjamin <benjamin.jesup@sol.doi.gov> wrote:

> Linus is here today. Let's have him cover it the meeting today, and then the three of us can discuss whether it makes sense for him to stick with it thereafter.
>
> Thanks.
>
> Ben
>
> On Thu, Mar 9, 2017 at 12:27 PM, Brown-Kobil, Nancy <nancy.brown-kobil@sol.doi.gov> wrote:
>
> > The SPR BiOp & MoU litigation seems to be all-consuming but I'm sure Shawn would say the same about 316b. Since I do both section 7 and refuges, it should be me, but I'm fine with Linus (or Shawn) taking it if he wants.
> >
> > Nancy Brown-Kobil

Attorney-Advisor, Office of the Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, MS-6327
Washington, D.C. 20240
202.208.6479
202.208-3877 (fax)
Nancy.Brown-Kobil@sol.doi.gov

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On Thu, Mar 9, 2017 at 12:18 PM, Jesup, Benjamin <benjamin.jesup@sol.doi.gov> wrote:

> Jump ball. Ann and I would like someone to be our point person on border wall issues involving FWS. Apparently there is a meeting at 2:30 today, but this will also be a continuing duty. Presumably it will implicate both section 7 and refuge issues. Please let me know whether your workload allows you to play this role, and the degree of your interest. (I don't anticipate that it will be a huge time commitment, as environmental compliance for some or all of it is likely to be waived according to prior or future congressional action, but you never know.)
>
> Thanks.
>
> Ben
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Navaro, Ann** <ann.navaro@sol.doi.gov>
> Date: Thu, Mar 9, 2017 at 12:09 PM
> Subject: Fwd: Border wall: scheduling a meeting
> To: Benjamin Jesup <Benjamin.Jesup@sol.doi.gov>
>
> meeting today
>
> Ann Navaro
> Acting Associate Solicitor, Division of Parks & Wildlife
> U.S. Department of the Interior
> 1849 C Street NW
> Washington, D.C. 20240
> 202-208-3125 (desk)
> 202-510-4271 (cell)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Johnston, Robert** <robert.johnston@sol.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 9, 2017 at 11:25 AM
Subject: Re: Border wall: scheduling a meeting
To: "Wenger, Lance" <lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov>
Cc: Ann Navaro <ann.navaro@sol.doi.gov>

Jon mentioned that this meeting would be in Room 3357, so I'll plan to attend (at 2:30 Eastern today).

Thanks,
Rob

On Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 7:00 PM, Wenger, Lance <lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov> wrote:

> FYI about tomorrow's FWS meeting on border wall coordination.
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Nicholopoulos, Joy** <joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov>
> Date: Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 4:36 PM
> Subject: Re: Border wall: scheduling a meeting
> To: "Wenger, Lance" <lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov>
>
> Hi Lance-
> I am in M-W of the week of March 20th, but Benjamin is at HQ all week for a Directorate meeting and Hill visits.
> Sorry,
> Joy
> PS There is a FWS (HQ+Region 2) call (Jon Andrew also invited) tomorrow afternoon on "Border Wall Coordination."
> I will give you a download from that call.
>
> On Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 4:31 PM, Wenger, Lance <lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hi Joy,
> >
> > Do you and Ben have any availability March 21 through 24? Next week is turning out it be tough for several of the participants.
> >
> > Thanks.
> >
> > On Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 9:09 AM, Nicholopoulos, Joy <joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Hi Lance-
> > > I am in the office Monday and Tuesday next week before I travel to HQ for a meeting.

I can also step out of my meeting in DC on Thursday to jump on a call if necessary.
Benjamin travels to HQ next Tuesday and may be available to meet or participate on a call from HQ.
Please let us know when you all would like to set up a call/meeting and one or both of us will do our best to participate even from the road.
Take care,
Joy

On Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 8:42 AM, Wenger, Lance <lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov> wrote:

> Hello Ben and Joy,
>
> Are you available next week (preferably March 14 or 15) for members of the Solicitor's Office border wall group and Jonathan Andrew (the Departmental border coordinator) to meet with you? The purpose of the meeting is to brief you on the status of border wall efforts within the Department and to identify points of contact with whom we can work on issues.
>
> Thank you.
>
> --
> *Lance Wenger*
> *Regional Solicitor - Southwest Region*
> *Office of the Solicitor*
> *U.S. Department of the Interior*
> *(505) 248-5613*

--
Lance Wenger
Regional Solicitor - Southwest Region
Office of the Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
(505) 248-5613

--
Lance Wenger
Regional Solicitor - Southwest Region
Office of the Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
(505) 248-5613

--
Robert O. Johnston, Jr.
Office of the Solicitor

U.S. Department of the Interior
Phone: 202-208-6282
Fax: 202-208-5584
robert.johnston@sol.doi.gov

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--

Ben Jesup
Assistant Solicitor for Fish and Wildlife
Solicitor's Office
Department of the Interior
202-208-3170

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--
Ben Jesup
Assistant Solicitor for Fish and Wildlife
Solicitor's Office
Department of the Interior
202-208-3170

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--

Linus Y. Chen, Attorney

Division Parks & Wildlife

(w) 202-208-5036

(f) 202-208-3877

--
Shawn Finley
Attorney-Advisor
Office of the Solicitor, Branch of Fish and Wildlife
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
Phone: 202-208-3972
Fax: 202-208-3877

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From:	Crouse, Debby
To:	Shultz, Gina
Cc:	Susan Jacobsen; Morgan, Don; Brady McGee; Jeff Newman; Kayla Miller; Kelly Hornaday; Ted Koch; seth_willey@fws.gov; Chuck Ardizzone; Stacey Stanford
Subject:	Boarder Wall and Bone Cave harvestman
Date:	Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:05:43 AM

While we are on this topic.

Gina you had a written question about this on one of the pages of the BCH documents yesterday. I wrote No back but didn't realize til now you might have been wanting that included in the BP, IM themselves. Or is this for the weekly narratives only?

b5-DPP [redacted]

Debby
****

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Endangered Species Program
Branch of Recovery, Delisting and State Grants
MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

Debby_Crouse@fws.gov
(p) 703-358-2471
(f) 703-358-1800

Check these out:

- Recovery Planning and Implementation google site for FWS staff: https://sites.google.com/a/fws.gov/recovery-planning-and-implementation/
- SSA Framework - google site for FWS staff: https://sites.google.com/a/fws.gov/ssa/

On Tue, Mar 14, 2017 at 9:51 AM, Shultz, Gina <gina_shultz@fws.gov> wrote:

> Thanks Susan. Can you or someone in R2 confirm that the following statement is accurate, or provide changes?
>
> b5-DPP [redacted]
>
> Thanks, Gina
>
> Gina Shultz
> Deputy Assistant Director, Ecological Services
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> MS: ES
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> 703-358-1985
>
> On Tue, Mar 14, 2017 at 9:29 AM, Susan Jacobsen <susan_jacobsen@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi all, Kayla asked me last Friday about the b5-DPP [redacted]
I don't think we are lead on giant garter snake.
I'm traveling but CC'd others if you need any further.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 14, 2017, at 6:55 AM, Crouse, Debby <debby_crouse@fws.gov> wrote:

> Thanks Don. Total news to me.
>
> We don't see the draft plans or the NOA's in HQ so I cannot speak to this question specifically for the TX ambrosia. A quick tour of ECOS gives mixed information on the species.
>
> b5-DPP [redacted]
>
> Do no know what the draft plan says about any of this. Can someone in R2 speak to this?
>
> Debby
> **********
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> Debby_Crouse@fws.gov
> Endangered Species Program (p) 703-358-2471
> Branch of Recovery, Delisting and State Grants (f) 703-358-1800
> MS: ES
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
>
> ***Check these out:***
>
> - Recovery Planning and Implementation google site for FWS staff: https://sites.google.com/a/fws.gov/recovery-planning-and-implementation/
> - SSA Framework - google site for FWS staff: https://sites.google.com/a/fws.gov/ssa/
>
> On Tue, Mar 14, 2017 at 4:46 AM, Morgan, Don <don_morgan@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > All,

I apologize if you have already received a request for this information. However, as you will see we have a requests from Exec Sec for additional information on two draft recovery plan notices. Please respond as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Don

_____

Don R. Morgan
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Chief, Branch of Recovery and State Grants
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Phone (703) 358-2444
Fax (703) 358-1800

On Mon, Mar 13, 2017 at 5:27 PM, Shultz, Gina <gina_shultz@fws.gov> wrote:

> Jeff & Don,
> As I mentioned on Friday and again today, these two draft RP notices came back from Exec Sec with a request for additional information.
>
> b5-DPP [redacted]
>
> [redacted]
>
> Please provide this information to Gary along with the Folders I left with Jeff.
>
> Thanks, Gina
> Gina Shultz
> Deputy Assistant Director, Ecological Services
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> MS: ES
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> 703-358-1985

Label: "FOIAs/FWS-2017-01049-Border-Wall"

Created by:noah_matson@fws.gov

Total Messages in label:20 (5 conversations)

Created: 05-21-2019 at 13:24 PM

Conversation Contents

Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Attachments:

/2. Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account/1.1 FWS HQ - Resource Protection Structures_4.18.2018.docx

Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>

From:	Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>
Sent:	Wed Apr 18 2018 09:41:16 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To:	holly_t_gaboriault@fws.gov
Subject:	Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
Attachments:	FWS HQ - Resource Protection Structures_4.18.2018.docx

Noah

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Whorton, Laura" <laura_whorton@fws.gov>
Date: April 18, 2018 at 11:37:41 AM EDT
To: "Robinson, David" <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov>, Janet Bruner <janet_bruner@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) >, Marilyn Brower <Marilyn_brower@fws.gov>
Cc: Brad Long <brad_long@fws.gov>, Katherine Spomer <katherine_spomer@fws.gov>, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>, Robert Miller <robert_miller@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) <(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) >
Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account

Hi all,

Attached is a draft response to this question. Thanks to Brad, Marilyn, (b)(6), (b)(7) (b)(6), (b)(7) (b)(6), (b)(7), and Ken for their input. Is anything missing? Not clear? Anything else? Ken is working on the map.

(b)(6), (b)(7) (b)(6), (b)(7) (b)(6), (b)(7), I didn't include the part about the levee that runs through the refuge potentially being owned by the International Border Wall Commission since our map didn't show that and our SAMMS records said we owned it. But if there's additional information we can point to that corrects our records, then we can add that part back in.

Thanks,

Laura

Laura Whorton
Acting Transportation Branch Chief
National Wildlife Refuge System
Division of Facilities, Equipment & Transportation
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-1752 (direct)

On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:40 AM, Shaun Sanchez <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov> wrote:

> No. We don't have time and we need to just focus on the authority.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Apr 18, 2018, at 9:38 AM, Noah Matson <noah_matson@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > I didn't see R2 listed in either email chain. Shouldn't they be?
> >
> > Noah
> >
> > On Apr 18, 2018, at 9:25 AM, Robinson, David <david_c_robinson@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Brad,
> > >
> > > I just spoke with Chris Nolan on this request. Please see the below short-notice request for a Briefing Paper on the Service's flexibility to construct resource protection structures along the Texas border. Would your group take the lead on this. I have included Noah (resource protection structure aspect) and Janet (holdings and map aspect).
> > >
> > > I will try to find any language in Service authorizations regarding the topic.
> > >
> > > DAVID C. ROBINSON
> > > Deputy Chief
> > > HQ NWRS Division of Budget, Performance, and Workforce
> > >
> > > U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
> > > MS: NWRS
> > > 5275 Leesburg Pike
> > > Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> > > Phone: 703-358-2262
> > > E-mail: david_c_robinson@fws.gov
> > >
> > > ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> > > From: **Nolin, Chris** <chris_nolin@fws.gov>
> > > Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 9:05 AM
> > > Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
> > > To: David Robinson <david_c_robinson@fws.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Guertin, Stephen** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 5:35 AM
Subject: Re: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: "Nolin, Chris" <chris_nolin@fws.gov>, Cynthia Martinez <cynthia_martinez@fws.gov>, Sanchez Shaun <shaun_sanchez@fws.gov>
Cc: "Giddings, Rebekah" <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov>, Jim Kurth <Jim_Kurth@fws.gov>, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>, Kashyap Patel <kashyap_patel@fws.gov>

Thanks for the update.

Please work with Cynthia's team to prepare a BP on this issue so we can provide a thorough response back up the line through Greg so he has the comprehensive background. There will probably be a meeting with the political leadership team and the SOL team. On a tight deadline.

- State the request
- Analyze and address the question "does the FWS have the ability to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border?" ie what is our construction appropriations language, does this give us any flexibility for this purpose, are there any other laws, regs, or policies that allow this use of the account or forbid this use of the account?
- List all the NWR holdings along the border in Texas and include a map (to respond to the particular statement about a two mile stretch in Texas)
- Include the language from the Homeland Security Bill: "SEC 230. (c) None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge."

On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 4:57 PM, Nolin, Chris <chris_nolin@fws.gov> wrote:

> I assume this is Santa Ana NWR? We don't have too many refuges on the border in Texas. If it is that, we have a specific provision against building a barrier there in the Homeland Security Bill: "SEC 230. (c) None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge."
>
> On Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:30 PM, Giddings, Rebekah <rebekah_giddings@fws.gov> wrote:

Please see Scott's message below...

Rebekah Giddings

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital

US Fish and Wildlife Service

703-358-2117

Warning: This email may contain Privacy Act Sensitive Data, which is intended only for the use of the individual to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected disclosure under applicable laws.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Stephen Guertin** <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 2:29 PM
Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account
To: rebekah_giddings@fws.gov

Can u pls forward to Chris Nolin and division of budget. Thx

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Sheehan, Gregory" <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov>
> **Date:** April 17, 2018 at 2:00:03 PM EDT
> **To:** Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Flexibility in FWS construction account**
>
> Greg Sheehan
> Principal Deputy Director
> US Fish and Wildlife Service
> 202-208-4545 office
> 202-676-7675 cell
>
> Begin forwarded message:

From: "Cameron, Scott" <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>
Date: April 17, 2018 at 11:38:03 AM EDT
To: Olivia Ferriter <olivia_ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>, "Moss, Adrianne" <adrianne_moss@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Freihage <jason_freihage@ios.doi.gov>, Susan Combs <susan_combs@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Sheehan <gregory_sheehan@fws.gov>, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Jean Parrish <jean_parrish@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Flexibility in FWS construction account

All,

The question has been posed as to the authority and the ability of FWS to use some of its FY 18 construction appropriations account funding to build resource protection structures along the US Mexican border. Apparently there is a 2 mile stretch of land in Texas that is in question.

Jean, can you please schedule a meeting on this topic with POB, FW&P, FWS, and (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ?

Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Desk 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

--
Chris Nolin

Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

--

Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

From: JohnsonHughes, Christy
To: Braegelmann, Carol
Cc: Aubrey, Craig; Ben Thatcher; Alyssa Hausman
Subject: Re: NEPA Compliance
Date: Wednesday, February 1, 2017 10:11:04 AM

Thank you!

Christy

Christy Johnson-Hughes
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
Branch of Environmental Review
703-358-1922

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

On Wed, Feb 1, 2017 at 8:51 AM, Braegelmann, Carol <carol_braegelmann@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> OEPC is not responding. It is up to FWS if you want to respond. We have received similar types of emails in the past and determined, in coordination with the Office of Communications and Office of Executive Secretariat, that the recipient office can determine the appropriate action. As you noted below, there does not appear to be any DOI involvement at this time and the appropriate action could be no response or a referral to DHS as suggested below.

On Wed, Feb 1, 2017 at 8:26 AM, Aubrey, Craig <craig_aubrey@fws.gov> wrote:

> Christy, Ms. Crammer should be referred to DHS. They will be the lead for this project. It will be up to them to determine the appropriate level of NEPA and communicate it to folks. The fun part is that the EO was just signed so I doubt they've even gotten that far.
>
> Carol, not sure how you want to handle these. will y'all be responding?...
>
> thanks,
>
> Craig
>
> Craig W. Aubrey
> Chief, Division of Environmental Review
> Ecological Services Program
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
> Ecological Services, MS: ES
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> 703-358-2171 (general)

703-358-2442 (direct)

On Mon, Jan 30, 2017 at 12:51 PM, JohnsonHughes, Christy <christy_johnsonhughes@fws.gov> wrote:

> Craig, Ben and Alyssa,
>
> We may get more requests like this one. I have not responded, but since it went to OEPC too, we may be requested to respond.
>
> Christy
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **lynne crammer** <lynne.c@cox.net>
> Date: Mon, Jan 30, 2017 at 12:39 PM
> Subject: NEPA Compliance
> To: carol_braegelmann@ios.doi.gov, christy_johnsonhughes@fws.gov
>
> It seems to me that the President's proposed border wall between Mexico and the US will have significant fiscal, human, and wildlife impacts on the US. As I read the NEPA, the impacts will be significant enough to require an Environmental Impact Statement. Has the need for an EIS been addressed at any level? If not, why not? If it has been addressed and determined not necessary, on what grounds?
>
> Please address a response to Lynne Crammer at Lynne.c@cox.net
>
> Thank you

--
Carol Braegelmann
Natural Resources Management Team Leader
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Department of the Interior
carol_braegelmann@ios.doi.gov
phone: 202-208-6661

From: Aubrey, Craig
To: Shire, Gavin
Cc: Gina Shultz
Subject: Re: CLARIFICATION NEEDED: Border wall story
Date: Thursday, March 2, 2017 4:32:22 PM

I just sent Gina some draft revised language.

Craig

Craig W. Aubrey
Chief, Division of Environmental Review
Ecological Services Program
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
Ecological Services, MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2171 (general)
703-358-2442 (direct)

On Thu, Mar 2, 2017 at 10:20 AM, Shire, Gavin <gavin_shire@fws.gov> wrote:

> We are still getting calls on this and seeing articles that quote this iPaC report as 'ours'. Where are we on changing the language of how these reports are created? I'd like to be able to send the guy who created the border wall report a replacement cover page and ask him to replace the version he has with one that is clearer.
>
> Thanks,
>
> G
>
> Gavin Shire
> Chief of Public Affairs
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> MS: EA
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> 703-358-2649 (o)
> 703-346-9123 (c)
> gavin_shire@fws.gov
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Parramore, Laury** <laury_parramore@fws.gov>
> Date: Thu, Mar 2, 2017 at 10:10 AM
> Subject: CLARIFICATION NEEDED: Border wall story
> To: "Hires, Brian" <brian_hires@fws.gov>
> Cc: Gavin Shire <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
>
> Sorry to add to your burden but would you please send this reporter the clarifying language on the USFWS (non) "report" on the border wall? Thanks.

http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/texas/article/Border-wall-would-block-animals-as-well-as-10966591.php

Laury Marshall Parramore

Division of Public Affairs

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MS: EA

5275 Leesburg Pike

Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

703/358 2541 -- direct

703/589 6947 -- mobile

"Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished." -- Lao Tzu

From:	Bloodsworth, Brian
To:	Jim Kurth; Guertin, Stephen
Subject:	Fwd: [PIC-PIO] FY 2018 Budget Blueprint
Date:	Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:42:34 AM
Attachments:	FY18 Budget Blueprint - Management.pdf 2018_blueprint (1).pdf

---

Sharing ...

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Glenn, Douglas** <douglas_glenn@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 9:36 AM
Subject: Fwd: [PIC-PIO] FY 2018 Budget Blueprint
To: DOI_PFM_CFOC <doi_pfm_cfoc@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: DOI_PFM_FOP <doi_pfm_fop@ios.doi.gov>

CFOs,

FYI below.

Thank you,
Douglas A. Glenn
DCFO & Director, Office of Financial Management

"A picture is worth a thousand numbers."

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Brown, Dustin S. EOP/OMB** <Dustin_S._Brown@omb.eop.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 8:23 AM
Subject: [PIC-PIO] FY 2018 Budget Blueprint
To: PIC-PIO@listserv.gsa.gov

PIOs,

This morning, the President's FY 2018 Budget Blueprint was sent to Congress. The FY18 Blueprint includes an outline of the Administration's management priorities to make the Federal government operate more effectively, efficiently, and securely. As discussed in the Blueprint (excerpt is attached) the forthcoming President's Management Agenda (PMA) will set goals and take action to ensure that by 2020 we will be able to say:

- Federal agencies are managing programs and delivering critical services more effectively.
- Federal agencies are devoting a greater percentage of taxpayer dollars to mission achievement rather than costly, unproductive compliance activities.
- Federal agencies are more effective and efficient in supporting program outcomes.
- Agencies have been held accountable for improving performance.

OMB is currently developing guidance for implementing the workforce reduction plan and

recently released government reorganization EO, which will be aligned with the budget and performance timelines over the coming year. We look forward to engaging with you in the coming weeks and months to establish reform priorities and measures to track progress.

Best,

Dustin

To unsubscribe from the PIC-PIO list, click the following link:
https://listserv.gsa.gov/cgi-bin/wa.exe?SUBED1=PIC-PIO&A=1

--
Brian Bloodsworth
Deputy Assistant Director
Business Management and Operations | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
brian_bloodsworth@fws.gov | Office: (703) 358-2116 | Mobile: (703) 328-0447

MANAGEMENT

Making Government Work Again

The Federal Government can—and should—operate more effectively, efficiently, and securely. For decades, leaders on both sides of the aisle have talked about the need to make Government work better. The President is taking bold action now to make Government work again for the American people.

As one of his first acts as President, on January 23, 2017, the President issued a memorandum imposing a Federal "Hiring Freeze" and requiring a long-term plan to reduce the size of the Federal Government's workforce. In addition, on March 13, 2017, the President signed Executive Order 13781 establishing a "Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch," which set in motion the important work of reorganizing executive departments and agencies. These two actions are complementary and plans should reflect both Presidential actions. Legislation will be required before major reorganization of the Executive Branch can take place, but the White House is best situated to review and recommend changes to the Congress. In roughly a year, the Congress will receive from the President and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a comprehensive plan for reorganization proposals. The White House will work closely with congressional committees with jurisdiction over Government organization to ensure the needed reforms actually happen.

Simultaneously, the Administration will develop the President's Management Agenda focused on achieving significant improvements in the effectiveness of its core management functions. The President's Management Agenda will set goals in areas that are critical to improving the Federal Government's effectiveness, efficiency, cybersecurity, and accountability. The Administration will take action to ensure that by 2020 we will be able to say the following:

1. **Federal agencies are managing programs and delivering critical services more effectively.** The Administration will take an evidence-based approach to improving programs and services—using real, hard data to identify poorly performing organizations and programs. We will hold program managers accountable for improving performance and delivering high-quality and timely services to the American people and businesses. We will use all tools available and create new ones as needed to ensure the workforce is appropriately prepared.

2. **Federal agencies are devoting a greater percentage of taxpayer dollars to mission achievement rather than costly, unproductive compliance activities.** Past management improvement initiatives resulted in the creation of hundreds of guidance documents aimed at improving Government management by adding more requirements to information technology (IT), human capital, acquisition, financial management, and real property. Furthermore, these Government-wide policies often tie agencies' hands and keep managers from making commonsense decisions.

As a result, costs often increase without corresponding benefits. The Administration will roll back low-value activities and let managers manage, while holding them accountable for finding ways to reduce the cost of agency operations. As part of this effort, OMB will review requirements placed on agencies and identify areas to reduce obsolete, low-value requirements.

3. **Federal agencies are more effective and efficient in supporting program outcomes.** Delivering high-performing program results and services to citizens and businesses depends on effective and efficient mission support services. However, despite years of efforts to improve these critical management processes, managers remain frustrated with hiring methodologies that do not consistently bring in top talent, acquisition approaches that are too cumbersome, and IT that is outdated by the time it is deployed. The Administration will use available data to develop targeted solutions to problems Federal managers face, and begin fixing them directly by sharing and adopting leading practices from the private and public sectors. Among the areas that will be addressed are how agencies buy goods and services, hire talent, use their real property, pay their bills, and utilize technology.

4. **Agencies have been held accountable for improving performance.** All Federal agencies will be responsible for reporting critical performance metrics and showing demonstrable improvement. OMB will also regularly review agency progress in implementing these reforms to ensure there is consistent improvement.

Through this bold agenda, we will improve the effectiveness, efficiency, cybersecurity, and accountability of the Federal Government and make government work again.

America First

A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again

Office of Management and Budget

America First

A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again

Office of Management and Budget

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GENERAL NOTES

1. All years referenced for economic data are calendar years unless otherwise noted. All years referenced for budget data are fiscal years unless otherwise noted.
2. At the time of this writing, only one of the annual appropriations bills for 2017 had been enacted (the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act), as well as the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, which provided 2017 discretionary funding for certain Department of Defense accounts; therefore, the programs provided for in the remaining 2017 annual appropriations bills were operating under a continuing resolution (Public Law 114-223, division C, as amended). For these programs, references to 2017 spending in the text and tables reflect the levels provided by the continuing resolution.
3. Details in the tables may not add to the totals due to rounding.
4. Web address: *http://www.budget.gov*

AMERICA FIRST

Beginning a New Chapter of American Greatness

A MESSAGE TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

The American people elected me to fight for their priorities in Washington, D.C. and deliver on my promise to protect our Nation. I fully intend to keep that promise.

One of the most important ways the Federal Government sets priorities is through the Budget of the United States.

Accordingly, I submit to the Congress this Budget Blueprint to reprioritize Federal spending so that it advances the safety and security of the American people.

Our aim is to meet the simple, but crucial demand of our citizens—a Government that puts the needs of its own people first. When we do that, we will set free the dreams of every American, and we will begin a new chapter of American greatness.

A budget that puts America first must make the safety of our people its number one priority—because without safety, there can be no prosperity.

That is why I have instructed my Budget Director, Mick Mulvaney, to craft a budget that emphasizes national security and public safety. That work is reflected in this Budget Blueprint. To keep Americans safe, we have made tough choices that have been put off for too long. But we have also made necessary investments that are long overdue.

My Budget Blueprint for 2018:

- provides for one of the largest increases in defense spending without increasing the debt;
- significantly increases the budget for immigration enforcement at the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security;
- includes additional resources for a wall on the southern border with Mexico, immigration judges, expanded detention capacity, U.S. Attorneys, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Border Patrol;
- increases funding to address violent crime and reduces opioid abuse; and
- puts America first by keeping more of America's hard-earned tax dollars here at home.

The core of my first Budget Blueprint is the rebuilding of our Nation's military without adding to our Federal deficit. There is a $54 billion increase in defense spending in 2018 that is offset by targeted reductions elsewhere. This defense funding is vital to rebuilding and preparing our Armed Forces for the future.

We must ensure that our courageous servicemen and women have the tools they need to deter war, and when called upon to fight, do only one thing: Win.

In these dangerous times, this public safety and national security Budget Blueprint is a message to the world—a message of American strength, security, and resolve.

This Budget Blueprint follows through on my promise to focus on keeping Americans safe, keeping terrorists out of our country, and putting violent offenders behind bars.

The defense and public safety spending increases in this Budget Blueprint are offset and paid for by finding greater savings and efficiencies across the Federal Government. Our Budget Blueprint insists on $54 billion in reductions to non-Defense programs. We are going to do more with less, and make the Government lean and accountable to the people.

This includes deep cuts to foreign aid. It is time to prioritize the security and well-being of Americans, and to ask the rest of the world to step up and pay its fair share.

Many other Government agencies and departments will also experience cuts. These cuts are sensible and rational. Every agency and department will be driven to achieve greater efficiency and to eliminate wasteful spending in carrying out their honorable service to the American people.

I look forward to engaging the Congress and enacting this *America First Budget*.

Donald J. Trump

A Message from the Director, Office of Management and Budget

I am proud to introduce the "America First" Budget.

While recognizing this Blueprint is not the full Federal budget, it does provide lawmakers and the public with a view of the priorities of the President and his Administration.

The Federal budget is a complex document. However, working for a President committed to keeping his promises means my job is as simple as translating his words into numbers.

That is why you will find here a familiar focus on rebuilding and restoring our Nation's security. Under the Obama Administration, our shrinking military has been stretched far too thin. The military has been forced to make aging ships, planes, and other vehicles last well beyond their intended life spans. The President will reverse this dangerous trend. From rebuilding our Armed Forces to beefing up our border security and safeguarding our Nation's sovereignty, this Budget makes security priority one.

It does so while meeting another of the President's core commitments: addressing our Nation's priorities without sending future generations an even bigger credit card bill.

This 2018 Budget Blueprint will not add to the deficit. It has been crafted much the same way any American family creates its own budget while paying bills around their kitchen table; it makes hard choices.

The President's commitment to fiscal responsibility is historic. Not since early in President Reagan's first term have more tax dollars been saved and more Government inefficiency and waste been targeted. Every corner of the Federal budget is scrutinized, every program tested, every penny of taxpayer money watched over.

Our $20 trillion national debt is a crisis, not just for the Nation, but for every citizen. Each American's share of this debt is more than $60,000 and growing. It is a challenge of great stakes, but one the American people can solve. American families make tough decisions every day about their own budgets; it is time Washington does the same.

Mick Mulvaney

MAJOR AGENCY BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The 2018 Budget is being unveiled sequentially in that this Blueprint provides details only on our discretionary funding proposals. The full Budget that will be released later this spring will include our specific mandatory and tax proposals, as well as a full fiscal path.

For instance, the President has emphasized that one of his top priorities is modernizing the outdated infrastructure that the American public depends upon. To spearhead his infrastructure initiative, the President has tapped a group of infrastructure experts to evaluate investment options along with commonsense regulatory, administrative, organizational, and policy changes to encourage investment and speed project delivery. Through this initiative, the President is committed to making sure that taxpayer dollars are expended for the highest return projects and that all levels of government maximize leverage to get the best deals and exercise vigorous oversight. The Administration will provide more budgetary, tax, and legislative details in the coming months.

In the chapters that follow, Budget highlights are presented for major agencies. Consistent with the President's approach to move the Nation toward fiscal responsibility, the Budget eliminates and reduces hundreds of programs and focuses funding to redefine the proper role of the Federal Government.

The Budget also proposes to eliminate funding for other independent agencies, including: the African Development Foundation; the Appalachian Regional Commission; the Chemical Safety Board; the Corporation for National and Community Service; the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; the Delta Regional Authority; the Denali Commission; the Institute of Museum and Library Services; the Inter-American Foundation; the U.S. Trade and Development Agency; the Legal Services Corporation; the National Endowment for the Arts; the National Endowment for the Humanities; the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation; the Northern Border Regional Commission; the Overseas Private Investment Corporation; the United States Institute of Peace; the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness; and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

MANAGEMENT

Making Government Work Again

The Federal Government can—and should—operate more effectively, efficiently, and securely. For decades, leaders on both sides of the aisle have talked about the need to make Government work better. The President is taking bold action now to make Government work again for the American people.

As one of his first acts as President, on January 23, 2017, the President issued a memorandum imposing a Federal "Hiring Freeze" and requiring a long-term plan to reduce the size of the Federal Government's workforce. In addition, on March 13, 2017, the President signed Executive Order 13781 establishing a "Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch," which set in motion the important work of reorganizing executive departments and agencies. These two actions are complementary and plans should reflect both Presidential actions. Legislation will be required before major reorganization of the Executive Branch can take place, but the White House is best situated to review and recommend changes to the Congress. In roughly a year, the Congress will receive from the President and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a comprehensive plan for reorganization proposals. The White House will work closely with congressional committees with jurisdiction over Government organization to ensure the needed reforms actually happen.

Simultaneously, the Administration will develop the President's Management Agenda focused on achieving significant improvements in the effectiveness of its core management functions. The President's Management Agenda will set goals in areas that are critical to improving the Federal Government's effectiveness, efficiency, cybersecurity, and accountability. The Administration will take action to ensure that by 2020 we will be able to say the following:

1. **Federal agencies are managing programs and delivering critical services more effectively.** The Administration will take an evidence-based approach to improving programs and services—using real, hard data to identify poorly performing organizations and programs. We will hold program managers accountable for improving performance and delivering high-quality and timely services to the American people and businesses. We will use all tools available and create new ones as needed to ensure the workforce is appropriately prepared.

2. **Federal agencies are devoting a greater percentage of taxpayer dollars to mission achievement rather than costly, unproductive compliance activities.** Past management improvement initiatives resulted in the creation of hundreds of guidance documents aimed at improving Government management by adding more requirements to information technology (IT), human capital, acquisition, financial management, and real property. Furthermore, these Government-wide policies often tie agencies' hands and keep managers from making commonsense decisions.

As a result, costs often increase without corresponding benefits. The Administration will roll back low-value activities and let managers manage, while holding them accountable for finding ways to reduce the cost of agency operations. As part of this effort, OMB will review requirements placed on agencies and identify areas to reduce obsolete, low-value requirements.

3. **Federal agencies are more effective and efficient in supporting program outcomes.** Delivering high-performing program results and services to citizens and businesses depends on effective and efficient mission support services. However, despite years of efforts to improve these critical management processes, managers remain frustrated with hiring methodologies that do not consistently bring in top talent, acquisition approaches that are too cumbersome, and IT that is outdated by the time it is deployed. The Administration will use available data to develop targeted solutions to problems Federal managers face, and begin fixing them directly by sharing and adopting leading practices from the private and public sectors. Among the areas that will be addressed are how agencies buy goods and services, hire talent, use their real property, pay their bills, and utilize technology.

4. **Agencies have been held accountable for improving performance.** All Federal agencies will be responsible for reporting critical performance metrics and showing demonstrable improvement. OMB will also regularly review agency progress in implementing these reforms to ensure there is consistent improvement.

Through this bold agenda, we will improve the effectiveness, efficiency, cybersecurity, and accountability of the Federal Government and make government work again.

REGULATION

Cutting Burdensome Regulations

The American people deserve a regulatory system that works for them, not against them—a system that is both effective and efficient.

Each year, however, Federal agencies issue thousands of new regulations that, taken together, impose substantial burdens on American consumers and businesses big and small. These burdens function much like taxes that unnecessarily inhibit growth and employment. Many regulations, though well intentioned, do not achieve their intended outcomes, are not structured in the most cost-effective manner, and often have adverse, unanticipated consequences. Many more regulations that have been on the books for years—even if they made sense at the time—have gone unexamined and may no longer be effective or necessary.

The President is committed to fixing these problems by eliminating unnecessary and wasteful regulations. To that end, the President has already taken three significant steps:

1. **Regulatory freeze.** On January 20, 2017, the President's Chief of Staff issued a memorandum to all agencies, directing them to pull back any regulations that had been sent to, but not yet published by, the Office of the Federal Register; to not publish any new regulations unless approved by an Administration political appointee; and to delay the effective date of any pending regulations for 60 days to provide the Administration time to review and reconsider those regulations. Federal agencies responded by pulling back, delaying, and not publishing all possible regulations.

2. **Controlling costs and eliminating unnecessary regulations.** On January 30, 2017, the President signed Executive Order 13771, "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs." This Executive Order represents a fundamental change in the regulatory state. It requires Federal agencies to eliminate at least two existing regulations for each new regulation they issue. It also requires agencies to ensure that for 2017, the total incremental cost of all new regulations be no greater than $0. For 2018 and beyond, the Order establishes and institutionalizes a disciplined process for imposing regulatory cost caps for each Federal agency.

   The significant structural reforms instituted by this Executive Order provide the necessary framework for Federal agencies to carry out the President's bold regulatory reform agenda.

3. **Enforcing the regulatory reform agenda.** As a successful businessman, the President knows that achievement requires accountability. That basic principle is the reason the President signed Executive Order 13777, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda," on February 24, 2017. This Order establishes within each agency a Regulatory Reform Officer and a Regulatory Reform Task Force to carry out the President's regulatory reform priorities. These new teams will

work hard to identify regulations that eliminate jobs or inhibit job creation; are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective; or impose costs that exceed benefits.

They will also be responsible for ensuring that agencies comply with the President's instruction to eliminate two regulations for each new regulation; impose no new incremental costs through regulation; and undertake efforts to repeal, replace, or modify existing regulations.

This Order builds upon a widely recognized and bi-partisan consensus that many existing regulations are likely to be ineffective and no longer necessary, and explicitly builds upon the retrospective review efforts initiated through Executive Order 13563. The difference, however, is accountability, and these teams will be a critical means by which Federal agencies will identify and cut regulations in a smart and efficient manner.

The President recently told Americans, "The era of empty talk is over." When it comes to regulatory reform, it is abundantly clear that the President means business. The President has put into place truly significant new structural mechanisms that will help to ensure that major regulatory reforms are finally achieved on behalf of the hardworking and forgotten men and women of America.

The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs within OMB is already working hard to support the implementation of these critical new reforms, and it looks forward to making sure that they are fully and successfully implemented over the coming months and years.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides leadership to promote sustainable agricultural production, protect the long-term availability of food through innovative research, and safeguard the health and productivity of the Nation's forests, grasslands, and private working lands based on sound public policy and efficient management. USDA also works to ensure food safety, provide nutrition assistance, and support rural communities. The Budget request supports core Departmental and mission critical activities while streamlining, reducing, or eliminating duplicative, redundant, or lower priority programs where the Federal role competes with the private sector or other levels of government.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $17.9 billion for USDA, a $4.7 billion or 21 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized continuing resolution (CR) level (excluding funding for P.L. 480 Title II food aid which is reflected in the Department of State and USAID budget).

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Safeguards the Nation's supply of meat, poultry, and egg products by fully funding the Food Safety and Inspection Service, which employs more than 8,000 in-plant and other frontline personnel who protect public health in approximately 6,400 federally inspected slaughter and processing establishments nationwide.

- Provides $6.2 billion to serve all projected participants in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). WIC provides grants to States for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children who are at nutritional risk.

- Fully funds wildland fire preparedness and suppression activities at $2.4 billion, 100 percent of the 10-year average for suppression operations, to ensure the resources necessary to protect life and property.

- Reduces funding for lower priority activities in the National Forest System, such as major new Federal land acquisition; instead, the Budget focuses on maintaining existing forests and grasslands.

- Continues to support farmer-focused research and extension partnerships at land-grant universities and provides about $350 million for USDA's flagship competitive research program. In addition, the Budget focuses in-house research funding within the Agricultural Research Service to the highest

priority agriculture and food issues such as increasing farming productivity, sustaining natural resources, including those within rural communities, and addressing food safety and nutrition priorities.

- Reduces funding for USDA's statistical capabilities, while maintaining core Departmental analytical functions, such as the funding necessary to complete the Census of Agriculture.

- Eliminates the duplicative Water and Wastewater loan and grant program, a savings of $498 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. Rural communities can be served by private sector financing or other Federal investments in rural water infrastructure, such as the Environmental Protection Agency's State Revolving Funds.

- Reduces staffing in USDA's Service Center Agencies to streamline county office operations, reflect reduced Rural Development workload, and encourage private sector conservation planning.

- Reduces duplicative and underperforming programs by eliminating discretionary activities of the Rural Business and Cooperative Service, a savings of $95 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Eliminates the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education program, which lacks evidence that it is being effectively implemented to reduce food insecurity.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Department of Commerce promotes job creation and economic growth by ensuring fair and secure trade, providing the data necessary to support commerce, and fostering innovation by setting standards and conducting foundational research and development. The Budget prioritizes and protects investments in core Government functions such as preparing for the 2020 Decennial Census, providing the observational infrastructure and staff necessary to produce timely and accurate weather forecasts, supporting the Government's role in managing marine resources and ocean and coastal navigation, and enforcing laws that promote fair and secure trade. The Budget also reduces or eliminates grant programs that have limited impact and reflect an expansion beyond core missions of the bureaus.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $7.8 billion for the Department of Commerce, a $1.5 billion or 16 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Strengthens the International Trade Administration's trade enforcement and compliance functions, including the anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations, while rescaling the agency's export promotion and trade analysis activities.

- Provides $1.5 billion, an increase of more than $100 million, for the U.S. Census Bureau to continue preparations for the 2020 Decennial Census. This additional funding prioritizes fundamental investments in information technology and field infrastructure, which would allow the bureau to more effectively administer the 2020 Decennial Census.

- Consolidates the mission, policy support, and administrative functions of the Economics and Statistics Administration within the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the U.S. Census Bureau, and the Department of Commerce's Office of the Secretary.

- Eliminates the Economic Development Administration, which provides small grants with limited measurable impacts and duplicates other Federal programs, such as Rural Utilities Service grants at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and formula grants to States from the Department of Transportation. By terminating this agency, the Budget saves $221 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Eliminates the Minority Business Development Agency, which is duplicative of other Federal, State, local, and private sector efforts that promote minority business entrepreneurship including Small Business Administration District Offices and Small Business Development Centers.

- Saves $124 million by discontinuing Federal funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program, which subsidizes up to half the cost of State centers, which provide consulting services to small- and medium-size manufacturers. By eliminating Federal funding, MEP centers would transition solely to non-Federal revenue sources, as was originally intended when the program was established.

- Zeroes out over $250 million in targeted National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) grants and programs supporting coastal and marine management, research, and education including Sea Grant, which primarily benefit industry and State and local stakeholders. These programs are a lower priority than core functions maintained in the Budget such as surveys, charting, and fisheries management.

- Maintains the development of NOAA's current generation of polar orbiting and geostationary weather satellites, allowing the Joint Polar Satellite System and Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite programs to remain on schedule in order to provide forecasters with critical weather data to help protect life and property.

- Achieves annual savings from NOAA's Polar Follow On satellite program from the current program of record by better reflecting the actual risk of a gap in polar satellite coverage, and provides additional opportunities to improve robustness of the low earth orbit satellite architecture by expanding the utilization of commercially provided data to improve weather models.

- Maintains National Weather Service forecasting capabilities by investing more than $1 billion while continuing to promote efficient and effective operations.

- Continues to support the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in representing the United States interest at multi-stakeholder forums on internet governance and digital commerce. The Budget supports the commercial sector's development of next generation wireless services by funding NTIA's mission of evaluating and ensuring the efficient use of spectrum by Government users.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The Department of Defense (DOD) provides the military forces needed to deter war and to protect the security of the United States. The budget for DOD ends the depletion of our military and pursues peace through strength, honoring the Federal Government's first responsibility: to protect the Nation. It fully repeals the defense sequestration, while providing the needed resources for accelerating the defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and for beginning to rebuild the U.S. Armed Forces.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $639 billion for DOD, a $52 billion increase from the 2017 annualized CR level. The total includes $574 billion for the base budget, a 10 percent increase from the 2017 annualized CR level, and $65 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Repeals the defense sequestration by restoring $52 billion to DOD, as well as $2 billion to other national defense programs outside DOD, for a $54 billion total increase for national defense discretionary budget authority above the sequestration level budget cap. When the Budget Control Act (BCA) of 2011 was enacted, the defense sequestration was not meant to occur, yet it has never been fully repealed. This has resulted in nearly $200 billion of national defense cuts since 2013 and over $200 billion of further projected cuts through 2021, relative to the original BCA caps alone. Reversing this indiscriminate neglect of the last administration is not only a fulfillment of the President's promise, but it is also a requirement if this Nation's security is to be maintained. The military's depletion under President Obama is our foremost challenge. The President's 2018 Budget ends the arbitrary depletion of our strength and security, and begins to rebuild the U.S. Armed Forces.

- Increases DOD's budget authority by $52 billion above the current 2017 level of $587 billion. This increase alone exceeds the entire defense budget of most countries, and would be one of the largest one-year DOD increases in American history. It is exceeded only by the peak increases of the Reagan Administration and a few of the largest defense increases during the World Wars and the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan (in constant dollars, based on GDP chained price index). Unlike spending increases for war, which mostly consume resources in combat, the increases in the President's Budget primarily invest in a stronger military.

- Provides the resources needed to accelerate the defeat of ISIS. The Budget ensures that DOD has the tools to stop ISIS from posing a threat to the United States by funding the Department's critical efforts to strike ISIS targets, support our partners fighting on the ground, disrupt ISIS' external operations, and cut off its financing.

- Addresses urgent warfighting readiness needs. Fifteen years of conflict, accompanied in recent years by budget cuts, have stressed the Armed Forces. The President's Budget would ensure we remain the best led, best equipped, and most ready force in the world.

- Begins to rebuild the U.S. Armed Forces by addressing pressing shortfalls, such as insufficient stocks of critical munitions, personnel gaps, deferred maintenance and modernization, cyber vulnerabilities, and degraded facilities. The military must reset war losses, address recapitalization and maintenance requirements, and recover from years of deferred investment forced by budget cuts. The President's Budget would ensure the Armed Forces have the training, equipment, and infrastructure they need.

- Lays the groundwork for a larger, more capable, and more lethal joint force, driven by a new National Defense Strategy that recognizes the need for American superiority not only on land, at sea, in the air, and in space, but also in cyberspace. As the world has become more dangerous—through the rise of advanced potential adversaries, the spread of destructive technology, and the expansion of terrorism—our military has gotten smaller and its technological edge has eroded. The President's Budget begins to put an end to this trend, reversing force reductions and restoring critical investments.

- Initiates an ambitious reform agenda to build a military that is as effective and efficient as possible, and underscores the President's commitment to reduce the costs of military programs wherever feasible.

- Strengthens the U.S. Army by rebuilding readiness, reversing end strength reductions, and preparing for future challenges. This Budget is an initial step toward restoring an Army that has been stressed by high operational demand and constrained funding levels in recent years.

- Rebuilds the U.S. Navy to better address current and future threats by increasing the total number of ships. This Budget reflects a down payment on the President's commitment to expanding the fleet.

- Ensures a ready and fully equipped Marine Corps. The Budget lays the foundation for a force that meets the challenges of the 21st Century.

- Accelerates Air Force efforts to improve tactical air fleet readiness, ensure technical superiority, and repair aging infrastructure. Key investments in maintenance capacity, training systems, and additional F-35 Joint Strike Fighters would enable the Air Force, which is now the smallest it has been in history, to counter the growing number of complex threats from sophisticated state actors and transnational terrorist groups.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Department of Education promotes improving student achievement and access to opportunity in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education. The Department would refocus its mission on supporting States and school districts in their efforts to provide high quality education to all our students. Also, it would focus on streamlining and simplifying funding for college, while continuing to help make college education more affordable. The 2018 Budget places power in the hands of parents and families to choose schools that are best for their children by investing an additional $1.4 billion in school choice programs. It continues support for the Nation's most vulnerable populations, such as students with disabilities. Overall, the Department would support these investments and carry out its core mission while lowering costs to the taxpayer by reducing or eliminating funding for programs that are not effective, that duplicate other efforts, or that do not serve national needs.

The President's 2018 Budget provides $59 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Education, a $9 billion or 13 percent reduction below the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Increases investments in public and private school choice by $1.4 billion compared to the 2017 annualized CR level, ramping up to an annual total of $20 billion, and an estimated $100 billion including matching State and local funds. This additional investment in 2018 includes a $168 million increase for charter schools, $250 million for a new private school choice program, and a $1 billion increase for Title I, dedicated to encouraging districts to adopt a system of student-based budgeting and open enrollment that enables Federal, State, and local funding to follow the student to the public school of his or her choice.
- Maintains approximately $13 billion in funding for IDEA programs to support students with special education needs. This funding provides States, school districts, and other grantees with the resources needed to provide high quality special education and related services to students and young adults with disabilities.
- Eliminates the $2.4 billion Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants program, which is poorly targeted and spread thinly across thousands of districts with scant evidence of impact.
- Eliminates the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, which supports before- and after-school programs as well as summer programs, resulting in savings of $1.2 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. The programs lacks strong evidence of meeting its objectives, such as improving student achievement.

- Eliminates the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program, a less well-targeted way to deliver need-based aid than the Pell Grant program, to reduce complexity in financial student aid and save $732 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Safeguards the Pell Grant program by level funding the discretionary appropriation while proposing a cancellation of $3.9 billion from unobligated carryover funding, leaving the Pell program on sound footing for the next decade.
- Protects support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions, which provide opportunities for communities that are often underserved, maintaining $492 million in funding for programs that serve high percentages of minority students.
- Reduces Federal Work-Study significantly and reforms the poorly-targeted allocation to ensure funds go to undergraduate students who would benefit most.
- Provides $808 million for the Federal TRIO Programs and $219 million for GEAR UP, resulting in savings of $193 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. Funding to TRIO programs is reduced in areas that have limited evidence on the overall effectiveness in improving student outcomes. The Budget funds GEAR UP continuation awards only, pending the completion of an upcoming rigorous evaluation of a portion of the program.
- Eliminates or reduces over 20 categorical programs that do not address national needs, duplicate other programs, or are more appropriately supported with State, local, or private funds, including Striving Readers, Teacher Quality Partnership, Impact Aid Support Payments for Federal Property, and International Education programs.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

The Department of Energy (DOE) is charged with ensuring the Nation's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental, and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions. The Budget for DOE demonstrates the Administration's commitment to reasserting the proper role of what has become a sprawling Federal Government and reducing deficit spending. It reflects an increased reliance on the private sector to fund later-stage research, development, and commercialization of energy technologies and focuses resources toward early-stage research and development. It emphasizes energy technologies best positioned to enable American energy independence and domestic job-growth in the near to mid-term. It also ensures continued progress on cleaning up sites contaminated from nuclear weapons production and energy research and includes a path forward to accelerate progress on the disposition of nuclear waste. At the same time, the Budget demonstrates the Administration's strong support for the United States' nuclear security enterprise and ensures that we have a nuclear force that is second to none.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $28.0 billion for DOE, a $1.7 billion or 5.6 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Budget would strengthen the Nation's nuclear capability by providing a $1.4 billion increase above the 2017 annualized CR level for the National Nuclear Security Administration, an 11 percent increase.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Provides $120 million to restart licensing activities for the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository and initiate a robust interim storage program. These investments would accelerate progress on fulfilling the Federal Government's obligations to address nuclear waste, enhance national security, and reduce future taxpayer burden.
- Supports the goals of moving toward a responsive nuclear infrastructure and advancing the existing program of record for warhead life extension programs through elimination of defense sequestration for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA).
- Enables NNSA to begin to address its critical infrastructure maintenance backlog.
- Protects human health and the environment by providing $6.5 billion to advance the Environmental Management program mission of cleaning up the legacy of waste and contamination from energy research and nuclear weapons production, including addressing excess facilities to support modernization of the nuclear security enterprise.
- Eliminates the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, the Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program, and the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Program because

the private sector is better positioned to finance disruptive energy research and development and to commercialize innovative technologies.

- Ensures the Office of Science continues to invest in the highest priority basic science and energy research and development as well as operation and maintenance of existing scientific facilities for the community. This includes a savings of approximately $900 million compared to the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Focuses funding for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, the Office of Nuclear Energy, the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, and the Fossil Energy Research and Development program on limited, early-stage applied energy research and development activities where the Federal role is stronger. In addition, the Budget eliminates the Weatherization Assistance Program and the State Energy Program to reduce Federal intervention in State-level energy policy and implementation. Collectively, these changes achieve a savings of approximately $2 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Supports the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability's capacity to carry out cybersecurity and grid resiliency activities that would help harden and evolve critical grid infrastructure that the American people and the economy rely upon.
- Continues the necessary research, development, and construction to support the Navy's current nuclear fleet and enhance the capabilities of the future fleet.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) works to enhance the health and well-being of Americans by providing effective health and human services and by fostering sound, sustained advances in the sciences underlying medicine, public health, and social services. The Budget supports the core mission of HHS through the most efficient and effective health and human service programs. In 2018, HHS funds the highest priorities, such as: health services through community health centers, Ryan White HIV/AIDS providers, and the Indian Health Service; early care and education; and medical products review and innovation. In addition, it funds urgent public health issues, such as prescription drug overdose, and program integrity for Medicare and Medicaid. The Budget eliminates programs that are duplicative or have limited impact on public health and well-being. The Budget allows HHS to continue to support priority activities that reflect a new and sustainable approach to long-term fiscal stability across the Federal Government.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $69.0 billion for HHS, a $15.1 billion or 17.9 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level. This funding level excludes certain mandatory spending changes but includes additional funds for program integrity and implementing the 21st Century CURES Act.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Supports direct health care services, such as those delivered by community health centers, Ryan White HIV/AIDS providers, and the Indian Health Service. These safety net providers deliver critical health care services to low-income and vulnerable populations.
- Strengthens the integrity and sustainability of Medicare and Medicaid by investing in activities to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse and promote high quality and efficient health care. Additional funding for the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control (HCFAC) program has allowed the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in recent years to shift away from a "pay-and-chase" model toward identifying and preventing fraudulent or improper payments from being paid in the first place. The return on investment for the HCFAC account was $5 returned for every $1 expended from 2014-2016. The Budget proposes HCFAC discretionary funding of $751 million in 2018, which is $70 million higher than the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Supports efficient operations for Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program and focuses spending on the highest priority activities necessary to effectively operate these programs.

- Supports substance abuse treatment services for the millions of Americans struggling with substance abuse disorders. The opioid epidemic, which took more than 33,000 lives in calendar year 2015, has a devastating effect on America's families and communities. In addition to funding Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration substance abuse treatment activities, the Budget also includes a $500 million increase above 2016 enacted levels to expand opioid misuse prevention efforts and to increase access to treatment and recovery services to help Americans who are misusing opioids get the help they need.
- Recalibrates Food and Drug Administration (FDA) medical product user fees to over $2 billion in 2018, approximately $1 billion over the 2017 annualized CR level, and replaces the need for new budget authority to cover pre-market review costs. To complement the increase in medical product user fees, the Budget includes a package of administrative actions designed to achieve regulatory efficiency and speed the development of safe and effective medical products. In a constrained budget environment, industries that benefit from FDA's approval can and should pay for their share.
- Reduces the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) spending relative to the 2017 annualized CR level by $5.8 billion to $25.9 billion. The Budget includes a major reorganization of NIH's Institutes and Centers to help focus resources on the highest priority research and training activities, including: eliminating the Fogarty International Center; consolidating the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality within NIH; and other consolidations and structural changes across NIH organizations and activities. The Budget also reduces administrative costs and rebalance Federal contributions to research funding.
- Reforms key public health, emergency preparedness, and prevention programs. For example, the Budget restructures similar HHS preparedness grants to reduce overlap and administrative costs and directs resources to States with the greatest need. The Budget also creates a new Federal Emergency Response Fund to rapidly respond to public health outbreaks, such as Zika Virus Disease. The Budget also reforms the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through a new $500 million block grant to increase State flexibility and focus on the leading public health challenges specific to each State.
- Invests in mental health activities that are awarded to high-performing entities and focus on high priority areas, such as suicide prevention, serious mental illness, and children's mental health.
- Eliminates $403 million in health professions and nursing training programs, which lack evidence that they significantly improve the Nation's health workforce. The Budget continues to fund health workforce activities that provide scholarships and loan repayments in exchange for service in areas of the United States where there is a shortage of health professionals.
- Eliminates the discretionary programs within the Office of Community Services, including the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), a savings of $4.2 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. Compared to other income support programs that serve similar populations, LIHEAP is a lower-impact program and is unable to demonstrate strong performance outcomes. CSBG funds services that are duplicative of other Federal programs, such as emergency food assistance and employment services, and is also a limited-impact program.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has a vital mission: to secure the Nation from the many threats it faces. This requires the dedication of more than 240,000 employees in jobs that ensure the security of the U.S. borders, support the integrity of its immigration system, protect air travelers and national leaders, reduce the threat of cyber attacks, and stand prepared for emergency response and disaster recovery. The Budget prioritizes DHS law enforcement operations, proposes critical investments in frontline border security, and funds continued development of strong cybersecurity defenses. The Budget would aggressively implement the President's commitment to construct a physical wall along the southern border as directed by his January 25, 2017 Executive Order, and ensures robust funding for other important DHS missions.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $44.1 billion in net discretionary budget authority for DHS, a $2.8 billion or 6.8 percent increase from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Budget would allocate $4.5 billion in additional funding for programs to strengthen the security of the Nation's borders and enhance the integrity of its immigration system. This increased investment in the Nation's border security and immigration enforcement efforts now would ultimately save Federal resources in the future.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Secures the borders of the United States by investing $2.6 billion in high-priority tactical infrastructure and border security technology, including funding to plan, design, and construct a physical wall along the southern border as directed by the President's January 25, 2017 Executive Order. This investment would strengthen border security, helping stem the flow of people and drugs illegally crossing the U.S. borders.

- Advances the President's plan to strengthen border security and immigration enforcement with $314 million to recruit, hire, and train 500 new Border Patrol Agents and 1,000 new Immigration and Customs Enforcement law enforcement personnel in 2018, plus associated support staff. These new personnel would improve the integrity of the immigration system by adding capacity to interdict those aliens attempting to cross the border illegally, as well as to identify and remove those already in the United States who entered illegally.

- Enhances enforcement of immigration laws by proposing an additional $1.5 billion above the 2017 annualized CR level for expanded detention, transportation, and removal of illegal immigrants.

These funds would ensure that DHS has sufficient detention capacity to hold prioritized aliens, including violent criminals and other dangerous individuals, as they are processed for removal.

- Invests $15 million to begin implementation of mandatory nationwide use of the E-Verify Program, an internet-based system that allows businesses to determine the eligibility of their new employees to work in the United States. This investment would strengthen the employment verification process and reduce unauthorized employment across the U.S.

- Safeguards cyberspace with $1.5 billion for DHS activities that protect Federal networks and critical infrastructure from an attack. Through a suite of advanced cyber security tools and more assertive defense of Government networks, DHS would share more cybersecurity incident information with other Federal agencies and the private sector, leading to faster responses to cybersecurity attacks directed at Federal networks and critical infrastructure.

- Restructures selected user fees for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to ensure that the cost of Government services is not subsidized by taxpayers who do not directly benefit from those programs. The Budget proposes to raise the Passenger Security Fee to recover 75 percent of the cost of TSA aviation security operations. The Budget proposes eliminating the discretionary appropriation for the NFIP's Flood Hazard Mapping Program, a savings of $190 million, to instead explore other more effective and fair means of funding flood mapping efforts.

- Eliminates or reduces State and local grant funding by $667 million for programs administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that are either unauthorized by the Congress, such as FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, or that must provide more measurable results and ensure the Federal Government is not supplanting other stakeholders' responsibilities, such as the Homeland Security Grant Program. For that reason, the Budget also proposes establishing a 25 percent non-Federal cost match for FEMA preparedness grant awards that currently require no cost match. This is the same cost-sharing approach as FEMA's disaster recovery grants. The activities and acquisitions funded through these grant programs are primarily State and local functions.

- Eliminates and reduces unauthorized and underperforming programs administered by TSA in order to strengthen screening at airport security checkpoints, a savings of $80 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. These savings include reductions to the Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response program, which achieves few Federal law enforcement priorities, and elimination of TSA grants to State and local jurisdictions, a program intended to incentivize local law enforcement patrols that should already be a high priority for State and local partners. In addition, the Budget reflects TSA's decision in the summer of 2016 to eliminate the Behavior Detection Officer program, reassigning all of those personnel to front line airport security operations. Such efforts refocus TSA on its core mission of protecting travelers and ensuring Federal security standards are enforced throughout the transportation system.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) promotes decent, safe, and affordable housing for Americans and provides access to homeownership opportunities. This Budget reflects the President's commitment to fiscal responsibility while supporting critical functions that provide rental assistance to low-income and vulnerable households and help work-eligible families achieve self-sufficiency. The Budget also recognizes a greater role for State and local governments and the private sector to address community and economic development needs.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $40.7 billion in gross discretionary funding for HUD, a $6.2 billion or 13.2 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Provides over $35 billion for HUD's rental assistance programs and proposes reforms that reduce costs while continuing to assist 4.5 million low-income households.

- Eliminates funding for the Community Development Block Grant program, a savings of $3 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Federal Government has spent over $150 billion on this block grant since its inception in 1974, but the program is not well-targeted to the poorest populations and has not demonstrated results. The Budget devolves community and economic development activities to the State and local level, and redirects Federal resources to other activities.

- Promotes fiscal responsibility by eliminating funding for a number of lower priority programs, including the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Choice Neighborhoods, and the Self-help Homeownership Opportunity Program, a savings of over $1.1 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. State and local governments are better positioned to serve their communities based on local needs and priorities.

- Promotes healthy and lead-safe homes by providing $130 million, an increase of $20 million over the 2017 annualized CR level, for the mitigation of lead-based paint and other hazards in low-income homes, especially those in which children reside. This also funds enforcement, education, and research activities to further support this goal, all of which contributes to lower healthcare costs and increased productivity.

- Eliminates funding for Section 4 Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing, a savings of $35 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. This program is duplicative of efforts funded by philanthropy and other more flexible private sector investments.

- Supports homeownership through provision of Federal Housing Administration mortgage insurance programs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The Department of the Interior (DOI) is responsible for protecting and managing vast areas of U.S. lands and waters, providing scientific and other information about its natural resources, and meeting the Nation's trust responsibilities and other commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and U.S.-affiliated island communities. The Budget requests an increase in funding for core energy development programs while supporting DOI's priority agency mission and trust responsibilities, including public safety, land conservation and revenue management. It eliminates funding for unnecessary or duplicative programs while reducing funds for lower priority activities, such as acquiring new lands.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $11.6 billion for DOI, a $1.5 billion or 12 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Strengthens the Nation's energy security by increasing funding for DOI programs that support environmentally responsible development of energy on public lands and offshore waters. Combined with administrative reforms already in progress, this would allow DOI to streamline permitting processes and provide industry with access to the energy resources America needs, while ensuring taxpayers receive a fair return from the development of these public resources.

- Sustains funding for DOI's Office of Natural Resources Revenue, which manages the collection and disbursement of roughly $10 billion annually from mineral development, an important source of revenue to the Federal Treasury, States, and Indian mineral owners.

- Eliminates unnecessary, lower priority, or duplicative programs, including discretionary Abandoned Mine Land grants that overlap with existing mandatory grants, National Heritage Areas that are more appropriately funded locally, and National Wildlife Refuge fund payments to local governments that are duplicative of other payment programs.

- Supports stewardship capacity for land management operations of the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Land Management. The Budget streamlines operations while providing the necessary resources for DOI to continue to protect and conserve America's public lands and beautiful natural resources, provide access to public lands for the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts, and ensure visitor safety.

- Supports tribal sovereignty and self-determination across Indian Country by focusing on core funding and services to support ongoing tribal government operations. The Budget reduces funding for more recent demonstration projects and initiatives that only serve a few Tribes.

- Reduces funding for lower priority activities, such as new major acquisitions of Federal land. The Budget reduces land acquisition funding by more than $120 million from the 2017 annualized CR level and would instead focus available discretionary funds on investing in, and maintaining, existing national parks, refuges and public lands.

- Ensures that the National Park Service assets are preserved for future generations by increasing investment in deferred maintenance projects. Reduces funds for other DOI construction and major maintenance programs, which can rely on existing resources for 2018.

- Provides more than $900 million for DOI's U.S. Geological Survey to focus investments in essential science programs. This includes funding for the Landsat 9 ground system, as well as research and data collection that informs sustainable energy development, responsible resource management, and natural hazard risk reduction.

- Leverages taxpayer investment with public and private resources through wildlife conservation, historic preservation, and recreation grants. These voluntary programs encourage partnerships by providing matching funds that produce greater benefits to taxpayers for the Federal dollars invested.

- Budgets responsibly for wildland fire suppression expenses. The Budget would directly provide the full 10-year rolling average of suppression expenditures.

- Invests over $1 billion in safe, reliable, and efficient management of water resources throughout the western United States.

- Supports counties through discretionary funding for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program at a reduced level, but in line with average funding for PILT over the past decade.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Department of Justice is charged with enforcing the laws and defending the interests of the United States, ensuring public safety against foreign and domestic threats, providing Federal leadership in preventing and controlling crime, seeking just punishment for those guilty of unlawful behavior, and ensuring the fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans. The budget for the Department of Justice saves taxpayer dollars by consolidating, reducing, streamlining, and making its programs and operations more efficient. The Budget also makes critical investments to confront terrorism, reduce violent crime, tackle the Nation's opioid epidemic, and combat illegal immigration.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $27.7 billion for the Department of Justice, a $1.1 billion or 3.8 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level. This program level excludes mandatory spending changes involving the Crime Victims Fund and the Assets Forfeiture Fund. However, significant targeted increases would enhance the ability to address key issues, including public safety, law enforcement, and national security. Further, the Administration is concerned about so-called sanctuary jurisdictions and will be taking steps to mitigate the risk their actions pose to public safety.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Strengthens counterterrorism, counterintelligence, and Federal law enforcement activities by providing an increase of $249 million, or 3 percent, above the 2017 annualized CR level for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The FBI would devote resources toward its world-class cadre of special agents and intelligence analysts, as well as invest $61 million more to fight terrorism and combat foreign intelligence and cyber threats and address public safety and national security risks that result from malicious actors' use of encrypted products and services. In addition, the FBI would dedicate $35 million to gather and share intelligence data with partners and together with the Department of Defense (DOD) lead Federal efforts in biometric identity resolution, research, and development. The FBI would also spend an additional $9 million to provide accurate and timely response for firearms purchase background checks, and develop and refine evidence and data to target violent crime in some cities and communities.

- Supports efforts at the Department's law enforcement components by providing a combined increase of $175 million above the 2017 annualized CR level to target the worst of the worst criminal organizations and drug traffickers in order to address violent crime, gun-related deaths, and the opioid epidemic.

- Enhances national security and counterterrorism efforts by linking skilled prosecutors and intelligence attorneys with law enforcement investigations and the intelligence community to stay ahead of threats.

- Combats illegal entry and unlawful presence in the United States by providing an increase of nearly $80 million, or 19 percent, above the 2017 annualized CR level to hire 75 additional immigration judge teams to bolster and more efficiently adjudicate removal proceedings—bringing the total number of funded immigration judge teams to 449.

- Enhances border security and immigration enforcement by providing 60 additional border enforcement prosecutors and 40 deputy U.S. Marshals for the apprehension, transportation, and prosecution of criminal aliens.

- Supports the addition of 20 attorneys to pursue Federal efforts to obtain the land and holdings necessary to secure the Southwest border and another 20 attorneys and support staff for immigration litigation assistance.

- Assures the safety of the public and law enforcement officers by providing $171 million above the 2017 annualized CR level for additional short-term detention space to hold Federal detainees, including criminal aliens, parole violators, and other offenders awaiting trial or sentencing.

- Safeguards Federal grants to State, local, and tribal law enforcement and victims of crime to ensure greater safety for law enforcement personnel and the people they serve. Critical programs aimed at protecting the life and safety of State and local law enforcement personnel, including Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement Officer Resilience and Survivability and the Bulletproof Vest Partnership, are protected.

- Eliminates approximately $700 million in unnecessary spending on outdated programs that either have met their goal or have exceeded their usefulness, including $210 million for the poorly targeted State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, in which two-thirds of the funding primarily reimburses four States for the cost of incarcerating certain illegal criminal aliens.

- Achieves savings of almost a billion dollars from the 2017 annualized CR level in Federal prison construction spending due to excess capacity resulting from an approximate 14 percent decrease in the prison population since 2013. However, the Budget provides $80 million above the 2017 annualized CR level for the activation of an existing facility to reduce high security Federal inmate overcrowding and a total of $113 million to repair and modernize outdated prisons.

- Increases bankruptcy-filing fees to produce an additional $150 million over the 2017 annualized CR level to ensure that those that use the bankruptcy court system pay for its oversight. By increasing quarterly filing fees, the total estimated United States Trustee Program offsetting receipts would reach $289 million in 2018.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Department of Labor fosters the welfare of wage earners, job seekers, and retirees by safeguarding their working conditions, benefits, and wages. With the need to rebuild the Nation's military without increasing the deficit, this Budget focuses the Department of Labor on its highest priority functions and disinvests in activities that are duplicative, unnecessary, unproven, or ineffective.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $9.6 billion for the Department of Labor, a $2.5 billion or 21 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Expands Reemployment and Eligibility Assessments, an evidence-based activity that saves an average of $536 per claimant in unemployment insurance benefit costs by reducing improper payments and getting claimants back to work more quickly and at higher wages.

- Reduces funding for ineffective, duplicative, and peripheral job training grants. As part of this, eliminates the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), for a savings of $434 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. SCSEP is ineffective in meeting its purpose of transitioning low-income unemployed seniors into unsubsidized jobs. As many as one-third of participants fail to complete the program and of those who do, only half successfully transition to unsubsidized employment.

- Focuses the Bureau of International Labor Affairs on ensuring that U.S. trade agreements are fair for American workers. The Budget eliminates the Bureau's largely noncompetitive and unproven grant funding, which would save at least $60 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Improves Job Corps for the disadvantaged youth it serves by closing centers that do a poor job educating and preparing students for jobs.

- Decreases Federal support for job training and employment service formula grants, shifting more responsibility for funding these services to States, localities, and employers.

- Helps States expand apprenticeship, an evidence-based approach to preparing workers for jobs.

- Refocuses the Office of Disability Employment Policy, eliminating less critical technical assistance grants and launching an early intervention demonstration project to allow States to test and evaluate methods that help individuals with disabilities remain attached to or reconnect to the labor market.

- Eliminates the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's unproven training grants, yielding savings of almost $11 million from the 2017 annualized CR level and focusing the agency on its central work of keeping workers safe on the job.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, USAID, AND TREASURY INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Department of the Treasury's International Programs help to advance the national security interests of the United States by building a more democratic, secure, and prosperous world. The Budget for the Department of State and USAID diplomatic and development activities is being refocused on priority strategic objectives and renewed attention is being placed on the appropriate U.S. share of international spending. In addition, the Budget seeks to reduce or end direct funding for international organizations whose missions do not substantially advance U.S. foreign policy interests, are duplicative, or are not well-managed. Additional steps will be taken to make the Department and USAID leaner, more efficient, and more effective. These steps to reduce foreign assistance free up funding for critical priorities here at home and put America first.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $25.6 billion in base funding for the Department of State and USAID, a $10.1 billion or 28 percent reduction from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Budget also requests $12.0 billion as Overseas Contingency Operations funding for extraordinary costs, primarily in war areas like Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan, for an agency total of $37.6 billion. The 2018 Budget also requests $1.5 billion for Treasury International Programs, an $803 million or 35 percent reduction from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Maintains robust funding levels for embassy security and other core diplomatic activities while implementing efficiencies. Consistent with the Benghazi Accountability Review Board recommendation, the Budget applies $2.2 billion toward new embassy construction and maintenance in 2018. Maintaining adequate embassy security levels requires the efficient and effective use of available resources to keep embassy employees safe.
- Provides $3.1 billion to meet the security assistance commitment to Israel, currently at an all-time high; ensuring that Israel has the ability to defend itself from threats and maintain its Qualitative Military Edge.
- Eliminates the Global Climate Change Initiative and fulfills the President's pledge to cease payments to the United Nations' (UN) climate change programs by eliminating U.S. funding related to the Green Climate Fund and its two precursor Climate Investment Funds.
- Provides sufficient resources on a path to fulfill the $1 billion U.S. pledge to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. This commitment helps support Gavi to vaccinate hundreds of millions of children in low-resource countries and save millions of lives.

- Provides sufficient resources to maintain current commitments and all current patient levels on HIV/AIDS treatment under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and maintains funding for malaria programs. The Budget also meets U.S. commitments to the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria by providing 33 percent of projected contributions from all donors, consistent with the limit currently in law.
- Shifts some foreign military assistance from grants to loans in order to reduce costs for the U.S. taxpayer, while potentially allowing recipients to purchase more American-made weaponry with U.S. assistance, but on a repayable basis.
- Reduces funding to the UN and affiliated agencies, including UN peacekeeping and other international organizations, by setting the expectation that these organizations rein in costs and that the funding burden be shared more fairly among members. The amount the U.S. would contribute to the UN budget would be reduced and the U.S. would not contribute more than 25 percent for UN peacekeeping costs.
- Refocuses economic and development assistance to countries of greatest strategic importance to the U.S. and ensures the effectiveness of U.S. taxpayer investments by rightsizing funding across countries and sectors.
- Allows for significant funding of humanitarian assistance, including food aid, disaster, and refugee program funding. This would focus funding on the highest priority areas while asking the rest of the world to pay their fair share. The Budget eliminates the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance account, a duplicative and stovepiped account, and challenges international and non-governmental relief organizations to become more efficient and effective.
- Reduces funding for the Department of State's Educational and Cultural Exchange (ECE) Programs. ECE resources would focus on sustaining the flagship Fulbright Program, which forges lasting connections between Americans and emerging leaders around the globe.
- Improves efficiency by eliminating overlapping peacekeeping and security capacity building efforts and duplicative contingency programs, such as the Complex Crises Fund. The Budget also eliminates direct appropriations to small organizations that receive funding from other sources and can continue to operate without direct Federal funds, such as the East-West Center.
- Recognizes the need for State and USAID to pursue greater efficiencies through reorganization and consolidation in order to enable effective diplomacy and development.
- Reduces funding for multilateral development banks, including the World Bank, by approximately $650 million over three years compared to commitments made by the previous administration. Even with the proposed decreases, the U.S. would retain its current status as a top donor while saving taxpayer dollars.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Department of Transportation (DOT) is responsible for ensuring a fast, safe, efficient, accessible, and convenient transportation system that meets our vital national interests and enhances the quality of life of the American people today, and into the future. The Budget request reflects a streamlined DOT that is focused on performing vital Federal safety oversight functions and investing in nationally and regionally significant transportation infrastructure projects. The Budget reduces or eliminates programs that are either inefficient, duplicative of other Federal efforts, or that involve activities that are better delivered by States, localities, or the private sector.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $16.2 billion for DOT's discretionary budget, a $2.4 billion or 13 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Initiates a multi-year reauthorization proposal to shift the air traffic control function of the Federal Aviation Administration to an independent, non-governmental organization, making the system more efficient and innovative while maintaining safety. This would benefit the flying public and taxpayers overall.

- Restructures and reduces Federal subsidies to Amtrak to focus resources on the parts of the passenger rail system that provide meaningful transportation options within regions. The Budget terminates Federal support for Amtrak's long distance train services, which have long been inefficient and incur the vast majority of Amtrak's operating losses. This would allow Amtrak to focus on better managing its State-supported and Northeast Corridor train services.

- Limits funding for the Federal Transit Administration's Capital Investment Program (New Starts) to projects with existing full funding grant agreements only. Future investments in new transit projects would be funded by the localities that use and benefit from these localized projects.

- Eliminates funding for the Essential Air Service (EAS) program, which was originally conceived of as a temporary program nearly 40 years ago to provide subsidized commercial air service to rural airports. EAS flights are not full and have high subsidy costs per passenger. Several EAS-eligible communities are relatively close to major airports, and communities that have EAS could be served by other existing modes of transportation. This proposal would result in a discretionary savings of $175 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Eliminates funding for the unauthorized TIGER discretionary grant program, which awards grants to projects that are generally eligible for funding under existing surface transportation formula programs, saving $499 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. Further, DOT's Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects grant program, authorized by the FAST Act of 2015, supports larger highway and multimodal freight projects with demonstrable national or regional benefits. This grant program is authorized at an annual average of $900 million through 2020.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

The Department of the Treasury is charged with maintaining a strong economy, promoting conditions that enable economic growth and stability, protecting the integrity of the financial system, and managing the U.S. Government's finances and resources effectively. The Budget will bring renewed discipline to the Department by focusing resources on collecting revenue, managing the Nation's debt, protecting the financial system from threats, and combating financial crime and terrorism financing.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $12.1 billion in discretionary resources for the Department of the Treasury's domestic programs, a $519 million or 4.1 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level. This program level excludes mandatory spending changes involving the Treasury Forfeiture Fund.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Preserves key operations of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to ensure that the IRS could continue to combat identity theft, prevent fraud, and reduce the deficit through the effective enforcement and administration of tax laws. Diverting resources from antiquated operations that are still reliant on paper-based review in the era of electronic tax filing would achieve significant savings, a funding reduction of $239 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Strengthens cybersecurity by investing in a Department-wide plan to strategically enhance existing security systems and preempt fragmentation of information technology management across the bureaus, positioning Treasury to anticipate and nimbly respond in the event of a cyberattack.

- Prioritizes funding for Treasury's array of economic enforcement tools. Key Treasury programs that freeze the accounts of terrorists and proliferators, implement sanctions on rogue nations, and link law enforcement agencies with financial institutions are critical to the continued safety and financial stability of the Nation.

- Eliminates funding for Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund grants, a savings of $210 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. The CDFI Fund was created more than 20 years ago to jump-start a now mature industry where private institutions have ready access to the capital needed to extend credit and provide financial services to underserved communities.

- Empowers the Treasury Secretary, as Chairperson of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, to end taxpayer bailouts and foster economic growth by advancing financial regulatory reforms that promote market discipline and ensure the accountability of financial regulators.

- Shrinks the Federal workforce and increases its efficiency by redirecting resources away from duplicative policy offices to staff that manage the Nation's finances.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides health care and a wide variety of benefits to military veterans and their survivors. The 2018 Budget fulfills the President's commitment to the Nation's veterans by requesting the resources necessary to provide the support our veterans have earned through sacrifice and service to our Nation. The Budget significantly increases funding for VA Medical Care so that VA can continue to meet the ever-growing demand for health care services while building an integrated system of care that strengthens services within VA and makes effective use of community services. The Budget request includes increased funding for and extension of the Veterans Choice Program, making it easier for eligible veterans to access the medical care they need, close to home.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $78.9 billion in discretionary funding for VA, a $4.4 billion or 6 percent increase from the 2017 enacted level. The Budget also requests legislative authority and $3.5 billion in mandatory budget authority in 2018 to continue the Veterans Choice Program.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Ensures the Nation's veterans receive high-quality health care and timely access to benefits and services. An estimated 11 million veterans participate in VA programs. This Budget provides the resources necessary to ensure veterans receive the care and support earned through their service to the Nation.
- Provides a $4.6 billion increase in discretionary funding for VA health care to improve patient access and timeliness of medical care services for over nine million enrolled veterans. This funding would enable the Department to provide a broad range of primary care, specialized care, and related medical and social support services to enrolled veterans, including services that are uniquely related to veterans' health and special needs.
- Extends and funds the Veterans Choice Program to ensure that every eligible veteran continues to have the choice to seek care at VA or through a private provider. Without action, this critical program will expire in August 2017, which would result in veterans having fewer choices of where to receive care.
- Supports VA programs that provide services to homeless and at-risk veterans and their families to help keep them safe and sheltered.
- Provides access to education benefits, enhanced services, and other programs to assist veterans' transition to civilian life. VA partners with other agencies to provide critical training, support services, and counseling throughout a veteran's transition and their post-military career.

- Continues critical investments aimed at optimizing productivity and transforming VA's claims processes. Provides resources to reduce the time required to process and adjudicate veterans' disability compensation claims.
- Invests in information technology to improve the efficiency and efficacy of VA services. Provides sufficient funding for sustainment, development, and modernization initiatives that would improve the quality of services provided to veterans and avoid the costs of maintaining outdated, inefficient systems.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for protecting human health and the environment. The budget for EPA reflects the success of environmental protection efforts, a focus on core legal requirements, the important role of the States in implementing the Nation's environmental laws, and the President's priority to ease the burden of unnecessary Federal regulations that impose significant costs for workers and consumers without justifiable environmental benefits. This would result in approximately 3,200 fewer positions at the agency. EPA would primarily support States and Tribes in their important role protecting air, land, and water in the 21st Century.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $5.7 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency, a savings of $2.6 billion, or 31 percent, from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Provides robust funding for critical drinking and wastewater infrastructure. These funding levels further the President's ongoing commitment to infrastructure repair and replacement and would allow States, municipalities, and private entities to continue to finance high priority infrastructure investments that protect human health. The Budget includes $2.3 billion for the State Revolving Funds, a $4 million increase over the 2017 annualized CR level. The Budget also provides $20 million for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act program, equal to the funding provided in the 2017 annualized CR. This credit subsidy could potentially support $1 billion in direct Federal loans.
- Discontinues funding for the Clean Power Plan, international climate change programs, climate change research and partnership programs, and related efforts—saving over $100 million for the American taxpayer compared to 2017 annualized CR levels. Consistent with the President's America First Energy Plan, the Budget reorients EPA's air program to protect the air we breathe without unduly burdening the American economy.
- Reins in Superfund administrative costs and emphasizes efficiency efforts by funding the Hazardous Substance Superfund Account at $762 million, $330 million below the 2017 annualized CR level. The agency would prioritize the use of existing settlement funds to clean up hazardous waste sites and look for ways to remove some of the barriers that have delayed the program's ability to return sites to the community.
- Avoids duplication by concentrating EPA's enforcement of environmental protection violations on programs that are not delegated to States, while providing oversight to maintain consistency and assistance across State, local, and tribal programs. This reduces EPA's Office of Enforcement

and Compliance Assurance budget to $419 million, which is $129 million below the 2017 annualized CR level.

- Better targets EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) at a level of approximately $250 million, which would result in a savings of $233 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. ORD would prioritize activities that support decision-making related to core environmental statutory requirements, as opposed to extramural activities, such as providing STAR grants.
- Supports Categorical Grants with $597 million, a $482 million reduction below 2017 annualized CR levels. These lower levels are in line with the broader strategy of streamlining environmental protection. This funding level eliminates or substantially reduces Federal investment in State environmental activities that go beyond EPA's statutory requirements.
- Eliminates funding for specific regional efforts such as the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the Chesapeake Bay, and other geographic programs. These geographic program eliminations are $427 million lower than the 2017 annualized CR levels. The Budget returns the responsibility for funding local environmental efforts and programs to State and local entities, allowing EPA to focus on its highest national priorities.
- Eliminates more than 50 EPA programs, saving an additional $347 million compared to the 2017 annualized CR level. Lower priority and poorly performing programs and grants are not funded, nor are duplicative functions that can be absorbed into other programs or that are State and local responsibilities. Examples of eliminations in addition to those previously mentioned include: Energy Star; Targeted Airshed Grants; the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program; and infrastructure assistance to Alaska Native Villages and the Mexico Border.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is responsible for increasing understanding of the universe and our place in it, advancing America's world-leading aerospace technology, inspiring the Nation, and opening the space frontier. The Budget increases cooperation with industry through the use of public-private partnerships, focuses the Nation's efforts on deep space exploration rather than Earth-centric research, and develops technologies that would help achieve U.S. space goals and benefit the economy.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $19.1 billion for NASA, a 0.8 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level, with targeted increases consistent with the President's priorities.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Supports and expands public-private partnerships as the foundation of future U.S. civilian space efforts. The Budget creates new opportunities for collaboration with industry on space station operations, supports public-private partnerships for deep-space habitation and exploration systems, funds data buys from companies operating small satellite constellations, and supports work with industry to develop and commercialize new space technologies.
- Paves the way for eventual over-land commercial supersonic flights and safer, more efficient air travel with a strong program of aeronautics research. The Budget provides $624 million for aeronautics research and development.
- Reinvigorates robotic exploration of the Solar System by providing $1.9 billion for the Planetary Science program, including funding for a mission to repeatedly fly by Jupiter's icy ocean moon Europa and a Mars rover that would launch in 2020. To preserve the balance of NASA's science portfolio and maintain flexibility to conduct missions that were determined to be more important by the science community, the Budget provides no funding for a multi-billion-dollar mission to land on Europa. The Budget also supports initiatives that use smaller, less expensive satellites to advance science in a cost-effective manner.
- Provides $3.7 billion for continued development of the Orion crew vehicle, Space Launch System, and associated ground system, to send American astronauts on deep-space missions. To accommodate increasing development costs, the Budget cancels the multi-billion-dollar Asteroid Redirect Mission. NASA will investigate approaches for reducing the costs of exploration missions to enable a more expansive exploration program.
- Provides $1.8 billion for a focused, balanced Earth science portfolio that supports the priorities of the science and applications communities, a savings of $102 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Budget terminates four Earth science missions (PACE, OCO-3, DSCOVR

Earth-viewing instruments, and CLARREO Pathfinder) and reduces funding for Earth science research grants.

- Eliminates the $115 million Office of Education, resulting in a more focused education effort through NASA's Science Mission Directorate. The Office of Education has experienced significant challenges in implementing a NASA-wide education strategy and is performing functions that are duplicative of other parts of the agency.
- Restructures a duplicative robotic satellite refueling demonstration mission to reduce its cost and better position it to support a nascent commercial satellite servicing industry, resulting in a savings of $88 million from the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Strengthens NASA's cybersecurity capabilities, safeguarding critical systems and data.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Small Business Administration (SBA) ensures that small businesses have the tools and resources needed to start and develop their operations, drive U.S. competitiveness, and help grow the economy. The President is committed to assisting small businesses succeed through reducing the regulatory and tax burdens that can impede the development of small firms. The Budget increases efficiency through responsible reductions to redundant programs and by eliminating programs that deliver services better provided by the private sector.

The President's 2018 Budget requests $826.5 million for SBA, a $43.2 million or 5.0 percent decrease from the 2017 annualized CR level.

The President's 2018 Budget:

- Supports more than $45 billion in loan guarantees to assist America's small business owners with access to affordable capital to start or expand their businesses.
- Strengthens SBA's outreach center programs by reducing duplicative services, coordinating best practices, and investing in communities that would benefit from SBA's business center support. As a result, SBA would be better positioned to strengthen local partnerships and more efficiently serve program participants while achieving savings over the 2017 annualized CR level.
- Supports over $1 billion in disaster relief lending to businesses, homeowners, renters, and property owners to help American communities recover quickly in the wake of declared disasters. Through the disaster loan program, SBA is able to provide affordable, accessible, and immediate direct assistance to those hardest hit when disaster strikes.
- Achieves $12 million in cost savings from the 2017 annualized CR level through identifying and eliminating those SBA grant programs where the private sector provides effective mechanisms to foster local business development and investment. Eliminations include PRIME technical assistance grants, Regional Innovation Clusters, and Growth Accelerators.
- Provides training and support services for transitioning service members and veterans to promote entrepreneurship and business ownership. These programs help to fulfill the President's commitment to support the Nation's veterans by providing business counseling, lending, and contracting assistance.
- Maintains $28 million in microloan financing and technical assistance to help serve, strengthen, and sustain the smallest of small businesses and startups.
- Allows SBA to advocate and assist small businesses in accessing Federal contracts and small business research opportunities Government-wide.

Summary Tables

Table 1. Proposed Discretionary Caps for 2018 Budget

(Budget authority in billions of dollars)

	Caps	
	2017	**2018**
Current Law Base Caps: [1]		
Defense	551	549
Non-Defense	519	516
Total, Current Law Base Caps	**1,070**	**1,065**
Proposed Base Cap Changes: [2]		
Defense	*+25*	*+54*
Non-Defense	*–15*	*–54*
Total, Proposed Changes	***+10***	.....
Proposed Base Caps:		
Defense	576	603
Non-Defense	504	462
Total, Proposed Base Caps	**1,080**	**1,065**
Enacted and Proposed Cap Adjustments:		
Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) [2]	89	77
Emergency Funding	3	.....
Program Integrity	2	2
Disaster Relief	8	7
Total, Cap Adjustments	**102**	**86**
Total, Discretionary Budget Authority	**1,181**	**1,151**
21st Century CURES appropriations [3]	*1*	*1*

[1] The caps presented here are equal to the levels specified for 2017 and 2018 in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended (BBEDCA). The 2017 caps were revised in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 and the 2018 caps include OMB estimates of Joint Committee enforcement (also known as "sequestration").

[2] The Administration proposes an increase in the existing defense caps for 2017 and 2018 that is offset with decreases to the non-defense caps. About 60 percent of the 2017 defense increase is offset by non-defense decreases in 2017 while the entire defense increase in 2018 is offset by non-defense decreases. An additional $5 billion in defense funding is proposed as OCO in 2017.

[3] The 21st Century CURES Act permitted funds to be appropriated each year for certain activities outside of the discretionary caps so long as the appropriations were specifically provided for the authorized purposes. These amounts are displayed outside of the discretionary totals for this reason.

Table 2. 2018 Discretionary Overview by Major Agency

(Net discretionary BA in billions of dollars)

	2017 CR/Enacted [1,2]	2018 Request [2]	2018 Request Less 2017 CR/Enacted	
			Dollar	Percent
Base Discretionary Funding:				
Cabinet Departments:				
Agriculture [3]	22.6	17.9	–4.7	–20.7%
Commerce	9.2	7.8	–1.5	–15.7%
Defense	521.7	574.0	+52.3	+10.0%
Education	68.2	59.0	–9.2	–13.5%
Energy	29.7	28.0	–1.7	–5.6%
National Nuclear Security Administration	*12.5*	*13.9*	*+1.4*	*+11.3%*
Other Energy	*17.2*	*14.1*	*–3.1*	*–17.9%*
Health and Human Services [4]	77.7	65.1	–12.6	–16.2%
Homeland Security	41.3	44.1	+2.8	+6.8%
Housing and Urban Development (HUD):				
HUD gross total (excluding receipts)	*46.9*	*40.7*	*–6.2*	*–13.2%*
HUD receipts [5]	*–10.9*	*–9.0*	*+1.9*	*N/A*
Interior	13.2	11.6	–1.5	–11.7%
Justice (DOJ):				
DOJ program level (excluding offsets)	*28.8*	*27.7*	*–1.1*	*–3.8%*
DOJ mandatory spending changes (CHIMPs)	*–8.5*	*–11.5*	*–2.9*	*N/A*
Labor	12.2	9.6	–2.5	–20.7%
State, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and Treasury International Programs [3]	38.0	27.1	–10.9	–28.7%
Transportation	18.6	16.2	–2.4	–12.7%
Treasury	11.7	11.2	–0.5	–4.4%
Veterans Affairs	74.5	78.9	+4.4	+5.9%
Major Agencies:				
Corps of Engineers	6.0	5.0	–1.0	–16.3%
Environmental Protection Agency	8.2	5.7	–2.6	–31.4%
General Services Administration	0.3	0.5	+0.3	N/A
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	19.2	19.1	–0.2	–0.8%
Small Business Administration	0.9	0.8	-*	–5.0%
Social Security Administration [4]	9.3	9.3	+*	+0.2%
Other Agencies	29.4	26.5	–2.9	–9.8%
Subtotal, Discretionary Base Budget Authority	**1,068.1**	**1,065.4**	**–2.7**	**–0.3%**
Cap Adjustment Funding:				
Overseas Contingency Operations:				
Defense	65.0	64.6	–0.4	–0.6%
State and USAID	19.2	12.0	–7.2	–37.4%
Other Agencies	0.2	.....	–0.2	–100.0%
Subtotal, Overseas Contingency Operations	84.3	76.6	–7.8	–9.2%
Emergency Requirements:				
Transportation	1.0	.....	–1.0	–100.0%
Corps of Engineers	1.0	.....	–1.0	–100.0%
Other Agencies	0.7	.....	–0.7	–100.0%
Subtotal, Emergency Requirements	2.7	.....	–2.7	–100.0%
Program Integrity:				
Health and Human Services	0.4	0.4	+0.1	+17.3%
Social Security Administration	1.2	1.5	+0.3	+26.8%
Subtotal, Program Integrity	1.5	1.9	+0.4	+24.5%

Table 2. 2018 Discretionary Overview by Major Agency—Continued

(Net discretionary BA in billions of dollars)

	2017 CR/Enacted [1,2]	2018 Request [2]	2018 Request Less 2017 CR/Enacted	
			Dollar	Percent
Disaster Relief: [6]				
Homeland Security and Other Agencies	6.7	7.4	+0.7	+9.7%
Housing and Urban Development	1.4	.....	–1.4	–100.0%
Subtotal, Disaster Relief	8.1	7.4	–0.8	–9.4%
Subtotal, Cap Adjustment Funding	**96.7**	**85.9**	**–10.8**	**–11.2%**
Total, Discretionary Budget Authority	**1,164.8**	**1,151.2**	**–13.6**	**–1.2%**
Memorandum: 21st Century CURES appropriations [7]				
Health and Human Services	*0.9*	*1.1*	*+0.2*	*+21.1%*

* $50 million or less.

[1] The 2017 CR/Enacted column reflects enacted appropriations and levels of continuing appropriations provided under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (Division C of Public Law 114–223, as amended by Division A of Public Law 114–254) that are due to expire on April 28. The levels presented here are the amounts OMB scores under the caps; therefore, the levels for 2017 may differ in total from those on Table 1.

[2] Enacted, continuing, and proposed changes in mandatory programs (CHIMPs) are included in both 2017 and 2018. Some agency presentations in this volume where noted reflect a program level that excludes these amounts.

[3] Funding for Food for Peace Title II Grants is included in the State, USAID, and Treasury International programs total. Although the funds are appropriated to the Department of Agriculture, the funds are administered by USAID.

[4] Funding from the Hospital Insurance and Supplementary Medical Insurance trust funds for administrative expenses incurred by the Social Security Administration that support the Medicare program are included in the Health and Human Services total and not in the Social Security Administration total.

[5] HUD receipt levels for 2018 are a placeholder and subject to change as detailed estimates under the Administration's economic and technical assumptions for the full Budget are finalized.

[6] The Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 authorizes an adjustment to the discretionary spending caps for appropriations that are designated by the Congress as being for "disaster relief" provided those appropriations are for activities carried out pursuant to a determination under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. Currently, based on enacted and continuing appropriations, OMB estimates the total adjustment available for disaster funding for 2018 at $7,366 million. Further details, including any revisions necessary to account for final 2017 appropriations and the specific amounts of disaster relief funding requested for individual agencies in 2018 authorized to administer disaster relief programs, will be provided in subsequent Administration proposals.

[7] The 21st Century CURES Act permitted funds to be appropriated each year for certain activities outside of the discretionary caps so long as the appropriations were specifically provided for the authorized purposes. These amounts are displayed outside of the discretionary totals for this reason.

Table 3. Major 2018 Budget Changes from Current Law

(Budget authority in billions of dollars)

	2018 Caps [1]		Change:	
	Current Law [2]	Proposed	Dollars	Percent
Discretionary Categories:				
Defense	549	603	+54	+10%
Non-Defense	516	462	–54	–10%
Total, 2018 Base Caps	**1,065**	**1,065**	.....	.....

* $500 million or less.

[1] Only base funding caps are represented on this table and cap adjustments permitted by the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 for overseas contingency operations, disaster relief, program integrity, and emergency requirements are excluded.

[2] The current law caps are equal to the levels specified for 2018 in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, including OMB estimates for Joint Committee enforcement (also known as "sequestration").

Table 4. Major 2017 Changes from Security Supplemental Request

(Budget authority in billions of dollars)

	2017 Caps		Change:	
	Current Law	Proposed [1]	Dollars	Percent
Discretionary Categories:				
Defense	551	576	+25	+5%
Non-Defense	519	504	–15	–3%
Major Changes:				
Border Wall and implementation of Executive Orders	.....	*3*	*+3*	*N/A*
Other Non-Defense programs	*519*	*501*	*–18*	*–3%*
Total, 2018 Base Caps	1,070	1,080	+10	+1%
Cap Adjustments:				
Defense Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO)	65	70	+5	+8%

[1] The Administration proposes an increase in the existing defense cap for 2017 that is partially offset with a decrease to the non-defense cap while an additional $5 billion defense request in 2017 is requested as OCO.

Executive Office of the President

From:	Smith, Glenn
To:	Brown, Daniel
Cc:	Doug Laye; Patrice Ashfield; Delfinia Montano; Drew Crane; Ellen McBride; Jerry Ziewitz; John Morse; Larry Salata; Michelle Durflinger; Phil Delphey
Subject:	Re: complaint: DHS border security / NEPA and Sec. 7
Date:	Thursday, April 13, 2017 2:08:23 PM

Thanks Dan!

On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 1:03 PM, Brown, Daniel <daniel_brown@fws.gov> wrote:

> Secure Fence Act of 2006 (and the new bill) included a waiver from Congress. In California/Arizona, they worked with us for a while on design for wildlife movement which they tried to implement in some areas (I think). In fact, in AZ we received quite a bit of money from DHS in species survey and other research funding. When the time crunch hit, they used their waiver. Only a substantive constitutional challenge could provide a substantive basis for a court to participate. That fence is built - maybe not to spec (one fence or not fence rather than the specified double fence in many places). For example, when DHS built a border fence across the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area, it waived compliance with NEPA, Arizona-Idaho Conservation Act, ESA, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, National Historic Preservation Act, Administrative Procedure Act, Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and several other laws. The new bill will allow the same. When challenged, court jurisdiction seemed to be at issue (see *Defenders of Wildlife v. Chertoff).*
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> Daniel R. Brown
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> Pacific Region, Ecological Services
> Division of Consultation and Conservation Planning
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> Portland, OR 97232-4181
> phone: (503) 231-6281
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> > > Doug Laye
> > >
> > > Section 7 Consultation Coordinator U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> > >
> > > 303 236 4046 R6 - Mountain Prairie Region

FWS R6 Section 7 Sharepoint

From: Smith, Glenn [mailto:glenn_s_smith@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 6:42 AM
To: Doug Laye
Cc: Patrice Ashfield; Daniel Brown; Delfinia Montano; Drew Crane; Ellen McBride; Jerry Ziewitz; John Morse; Larry Salata; Michelle Durflinger; Phil Delphey
Subject: Re: complaint: DHS border security / NEPA and Sec. 7

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Doug Laye

Section 7 Consultation Coordinator U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

303 236 4046 R6 - Mountain Prairie Region

FWS R6 Section 7 Sharepoint

From: Smith, Glenn [mailto:glenn_s_smith@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 6:08 AM
To: Ashfield, Patrice
Cc: Daniel Brown; Delfinia Montano; Doug Laye; Drew Crane; Ellen Mcbride; Jerry Ziewitz; John Morse; Larry Salata; Michelle Durflinger; Phil Delphey
Subject: Re: complaint: DHS border security / NEPA and Sec. 7

Thanks Patrice-

It is interesting, but for context, can someone explain what environmental compliance has been done for the existing thousands of miles of wall? Did the DHS do NEPA, NHPA and consultation Section 7 on those projects or were they exempt for national security reasons? Just a brief summary would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Glenn

On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 7:40 AM, Ashfield, Patrice <patrice_ashfield@fws.gov> wrote:

So this one is really for R8, 2 and 4, but I thought this one was kind of interesting....so sending to all.

Patrice M. Ashfield
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---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Gilbert, Parks** <parks_gilbert@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 12, 2017 at 1:08 PM
Subject: complaint: DHS border security / NEPA and Sec. 7
To: Gary Frazer <gary_frazer@fws.gov>, Gina Shultz <Gina_Shultz@fws.gov>, Craig Aubrey <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>, Patrice Ashfield <patrice_ashfield@fws.gov>, Ben Thatcher <ben_thatcher@fws.gov>, John Morse <john_morse@fws.gov>, Carey Galst <Carey_Galst@fws.gov>, Joan Goldfarb <Joan.Goldfarb@sol.doi.gov>, "Clinedinst, Paula (ENRD)" <Paula.Clinedinst@usdoj.gov>, "Floom, Kristen (ENRD)" <kristen.floom@usdoj.gov>, Barbara Amidon <barbara_amidon@fws.gov>, Melanie Ikenson <melanie_ruiz@fws.gov>

All,

I found the below-linked complaint today on CBD's website. They and Rep. Grijalva are suing DHS under NEPA relating to DHS's border security activities, including the proposed border wall. We are not a party. The allegations are generally that the NEPA analysis needs to be updated and does not sufficiently address various effects of DHS's actions, especially on listed species and other wildlife. The complaint also briefly states Sec. 7 claims, but says an NOI was sent (which I have not received, nor been able to find) about a week ago. After the 60 days runs and if DHS has not remedied the alleged Sec. 7 violations, plaintiffs will amend the complaint to add ESA claims.

http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/programs/international/bo

rderlands_and_boundary_waters/pdfs/Center_and_Grijalva_v_Kelly_complaint_2017_04_12.pdf

Thank you,

Parks

Parks Gilbert

ESA Litigation Specialist

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To:	Daniel Brown; Delfinia Montano; Doug Laye; Drew Crane; Ellen Mcbride; Glenn Smith; Jerry Ziewitz; John Morse; Larry Salata; Michelle Durflinger; Phil Delphey
Cc:	Gilbert, Parks
Subject:	Fwd: complaint: DHS border security / NEPA and Sec. 7
Date:	Monday, April 17, 2017 8:17:00 AM

Thanks Parks. Sec 7'ers, here is some additional info/thoughts.

Patrice M. Ashfield
Branch Chief for National Consultations
Headquarters, Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:ES
Falls Church, VA 22041
(703) 358-2478 office

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From: **Gilbert, Parks** <parks_gilbert@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:22 PM
Subject: Re: complaint: DHS border security / NEPA and Sec. 7
To: "Ashfield, Patrice" <patrice_ashfield@fws.gov>

Well, I haven't been able to read the complaint in full and word for word, but I think from what I skimmed that:

1) it was clear that the plaintiffs are not only targeting the wall (which does have the statutory waivers that DHS could use - looks like from the 2006 Act that someone cited), but the whole border security program / slate of stuff that's going on along the southern border and saying that DHS didn't consult. I *think* only the wall is exempt from enviro review, so this was a smart move by plaintiffs to make the scope of their complaint broader

2) it sounded like DHS did some NEPA analysis about 15 years ago (2001?) on their border security operations, but it wasn't sufficient and was stale, according to the complaint

Hope this helps. Let me know if you or your coordinators need a more detailed summary.

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On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 2:30 PM, Ashfield, Patrice <patrice_ashfield@fws.gov> wrote:

> See string, particularly Glenn's question. Any thoughts?
>
> Patrice M. Ashfield
> Branch Chief for National Consultations
> Headquarters, Fish and Wildlife Service

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From: **Smith, Glenn** <glenn_s_smith@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 2:07 PM
Subject: Re: complaint: DHS border security / NEPA and Sec. 7
To: "Brown, Daniel" <daniel_brown@fws.gov>
Cc: Doug Laye <doug_laye@fws.gov>, Patrice Ashfield <patrice_ashfield@fws.gov>, Delfinia Montano <delfinia_montano@fws.gov>, Drew Crane <drew_crane@fws.gov>, Ellen McBride <ellen_mcbride@fws.gov>, Jerry Ziewitz <jerry_ziewitz@fws.gov>, John Morse <john_morse@fws.gov>, Larry Salata <larry_salata@fws.gov>, Michelle Durflinger <michelle_durflinger@fws.gov>, Phil Delphey <phil_delphey@fws.gov>

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From:	Ashfield, Patrice
To:	Daniel Brown; Delfinia Montano; Doug Laye; Drew Crane; Ellen Mcbride; Glenn Smith; Jerry Ziewitz; John Morse; Larry Salata; Michelle Durflinger; Phil Delphey
Subject:	Fwd: complaint: DHS border security / NEPA and Sec. 7
Date:	Monday, April 17, 2017 5:13:54 PM
Attachments:	20170411_NOI_DHS southern border security_CBD.pdf

more DHS info for ya all.

Patrice M. Ashfield
Branch Chief for National Consultations
Headquarters, Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:ES
Falls Church, VA 22041
(703) 358-2478 office

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Gilbert, Parks** <parks_gilbert@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Apr 17, 2017 at 1:29 PM
Subject: Re: complaint: DHS border security / NEPA and Sec. 7
To: Craig Aubrey <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>, Patrice Ashfield <patrice_ashfield@fws.gov>, Ben Thatcher <ben_thatcher@fws.gov>, John Morse <john_morse@fws.gov>, Carey Galst <Carey_Galst@fws.gov>, Joan Goldfarb <Joan.Goldfarb@sol.doi.gov>, "Clinedinst, Paula (ENRD)" <Paula.Clinedinst@usdoj.gov>, "Floom, Kristen (ENRD)" <kristen.floom@usdoj.gov>, Barbara Amidon <barbara_amidon@fws.gov>, Melanie Ikenson <melanie_ruiz@fws.gov>
Cc: Frank Lupo <Frank.Lupo@sol.doi.gov>

All, here is the NOI mentioned in the complaint. It came today and pertains to DHS's actions on southern border security programming, but does not allege any claims against FWS. Specifically, it alleges that DHS did not consult with us on its programming, nor did it do any conservation as per 7(a)(1), for many listed species and CH in the southern border region. Note that it does not specifically target the proposed border wall, but is much broader sweeping than that. I assume CBD will be amending their complaint to add these claims; hard to believe DHS would be able to get its act together to agree to consult within 60 days.

Thank you,

Parks

Parks Gilbert
ESA Litigation Specialist
Branch of Listing Policy and Support, Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:ES
Falls Church, VA 22041
703/358-1758
parks_gilbert@fws.gov

On Wed, Apr 12, 2017 at 1:08 PM, Gilbert, Parks <parks_gilbert@fws.gov> wrote:

> All,

I found the below-linked complaint today on CBD's website. They and Rep. Grijalva are suing DHS under NEPA relating to DHS's border security activities, including the proposed border wall. We are not a party. The allegations are generally that the NEPA analysis needs to be updated and does not sufficiently address various effects of DHS's actions, especially on listed species and other wildlife. The complaint also briefly states Sec. 7 claims, but says an NOI was sent (which I have not received, nor been able to find) about a week ago. After the 60 days runs and if DHS has not remedied the alleged Sec. 7 violations, plaintiffs will amend the complaint to add ESA claims.

http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/programs/international/borderlands_and_boundary_waters/pdfs/Center_and_Grijalva_v_Kelly_complaint_2017_04_12.pdf

Thank you,

Parks

Parks Gilbert
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CENTER for BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY Because life is good.

April 4, 2017

John F. Kelly, Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528
congresstodhs@hq.dhs.gov

Ryan Zinke, Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240
secretary_of_the_interior@ios.doi.gov

Kevin K. McAleenan, Acting Commissioner
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Department of Homeland Security
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Jim Kurth, Acting Director
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Sent Via Certified and Electronic Mail

Re: Notice of Violations of the Endangered Species Act in Relation to Department of Homeland Security U.S.-Mexico Border Enforcement Program

Dear Secretaries Kelly and Zinke, Acting Director Kurth, and Acting Commissioner McAleenan:

On behalf of Center for Biological Diversity, we hereby provide notice, pursuant to Section 11(g)[1] of the Endangered Species Act[2] ("ESA") that the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") and its component agency U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") are in violation of Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA[3] for its failure to consult with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("FWS") in order to ensure its U.S.-Mexico border enforcement program does not jeopardize the continued existence of impacted threatened or endangered species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of their critical habitat.

The Center for Biological Diversity ("Center") is a non-profit, public interest environmental organization headquartered in Tucson, with numerous offices throughout the United States, as well as in Baja California Sur, Mexico, dedicated to the protection of native species and their habitats through science, policy, and environmental law. The Center has more than 1.1 million members and on-line activists.

The Center has long advocated for better incorporation of environmental considerations into DHS border security planning and decisionmaking, and our ESA advocacy has resulted in

[1] 16 U.S.C. § 1540(g)
[2] 16 U.S.C. § 1531 *et seq.*
[3] 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)(2)

the protection of numerous threatened and endangered species within the borderlands region, and the designation of hundreds of thousands of acres of their critical habitat.

The threshold for triggering an agency's section 7 consultation duties is low—if an action "may affect" a listed species or critical habitat, consultation is required.[4] DHS, however, has never completed consultation with FWS on the many threatened and endangered species and designated critical habitats that may be impacted by the southern border enforcement program.

A. The Endangered Species Act

The ESA is "the most comprehensive legislation for the preservation of endangered species ever enacted by any nation."[5] Its fundamental purposes are "to provide a means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered species and threatened species depend may be conserved [and] to provide a program for the conservation of such endangered species and threatened species . . . ."[6] To achieve these objectives, the ESA directs FWS (or National Marine Fisheries Service) to determine which species of plants and animals are "threatened" and "endangered" and place them on the endangered species list.[7] An "endangered" or "threatened" species is one "in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range," or "likely to become endangered in the near future throughout all or a significant portion of its range," respectively.[8]

Once a species is listed, the ESA provides a variety of procedural and substantive protections to ensure not only the species' continued survival, but its ultimate recovery. One central protection, Section 7(a)(2), mandates that all federal agencies avoid actions that: (1) jeopardize listed species; or (2) destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat.[9] Federal agency actions include those projects or programs "authorized, funded, or carried out by such agency."[10] To comply with these Section 7(a)(2) safeguards, the federal agency taking action and FWS take part in a cooperative analysis of potential impacts to listed species and their designated critical habitat known as a consultation process.

First, the agency must obtain "a list of any listed or proposed species or designated or proposed critical habitat that may be present in the action area" from FWS.[11] If a species or critical habitat may be present, the agency must prepare a biological assessment to determine whether the proposed action "may affect" or "is not likely to adversely affect" any listed species or critical habitat.[12] If the agency determines, with the concurrence of the wildlife agency, that the action is not likely to adversely affect a listed species, formal consultation is not required.[13]

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[4] 50 C.F.R. § 402.14(a).
[5] *TVA v. Hill*, 437 U.S. 180 (1978).
[6] 16 U.S.C. § 1531(b).
[7] *Id.* § 1533.
[8] *Id.* § 1532(6), (20).
[9] *Id.* § 1536(a)(2)
[10] 50 C.F.R. § 402.02.
[11] 16 U.S.C. § 1536(c)(1); 50 C.F.R. § 402.12(c)–(d).
[12] 16 U.S.C. § 1536(c)(1); 50 C.F.R. §§ 402.12(f), 402.14(a), (b)(1).
[13] *Id.* § 402.14(a).

Federal agencies must initiate formal consultation with FWS when their actions "may affect" a listed species or designated critical habitat.[14] The standard for consultation is low: "[a]ny possible effect, whether beneficial, benign, adverse, or of an undetermined character, triggers the formal consultation requirement."[15] Effects that must be considered as part of this inquiry include "direct and indirect effects of an action on the species or critical habitat, together with the effects of other activities that are interrelated or interdependent with that action, that will be added to the environmental baseline."[16] Indirect effects are "those that are caused by the proposed action and are later in time, but still are reasonably certain to occur."[17]

Through the formal consultation process, FWS prepares a "biological opinion" as to whether the action jeopardizes the species or destroys or adversely modifies critical habitat and, if so, suggests "reasonable and prudent alternatives."[18] During the consultation process, both agencies must "use the best scientific and commercial data available."[19]

In addition to duties under Section 7(a)(2), federal agencies are required under ESA Section 7(a)(1) to "utilize their authority for the conservation [*i.e.* recovery] of endangered species and threatened species."[20] As stated by the Ninth Circuit, agencies have an "affirmative obligation[] to conserve under section 7(a)(1)."[21]

Finally, Section 9 of the ESA prohibits the "taking" of any endangered species.[22] The ESA defines the term "take" broadly to include "harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct."[23] "Take" includes indirect as well as direct harm and need not be purposeful.[24] The ESA provides a limited exception to the prohibition on take under Section 9 for taking that is in compliance with an incidental take statement ("ITS").[25] Any take of a listed species that is not in compliance with an ITS violates Section 9.[26]

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[14] 50 C.F.R. § 402.14(a).
[15] *Western Watersheds Project v. Kraayenbrink*, 632 F.3d 472, 496 (9th Cir. 2011) (*quoting* 51 Fed. Reg. 19,949).
[16] 50 C.F.R. § 402.02.
[17] *Id.*
[18] 16 U.S.C. § 1536(b)(3)(A).
[19] *Id.* § 1536(a)(2); 50 CFR § 402.14(d).
[20] 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)(1); *see also* 16 U.S.C. § 1531(c)(1) ("It is further declared to be the policy of Congress that all Federal departments and agencies shall seek to conserve endangered species and threatened species.").
[21] *Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe v. U.S. Dep't of Navy*, 898 F.2d 1410, 1416-17 (9th Cir. 1990)
[22] 16 U.S.C. §1538(a).
[23] *Id.* § 1532(19) (emphasis added).
[24] *See Babbitt v. Sweet Home Chapter of Cmtys. for a Great Or.*, 515 U.S. 687, 704 (1995).
[25] *See* 16 U.S.C. § 1536 (o)(2).
[26] *See Arizona Cattle Growers' Ass'n v. U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Bureau of Land Mgmt.*, 273 F.3d 1229, 1239 (9th Cir. 2001).

B. DHS U.S.-Mexico Border Enforcement Program

In 1994, the U.S. Border Patrol ("USBP") (now incorporated into CBP) issued its "prevention through deterrence" strategy and programmatic southern border enforcement plan. This coherent national plan, which persists today, represented the first time in its 70 year history that USBP developed a border control strategy. Recognizing that the intensification and expansion of border enforcement efforts would be implemented through numerous individual federal actions with myriad synergistic and cumulative environmental impacts throughout the U.S.-Mexico border region, the Department of Justice (under which Immigration and Naturalization Service ("INS") used to be housed, prior to its abolishment and the creation of DHS) prepared a programmatic environmental impact statement in 1994 ("1994 PEIS") and a 2001 supplemental programmatic environmental impact statement ("2001 SPEIS") pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA")[27] for the southern border enforcement program.[28]

The 1994 PEIS and 2001 SPEIS analysis for the southern enforcement program considered a wide variety of USBP activities conducted within 50 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border, including:

Operational activities: the deployment and stationing of agents; USBP ground patrols, including patrols by foot, horseback, truck, motorcycle, and ATV; USBP air patrols, including patrols by fixed winged aircraft and helicopter.

Engineering activities: often taken in cooperation with Department of Defense agencies including U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Joint Task Force-North, including large infrastructure projects such as border fences and walls, road construction and reconstruction, training facilities, and other buildings, as well as installation of high-intensity stadium lighting, checkpoints, and other portable measures.

Technological activities: for example, the installation of training ground sensors and remote video surveillance systems.

In the wake of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, DHS was created and took over the border enforcement responsibilities of the former INS, and Congress vested DHS with significantly increased appropriations and aggressive mandates to secure the southern border. In response, DHS, largely through CBP, has deployed thousands of new enforcement agents,

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[27] 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.

[28] NEPA requires that an EIS "shall" be supplemented when the "agency makes substantial changes in the proposed action" *or* "significant new circumstances or information" arises that is relevant to the environmental impacts of the action. 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(c)(1)(ii). DHS has unlawfully not updated its programmatic environmental analysis for the U.S.-Mexico border enforcement program since late 2001, more than 15 years ago, despite the clear presence of both regulatory factors compelling the preparation of supplemental environmental analysis. Unlike the ESA allegations alleged herein, prior notice of NEPA violations is not required prior to filing suit.

increased off-road vehicle patrols, constructed or reconstructed thousands of miles of roads, erected hundreds of miles of border walls and fencing, and installed stadium lighting, radio towers, and remote sensors, among other actions. In a comprehensive 2016 overview of border security efforts, Congressional Research Service noted that under "a variety of indicators, the United States has substantially expanded border enforcement resources over the last three decades. *Particularly since 2001*, such increases include border security appropriations, personnel, fencing and infrastructure, and surveillance technology." Congressional Research Service, "Border Security: Ports of Entry" (April 19, 2016) (emphasis added).

For example, annual border enforcement appropriations grew from $263 million in FY 1990 to $1.4 billion FY 2002. Since 9/11 and the creation of DHS, annual appropriations increased again by an additional 170 percent, to $3.8 billion in FY 2015. Consequently, CBP is better staffed today than at any time in its history. In the five year time period 2004-2009 alone, CBP doubled the number of agents from approximately 10,000 to more than 20,000 agents.

The extent and location of fencing and infrastructure construction also illustrates the rapid expansion of the DHS southern border enforcement program and the potential impacts this rapidly expanding program may have on threatened and endangered species, and their designated critical habitat. Since 2001, border wall and barrier construction has been driven by newly enacted legislation, including the REAL ID Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-13, div. B), the Secure Fence Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-367), and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (P.L. 110-161, div. E). Collectively, these laws direct DHS to construct "not less than 700 miles" of border fencing (not necessarily walls). 8 U.S.C. § 1103 *note*. As of May 2015, DHS had installed a total of 653 miles of border fencing (353 miles of primary pedestrian fencing, 300 miles of vehicle fencing, and 36 miles of secondary fencing behind the primary fencing, and 14 miles of tertiary fencing behind the secondary fence.

The 2016 election of Donald Trump has resulted in new expansions of the DHS southern border enforcement program that will likely further intensify impacts on threatened and endangered species and their designated critical habitat. Within days of taking office, on January 25, 2017 President Trump issued an Executive Order directing DHS to "secure the southern border of the United States through the immediate construction of a physical wall on the southern border." The E.O. defines "wall" to mean "a contiguous, physical wall or other similarly secure, contiguous, and impassable physical barrier." (Sec. 3(e)).

The E.O. also addresses other aspects of the border enforcement program that would have significant environmental effects. For example, Section 5 directs the DHS Secretary to "take all appropriate action and allocate all legally available resources to immediately construct, operate, control, or establish contracts to construct, operate, or control facilities to detain aliens at or near the border with Mexico," Section 8 directs the DHS Secretary, through the CBP Commissioner, "to hire 5,000 additional [CBP] agents," and to take "all appropriate action to ensure such agents enter on duty and are assigned to duty stations as soon as is practicable," and Section 12 of the E.O. authorizes DHS to enter federal lands, including National Parks, National Forests, Wilderness areas, and other protected federal lands, without constraint.

C. Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitat in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands

Although DHS has not conducted programmatic ESA consultation on its southern border enforcement program, the agency's predecessor INS did consider listed species during the previous programmatic NEPA analyses. Those NEPA documents confirm that the U.S.-Mexico borderland area (specifically, the 50-mile zone considered as the "action area") harbors great plant and wildlife diversity generally, as well as a high concentration of threatened and endangered species. The domestic ranges of many listed species are restricted solely to the southern borderlands regions, including the jaguar—largest cat species in the Americas.

Since the preparation of the 2001 SPEIS, several additional species have been listed under the ESA, including the yellow-billed cuckoo (western DPS) and Chiricahua leopard frog. In addition, FWS has finalized ESA critical habitat designations within 50 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border for 27 species since 2001:

i. Otay tarplant (threatened): 67 Fed. Reg. 76,030 (Dec. 10, 2002);

ii. Cushenbury oxytheca (endangered): 67 Fed. Reg. 78,570 (Dec. 24, 2002);

iii. Mexican spotted owl (threatened): 69 Fed. Reg. 53,182 (Aug. 31, 2004);

iv. Gila Chub (endangered): 70 Fed. Reg. 66,664 (Nov. 2, 2005);

v. Laguna Mountains skipper (endangered): 71 Fed. Reg. 74,592 (Dec. 12, 2006);

vi. Mexican flannelbush (endangered): 72 Fed. Reg. 54,984 (Sept. 27, 2007);

vii. San Diego fairy shrimp (endangered): 72 Fed. Reg. 70,648 (Dec. 12, 2007);

viii. Coastal California gnatcatcher (threatened): 72 Fed. Reg. 72,010 (Dec. 19, 2007);

ix. Peirson's milk-vetch (threatened): 73 Fed. Reg. 8,748 (Feb. 14, 2008);

x. Devils River minnow (threatened): 73 Fed. Reg. 46,988 (Aug. 12, 2008);

xi. San Bernardino bluegrass (endangered): 73 Fed. Reg. 47,706 (Aug. 14, 2008);

xii. San Diego thornmint (threatened): 73 Fed. Reg. 50,454 (Aug. 26, 2008);

xiii. Bighorn sheep (peninsular ranges DPS) (endangered): 74 Fed. Reg. 17,288 (April 14, 2009);

xiv. Piping plover (Texas wintering population) (threatened): 74 Fed. Reg. 23,476 (May 19, 2009);

xv. Quino checkerspot butterfly (endangered): 74 Fed. Reg. 28,776 (June 17, 2009);

xvi. Spreading navarretia (threatened): 75 Fed. Reg. 62,192 (Oct. 7, 2010);

xvii. San Diego ambrosia (endangered): 75 Fed. Reg. 74,546 (Nov. 30, 2010);

xviii. Thread-leaved brodiaea (threatened): 76 Fed. Reg. 6,848 (Feb. 8, 2011)

xix. Arroyo toad (endangered): 76 Fed. Reg. 7,245 (Feb. 9, 2011);

xx. Willowy monardella (endangered): 77 Fed. Reg. 13,394 (March 6, 2012);

xxi. Chiricahua leopard frog (threatened): 77 Fed. Reg. 16,324 (March 20, 2012);

xxii. Western snowy plover (Pacific DPS) (threatened): 77 Fed. Reg. 36,728 (June 19, 2012);

xxiii. Riverside fairy shrimp (endangered): 77 Fed. Reg. 72,070 (Dec. 4, 2012);

xxiv. Southwestern willow flycatcher (endangered): 78 Fed. Reg. 344 (Jan. 3, 2013);

xxv. Tidewater goby (endangered): 78 Fed. Reg. 8,746 (Feb. 12, 2013);

xxvi. Jaguar (endangered): 79 Fed. Reg. 12,572 (March 5, 2014);

xxvii. Acuna cactus (endangered): 81 Fed. Reg. 55,266 (August 18, 2016)

Nearly all of these 27 species with newly designated critical habitat rely on habitat in both the United States and Mexico, and DHS operations undertaken as part of the southern border enforcement program have been documented to negatively impair many of the species. *See, e.g.* Peirson's milkvetch (construction and maintenance of facilities by USBP, and other monitoring and enforcement activities of USBP involving vehicular operations on the Dunes, having negative impacts); jaguar (special management considerations needed "to alleviate the effects of border-related activities, allowing for some level of permeability so that jaguars may pass through the U.S.-Mexico border"); acuna cactus (recommending that USBP "minimize construction of new border control facilities, roads, towers, or fences"; special management considerations needed to address off-road border-related human disturbances); arroyo toad (borderlands subunit "may require special management considerations or protection to address threats from [USBP] activities").

D. DHS's Violations of the Endangered Species Act

Consultation under Section 7 is required whenever a discretionary agency action "may affect" any listed species or its critical habitat.[29] ESA implementing regulations define "action" as "all activities *or programs* of any kind authorized, funded, or carried out . . . by Federal agencies."[30] It is unquestionable that the DHS southern border enforcement program directly, indirectly, and cumulatively impacts many threatened and endangered species. Despite the clear presence of many listed species, the documented impact of DHS border enforcement activities on many of those species, and the significant number of new species listing and new critical habitat designations for threatened and endangered species within the borderlands, DHS has failed to initiate or complete ESA section 7 (a)(2) consultation with FWS in order to ensure that the ongoing implementation of the southern border enforcement program does not jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or adversely modify or destroy the designated critical habitat for any of those species.

In addition, DHS has failed to take any affirmative action to conserve the many threatened and endangered species impacted by its southern border enforcement program. Accordingly, DHS is violating Section 7 (a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the ESA.

E. Conclusion

Thank you for your attention to the allegations contained in this notice letter. Should DHS fail to remedy these violations of law within 60 days, the Center for Biological Diversity intends to pursue this matter in Federal District Court. Please contact Brian Segee at (805) 750-8852 should you wish to discuss this notice letter in further detail.

Sincerely Yours,

Brian Segee, Senior Attorney
Center for Biological Diversity
P.O. Box 1646
Ojai, CA 93024
(805) 750-8852
bsegee@biologicaldiversity.org

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[29] 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)(2); 50 C.F.R. § 402.14(a)
[30] 50 C.F.R. § 402.02 (emphasis added)

From: Willey, Seth
To: Gina Shultz; Wellman, Lois
Subject: Fwd: Call for Agenda Items for 04/20/17 Call
Date: Monday, April 17, 2017 8:58:39 PM

Hey Gina and Lois,

Here are a few items I'd love to hear about on the ARD call:

- update on hiring, details, and laterals
- process for energy, infrastructure, and border wall HQ review
- FY17 budget, shutdown prospects, & FY18 budget

HQ perspectives always helpful.

Thanks,
Seth

****
Seth L. Willey
Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
Southwest Region, USFWS
Seth_Willey@fws.gov
Work: 505-248-6492
Cell: 505-697-7600
****

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Wellman, Lois** <lois_wellman@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Apr 17, 2017 at 12:45 PM
Subject: Call for Agenda Items for 04/20/17 Call
To: Gary Frazer <gary_frazer@fws.gov>, "Shultz, Gina" <Gina_Shultz@fws.gov>, Kayla Miller <kayla_miller@fws.gov>, Martha BalisLarsen <Martha_BalisLarsen@fws.gov>, Jeff Newman <jeff_newman@fws.gov>, Craig Aubrey <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>, Bridget Fahey <Bridget_Fahey@fws.gov>, FWS ES Deputy ARDs <fws_es_deputy_ards@fws.gov>, FWS ES Regional ARDs <fws_es_regional_ards@fws.gov>

Please send any agenda items to Gina and me by COB on Wednesday, April 19 for the ARD call to be held Thursday, April 20.

Thanks,

Lois

--
Lois Wellman
AES Special Assistant
Office of the Assistant Director for Ecological Services
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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Washington, DC 20240
Lois_Wellman@fws.gov
(202)208-4646 office
(202)208-5618 fax

From:	Wellman, Lois
To:	Gary Frazer; Shultz, Gina; FWS ES Deputy ARDs; FWS ES Regional ARDs; Bridget Fahey; Martha BalisLarsen; Craig Aubrey; Jeff Newman; Kayla Miller
Subject:	Slightly Revised Agenda for ARD call
Date:	Thursday, April 20, 2017 8:03:31 AM
Attachments:	ES ARD Monthly Call Agenda 042017.doc

Thanks for your patience.

Lois

--

Lois Wellman
AES Special Assistant
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Ecological Services Assistant Regional Director Monthly Call

Thursday, April 20 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST

Agenda

Phone Number: 866-712-9351

Passcode: 476832

I. Opening Remarks – Gary

II. FY17 Budget, Shutdown Prospects and FY18 Budget - Gary

III. De/Down Listing Work Plan – Gary

IV. Update on Energy, Infrastructure, and Border Wall Departmental Review - Gary

V. Update on Changes to the Unified Agenda – Gina

VI. Department Review of Grants and Cooperative Agreements – Gina

VII. Update on Hiring, Details, and Laterals – Gina

VIII. Update on June ARD Meeting in Alaska - Mary

IX. Regional Updates – All

From:	Baker, Denise
To:	Craig Aubrey; Ben Thatcher; Lisa Ellis
Subject:	A question on guidance for normal non-controversial actions or controversial actions (infrastructure, energy, border wall)
Date:	Friday, May 5, 2017 6:52:01 PM
Attachments:	65456 ER 17_0104 Caddo Lake Attachment v6 clean.docx 65566 ER 15_0108 Bois d Arc Reservoir Ltr v.3.docx

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Hi Folks,

We have comments on two Environmental Review proposed projects ready to submit to OEPC. Before we submit for inclusion in the DOI comments, I want to run our comments by you to determine if they need HQ review. Such as, are the Service's comments considered controversial?

Based on the interim guidance on energy, infrastructure and border wall projects from Gary Frazer on the April ARD call, we believe our comments on these two proposed projects won't result in significant delays or increases to the cost of either project, or be considered controversial or politically sensitive, e.g. Mx wolves, LPC, ABB, and/or be brought to the attention of the Secretary's office.

The summaries are provided below. Service comments on both are due to OEPC by May 8, 2017.

ER 17/0104: Review of Notice of Application for Preliminary Permit for Hydropower production, Caddo Dam Hydroelectric Project on Cypress Bayou, FERC No. 14838-000, Louisiana. Because this is a preliminary permit and the study design and operational schedule are currently incomplete, our comments are general. The Service's draft response is attached.

ER 15/0108 Review of Revised Draft EIS for the proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir project, Fannin County, TX. The Service, Ecological Services Arlington, TX field office is a Cooperating Agency and has been engaged with the Corps of Engineers the past several years to evaluate the proposed project and coordinate mitigation requirements. Our review and comments address why the proposed mitigation plan does not fully compensate for the fish, wildlife and migratory bird habitat loss, and likely result in a net loss of fish and wildlife resources.

Thanks,

Denise Baker
Division Chief, Environmental Review
Ecological Services, Southwest Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103
505-248-6681, mobile 505-681-6387

From:	Thatcher, Ben
To:	Craig Aubrey
Cc:	Lisa Ellis
Subject:	Fwd: A question on guidance for normal non-controversial actions or controversial actions (infrastructure, energy, border wall)
Date:	Monday, May 8, 2017 8:20:14 AM

Craig: I looked at these. They seem to be fairly standard. I wouldn't think that they would rise to the level of needing to be briefed up. And they are due today.

-Ben

****
Benjamin S. Thatcher, Ph.D.
Chief, Branch of Environmental Review
Ecological Services Program
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2171 (general)
703-358-2060 (direct)
ben_thatcher@fws.gov
website
****

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Baker, Denise** <denise_baker@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, May 5, 2017 at 6:51 PM
Subject: A question on guidance for normal non-controversial actions or controversial actions (infrastructure, energy, border wall)
To: Craig Aubrey <Craig_Aubrey@fws.gov>, Ben Thatcher <ben_thatcher@fws.gov>, Lisa Ellis <lisa_ellis@fws.gov>

Hi Folks,

We have comments on two Environmental Review proposed projects ready to submit to OEPC. Before we submit for inclusion in the DOI comments, I want to run our comments by you to determine if they need HQ review. Such as, are the Service's comments considered controversial?

Based on the interim guidance on energy, infrastructure and border wall projects from Gary Frazer on the April ARD call, we believe our comments on these two proposed projects won't result in significant delays or increases to the cost of either project, or be considered controversial or politically sensitive, e.g. Mx wolves, LPC, ABB, and/or be brought to the attention of the Secretary's office.

The summaries are provided below. Service comments on both are due to OEPC by May 8, 2017.

ER 17/0104: Review of Notice of Application for Preliminary Permit for Hydropower production, Caddo Dam Hydroelectric Project on Cypress Bayou, FERC No. 14838-000, Louisiana. Because this is a preliminary permit and the study design and operational schedule are currently incomplete, our comments are general. The Service's draft response is attached.

ER 15/0108 Review of Revised Draft EIS for the proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir project, Fannin County, TX. The Service, Ecological Services Arlington, TX field office is a Cooperating Agency and has been engaged with the Corps of Engineers the past several years to evaluate the proposed project and coordinate mitigation requirements. Our review and comments address why the proposed mitigation plan does not fully compensate for the fish, wildlife and migratory bird habitat loss, and likely result in a net loss of fish and wildlife resources.

Thanks,

Denise Baker
Division Chief, Environmental Review
Ecological Services, Southwest Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103
505-248-6681, mobile 505-681-6387

From:	Baker, Denise
To:	Aubrey, Craig
Cc:	Ben Thatcher; Lisa Ellis
Subject:	Re: A question on guidance for normal non-controversial actions or controversial actions (infrastructure, energy, border wall)
Date:	Monday, May 8, 2017 9:44:04 AM

Craig,

The Lower Bois d'Arc is not on the list of major infrastructure projects. Look forward to your call. You can always reach me on my cell: 505-681-6387.

Thanks,

Denise Baker
Division Chief, Environmental Review
Ecological Services, Southwest Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103
505-248-6681, mobile 505-681-6387

On Mon, May 8, 2017 at 7:00 AM, Aubrey, Craig <craig_aubrey@fws.gov> wrote:

> Denise, the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir project strikes me as one that should probably be briefed up. The draft guidance that Gary worked out with Casey was for projects that were on that infrastructure list that had been put forward earlier this year (was this one on it) or where our comments would result in sig costs or delays to the project. Seems like the applicant would argue sig costs.
>
> I also want to spk to you about ythe comments for a sec, but have a mtg starting in a few. I'll call u later.
>
> Craig
>
> Craig W. Aubrey
> Chief, Division of Environmental Review
> Ecological Services Program
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
> Ecological Services, MS: ES
> 5275 Leesburg Pike
> Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
> 703-358-2171 (general)
> 703-358-2442 (direct)
>
> On Fri, May 5, 2017 at 6:51 PM, Baker, Denise <denise_baker@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hi Folks,
> >
> > We have comments on two Environmental Review proposed projects ready to submit to OEPC. Before we submit for inclusion in the DOI comments, I want to run our comments

by you to determine if they need HQ review. Such as, are the Service's comments considered controversial?

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Thanks,

Denise Baker
Division Chief, Environmental Review
Ecological Services, Southwest Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103
505-248-6681, mobile 505-681-6387

From:	Miller, Kayla
To:	Nikki Randolph
Cc:	Charisa Morris
Subject:	Updating Hard Copy Briefing Papers
Date:	Wednesday, May 31, 2017 10:39:24 AM
Attachments:	FR2897 CBP Reopening comment period on five proposed rules target date update.docx FR2902 CBP Iiwi target date update.docx FR2917 CBP Region 4 Recovery Permit Apps target date update.docx FR2922 CBP R6 recovery permits target date update.docx FR2931 CBP Aleutian shield fern target date update.docx FR2933 CBP St. Sebastian Preserve HCP target date update.docx FR2940 CBP Oregon Silverspot Butterfly 10J Final rule target date update.docx FR2952 CBP R4 5 year review for 23 species target date update.docx FR2962 CBP LCRA Transmission HCP target date update.docx FR2782 CBP Polar Bear SARs target date update.docx FR2785 CBP Barton Springs HCP target date update.docx FR2808 CBP Pima pineapple cactus recovery plan target date update.docx FR2839 CBP Giant Garter Snake recovery plan target date update.docx FR2870 CBP Louisiana Pinesnake CCAA target date update.docx FR2895 CBP Curletti Farm Housing Project LEHCP target date update.docx

---

Hello Nikki and Charisa,

These are the ES briefing papers with updated target dates. I have uploaded most briefing papers to DTS, but did not have editing rights to FR2922. I also attached the updated briefing papers to this email because I figured it would be easier to print and replace in hard copy packages (as Tina Campbell suggested she and Charisa discussed yesterday).

<u>At Exec Sec</u>
FR2782 Polar Bear SARs
FR2895 Curletti Farm Project HCP
FR2897 Reopening of Comment Period on Five Proposed Rules
FR2917 Region 4 Recovery Permits (First Arkansas Highway)
FR2785 Barton Springs Salamander HCP
FR2808 Pima Pineapple Cactus Draft Recovery Plan
FR2922 Region 6 Recovery Permits (ERO First)
FR2933 St. Sebastian HCP
FR2931 Aleutian Shielf Fern 5-year-review

<u>At Fish, Wildlife, and Parks</u>
FR2839 Giant Garter Snake recovery plan
FR2870 Louisiana Pinesnake CCAA
FR2940 Oregon Silverspot Butterfly 10j population
FR2962 Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) HCP

<u>In Casey Hammond's Office</u>
FR2902 I'iwi final rule threatened listing
FR2952 Region 4 5-year review of 23 species

Thanks for your help and let me know if I can do anything to assist you.

Kayla

--

Knauss Fellow 2017-2018
Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Director, Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-1898

Briefing Paper for Departmental Clearance of Federal Register Documents

I. Title of document: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Pima Pineapple Cactus Draft Recovery Plan

II. Popular short name, if applicable: Pima Pineapple Cactus Draft Recovery Plan

III. DCN: FR00002808

IV. RIN (for rules) or notice tracking number (for notices): FWS–R2–ES–2016–N203

V. Summary: We announce that our Pima pineapple cactus draft recovery plan is available. The cactus is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. This plant species is currently found in southern Arizona and in northern Sonora, Mexico. The draft recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to enable us to remove this species from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants. A proposed border wall is not anticipated to impede the recovery of the Pima pineapple cactus. We request that local, State, and Federal agencies, Tribes, and the public review and comment. We will also accept any new species status information throughout its range to assist with recovery plan finalization.

VI. Is timing critical? ☐Yes ☒ No

a. What is the target date, and (if applicable) "no later than" (NLT) date, for the FR document to clear DOI? Target date 6/02/2017

b. What is driving the timing?

c. What happens if the deadline is missed?

VII. Background: Section 4(f) of the Act requires us to provide public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment during recovery plan development. The draft recovery plan focuses on conserving and enhancing habitat quality, protecting the population, managing threats, monitoring progress, and building partnerships to facilitate recovery. We invite written comments on the draft recovery plan. In particular, we are interested in additional information regarding the current threats to the species and the costs associated with implementing the recommended recovery actions.

VIII. Is this a **high-profile** or **controversial** action? ☐Yes ☒ No

a. What are the **significant issues**?

b. **Who will care**, and **how strongly** will they care?

IX. Communications: Dear Interested Party letters will be sent out.

X. Is there an information collection associated with this document? ☐ Yes ☒ No

a. Does the document have any approved OMB control number? ☐Yes ☐ No

If yes, the OMB control number is:

a. Does the document require ☐ a new OMB control number or ☐renewal of an existing approval?

If a new number or renewal is required, what is the current status?

XI. For rulemaking actions only: Has this action, in its current stage, been on a 90-day List? ☐Yes ☐No

If yes, on which 90-day List did it first appear in its current stage? N/A

Did OIRA provide comments or change the significance? ☐Yes ☐No

If yes, summarize comments and resolution: N/A

XII. Approval is requested to send the document to:

☒ The Office of the Federal Register for publication, or

☐OIRA for review.

XIII. Primary contact:

Name: Sarah E. Rinkevich
Phone: 520-670-6150, x237
Email: sarah_rinkevich@fws.gov

From:	Randolph, Nikki
To:	Donnise Hancock
Subject:	Fwd: Updating Hard Copy Briefing Papers
Date:	Wednesday, May 31, 2017 10:46:54 AM
Attachments:	FR2897 CBP Reopening comment period on five proposed rules target date update.docx FR2902 CBP Iiwi target date update.docx FR2917 CBP Region 4 Recovery Permit Apps target date update.docx FR2922 CBP R6 recovery permits target date update.docx FR2931 CBP Aleutian shield fern target date update.docx FR2933 CBP St. Sebastian Preserve HCP target date update.docx FR2940 CBP Oregon Silverspot Butterfly 10J Final rule target date update.docx FR2952 CBP R4 5 year review for 23 species target date update.docx FR2962 CBP LCRA Transmission HCP target date update.docx FR2782 CBP Polar Bear SARs target date update.docx FR2785 CBP Barton Springs HCP target date update.docx FR2808 CBP Pima pineapple cactus recovery plan target date update.docx FR2839 CBP Giant Garter Snake recovery plan target date update.docx FR2870 CBP Louisiana Pinesnake CCAA target date update.docx FR2895 CBP Curletti Farm Housing Project LEHCP target date update.docx

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HOT PROJECT
See message below.

I need you t to print out all these Briefing Papers then track down the hard copy packages and replace the old BP with the new BP.

If you can get this done this afternoon... awesome! Especially the ones up in EX SEC.

Thanks! :)

Send me an email when it's done

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Miller, Kayla** <kayla_miller@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, May 31, 2017 at 1:39 PM
Subject: Updating Hard Copy Briefing Papers
To: Nikki Randolph <Nikki_Randolph@fws.gov>
Cc: Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>

Hello Nikki and Charisa,

These are the ES briefing papers with updated target dates. I have uploaded most briefing papers to DTS, but did not have editing rights to FR2922. I also attached the updated briefing papers to this email because I figured it would be easier to print and replace in hard copy packages (as Tina Campbell suggested she and Charisa discussed yesterday).

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Thanks for your help and let me know if I can do anything to assist you.

Kayla
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Knauss Fellow 2017-2018
Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Director, Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-1898

--
Nikki S. Randolph
Chief, CCU
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
202-208-7535

> *"It's my Life. it's now or never, I ain't gonna live forever, I just wanna live while I am alive....." My hero... JBJ*

Briefing Paper for Departmental Clearance of Federal Register Documents

I. Title of document: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Pima Pineapple Cactus Draft Recovery Plan

II. Popular short name, if applicable: Pima Pineapple Cactus Draft Recovery Plan

III. DCN: FR00002808

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a. Does the document require ☐ a new OMB control number or ☐renewal of an existing approval?

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If yes, summarize comments and resolution: N/A

XII. Approval is requested to send the document to:

☒ The Office of the Federal Register for publication, or

☐OIRA for review.

XIII. Primary contact:

Name: Sarah E. Rinkevich
Phone: 520-670-6150, x237
Email: sarah_rinkevich@fws.gov

From: Gilbert, Parks
To: Craig Aubrey; Bridget Fahey; Patrice Ashfield; Carey Galst; Ben Thatcher; John Morse; Joan Goldfarb; Nancy Brown-Kobil; Barbara Amidon; Clinedinst, Paula (ENRD); Floom, Kristen (ENRD)
Subject: NOI: border wall prototypes / Sec. 7
Date: Friday, June 2, 2017 4:36:22 PM

All,

Please find linked below an NOI that CBD sent to DHS and Customs and Border Protection yesterday We are not named at this time DHS and CBP have put out RFPs for prototypes for border wall segments in San Diego County CBD's letter alleges that DHS and CBP did not consult with us under Sec 7 on the projects, nor did they comply with NEPA Apparently, the projects could affect many listed species and CH such as coastal CA flycatcher, San Diego and Riverside fairy shrimp, Otay tarplant, and Quino checkerspot butterfly

http://www biologicaldiversity org/programs/international/borderlands_and_boundary_waters/pdfs/Border_wall_prototype_ESA_and_NEPA_NOI_2017_06_01 pdf

Thank you,

Parks

Parks Gilbert
ESA Litigation Specialist
Branch of Listing Policy and Support, Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:ES
Falls Church, VA 22041
703/358-1758
parks_gilbert@fws gov

From:	Aubrey, Craig
To:	Gary Frazer; Gina Shultz; Michael Fris; Michael Senn
Subject:	Fwd: NOI: border wall prototypes / Sec. 7
Date:	Tuesday, June 6, 2017 10:33:45 AM

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forwarding b/c it regards a presidential priority.

Craig

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Gilbert, Parks** <parks_gilbert@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Jun 2, 2017 at 4:35 PM
Subject: NOI: border wall prototypes / Sec. 7
To: Craig Aubrey <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>, Bridget Fahey <bridget_fahey@fws.gov>, Patrice Ashfield <patrice_ashfield@fws.gov>, Carey Galst <Carey_Galst@fws.gov>, Ben Thatcher <ben_thatcher@fws.gov>, John Morse <john_morse@fws.gov>, Joan Goldfarb <Joan.Goldfarb@sol.doi.gov>, Nancy Brown-Kobil <Nancy.Brown-Kobil@sol.doi.gov>, Barbara Amidon <barbara_amidon@fws.gov>, "Clinedinst, Paula (ENRD)" <Paula.Clinedinst@usdoj.gov>, "Floom, Kristen (ENRD)" <kristen.floom@usdoj.gov>

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http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/programs/international/borderlands_and_boundary_waters/pdfs/Border_wall_prototype_ESA_and_NEPA_NOI_2017_06_01.pdf

Thank you,

Parks

Parks Gilbert
ESA Litigation Specialist
Branch of Listing Policy and Support, Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:ES
Falls Church, VA 22041
703/358-1758
parks_gilbert@fws.gov

From: Miller, Kayla
To: Nikki Randolph
Cc: Charisa Morris
Subject: Updating Hard Copy Briefing Papers
Date: Monday, June 12, 2017 8:18:20 AM
Attachments: FR2785 CBP Barton Springs HCP target date update.docx
FR2931 CBP Aleutian shield fern target date update.docx
FR2933 CBP St. Sebastian Preserve HCP target date update.docx
FR2782 CBP Polar Bear SARs target date update.docx
FR2808 CBP Pima pineapple cactus recovery plan target date update.docx
FR2895 CBP Curletti Farm Housing Project LEHCP target date update.docx
FR2693 CBP Hualapai Mexican Vole target date update.docx
FR2940 CBP Oregon Silverspot Butterfly 10J Final rule target date update.docx
FR2972 CBP Greater Yellowstone Grizzly target date updated.docx
FR2980 CBP Texas Hornshell CCAA v2 updated target date.docx

Hi Nikki,

Attached are the ES briefing papers with updated target dates. I have uploaded these versions to DTS. They are also listed below with location.

Exec Sec
FR2785 Barton Springs salamander HCP
FR2931 Aleutian Shield Fern 5-year review
FR2933 St. Sebastian Preserve HCP
FR2782 Polar Bear Stock Assessment Reports
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FR2693 Hualapai Mexican Vole
FR2972 Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem grizzly delisting

Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
FR2940 Oregon Silverspot Butterfly 10j poopulation

Casey Hammond's Office
FR2980 Texas Hornshell CCAA

Thanks,
Kayla

--
Knauss Fellow 2017-2018
Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Director, Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-1898

Briefing Paper for Departmental Clearance of Federal Register Documents

I. Title of document: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Pima Pineapple Cactus Draft Recovery Plan

II. Popular short name, if applicable: Pima Pineapple Cactus Draft Recovery Plan

III. DCN: FR00002808

IV. RIN (for rules) or notice tracking number (for notices): FWS–R2–ES–2016–N203

V. Summary: We announce that our Pima pineapple cactus draft recovery plan is available. The cactus is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. This plant species is currently found in southern Arizona and in northern Sonora, Mexico. The draft recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to enable us to remove this species from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants. A proposed border wall is not anticipated to impede the recovery of the Pima pineapple cactus. We request that local, State, and Federal agencies, Tribes, and the public review and comment. We will also accept any new species status information throughout its range to assist with recovery plan finalization.

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b. What is driving the timing?

c. What happens if the deadline is missed?

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Did OIRA provide comments or change the significance? ☐Yes ☐No

If yes, summarize comments and resolution: N/A

XII. Approval is requested to send the document to:

☒ The Office of the Federal Register for publication, or

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XIII. Primary contact:

Name: Sarah E. Rinkevich
Phone: 520-670-6150, x237
Email: sarah_rinkevich@fws.gov

From:	Randolph, Nikki
To:	Donnise Hancock
Cc:	Morris, Charisa; Miller, Kayla
Subject:	Fwd: Updating Hard Copy Briefing Papers
Date:	Monday, June 12, 2017 8:24:11 AM
Attachments:	FR2785 CBP Barton Springs HCP target date update.docx FR2931 CBP Aleutian shield fern target date update.docx FR2933 CBP St. Sebastian Preserve HCP target date update.docx FR2782 CBP Polar Bear SARs target date update.docx FR2808 CBP Pima pineapple cactus recovery plan target date update.docx FR2895 CBP Curletti Farm Housing Project LEHCP target date update.docx FR2693 CBP Hualapai Mexican Vole target date update.docx FR2940 CBP Oregon Silverspot Butterfly 10J Final rule target date update.docx FR2972 CBP Greater Yellowstone Grizzly target date updated.docx FR2980 CBP Texas Hornshell CCAA v2 updated target date.docx

---

Please see below.. These packages all need to be updated Please get this done immediately and let me know when its complete.
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Miller, Kayla** <kayla_miller@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Jun 12, 2017 at 11:18 AM
Subject: Updating Hard Copy Briefing Papers
To: Nikki Randolph <Nikki_Randolph@fws.gov>
Cc: Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov>

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a. What are the **significant issues**?

b. **Who will care**, and **how strongly** will they care?

IX. Communications: Dear Interested Party letters will be sent out.

X. Is there an information collection associated with this document? ☐ Yes ☒ No

a. Does the document have any approved OMB control number? ☐Yes ☐ No

If yes, the OMB control number is:

a. Does the document require ☐ a new OMB control number or ☐renewal of an existing approval?

If a new number or renewal is required, what is the current status?

XI. For rulemaking actions only: Has this action, in its current stage, been on a 90-day List? ☐Yes ☐No

If yes, on which 90-day List did it first appear in its current stage? N/A

Did OIRA provide comments or change the significance? ☐Yes ☐No

If yes, summarize comments and resolution: N/A

XII. Approval is requested to send the document to:

☒ The Office of the Federal Register for publication, or

☐OIRA for review.

XIII. Primary contact:

Name: Sarah E. Rinkevich
Phone: 520-670-6150, x237
Email: sarah_rinkevich@fws.gov

From:	Aubrey, Craig
To:	Andrew Raabe; Ben Thatcher; Catherine Liller; Cheryl Amrani; Chris Tanner; Christy JohnsonHughes; Frankie Green; George Noguchi; Jason Miller; Jeffrey Herod; John Morse; Karen Myers; Kathryn Bissell; Keith Paul; Leona Laniawe; Mark Pavelka; Moira McKernan; Nancy Golden; Patrice Ashfield; Rachel London; Rosemary Burk; Sara Pollack; Stephanie Nash; Tori Foster; Janice Engle
Subject:	Significant Decisions Memorandum
Date:	Tuesday, June 13, 2017 1:23:50 PM
Attachments:	Consolidated Major Projects 031717.docx Memorandum-Significant decisions-5-31-17 (1).docx Zinke Grants Coop Agreements (1) (1) (1).pdf Correspondence Memo template.docx 065804 Signed.pdf

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Folks have been waiting fro this

Craig

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line (B2H)

Project Sponsor: Idaho Power Company

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission Line
- **Lead Agency:** Department of Energy
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Oregon and Idaho
- **Estimated Cost: >$**100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 1
- **Field Office:** Oregon FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Ongoing involvement is primarily technical assistance, guidance, and coordination to facilitate completion of other permitting agencies' (BLM and State of Oregon) review and decision-making processes and, in the longer term (if applicable), assisting the project sponsor and agencies in effectively constructing and implementing the project.
- **Project Timeline:** Formal regulatory review and findings (ESA section 7 consultation) completed January 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: BPA I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project

Project Sponsor: Bonneville Power Administration

Project Description

- **Sector:** Restoration
- **Lead Agency:** Bonneville Power Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Washington
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 1
- **Field Office:** Washington FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS expects next steps in ESA Section 7 consultation to occur once BPA delivers additional field information to quantify impacts to habitat for listed species, impacts to other completed ESA Section 7 consultations, and details of mitigation planning to offset impacts to listed species.
- **Project Timeline:** BPA and FWS staff are waiting for guidance from BPA management on whether to complete the project planning or terminate the project. This direction is anticipated in May 2017. Completion of the consultation will take approximately 6 weeks following receipt of this information from BPA.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Jordan Cove-Pacific Connector LNG Terminal and Pipeline (JCPC)

Project Sponsor: Veresen Inc. and Williams Gas Pipeline Company

Project Description

- **Sector:** Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC Docket No. PF17-4
- **Location:** Oregon
- **Estimated Cost: >$**100 million
- **Other:** Pipeline wholly within Oregon; LNG export component of project is FERC nexus.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 1
- **Field Office:** Oregon FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS currently minimally involved because 1) project is in FERC pre-filing stage and 2) materials from FWS technical assistance and review of previous versions of the project remain applicable. Future FWS involvement will primarily entail ESA section 7 consultation with permitting agencies (FERC, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, USDA Forest Service and BLM), including technical assistance for development of those agencies' biological assessment (BA), review and approval of the BA, and analyses and determinations in a FWS Biological Opinion. These activities are anticipated to begin later in FY2017 or early FY2018. However, specific timing, substance, and outcomes of this involvement are contingent on FERC-controlled schedule and on disclosure by FERC and JCPC of new information about project details, impacts, and conservation measures compared to previous iterations of the project.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS involvement will continue into 2018

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Millennium Bulk Terminals Coal Export Terminal

Project Sponsor: Millenium Bulk Terminals Longview LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Washington
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 1**
- **Field Office:** Washington FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS received a Biological Assessment and consultation request on 1/25/2017, but upon review determined that it did not concur with all of the effect determinations and that the information provided is insufficient for initiating formal consultation. FWS is in the process of communicating information needs to the applicant and ACOE in the form of a non-concurrence letter. Once the necessary information is received FWS will initiate consultation. Consultation should conclude in 135 days.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Rota Harbor Modification Feasibility Study

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Rota Island, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands
- **Estimated Cost: >$**100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 1
- **Field Office:** Pacific Islands FWO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Currently minimal because project is in the initial Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act investigation phase. Due date to complete the feasibility study is June 2017, assuming there are no extensions.
- **Project Timeline**: Unknown due to project status, but likely no sooner than June 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Skookumchuck Wind Energy Project

Project Sponsor: Renewable Energy Systems (RES)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Lewis and Thurston counties**,** Washington
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** The project site is on private timberlands owned by the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company. Approximately 50 wind turbines are anticipated at this site.

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 1**
- **Field Office:** Washington FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS is involved because RES desires an ESA Section 10 Incidental Take Permit for the marbled murrelet, and also a bald and golden eagle permit. FWS has been providing technical assistance for their Habitat Conservation Plan for approximately one year. This spring, FWS is planning to publish a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register to conduct public scoping for an Environmental Impact Statement.
- **Project Timeline:** RES states they would like project completion in 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Tinian Harbor Modification Feasibility Study

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Tinian Island, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands
- **Estimated Cost: >$**100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 1
- **Field Office:** Pacific Islands FWO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Currently minimal because project is in the initial Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act investigation phase. Due date to complete the feasibility study is June 2017, assuming there are no extensions.
- **Project Timeline**: Unknown due to project status, but likely no sooner than June 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan (Integrated Plan)

Project Sponsor: Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (WDOE).

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water Supply
- **Lead Agency:** BOR and WDOE
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Yakima River Basin, Washington
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 1**
- **Field Office:** Washington FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS has been working with BOR and the WDOE regarding the Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan (Integrated Plan) since 2011. The Integrated Plan is a 30-year comprehensive plan that addresses a variety of water resource and ecosystem issues affecting fish passage; habitat; and agricultural, municipal, and domestic water supplies in the Yakima River basin. Due to long term nature and the size and complexity of the Integrated Plan, a phased approach to the implementation of the Integrated Plan is required. Individual projects advanced as part of the Integrated Plan are tiered to the Program-level consultation, NEPA, and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report. To date, several "early action" projects have been implemented from 2013 to 2016. These include: (1) irrigation diversion consolidations, (2) geotechnical drilling investigations, (3) water bank transfers, (4) Cle Elum Pool Raise, and (5) habitat improvement projects
- **Project Timeline:** Ongoing until 2043.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: North South Corridor

Project Sponsor: Arizona Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Maricopa, Pinal, and Pima counties, Arizona
- **Estimated Cost:** Anticipated costs > $100 million, planning and construction combined
- **Other:** The Federal Highway Administration and Arizona Department of Transportation are currently conducting the environmental review under the NEPA process for the proposed North South Corridor Project which entails the construction of a new freeway from the Town of Picacho, located between Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona, to Apache Junction, located east of Phoenix, Arizona. The project is designed to accommodate traffic increases between Tucson and Phoenix. The North South Corridor project has been in the planning stages since 2013.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** Arizona ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS is a Cooperating Agency under NEPA, providing technical assistance on avoiding and minimizing impacts to trust resources. There will likely be a need for ESA section 7 consultation later in the planning process.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown, early in planning process.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Second Access to South Padre Island

Project Sponsor: Texas Department of Transportation, and Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FHWA-TX-EIS-09-02-D
- **Location:** South Padre Island over Laguna Madre, Cameron County to Willacy County, Texas
- **Estimated Cost:** The 2015 Final EIS estimated project cost at $631,350,000
- **Other:** Length of the proposed bridge, including approach roads is 17 miles, extending from the mainland location at FM 510 in Cameron County across the Laguna Madre to connection with State Park Road 100/Ocean Boulevard on South Padre Island.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS will review NEPA and Clean Water Act 404 permit documents. FWS will also complete a consultation for the US Army Corp of Engineers under section 7 of the ESA.
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipate receipt of Biological Assessment to initiate section 7 consultation in 3-6 months.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: World Trade International Bridge Expansion in Laredo, Texas

Project Sponsor: City of Laredo and bridge owner

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** State Department, International Boundary and Water Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Rio Grande at Laredo, Webb County, TX
- **Estimated Cost:** The total cost of this project will be over $100,000,000 based upon the following estimates: 2015 Texas Department of Transportation report on Texas-Mexico International Bridges, estimates cost for the GSA facilities at over $19.5 million and the roadway improvement costs related to the World Trade International Bridge were estimated at approximately $93 million.
- **Other:** The plan includes expanding the current 8 lanes to 16 lanes in order to expedite the flow of goods across the border and reduce traffic congestion. Alongside the improvements of the World Trade Bridge; exit lanes to Bob Bullock-Loop 20 and Interstate 35 will also need to be improved.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Providing technical assistance to the development of the Supplemental Environmental Assessment to be prepared to amend existing Presidential Permit
- **Project Timeline:** Start meeting with agencies March 13, 2017. The completion of the project will depend on the final plans that are accepted.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Texas Central High-Speed Railway (or "TCR")**

Project Sponsor: Texas Central Partners, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation/Rail
- **Lead agency**: Federal Railroad Administration
- **Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: The proposed route runs through Dallas, Ellis, Navarro, Freestone, Limestone, Leon, Madison, Grimes, Waller, Harris counties, Texas
- **Estimated cost**: estimated costs in excess of $10 billion

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 2
- **Field Office**: Texas Coastal and Arlington ESFOs
    - **Lead Field Office**: Texas Coastal ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: The Texas Coastal ESFO staff reviewed species-specific information and assessment of survey protocol for portions of the rail alignment(s) potentially affecting the following species: large-fruited sand-verbena (*Abronia macrocarpa*), Navasota ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes parksii*), and Houston toad (*Bufo houstonensis).* Starting in Fall 2016, Texas Coastal ESFO staff coordinated with the FWS-Texas Department of Transportation biologist/liaison regarding potential impacts to fish and wildlife trust resources. Our involvement is anticipated to extend into 2019, if effects to listed species are likely. This is due to potential consultation procedures pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
- **Project Timeline**: The lead federal agency is developing an Environmental Impact Statement under NEPA, and a draft EIS is anticipated within a year. The Texas Coastal ESFO has been involved with this project since 2011. Alignment changes to this project are anticipated therefore, work will likely continue into spring/summer 2019 and include species surveys.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Salt Bayou Beach Nourishment and Intracoastal Waterway Syphons

Project Sponsor: Jefferson County, Texas

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation/Coastal Resiliency
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service & Texas Parks and Wildlife
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** Permit No: SWG-2015-00444.
- **Location:** Jefferson, Galveston, and Chambers counties, Texas
- **Estimated Cost:** Approximately $100 Million
- **Other:** Project is essential to maintaining freshwater marsh conditions on over 60,000 acres of coastal marsh. Most of this marsh is protected by Sea Rim State Park, J.D Murphy Wildlife Management Area and McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge. This huge marsh complex is in eminent danger of disappearing without this effort. This marsh was proven to be the primary factor of protecting the City of Port Author and a major portion of the petrochemical refinery capacity in the U.S. from tropical storm flooding during Hurricane Ike in 2008. Once restored, this marsh will protect refineries responsible for half the aviation fuel produced in US. More than 20 percent of the nation's fuel is refined behind this 60,000 acre marsh. This marsh also protects one of the busiest portions of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and the busiest military port in world.
  Project includes leveeing up 40,000 acre marsh and protecting levee with offshore sands and installing several giant syphons across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** Region 2
- **Field Office:** McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge and Texas Coastal ESFO
  - **Lead Field Office:** McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Advisory and significant portions of project will occur on McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge
- **Project Timeline:** Work will begin on portions of project this May and will continue over next several years.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Texas Coastal Storm Surge Reduction and Ecological Restoration Feasibility Study

Project Sponsor: Texas General Land Office for the study
No local sponsor for construction has been identified

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation/Waterborne Shipping
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Entire Texas coast
- **Estimated Cost:** The study is $19.1 million; however construction costs are expected to be several billion dollars.
- **Other:** This study aims to protect the nation's commercial interests with respect to oil refineries infrastructure and the import and export of goods and commodities.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Advisory in the planning process
- **Project Timeline:** The final U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' report to the Chief Engineer is expected in 2020, however our involvement will conclude in 2019. FWS will also be involved in any necessary ESA section 7 consultations related to construction.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: The Houston Ship Channel Improvement Project

Project Sponsor: The Port of Houston Authority

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation/Waterborne Shipping
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Harris and Chambers counties, Texas
- **Estimated Cost:** The Study will finalize in 2020 at a cost of $19.1 million. Project is not clearly defined, however the construction costs equate to $500 million to $1 billion for improvements.
- **Other:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is working to identify widening and deepening measures aimed at providing safer passage for larger vessels, increased mooring capacities for emergency and poor weather conditions, and bend easing opportunities, along the entire Houston Ship Channel.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The FWS provides technical assistance and makes recommendations for the development of an environmentally sound project through Planning Aid Letters and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Reports. Our recommendations often focus on the conservation of listed species and migratory birds; however, FWS does provide recommendations and comments on project alternatives that help conserve other fish and wildlife resources as necessary. FWS will also be involved in any necessary section 7 consultations under ESA
- **Project Timeline:** Study will conclude in 2020. There is no timeline for construction.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Matagorda Ship Channel Improvement Project

Project Sponsor: Port of Calhoun Navigation District

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation/Waterborne Shipping
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Matagorda County, Texas
- **Estimated Cost:** Greater than $100 million
- **Other:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the local sponsor decided to revisit the 2009 project in hopes of increasing channel depth and width and to create a new dredged material management plan. Environmental Impacts are expected to increase as a result of the channel changes.

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 2**
- **Field Office:** Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The FWS will provide technical guidance expertise during the planning phases. FWS will also be involved in any necessary ESA section 7 consultations.
- **Project Timeline:** Study completion date is late 2020

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Gulf Intercoastal Waterway Brazos River Floodgates and Colorado River Locks Systems Feasibility Study

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation/Waterborne Shipping
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Brazos and Colorado River intersections along the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway
- **Estimated Cost:** $500 million to $1 billion
- **Other:** The study will identify environmentally responsible alternatives for replacing the floodgate/lock structures and will develop alternatives to maintain 40 miles of channel and shorelines along the Gulf Intercostal Waterway.

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 2**
- **Field Office:** Texas Coastal Ecological Services Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The FWS will provide technical guidance and expertise regarding impacts to fish and wildlife trust resources. The FWS will also be involved in any necessary ESA section 7 consultations.
- **Project Timeline:** The study will finalize in 2019 with a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Chief's report and final recommendations

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Vista Ridge Regional Water Supply

Project Sponsor: Central Texas Regional Water Supply Corporation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Municipal
- **Lead Agency:** Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Burleson, Lee, Bastrop, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Comal, and Bexar counties, Texas
- **Estimated Cost:** Estimated between $884 million and $3.4 billion
- **Other:** 142-mile raw water pipeline

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** Region 2
- **Field Office:** Austin Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Formal section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act was initiated in November 2016.
- **Project Timeline:** Final Biological Opinion will be issued in April 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Arizona Water Settlement Act – Public Law 108–451—Dec. 10, 2004

Project Sponsor: New Mexico Central Arizona Project Unit

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water/Diversion and Storage
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Reclamation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Grant and Hidalgo counties, New Mexico
- **Estimated Cost:** $128 million Federal funds
- **Other:** Part of the Arizona Water Settlement Act will provide 14,000 acre-feet of water for agricultural or municipal use within the two New Mexico counties.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office and Arizona Ecological Services Field Office
    - **Lead Field Office:** New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS is providing technical assistance and in informal consultation under ESA, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and NEPA.
- **Project Timeline:** Record of Decision by December 31, 2019. No project defined at this time, so no timeline can be projected for FWS products (biological opinion and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Report) delivery.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Annova Liquefied Natural Gas Facility

Project Sponsor: Exelon with Annova LNG

Project Description

- **Sector:** Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC Docket No. PF15-15-000
- **Location:** Port of Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas
- **Estimated Cost:** $3 billion
- **Other:** Natural gas liquefaction facility to liquefy domestic natural gas for export to international markets via ocean-going vessels. Maximum output at optimal operating conditions of 6.95 million tons per annum (mtpa). Liquefaction facility on a 731-acre parcel leased from the Port of Brownsville. Location and size of feed gas pipeline for the facility via an intrastate natural gas pipeline not identified by Annova to date.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** As a Cooperating Agency under NEPA, FWS will review EIS and complete Section 7 ESA Consultation. FWS will review and provide comments and recommendations to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for required Section 10 and 404 permits to be issued by USACE.
- **Project Timeline:** FERC anticipates license issuance mid-2018. USACE anticipates concurrent permit authorization.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Texas Liquefied Natural Gas Facility

Project Sponsor: Texas LNG Company

Project Description

- **Sector:** Energy/Natural Gas
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC Docket No. PF15-14-000
- **Location:** Port of Brownsville, Cameron County, TX
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Natural gas liquefaction facility to liquefy domestic natural gas for export to Asian markets via ocean-going vessels. Maximum output at optimal operating conditions of 4 million tons per annum (mtpa). Liquefaction facility on a 625-acre parcel leased from the Port of Brownsville. Location and size of feed gas pipeline for the facility via an intrastate natural gas pipeline not identified by Texas LNG to date.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating Agency under NEPA, Application filed 3/31/16. Will review EIS and complete Section 7 ESA consultation. Will review and provide comments and recommendations to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for required Section 10 and 404 permits to be issued by USACE.
- **Project Timeline:** According to project sponsor, Phase 1 (2 mtpa) will begin production in 2022. Phase 2, anticipated to begin production in 2022/2023 depending on market demand, will increase capacity by additional 2 mtpa.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Rio Grande Liquefied Natural Gas Facility and Rio Bravo Pipeline Project

Project Sponsor: Next Decade, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Energy/Natural Gas
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC Docket No. PF15-20-000
- **Location:** Terminal in Port of Brownsville, Cameron County, TX. Pipelines from Agua Dulce, Nueces County, TX to Brownsville, Cameron County, TX
- **Estimated Cost:** No figure found on cost of construction of the Rio Grande Liquefied Natural Gas Facility. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) application reports that the Rio Bravo Pipeline (for the Rio Grande LNG Terminal) will have a total cost of $2,173,362,909.
- **Other:** Natural gas liquefaction facility to liquefy domestic natural gas for export, via ocean going LNG vessels (with capacities ranging from 125,000 cubic meters to 185,000 cubic meters), to international markets. Also, LNG loaded onto trucks at the Terminal will be used solely for the purpose of supplying LNG to truck fueling facilities in South Texas and will not be re-gasified and reintroduced into the United States of America ("U.S.") natural gas pipeline system. Maximum output of the facility at optimal operating conditions is 27 million tons per annum (mtpa). Liquefaction facility on a 984-acre parcel leased from the Port of Brownsville. Sponsor will also construct the feed gas pipelines. The intrastate, feed gas pipelines, identified as Rio Bravo Pipeline Project include twin 42-inch outside diameter natural gas pipelines, sharing a 137-mile-long right-of-way. The ancillary facilities include a header system, compressor stations, mainline valves, and pigging facilities. The pipelines will extend from the Agua Dulce Hub in Nueces County, transecting Kleberg, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Willacy, and Cameron counties to the liquefaction facility on the Brownsville Ship Channel in Cameron County.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The FWS is a Cooperating Agency under National Environmental Policy Act. FWS will provide information for the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and review both the draft and final EIS. FERC will consult with the FWS under section 7 of the ESA. FWS will also review and provide comments and recommendations to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the required Section 10 and 404 permits to be issued by USACE.
- **Project Timeline:** The application for a FERC license was filed on 5/05/16. FERC anticipates license issuance in mid-2018

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Valley Crossing Pipeline – Spectra Energy U.S./Mexico Pipeline

Project Sponsor: Enbridge, formerly Spectra Energy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Energy/Natural Gas
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC Docket No. CP17-19-000
- **Location:** Agua Dulce, Nueces County, TX to Brownsville, Cameron County, TX
- **Estimated Cost**: Estimated investment $1.5 billion
- **Other:** The 42-inch diameter natural gas export pipeline would be constructed to interconnect with a pipeline, sponsored by Mexico's state-owned utility, CFE. Interconnection site, to be permitted by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), is located in the Gulf of Mexico. Pipeline would have the capacity of carrying 2.6 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Will review NEPA documents and Clean Water Act section 404 and International Boundary and Water Commission permit documents. A section 7 consultation under the ESA will also be conducted with the FWS.
- **Project Timeline:** According to sponsor, completion of project is anticipated to be October 2018.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Cheniere Midcontinent Supply Header Interstate Pipeline (MIDSHIP)**

Project Sponsor: Cheniere Midstream Holdings, Incorporated (Inc.), a subsidiary of Cheniere Energy Inc., Houston, Texas.

Project Description

- **Sector**: Energy/Natural Gas
- **Lead Agency**: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Bryan, Canadian, Carter, Garvin, Grady, Johnston, Kingfisher, and Stephens counties, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown, but one estimate (Matt Barr with Cheniere) put the cost at $1 billion.
- **Other**: Construction of 200 miles of 30-inch or 36-inch diameter, new-build natural gas pipeline. Project includes 3 metering stations, eight receipt meters and one lateral pipeline. This pipeline would provide a capacity of up to 1,400 million cubic feet per day (MMcf/d).

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma Ecological Services Field Office (ESFO)
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Principally National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation. The FWS has provided initial review responses (February 2017), including lack of concurrence with not likely to adversely affect determinations on certain species. Sponsor is preparing project revisions and conducting species surveys to address ESA issues. Sponsor and FWS are scheduling conference call to discuss new information.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Cheniere has proposed to file their FERC application in May 2017 with construction estimated to begin in the summer of 2018. Assuming construction begins in the summer of 2018, FWS involvement should end on or about that date.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Heart of Texas Wind Energy Habitat Conservation Plan

Project Sponsor: Renewable Energy Systems Ltd / Heart of Texas, LLC.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FR Notice FWS-R2-ES-2016-N212; Permit # TE-13632C
- **Location:** McCulloch County, Texas
- **Estimated Cost:** $260 million.
- **Other:** The project is the installation and operation of up to 70 wind turbines to generate 2 to 3.5 megawatts of electricity. The wind farm will be location on 10,762 acres of private land. The incidental take permit will be for the black-capped vireo on approximately 725 acres. The proposed mitigation property is onsite.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 2
- **Field Office:** Austin Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The Federal Register Notice will be reviewed in HQ following preparation of a briefing paper and information memo for the BLPS Chief. Once it is published in the Federal Register a 30 day public review period will begin.
- **Project Timeline:** A permitting decision is anticipated by August 2017.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Frontier City Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: Energy Renewal Partners and Duke Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Kay County, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the turbine. This project, when complete, would total 119 turbines.
- **Other**: Consists of three phases. Phase one is operational (61 turbines), phase two is on hold due to issues with Federal Aviation Administration, and phase three (58 turbines) is in initial stages of evaluation. Tier 4 post construction studies at phase one began in June 2016.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Anticipate sponsor will apply for Eagle Take Permit but submission date is unknown.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Sundance Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: TradeWind Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Alfalfa and Woods counties, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the turbine. This project, if both phases are completed, would total 376 turbines.
- **Other**: Consists of two phases -- phase one (200 turbines) and phase two (176 turbines).

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
    - **Lead Region, if more than one involved:** NA
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Anticipate sponsor will need Eagle Take Permit. Initial eagle surveys have been completed.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. Information available to the FWS indicates construction will initiate in 2017.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Red Dirt Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: TradeWind Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Logan and Kingfisher counties, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the turbine. This project, when complete, would total 130 turbines.
- **Other**: Project will generate 300 MW of energy.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Sponsor has completed Tier 3 studies. The FWS is awaiting a draft Eagle Conservation Plan and a Bird and draft Bat Conservation Strategy. Documents expected in March/April 2017. Construction is slated to begin in Spring 2017.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Thunder Ranch Wind Farm**

Project Sponsor: TradeWind Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Noble, Kay and Garfield counties, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the turbine. This project, when complete, would total 130 turbines.
- **Other**: Project will generate 300 MW of energy. Eagle studies are complete. Numerous eagles and nests were observed.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Anticipate sponsor will apply for Eagle Take Permit but submission date is unknown.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Chisholm View Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: TradeWind Energy, but may have recently been sold to Enel Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Garfield and Grant counties, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the installed generator. This project is believed to consist of 130 turbines.
- **Other**: Consists of two phases but FWS is unable to confirm. Phase one may already have been constructed.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. Information available to the FWS indicates construction will initiate in 2017.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Blue North Wind Farm**

Project Sponsor: TradeWind Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Caddo County, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 75 to 100 turbines.
- **Other**: NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Tier 3 studies have been completed but FWS has not yet been provided with the study results.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. Information available to the FWS indicates project will be operational by 2018.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Blue South Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: TradeWind Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Caddo County, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 75 to 100 turbines.
- **Other**: NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Tier 3 studies have been completed but FWS has not yet been provided with the study results.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. Information available to the FWS indicates project will be operational by 2018.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Limestone Bluff Wind Farm**

Project Sponsor: TradeWind Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Caddo County, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 75 to 100 turbines.
- **Other**: NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Status as of early 2017 was "on hold."
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. Project not currently moving forward. Reasons for current status were not provided to FWS.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **South Ridge 1 Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: Apex Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Blaine County, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 150 turbines.
- **Other**: NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Project is believed to be conducting Tier 3 studies. Future involvement depends on outcome of Tier 3 studies.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. Plans were to meet with project sponsor in early 2017. Awaiting information from project sponsor. Information available to the FWS indicates project will be operational by 2018.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Rock Falls Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: EDF Renewable Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Kay and Grant counties, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 182 turbines.
- **Other**: Project is in two phases. The first phase is expected to total 154 MW of generation and is expected to be operational by late 2017. The second phase will be larger and provide an estimated generation capacity of 300 MW. Commercial operation date is reportedly sometime in 2018.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. Information available to the FWS indicates entire project will be operational by 2018.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Bergen Ranch Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: Apex Clean Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Johnston, Murray and Pontotoc counties, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 130 turbines.
- **Other**: NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Habitat Conservation Plan and section 10 permit may be needed for the American burying beetle, depending on results of surveys. Project site also has considerable potential for occupancy by bald eagles. The FWS also is awaiting the results of eagle surveys. Plans were to meet with project sponsor once the wildlife studies were complete.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. A meeting is unlikely before late summer 2017. Construction/operational date is unknown.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Fire Wheel Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: Hitchland Wind Land Developments

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: None
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Texas County, Oklahoma; Hansford, Sherman, and Ochiltree counties, Texas
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct a total of 1,000 turbines.
- **Other**: Project will be developed in five phases, two in Oklahoma (300 to 350 turbines) and three in Texas (600 to 650 turbines).

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO; Arlington ESFO; and Migratory Birds - RO.
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO (Lead for Oklahoma phases); Arlington ESFO, (Lead for Texas phases)
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Phase one is anticipated to be operational in 2017. No information is available on the other phases.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. Information available to the FWS indicates phase one of project will be operational in 2017.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **White Rock Wind Farm**

Project Sponsor: Calpine Corporation

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Caddo County, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 109 turbines.
- **Other**: NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Status of project and FWS involvement unknown.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. No information available.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Horizon Hill Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: Calpine Corporation

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Kingfisher and Logan counties, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 88 turbines.
- **Other**: NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Status of project and FWS involvement unknown.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. No information available.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **States Edge Wind Farm**

Project Sponsor: Invenergy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Cimarron and Texas counties, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 1,000 turbines.
- **Other**: Project likely to be developed in phases.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Project is believed to be at Tier one.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. No information available. The FWS last met with sponsor's consultant in fall of 2016.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Turkey Creek Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: NextEra Energy Resources

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Alfalfa County, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 120 turbines.
- **Other**: Project is located immediately south of Great Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge within the heart of the whooping crane migration corridor. Company has agreed to move proposed turbines to the east of the refuge but turbines remain in the central portion of the migration corridor. The sponsor has limited ability to relocate to the east due to the presence of Kegelman Unit of Vance Air Force Base. Kegelman is a single runway used to conduct touch and go landings of military aircraft.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Tulsa, Oklahoma (Lead); Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge; and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. However, due to concerns regarding potential collision hazard for endangered whooping cranes and migratory waterfowl, project location has been adjusted. A habitat conservation plan and associated section 10 permit may be needed, pending results of additional studies.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. The FWS is awaiting additional survey data from sponsor and sponsor's consultant.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Nemaha/Osage/Amshore Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: Duke Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: None
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Osage County, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct about 60 3.3 MW turbines.
- **Other**: NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
  - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Status of project and FWS involvement unknown. Preliminary pre-construction information (Tier 3 data) was provided in February 2017 but project has since been put on hold.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. No information available. Osage Nation is believed to be in opposition to proposed project. Project is on hold.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Caddo Wind Project**

Project Sponsor: Apex Clean Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy/Renewable
- **Lead Agency**: NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Caddo County, Oklahoma
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown but each turbine is estimated to cost $1-2 million per turbine depending on size of the generator hub. This project has proposed to construct 130 turbines.
- **Other**:

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO and Migratory Birds RO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Advisory only at this point. Sponsor and consultant have presented the results of the first year of Tier 3 studies in late 2016.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. Construction is expected to begin in 2018.

Major Infrastructure Projects
2017

Project Name: **Clean Line Plains and Eastern Transmission Line**

Project Sponsor: Clean Line Energy Partners, LLC, Houston, TX.

Project Description

- **Sector**: Energy/Transmission
- **Lead Agency**: Department of Energy, the FWS is a cooperating agency
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: DOE/EIS-0486
- **Location**: Texas, Beaver, Harper, Woodward, Major, Garfield, Kingfisher, Logan, Payne, Lincoln, Creek, Okmulgee, Muskogee, and Sequoyah counties in Oklahoma; Hansford, Ochiltree and Sherman counties in Texas; Pope, Conway, Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Van Buren, Cleburne, White, Jackson, Cross, Poinsett and Mississippi counties in Arkansas; and, Shelby and Tipton counties in Tennessee.
- **Estimated Cost**: $2.5 billion according to Clean Line Energy
- **Other**: Clean Line proposes to construct and operate an overhead ± 600-kilovolt (kV) high voltage direct current electric (HVDC) transmission system and associated facilities with the capacity to deliver approximately 3,500 megawatts of power primarily from renewable energy generation facilities in the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandle regions to load-serving entities in the Mid-South and Southeast United States via an interconnection in Arkansas and an interconnection with the TVA in Tennessee. Major facilities associated with the proposed Project include converter stations, an approximate 721.5-mile long HVDC transmission line; an alternating current (AC) collection system; and both permanent and temporary access roads.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: Region 2 and Region 4
  - **Lead Region:** Region 2
- **Field Office**: Oklahoma ESFO; Arkansas ESFO; Tennessee ESFO; and Migratory Birds RO
  - **Lead Field Office:** Oklahoma ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Primarily NEPA, ESA consultation and migratory bird conservation (Avian Protection Plan). The Final EIS is dated October 2015 and the Record of Decision was published on March 31, 2016. A Biological Opinion was completed (November 20, 2015), but FWS is still awaiting information from DOE and Clean Line with respect to concluding section 7 consultation. Clean Line and DOE are currently conducting surveys to refine take estimate provided in biological opinion. Although a Mitigation Action Plan has been published (October 2016), the FWS is awaiting detailed information regarding mitigation for impacts to federally-listed species.
- **Timeline for Completion of FWS Involvement**: Unknown. The EIS was finalized in October 2015 and a biological opinion under section 7 of the ESA was completed in November 2015. However neither DOE nor Clean Line has submitted final documents required to complete the consultation process.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Southline Transmission Project

Project Sponsor: Bureau of Land Management

Project Description

- **Sector:** Energy/Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Dona Ana, Luna, Grant, and Hidalgo counties, New Mexico, and Cochise, Pima, and Pinal counties, Arizona
- **Estimated Cost:** Anticipated costs > $100 million, planning and construction combined
- **Other:** Southline Transmission, LLC, proposes constructing, operating, and maintaining a high-voltage power line in two segments totaling approximately 360 miles. The first segment would be a new double circuit 345-kilovolt line from a substation in Afton, New Mexico (south of Las Cruces), to a substation in Apache, Arizona (south of Willcox). This approximately 240-mile segment would provide up to 1,000 megawatts of initial rated capacity. The second segment would be an upgrading and rebuilding of about 120 miles of existing transmission lines between the Apache substation and the Saguaro substation, northwest of Tucson. It would provide capacity for an additional 1,000 megawatts of electricity.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2
- **Field Office:** Arizona and New Mexico ESFO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Arizona ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Section 7 consultation and reinitiation were completed in November 2015; current involvement anticipated to be advisory at the point construction is initiated related to implementation of the BO.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown, waiting on BLM decision to determine further involvement in the project.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: SunZia Transmission Line

Project Sponsor: SunZia Transmission, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** BLM
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** BLM/NM/PL-13-04-1610
- **Location:** Arizona and New Mexico
- **Estimated Cost:** $2 Billion
- **Other:** The Project consists of the construction, operation, and maintenance of two parallel overhead 500 kV transmission lines located on Federal, State, and private lands from the proposed SunZia East Substation in Lincoln County, New Mexico, to the existing Pinal Central Substation in Pinal County, Arizona. The length of the transmission lines in the preferred alternative would be 515 miles in length. Three segments, totaling five miles of the Project in Socorro and Torrance counties in New Mexico, will be buried in order to mitigate impacts to military operations at White Sands Missile Range. The impacts of burial have been analyzed in a Mitigation Proposal Environmental Assessment (EA) that has also been approved. The Project has the potential to add 3,000 to 4,500 megawatts of added electric capacity to the desert southwest region of the United States.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** Region 2
- **Field Office:** Migratory Bird, Refuges, and Ecological Services in Regional Office, Arizona and New Mexico Ecological Services Office
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Section 7 consultation was completed in 2013. Currently, advising Project proponent on mitigation for Migratory Birds issues identified in the Environmental Impact Statement and developing an Implementing Agreement for the implementation of the mitigation
- **Project Timeline:** Involvement for mitigation and the Implementation Agreement will likely be completed by May 2017. The FWS will be indirectly involved with some aspects of mitigation, which could extend to 2067 (50 years).

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Columbia Pipeline Group Multi State Habitat Conservation Plan

Project Sponsor: Columbia Pipeline Group

Project Description

- **Sector:** Natural Gas Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** Fish and Wildlife Permit TE02636A-0; multiple project numbers for other agencies
- **Location:** 333 counties across 14 states (DE, IN, KY, LA, MD, MS, NJ, NY, NC, OH, PA, TN, VA, WV)
- **Estimated Cost:** More than $100 million
- **Other:** Approximately 15,562 miles in length, plus 12 counties where storage fields occur equaling approximately 9,783,207 acres; includes many current and future projects in this area for up to 50 years.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** Regions 3, 4, and 5
  - **Lead Region:** 3 (Regional Office is lead)
- **Field Offices:** Indiana FO, Chesapeake Bay FO, Cookeville Tennessee FO, Jackson Mississippi FO, Kentucky FO, Louisiana FO, New Jersey FO, New York FO, Ohio FO, Pennsylvania FO, Southwestern Virginia FO, Virginia FO, West Virginia FO
  - **Lead Field Office:** No Lead Field Office (R3 RO is lead)
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** NiSource Inc., a natural gas distribution company, approached FWS about streamlining consultations (~400 per year) in 2005. NiSource worked with the FWS to develop the NiSource Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). An incidental take permit was issued under Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA in 2013, taking effect in January 2014. In mid-2015 the Columbia Pipeline Group (CPG) split from NiSource Inc., into a separate company and the permit was officially transferred from NiSource to CPG in 2016.

  The CPG HCP provides incidental take coverage for 11 species, and includes another 32 species that do not require take authorization for covered activities. Covered activities include most CPG operations, maintenance, and new construction within the covered lands. The HCP provides required ESA consultation for covered activities impacts to covered species. In 2015, 300 projects impacting over 50,000 acres were conducted under the MSHCP, which would have otherwise required consultation. A similar pace is expected to continue annually. FWS monitors CPG compliance with their HCP, provides technical assistance, and provides training and coordination for federal agencies regarding how CPG is meeting its ESA requirements.

  Some covered activities may affect species not covered by the HCP and some CPG projects include areas outside the HCP covered lands. These projects require additional consultation on a project by project basis, generally led at the FO level. The HCP does not address all impacts to migratory birds and some projects require additional consultation.
- **Project Timeline:** Implementation of the HCP is ongoing and anticipated to continue through 2064. Additional consultations associated with the HCP for species and activities not covered are dependent on when CPG initiates projects and each has an independent timeline.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: District 4 – McCluggage Bridge (US 150)

Project Sponsor: Illinois Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois
- **Estimated Cost:** ~ $115 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Illinois-Iowa FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Project is in the NEPA Merger Process with potentially multiple FWS authorities.
- **Project Timeline:** Record of Decision or Finding of No Significant Impact Summer 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: District 5 – Eastside Highway

Project Sponsor: Illinois Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Bloomington, McClean County, Illinois
- **Estimated Cost:** ~ $200 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Illinois-Iowa
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Project is in the NEPA Merger Process with potentially multiple FWS authorities.
- **Project Timeline:** Record of Decision or Finding of No Significant Impact Fall 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: District 6 – Florence Bridge

Project Sponsor: Illinois Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Florence, Scott County, Illinois
- **Estimated Cost:** ~ $115 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Illinois-Iowa
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Project is in the NEPA Merger Process with potentially multiple FWS authorities.
- **Project Timeline:** Final Environmental Impact Statement Summer of 2019, Record of Decision or Finding of No Significant Impact Fall 2019

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: District 6 – I-55 in Springfield, IL – add lane + interchange reconfigurations

Project Sponsor: Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois
- **Estimated Cost:** ~ $200 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Illinois-Iowa
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Project is in the NEPA Merger Process with potentially multiple FWS authorities.
- **Project Timeline:** Final Environmental Impact Statement 2017, Record of Decision or Finding of No Significant Impact 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: District 7 – US 51 – add lanes

Project Sponsor: Illinois Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Pana to Centralia, (Christian, Clinton, Jefferson, Marion, and Washington counties, Illinois
- **Estimated Cost:** > $500 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Illinois-Iowa
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Project is in the NEPA Merger Process with potentially multiple FWS authorities.
- **Project Timeline:** Final Environmental Impact Statement Summer 2018, Record of Decision or Finding of No Significant Impact Fall 2018

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: District 9 – Shawnee Parkway

Project Sponsor: Illinois Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Alexander, Pulaski, and Union counties, Illinois
- **Estimated Cost:** ~ $250 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Illinois-Iowa
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Project is in the NEPA Merger Process with potentially multiple FWS authorities.
- **Project Timeline:** Draft Environmental Impact Statement Summer 2017, Final EIS Fall 2017, and Record of Decision or Finding of No Significant Impact Fall 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-74 Bridge Replacement Project

Project Sponsor: Iowa Department of Transportation and Illinois Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Bettendorf, Scott County, Iowa; Moline, Rock Island County, Illinois
- **Estimated Cost:** ~ $1.2 billion
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Illinois-Iowa
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Project has complete Record of Decision but ongoing reevaluations due to project changes on the Iowa side have occurred since the 2009 ROD. Endangered Species Act consultation continues: an amendment to the Biological Opinion is currently being prepared. Coordination on mitigation and monitoring delivery is ongoing.
  Project Timeline: Construction to begin Summer of 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Spire STL

Project Sponsor: Spire STL Pipeline Company, LLC / Spire Inc. (formerly Laclede Group)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Natural Gas Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** PF16-9-000, CP17-40-000
- **Location:** Illinois, Missouri
- **Estimated Cost:** $220 million
- **Other:** Estimated 933 acres of affected habitat (371 permanently maintained for ROW)

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Illinois-Iowa, Missouri
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Illinois-Iowa (Regional Office is lead)
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS is participating in environmental review under NEPA and is currently providing feedback on proposed threated and endangered species surveys and preliminary determinations through the informal Section 7 consultation process. Official correspondence has been transmitted to GAI Consultants December 2016, providing technical assistance on threatened and endangered species, bald eagles, and migratory birds.
- **Project Timeline:** 1/26/17 - Spire STL applied for FERC certificate. Environmental Assessment from FERC pending

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: MidAmerican Energy Wind XI

Project Sponsor: MidAmerican Energy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Iowa – Multiple counties
- **Estimated Cost:** $3.6 Billion
- **Other:** The goal of the project is to develop an additional 2000 megawatts of wind energy capacity. This will enable MidAmerican to produce 89 percent of energy sold to Iowa customers from renewable energy.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Illinois-Iowa
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** MidAmerican Energy is following the coordination outlined in the Land Based Wind Energy Guidelines. The Illinois-Iowa Field Office is providing expertise and information needed by the company to inform their due diligence. MidAmerican Energy has also indicated that they will be requesting endangered species incidental take authorization from the FWS. FWS is providing technical expertise for the development of the habitat conservation plan, i.e., the permit application document. When the habitat conservation plan is completed, FWS will conduct the required NEPA analysis, solicit public comment, and develop the Biological Opinion for the permit.
- **Project Timeline:** The habitat conservation plan will likely be developed between now and second quarter of 2018. A permit decision is expected to be made by second quarter of 2019.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Robert C Byrd Hydroelectric Project

Project Sponsor: City of Wadsworth, OH / American Municipal Power

Project Description

- **Sector:** Hydroelectric Power
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC Project No. 12796-004
- **Location:** Ohio, West Virginia
- **Estimated Cost:** $437 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3 and 5
    - **Lead Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Ohio FO, West Virginia FO
    - **Lead Field Office:** Ohio FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - FWS participated in environmental review under NEPA.
    - 7/11/14 FERC requested concurrence with effects determination
    - 8/7/14 FWS issued non-concurrence and requested additional information
    - 1/28/15 FERC requested concurrence with effects determination
    - 2/26/15 FWS issued non-concurrence and requested additional information
    - 3/11/15 FERC requested concurrence with effects determination or to initiate formal consultation
    - 4/15 – 12/16 FWS and FERC corresponded (generally, FWS requested additional information)
    - 6/24/16 FWS filed motion to intervene with FERC
    - 2/6/17 FERC requested concurrence with effects determination or to initiate formal consultation
    - 3/3/17 FWS sent letter initiating formal consultation
    - **Project Timeline:** 7/2014 - Draft Environmental Assessment; 1/2015 - Final Environmental Assessment; 6/21/17 – Biological Opinion expected

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Blue Creek Wind Farm Habitat Conservation Plan

Project Sponsor: Avangrid Renewables, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Power
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Paulding and VanWert counties, Ohio
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$100 million
- **Other:** 304 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Ohio
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - Avangrid is developing a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) to cover incidental take of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) from operation of this existing wind project.
    - A draft HCP was submitted to FWS on January, 2017.
    - FWS will provide comments by March 17, 2017.
    - FWS anticipates completing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to satisfy NEPA for this project. The EA will be subject to a 60-day public review and comment period. If the HCP meets issuance criteria and the EA finds no significant impact, FWS may issue an incidental take permit under Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act.
- **Project Timeline:** Pending completion of the Applicant's draft HCP, a draft EA will likely be completed by Dec. 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Timber Road II & III Wind Facility

Project Sponsor: EDP Renewables North America LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Power
- **Lead Agency:** Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB, state agency) and FWS
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Paulding County Ohio
- **Estimated Cost:** ~ $309 million (based on the number of turbines and the approximate cost of a turbine)
- **Other:** 200 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Ohio
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** EDP is developing a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) to cover both phases II and III of this project. Timber Road II is constructed, while III is still waiting on a permit from the OPSB.
- **Project Timeline:** EPD anticipates completing its HCP and receiving the OPSB permit during the summer of 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Buckeye Wind Habitat Conservation Plan

Project Sponsor: EverPower Wind, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Power
- **Lead Agency:** FWS
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Champaign County, Ohio
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$200 million
- **Other:** 250 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Ohio
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - Buckeye Wind developed a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) to cover incidental take of Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*), from construction and operation of this proposed wind project.
    - FWS completed an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) and issued an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for the project in 2013.
    - On September 20, 2013, Union Neighbors United filed a complaint, alleging that the issuance of the ITP was arbitrary, capricious, and not in accordance with NEPA and the ESA.
    - On March 18, 2015, the District Court denied Union Neighbors' motion ruling in favor of the FWS. Union Neighbors appealed.
    - In August 2016 the D.C Circuit Court held that FWS failed to comply with its NEPA obligations but also held that FWS complied with its ESA obligations.
    - In response to the Court's decision, the FWS will draft a Supplemental EIS (SEIS) which evaluates one or more additional alternatives that result in less take of Indiana bats and publish it for public comment. Upon the issuance of the final SEIS Record of Decision FWS will undertake any necessary supplemental ESA analysis.
- **Project Timeline:** Publication of an SEIS by December 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Icebreaker Wind

Project Sponsor: Lake Erie Energy Development Co. (LEEDCo)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Department of Energy
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** DOE/EA-2045
- **Location:** Lake Erie offshore of Cleveland, OH
- **Estimated Cost:** $124 million
- **Other:** 6 turbines, 20.7 MW capacity

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Ohio (Regional Office is lead)
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - August 2016 - FWS requested to advise on 2010 studies; most of the studies' results were not usable due to technical and sampling errors. Began making recommendations to LEEDCo for improved studies after meeting with LEEDCo
    - October 16, 2016 - Letter sent to DOE with recommendation to use EIS instead of Environmental Assessment due to precedent setting nature of the project and the degree of uncertainty in the impacts.
    - December 12-14, 2016 - Met with LEEDCo and Ohio Department of Natural Resources to discuss options for pre- and post-construction monitoring.
    - February 28, 2016 - FWS and ODNR send letter to OH power siting board with recommendations.
    - Current - Discussions continue for pre- and post-construction
- **Project Timeline:**
    - 2008 - project proposed
    - 2010 - Radar and acoustic monitoring attempts based on recommendations from FWS and ODNR
    - 2018 - Anticipated start of construction (pending permits from Ohio Power Siting Board, Ohio EPA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Coast Guard). Not all permit applications submitted yet.
    - Continuing: Advising LEEDCo and Ohio Power Siting Board on pre- and post-construction impact monitoring needs for the location.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Brent Spence Bridge

Project Sponsor: Ohio Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Ohio DOT (via NEPA assignment from FHWA)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** Ohio DOT Project Identification (PID) 75119
- **Location:** Ohio River (from Hamilton County, OH to Kenton County, KY
- **Estimated Cost:** $12.5B
- **Other:** Replacing existing bridge to improve safety and capacity

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3 and 4
  - **Lead Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Ohio and Kentucky
  - **Lead Field Office:** Ohio
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
  - Uncertain but anticipated ESA Section 7 consultation on federally listed mussels. Consultation could be formal or informal if a mussel survey is conducted, depending on survey results. If a survey is not conducted and presence is assumed by the DOT, formal consultation is anticipated.
  - Consultation on other listed species, if necessary, is expected to be informal, based on prior project coordination (2005-2014). Previous coordination included technical assistance under ESA section 7; review of Conceptual Analysis Study; review of Section 4(f) Study (via DOI Environmental Review); Ohio Field Office acceptance of request for involvement as Participating Agency.
  - Authorities: NEPA, ESA
- **Project Timeline:** According to the DOT, the project has been on hold awaiting funding. This is a large, complex project that, even if funded immediately, would likely not engage FWS for one or two years (as substantial associated actions would need to occur before major bridge construction could commence). Earliest potential Biological Assessment submission anticipated, if necessary, would be late summer or fall 2018, with BO issued within 135 days of receiving the BA from ODOT.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: NEXUS Gas Transmission Project and Texas Eastern Appalachian Lease Project (TEAL)

Project Sponsor: NEXUS Gas Transmission, LLC (owned by Spectra Energy Partners, LP [merged and renamed as Enbridge Inc. as of 2/17] and DTE Energy Company), Texas Eastern Transmission, LP

Project Description

- **Sector:** Natural Gas Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** CP16-22-000, CP16-23-000, CP16-24-000, CP16-102-000
- **Location:** Ohio and Michigan
- **Estimated Cost:** $2 billion
- **Other:** 347 acres of forested uplands directly impacted, 0 acres indirectly impacted (fragmentation)

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Ohio, Michigan (Regional Office is lead)
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** NA
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - FWS participated in environmental review under NEPA.
    - 1/27/16 – 5/4/16 - FWS gave recommendations for mitigation of impacts to migratory birds and listed species and iteratively revised recommendations to incorporate NEXUS's comments and updated data.
    - 6/23/16 - FWS and NEXUS entered into MOU regarding conservation measures for migratory birds and listed species
    - 10/20/16 - Entered ESA formal consultation with FERC.
    - 12/14/16 – Formal consultation concluded with non-jeopardy BO.
    - 1/30/17 – FWS notified FERC that FWS considered the impacts to migratory birds to be fully mitigated.
    - FWS continuing to consult regarding potential summer clearing in some areas if certificate is issued.
- **Project Timeline:**
    - 11/2016 - FERC FEIS issued
    - 12/14/16 – FWS BO issued
    - FERC certificate pending (cannot be issued without quorum of commissioners)

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Greentown-Reynolds Project

Project Sponsor: Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) and Pioneer Transmission

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission Line
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Indiana
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** 46 acres upland forest directly impacted, 0 acres indirectly impacted

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Indiana (Regional Office is lead)
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
  - 9/17/15 – 2/27/17 - FWS gave recommendations for mitigation of impacts to migratory birds and listed species and iteratively revised recommendations to incorporate NIPSCO's comments and updated data.
- **Project Timeline:**
  - MOU between NIPSCO and FWS regarding conservation measures for migratory birds and listed species is in draft form (waiting for NIPSCO's comments as of 3/7/17).
  - Technical Assistance Letter regarding listed species impacts anticipated following MOU.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-69 new interstate, Section 6, Martinsville to Indianapolis, Indiana

Project Sponsor: Indiana Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Marion, Johnson, and Morgan counties, Indiana
- **Estimated Cost:** $500+ million

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3 and 4
  - **Lead Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Indiana and Kentucky
  - **Lead Field Office:** Indiana
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Tiered project; will be reviewing for NEPA and consulting under Section 7
- **Project Timeline:** Consultation to occur this FY

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: West Lake Corridor Project

Project Sponsor: Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation (commuter rail)
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Transit Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Lake County, Indiana and Cook County, Illinois
- **Estimated Cost:** Between $590 million and $660 million for construction

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Indiana /Northern Indiana Suboffice
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement during December 2016-January 2017; the document adequately addressed impacts on natural resources so no comments were necessary. There are no impacts on endangered species (Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended) or migratory birds (Migratory Bird Treaty Act) because the project area is urban and has been developed for well over 100 years; an existing abandoned railroad corridor will be utilized for the majority of the project.
- **Project Timeline:** The Final EIS and ROD are due in mid-2017; detailed project engineering will occur during 2018 through 2020; construction is proposed from mid-2020 through mid-2022, with operation beginning in mid-2022. Additional FWS involvement is not anticipated until 2020 when Clean Water Act Section 404 permits for bridges over the West Branch Little Calumet River and West Branch Grand Calumet River and associated wetlands are expected to be Public Noticed.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Bluff Point Wind Energy Center

Project Sponsor: Bluff Point Wind LLC, a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Jay and Randolph counties, Indiana
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100,000,000
- **Other:** The Bluff Point Wind Energy Center (Project) consists of 57 wind turbines and associated facilities and has a total generating capacity of approximately 120 MW. The Project is located on private land in east-central Indiana in Jay and Randolph counties. Commercial operation of the project is expected to begin in December 2017.

  During project development and early coordination with the FWS, the Bluff Point Wind LLC determined that the project could pose a risk to Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bats (*Myotis septentrionalis*). The Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat are species listed as endangered and threatened, respectively, under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Based on determination of risk to these federally listed bats, Bluff Point Wind LLC decided to prepare a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) in support of an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) application, as required under Section 10 of the ESA.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Indiana
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The Indiana Field Office is currently reviewing a draft Habitat Conservation Plan for the Bluff Point Wind Energy Center.
- **Project Timeline:** Bluff Point Wind LLC has not yet established an expected timeline for completing the ITP application process.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-75 Reconstruction

Project Sponsor: Michigan Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Southeast Michigan (Detroit Metro)
- **Estimated Cost:** Segment 1- $116.5 Million, Segment 2 - $96 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Michigan
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA Technical Assistance, Section 7 Informal Consultation
- **Project Timeline:** Construction Underway. 2014 Technical Assistance for Indiana and Northern long-eared bats; 2016 Informal Consultation (received 9-1-16; concluded 9-8-16).

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Deerfield Wind

Project Sponsor: Renewable Energy Systems

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind energy
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Huron County, Michigan
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** 110 2MW and 2.2MW turbines

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Michigan
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Coordination through the FWS "Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines" tiered approach (e.g., sponsor developing a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy) as well as possible permitting pursuant the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.
- **Project Timeline:** Commercial operation is scheduled for early 2017. FWS involvement will likely conclude after project is constructed and post-construction wildlife studies are completed.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Apple Blossom Wind

Project Sponsor: Sempra U.S. Gas & Power

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Huron County, Michigan
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** ~93 MW (27-29 turbines)

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Michigan
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Coordination through the FWS's "Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines" tired approach (e.g., Sponsor developing a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy) as well as possible permitting pursuant the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

- **Project Timeline:** Minor construction started in the fall of 2016 and is expected to resume March or April of 2017. FWS involvement will likely conclude after the project is constructed and post-construction wildlife studies are completed.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: High Prairie Wind Energy Facility

Project Sponsor: Terra-Gen

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Schuyler County, Missouri
- **Estimated Cost:** estimated $600 million
- **Other:** Approximately 400 MW wind farm across over 60,000 acres

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Missouri (Lead), Illinois/Iowa
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Providing technical assistance to developer; help determine need for HCP for the Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat (maybe other bat species) and/or an Eagle Take Permit pursuant to BGEPA. Developer currently conducting preconstruction surveys per FWS Wind Energy Guidance. There are historic records of listed bats species in project area. The developer will likely apply for HCP/ITP for listed bats.
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipate construction beginning in 2019 with project online in January 2020. FWS involvement schedule will depend on a decision from the developer to pursue and HCP/ITP or Eagle Take Permit.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Rock Creek Wind Energy Facility

Project Sponsor: Enel Green Power North America, Inc., and Tradewind Energy Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Atchison, Nodaway and Holt counties, Missouri
- **Estimated Cost:** estimated $575 to $700 million
- **Other:** A 350 MW wind project covering approximately 60,000 acres adjacent to and existing wind farm. Surrounds Missouri Department of Conservation's Tarkio Prairie Natural Area.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Missouri and Illinois/Iowa
    - **Lead Field Office:** Missouri
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Providing technical assistance to developer; worked through Wind Energy Guidance for wildlife (MBTA, ESA) to identify concerns and develop post-construction monitoring plan, BGEPA Eagle Take Permit - applicant revising eagle permit application consistent with 2016 regulations and expect to process permit this spring/summer**.**
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipate operational in 2018. FWS expects to issue an Eagle Take Permit in summer 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Osborn Wind Energy Facility

Project Sponsor: NextEra, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** DeKalb County, Missouri
- **Estimated Cost:** >$200 million
- **Other:** A 200MW project covering approximately 60,000 acres. Adjacent to three sides of Missouri Dept. of Conservation's Pony Express Conservation Area.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Missouri and Illinois/Iowa
    - **Lead Field Office:** Missouri
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Providing technical assistance to developer; working through Wind Energy Guidance for wildlife (MBTA, ESA) to identify concerns and develop post-construction monitoring plan. There are historic records of listed bats. The company apparently completed pre-construction surveys but has not yet submitted results to FWS and Missouri Dept. of Conservation. FWS is continuing evaluation of potential effects to listed species and may recommend an HCP/ITP. Developer is currently not pursuing an HCP/ITP. Developer has committed to compensatory mitigation for forested habitat losses early in project construction (several years ago).
- **Project Timeline:** Just became operational this year. Timeline for FWS involvement is unknown at this time – will depend on developer pursuing an HCP/ITP as recommended.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Clear Creek Wind Energy Facility

Project Sponsor: Tenaska, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Nodaway County, Missouri
- **Estimated Cost**: estimated $200 to $300 million
- **Other:** Approximately 200 MW wind project over 30,000 acres.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Missouri and Illinois/Iowa
    - **Lead Field Office:** Missouri
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Providing technical assistance to developer; working through Wind Energy Guidance for wildlife (MBTA, ESA) to identify concerns and develop post-construction monitoring plan. There are historic records of listed bats. The company is conducting preconstruction surveys for birds, bats, and eagles.
- **Project Timeline:** Early in planning stage, anticipate operational late 2019 or early 2020. FWS will provide recommendations by the end of 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Brickyard Hill Wind Energy Facility

Project Sponsor: EDF Renewable Energy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Atchison County, Missouri
- **Estimated Cost:** estimated $225 to $300 million
- **Other:** Approximately 150 MW project over 40,000 acres. Adjacent to existing wind facility and overlapping state conservation focus area.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Missouri and Illinois/Iowa
    - **Lead Field Office:** Missouri
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Providing technical assistance to developer; working through Wind Energy Guidance for wildlife (MBTA, ESA) to identify concerns and develop post-construction monitoring plan. There are historic records of listed bats. The company is conducting preconstruction surveys for birds, bats, and eagles.
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipate project construction in summer of 2018. FWS will provide recommendations by the end of 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Green Hills Wind Energy Facility

Project Sponsor: Capital Power Corporation and AV3windpower, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Sullivan County, Missouri
- **Estimated Cost:** estimated $150 million
- **Other:** A 77.5 MW project covering approximately 9,500 acres.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Missouri and Illinois/Iowa
    - **Lead Field Office:** Missouri
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Providing technical assistance to developer; working through Wind Energy Guidance for wildlife (MBTA, ESA) to identify concerns and develop post-construction monitoring plan, historic records of listed bats. The company is conducting preconstruction surveys for birds, bats, and eagles. This area has high historic listed bat use. The developer will likely pursue an HCP/ITP and possible Eagle Take Permit.
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipate operational last half 2019. FWS will provide recommendations during the fall/winter of 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Audrain Wind Energy Facility

Project Sponsor: EDP Renewables, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Audrain County, Missouri
- **Estimated Cost**: estimated $125-175 million
- **Other:** Approximately 100MW project covering approximately 15,000 acres

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Missouri and Illinois/Iowa
    - **Lead Field Office:** Missouri
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Providing technical assistance to developer; working through Wind Energy Guidance for wildlife (MBTA, ESA) to identify concerns and develop post-construction monitoring plan. The area has historic records of listed bats. The company is conducting preconstruction surveys for birds, bats, and eagles.
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipate operation in 2019. FWS will provide recommendations during the fall/winter of 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **King Lake Energy Facility**

Project Sponsor: Unknown (Consultant – WEST, Inc.)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** DeKalb and Gentry counties, Missouri
- **Estimated Cost:** Unknown
- **Other:** Unknown size, current boundary adjacent to existing wind facility and would surround Missouri Department of Conservation's King Lake Conservation Area

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Missouri and Illinois/Iowa
    - **Lead Field Office:** Missouri
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Initial contact via consultant, FWS provided basic area resource information.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Mark Twain Transmission Project

Project Sponsor: Ameren

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Missouri – Marion, Shelby, Knox, Adair, Schuyler counties
- **Estimated Cost:** estimated >$100M
- **Other:** 100 miles of new line, plus one substation

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Missouri
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA Consultation for listed bats; small COE handle so likely need for section 7 and section 10
- **Project Timeline:** Bat surveys were conducted summer 2016 and Indiana bats were present along most of the ROW (maternity and non-maternity). Previous timeline was in-service date of September 2018, but there has been no communication from Ameren recently following conclusion of bat surveys and discussions with COE about jurisdiction. The timeline has likely shifted to later in-service date. FWS has recommended the company purse an HCP/ITP because the COE will not include effects to listed bats in areas outside of their jurisdiction in the section 7 consultation

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Grain Belt Express Clean Line Transmission Project

Project Sponsor: Clean Line Energy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** Currently U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. However, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission would be the lead if the agency decides to sponsor the project under section 1222 under the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (an application has been filed by Clean Line).
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers: NA**
- **Location:** Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana; exact route within these states TBD
- **Estimated Cost:** $2 billion
- **Other:** This is a new 780-mile overhead direct current transmission line that will deliver approximately 4,000 megawatts of low-cost wind power from western Kansas to Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and neighboring states.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3 and 6
  - **Lead Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Missouri, Illinois/Iowa, Kansas
  - **Lead Field Office:** Missouri
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Clean Line representatives began coordination with FWS in 2010 regarding the proposed line. Discussions to date have focused on routing the line to minimize impacts to federally listed species and compliance with relevant Federal statutes (Endangered Species Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, and Migratory Bird Treaty Act). The consultation process (section 7 consultation vs. section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act) may depend on whether FERC decides to sponsor the project.
- **Project Timeline**: TBD and contingent on approval by the Missouri Public Service Commission or sponsorship by FERC.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Metro Blue Line (Bottineau Light Rail)

Project Sponsor: Federal Transit Administration

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation – Light Rail
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Transit Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Hennepin County, Minnesota
- **Estimated Cost:** $1.5 Billion

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Minnesota-Wisconsin
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Comments under NEPA and Migratory birds completed. ESA consultation completed for northern long-eared bat but may need to reinitiate consultation if rusty patched bumble bee is listed on March 21, 2017; impacts to the species are anticipated to be avoidable.
- **Project Timeline:** Project impacts for the bee, if any, will be assessed at the time of listing (March 21, 2017) once a new habitat connectivity model is generated to identify any high potential zones within the action area.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Metro Green Line (Southwest Light Rail)

Project Sponsor: Federal Transit Administration

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation – Light Rail
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Transit Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Hennepin County, Minnesota
- **Estimated Cost:** $1.9 Billion

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Minnesota-Wisconsin
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Comments under NEPA and Migratory birds completed. ESA consultation completed for northern long-eared bat but may need to reinitiate consultation if rusty patched bumble bee is listed on March 21, 2017; impacts to the species are anticipated to be avoidable.
- **Project Timeline:** Project impacts for the bee, if any, will be assessed at the time of listing (March 21, 2017) once a new habitat connectivity model is generated to identify any high potential zones within the action area.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Tisch Mills Wind

Project Sponsor: Capital Power

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** near Tisch Mills, Wisconsin
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** 12,000 acres of long term leases acquired for siting turbines. Up to 75 turbines with capacity of 75-150 MW.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Minnesota-Wisconsin (Regional Office is lead)
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - Advising Capital Power on pre- and post-construction impact monitoring needs for the location.
    - February 21, 2017: Met with Capital Power and provided results of radar and bat studies on migrants within and in the vicinity of the project site. Site was under previous ownership and recently (2014) acquired by Capital Power, which is attempting to determine feasibility and scale of potential wind energy projects in the area. Capital Power provided results of previous owners' pre-construction surveys as well as current data gathering efforts on eagles, other raptors, and bats.
    - FWS continuing to provide recommendations regarding impacts to bats and migratory birds.
- **Project Timeline:** Capital Power estimates late 2019 or early 2020 estimated operation date.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Madison Beltline

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Dane County, Wisconsin
- **Estimated Cost:** $1.6 Billion

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Minnesota-Wisconsin
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Comments under NEPA and Migratory birds are not anticipated. ESA consultation may necessary if rusty patched bumble bee is listed on March 21, 2017; impacts to the species are anticipated to be avoidable.
- **Project Timeline:** Project impacts for the bee, if any, will be assessed at the time of listing (March 21, 2017) once a new habitat connectivity model is generated to identify any high potential zones within the action area.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project

Project Sponsor: Rural Utility Service

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission Line – 345 kilovolt
- **Lead Agency:** Rural Utility Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Dubuque County, Iowa; Dane, Grant, Iowa and Lafayette counties, Wisconsin
- **Estimated Cost:** $500 Million

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** R3
- **Field Office:** Minnesota/Wisconsin Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Participating agency for NEPA EIS – in development. ESA consultation is anticipated.
- **Project Timeline:** Project impacts for the bee, if any, will be assessed at the time of listing (March 21, 2017) once a new habitat connectivity model is generated to identify any high potential zones within the action area.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Tier 1 EIS I-39-90-94

Project Sponsor: Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Wisconsin Department of Transportation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Dubuque County, Iowa; Dane, Grant, Iowa and Lafayette counties, Wisconsin
- **Estimated Cost:** $500 Million

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** Minnesota-Wisconsin
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Not involved at the moment.
- **Project Timeline:** Final Tier 1 EIS anticipated in 2018. ESA consultation is anticipated at Chippewa River crossing for impacts to federally listed mussels.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Line 3 Replacement

Project Sponsor: Enbridge, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** none (some U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits for stream crossings)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin
- **Estimated Cost:** $2.6 billion

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3, 6
  - **Lead Region:** 3
- **Field Office:** North Dakota, Minnesota (R3 Regional Office is lead)
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
  - June 2015 until February 2017: At Enbridge's request, FWS gave recommendations for mitigation of impacts to migratory birds and listed species for Segment 18 of the Line 3 Project (the section in WI, which has independent utility from the rest of the project) and iteratively revised recommendations to incorporate Enbridge's comments and updated data.
  - 2/9/17 - FWS signed an MOU with Enbridge re: conservation measures for migratory birds for Segment 18 of the Line 3 Project.
  - **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time. Anticipate introductory meeting to discuss project in March 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-10 BayWay Widening and Mobile River Bridge, Mobile, Alabama

Project Sponsor: Alabama Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Project Number:** DPI-0030(005)
- **Location:** Mobile County, Alabama
- **Estimated Cost:** $855 Million

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Alabama Ecological Services
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Section 7 ESA formal consultation (Biological Opinion issued 2003)
- **Project Timeline:** Awaiting new Biological Assessment for potential impacts to a new species considered since project was proposed. Potential amendment to BO based on BA findings. No projected start date because of funding.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Birmingham Northern Beltline

Project Sponsor: Alabama Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:**Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Project Number:** HPPF-APDF 1602(538)
- **Location:** Jefferson County, Alabama
- **Estimated Cost:** $3.9 Billion

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Alabama Ecological Services
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Section 7 ESA Consultation; Only a 3 mile segment of the 52 mile long project has been completed to date and processed with an informal consultation.
- **Project Timeline:** Project being completed in short segments because of funding; therefore, project completion date is unknown.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 98 Bypass

Project Sponsor: Alabama Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Project Number:** NH 0210(013)
- **Location:** Mobile County, Alabama
- **Estimated Cost:** $112 Million

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Alabama Ecological Services
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Section 7 ESA formal consultation (Biological Opinion issued 2004)
- **Project Timeline:** No date exists for completion of this project. Project was started and stopped before completion due to litigation. Funding has now become the primary issue with completion.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Gulf Coast Parkway

Project Sponsor: Florida Department of Transportation.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Florida Department of Transportation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:**
- **Location:** Gulf Coast Florida
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** Panama City Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** This is a new 29-mile roadway extending from US 98 in Gulf County to US 231 in Bay County, Florida. The FWS has participated in early planning through Florida's Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) process and the NEPA process since 2007. FWS is currently working with FDOT to wrap up NEPA and resolve issues under dispute; this involvement should be completed by fall 2017. Once NEPA is complete, section 7 consultation will be initiated. FWS will probably recommend that FDOT complete a conference opinion on the petitioned Panama City crayfish.
- **Project Timeline:** Summer 2018

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: SR 87 Connector Road

Project Sponsor: Florida Department of Transportation.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Florida Department of Transportation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:**
- **Location:** Gulf Coast Florida
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** Panama City Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** This is a new 14-mile connector road from SR 87S at US 90 east of Milton to SR 87N north of Milton in Santa Rosa County, Florida. The biological opinion (BO) has been completed, but is likely to require modifications once the construction contract is let.
- **Project Timeline:** December 2018

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 98 Brooks Bridge Replacement

Project Sponsor: Florida Department of Transportation.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Florida Department of Transportation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:**
- **Location:** Gulf Coast Florida
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** Panama City Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** This project is the replacement of a 0.8-mile bridge from Okaloosa Island to Fort Walton Beach in Okaloosa County, Florida. The FWS is currently coordinating with FDOT and their contractors and are awaiting the Biological Assessment. Formal consultation is likely to be initiated to address impacts to Gulf sturgeon.
- **Project Timeline:** December 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: West Bay Parkway (SR 388)

Project Sponsor: Florida Department of Transportation.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Florida Department of Transportation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:**
- **Location:** Gulf Coast Florida
- **Estimated Cost**: Unknown
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** Panama City Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** This includes expanding existing roadway and extending the road on new alignment from SR 77 Bay County to US 98 in Walton County. FWS is currently working with FDOT to wrap up NEPA and resolve issues under dispute; this involvement should be completed by fall 2017. Consultation will likely be concluded informally.
- **Project Timeline:** December 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Dalton Expansion pipeline

Project Sponsor: Williams Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, L.L.C. (Transco)

Project Description: 106-mile natural gas pipeline lateral connecting Williams' existing Transco natural gas pipeline in central Georgia to an existing electric generating facility in north Georgia

- **Sector: Natural Gas Pipeline**
- **Lead Agency: FERC**
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** Docket CP15-117
- **Location:** Coweta, Carroll, Douglas, Paulding, Bartow, Gordon, Murray counties, Georgia
- **Estimated Cost:** Approximately $106 Million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES, Athens, GA
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS and partners worked closely with Transco to identify areas with listed or rare species, suggest alternative routes, and suggest modifications to construction methods to minimize impacts on 12 listed aquatic and terrestrial fish, animals, and plants. FWS and the FERC completed formal consultation for impacts to listed species under Section 7 of the ESA May 11, 2016 (consultation initiated April 28 = 13 days) -- consultation time was significantly reduced due to prior coordination between Transco and FWS during project design phases.
- **Project Timeline:** The pipeline currently is being constructed, and FWS, Transco, and the FERC continue to coordinate/consult on potential impacts associated with unforeseen alterations in project timing and installation. FWS involvement will not conclude until 10 years after project completion, when monitoring of restoration actions at streams excavated for pipeline installation (and, if necessary, implementation of appropriate remedial action) is completed, as required under the BO's RPMs/ITCs.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Richland Creek Reservoir

Project Sponsor: Paulding County Water System

Project Description

- **Sector:** Drinking Water
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** USACE Permit # 200701410
- **Location:** Paulding County, Georgia
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100M
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES, Athens, GA
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The USACOE and applicant consulted early with FWS to determine potential impacts to trust resources and measures to reduce those impacts. FWS and the USACOE completed formal consultation, under Section 7 of the ESA, to evaluate on impacts of the project on listed fish in March 2013. FWS and the USACOE later consulted informally on project impacts when the Northern long-eared bat was listed in April 2015 -- surveys commissioned by the applicant did not locate this threatened species on site, and consultation again concluded June 16, 2015.
- **Project Timeline**: Groundbreaking for access roads was September 2015. The dam has not yet been constructed, and no listed species habitat has been inundated. FWS involvement will continue through the life of the project; our BO included RPMs/ITCs to (1) install USGS real time gages to document State and Federal mandated withdrawal rates from the Etowah River, pool elevation in the reservoir, and water quality and quantity in Richland Creek below the reservoir; and (2) sample permanent biological monitoring stations at specific sites and specific timeframes in Richland Creek and provide FWS with fish community biomass and composition data to evaluate impacts associated with reservoir construction and operation.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Russell Creek Reservoir

Project Sponsor: Etowah Water and Sewer Authority

Project Description

- **Sector:** Drinking Water
- **Lead Agency:** Corps of Engineers, Savannah District
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** USACE Permit 200700907
- **Location:** Dawson County, Georgia
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100M
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES, Athens, GA
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The USACOE and applicant consulted early with FWS to determine potential impacts to trust resources and measures to reduce those impacts. FWS and the USACOE completed formal consultation, under Section 7 of the ESA, to evaluate on impacts of the project on listed fish in July 2013. FWS and the USACOE later consulted informally on project impacts when the Northern long-eared bat was listed in April 2015 -- the biological opinion was quickly revised in July 2015, after EWSA stated tree clearing would occur during periods when female bats were not rearing young.
- **Project Timeline**: No work has occurred on the reservoir. If it is constructed, FWS involvement will continue through the life of the project; our BO included RPMs/ITCs to sample permanent biological monitoring stations at specific sites and specific timeframes in Richland Creek and the Etowah River and provide FWS with fish community biomass and composition data to evaluate impacts associated with reservoir construction and operation.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Atlanta-Chattanooga High Speed Ground Transportation Project (HGST)

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Railroad Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** T001684 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Georgia Counties: Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Douglas, Floyd, Fulton, Gordon, Murray, Paulding, Polk, Walker, Whitfield; Tennessee County: Hamilton.
- **Estimated Cost:** $8.76B-10.42B
- **Other:** 110-Mile High-Speed Ground Transportation Corridor from Atlanta to Chattanooga. To maintain and enhance the economic vitality of the two anchor cities and throughout the Project Area, the mobility of those traveling within the Project Area requires improvement. With greater regional mobility connections to Atlanta and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (HJAIA), a connection to the national and global economy would be realized for Chattanooga and Northwest Georgia.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going.
    - August 22, 2007. A Notice of Intent was published in the Federal Register (Vol. 72, No. 162, Pages: 47121-47122) that the FHWA and FRA will be jointly preparing an Environmental Impact Statement with
    - GDOT and TDOT on the impacts related to the proposed project.
    - July 26, 2010. FWS sent a letter to GDOT, accepting the role as a participating agency in the project planning process.
    - October 19, 2010. FWS participated in a meeting focused on introducing the project to participating agencies.
    - November 19, 2010. FWS submitted a letter to GDOT in response to their early coordination request, listing endangered and threatened species concerns related to the proposed project alignments.
    - October 31, 2016. Review of Tier 1 Draft EIS, comments submitted in a letter to FRA (FWS Log# 04EG1000-2017-TA-0134).
- **Project Timeline:** Project timeline not known.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Summerville Bypass and Widening US 27 / SR 1

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 621082 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Chattooga County, Georgia
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$113M

Other: reconstruction and relocation of a segment of SR1/US27 from CR 329 to Taylor Ridge then on new location to existing SR1/US27 near East Trion. The gross length of the project is 8.0 miles. The original concept called for a 4 lane, 44' depressed median beginning at CR 329 northward one-half mile, then transitioned to a· 14' flushed median for approximately one mile, then at the crest of Taylor Ridge transitioned to a 4' median for approximately 0.7 mile. From this point the proposed typical section called for a 44' depressed median for the remainder of the project. The concept has been revised to call for two 12' lanes in each direction with a 44' depressed median from CR 329 extending northward for 870', then transitions to a 14.5' median barrier for 5800'. Then it will proceed northeasterly on new location to continue the four-lane highway along Taylor's Ridge to bypass the town of Summerville and then return to the existing alignment of SR1/US2. This project is a route designated as part of the Governor's Road Improvement Program (GRIP). Originally adopted in 1989 by the Georgia General Assembly, GRIP is a system of 19 proposed economic development highways in Georgia. 328 miles of the 352-mile US 27 corridor are completed or currently under construction. Estimated cost to complete the remaining portions of the corridor project: $391M.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going.
    - 1996-2016. Continued coordination to assess impacts to species under ESA and impacts related to FWCA.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: 2023.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: SR 20 Improvements

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highways Administration and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 0014131 0014132 0014133 0002862 0003681 0003682 621350 0002626 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Bartow, Cherokee and Forsyth counties, Georgia.
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$300M +
- **Other:** The SR 20 Improvements project area extends for approximately 24 miles, between I-575 in Canton and SR 400 in Cumming.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going.
    - December 19, 2013. FWS submits a letter to be a Cooperating Agency.
    - December 8, 2015. GDOT released a notice that the project would be funded through funds secured from the State's Transportation Funding Act of 2015. Federal lead transferred at this time to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
    - March 1, 2017. FWS received Practical Alternatives Report.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: 2019.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: State Route 5 Improvements and McCaysville Bypass

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 621340 620490 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Fannin County Georgia, Polk County, Tennessee
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$100M
- **Other:** State Route 5 from State Route 2/Blue Ridge to proposed McCaysville Bypass (621340) and McCaysville Bypass (620490). The proposed project corridor is approximately 11 miles long.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** Region 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going.
    - 2016. FWS participated in early coordination and comments related to potential species impacts.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: 2020.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widening and Improvements to U.S. Highway 441/State Route 15

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 122090 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Rabun County, Georgia
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$100M
- **Other:** Widening and improvements to U.S. Highway 441/State Route 15 from CS 500/Clayburn Road, just inside Clayton's northern limit Rabun County, Georgia, northward to the North Carolina state line. This project is a route designated as part of the Governor's Road Improvement Program (GRIP). Originally adopted in 1989 by the Georgia General Assembly, GRIP is a system of 19 proposed economic development highways in Georgia. 228 miles of the 371-mile US 441corridor are completed or currently under construction. Estimated cost to complete the remaining portions of the corridor project: $797M.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** Region 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going.
    - 1994. FWS began coordination on the project with GDOT.
    - March 3, 2016. FWS submitted FWCA comments to Federal Highway Administration.
    - May 16, 2016. FWS completed informal section 7 consultation for Small Whorled Pogonia
    - July 11, 2016. FWS submitted a BO related to project impacts on listed bats.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: 2019.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: South Calhoun Bypass

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 662510 610870 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:**
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$100M
- **Other:** South Calhoun Bypass; connecting State Route 53 southwest of Calhoun to State Route 53 east of Calhoun (PI 662510) and construction of a full diamond interchange for Union Grove Road at Interstate 75 (PI 610870)

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going.
    - 2004. FWS begins coordination on the project.
    - 2004-2016. FWS participates in continued coordination related to project activities.
    - June 10, 2011. FWS submitted FWCA comments to Federal Highway Administration.
    - January 20, 2016. FWS submitted a BO related to project impacts on listed bats.
    - 2016 – 2017. FWS has continued to participate in coordination related to changes in project activities.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: currently under construction, expected completion date June 30, 2021.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: State Route 515 & 2/ U.S. Highway 76 improvements and Young Harris Bypass

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 122900 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Towns and Union counties, Georgia.
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$100M
- **Other:** The project proposes the widening and reconstruction of State Route (SR) 515/United States Highway (US) 76 in Union and Towns counties, Georgia, from City Street (CS) 2898/Young Harris Street in Blairsville to just north of County Road (CR) 153/Timberline Drive in Young Harris. SR 515/US 76 is also part of Corridor A of the Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS). The ADHS was authorized by Congress in 1965 and was designed to generate economic development in the previously isolated Appalachian region. In addition, SR 515/US 76 is a route designated as part of the Governor's Road Improvement Program (GRIP). Originally adopted in 1989 by the Georgia General Assembly, GRIP is a system of 19 proposed economic development highways in Georgia. 75 miles of the 76-mile Appalachian Developmental Highway corridor are completed or currently under construction. Estimated cost to complete the remaining portions of the corridor project: $13.7M.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going.
    - 2007. FWS begins coordination on the project.
    - 2007-2017. FWS participates in continued coordination related to project activities.
    - February 21 and 22, 2017. FWS received a request to initiate formal Section 7 for listed bats, informal Section 7 for listed plants, and to provide comment related to FWCA.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: 2020.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Rome-Cartersville Development Corridor (formerly US 411 Connector)

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 661950 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Bartow County, Georgia
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$200M
- **Other:** Rome-Cartersville Development Corridor. Formerly referred to as the US 411 Connector project. US 411 Connector from State Route 20/3/U.S. Highway 41 to Interstate-75. This project provides a new US 411 to I-75 connection by constructing a 7.31 mile long freeway on new location between the existing US 411/US 41 interchange and existing SR 20 east of I-75, with a new interchange at I-75. An interchange with existing US 411 is also proposed. 24 bridges are on the project.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going.
    - Coordination for this project has not occurred since 2013.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: 2051

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: State Route 92 Widening

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 621720 0007692 0006857 0006866 0006862 731865 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Cobb and Paulding counties, Georgia.
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$180M
- **Other:** State Route 92 widening from just north of State Route 120 to Old Burnt Hickory Road in Cobb and Paulding counties. ~$72 mil. Estimated construction start 2025. Additional improvements (0006857 0006866 0006862 731865) along this corridor add ~$108 mil of project dollars, construction beginning in 2018. The proposed project would begin just north of SR 120 and extend into Paulding and Cobb counties along the existing SR 92 alignment to Old Burnt Hickory Road. The project typical section is projected to be 4-lanes with a raised median and curb and gutter. A sidewalk or multi-use path is also proposed. Roundabouts will be proposed as intersection improvements at Due West Road, Due West Street, and Old Burnt Hickory Road. The project is approximately 8 miles long.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going
    - 2005. FWS started coordination on this project.
    - 2005-2016. FWS participated in continued coordination related to project activities.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: 2018

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Tybee Island Causeway

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 0010560 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Tybee Island, Georgia
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$82M (included because of high profile nature with GA legislators).
- **Other:** This project proposes to improve US 80/SR 26 from West of Bull River to East of Lazeretto Creek. Replacement and widening of the existing bridges is proposed to add shoulders for safety and to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Wide paved shoulders are proposed for safety and to accommodate bicycles. This route is the only access to Tybee Island and serves as the only hurricane and emergency route. This project is almost entirely within the boundary of the Fort Pulaski National Monument/park. There is a Bicycle/pedestrian trail (McQueens Trail) parallel to the project and connections are proposed from the bridges to this trail.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going.
    - FWS participated in continued coordination related to project activities.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: 2026

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: U.S. Highway 1 / State Route 4 Improvements

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 522180 522190 522220 522200 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Appling and Toombs counties, Georgia.
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$175M
- **Other:** Widening and reconstruction of US Highway 1/State Route 4. The approved concept for EDS-545(23) in Appling and Toombs counties is proposed to widen and reconstruct US 1/SR 4 from Plant Hatch in Appling County to SR 56 in Toombs County. At the beginning of the project, US 1/SR 4 would be widened on the east side to have four lanes with a 32-44 ft grassed median (32' from the beginning of the project to south of SR 147). The widening would continue on the east side to the end of the project at SR 56, the beginning of EDS-545(24) in Toombs County. Existing right-of-way along US 1/SR 4 varies from 100 feet to 200 feet. The proposed right-of-way would vary from 184 feet to 253 feet for the length of the project. The speed design is 55 mph, and access would be by permit. New parallel bridge structures will be constructed over the Altamaha River, Altamaha River Overflow, Williams Creek, and Cobb Creek. (The existing bridges at these locations will be rehabilitated and widened under bridge project numbers.). This project is a route designated as part of the Governor's Road Improvement Program (GRIP). Originally adopted in 1989 by the Georgia General Assembly, GRIP is a system of 19 proposed economic development highways in Georgia. 197 miles of the 331-mile US 1 corridor are completed or currently under construction. Estimated cost to complete the remaining portions of the corridor project: $794M.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going
    - FWS participated in continued coordination related to project activities.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: 2020.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: State Route 38 / U.S. Highway 84 widening

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 0012845 422120 522770 522775 522780 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Clinch and Ware counties, Georgia.
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$175M
- **Other:** The project begins just west of Greasy Branch and ends just west of CR88/Ruskin Road. The project will also replace the existing bridges at Greasy Branch, Little Alligator Creek, and Big Alligator Creek (PI#522775). 0012845 proposes to widen US84/SR38 from 2 to 4 lanes with a 32-foot depressed, grassed median. The proposed alignment follows the existing highway for the length of the project. The project begins at Peagler Crossing Road and ends at Fire Tower Road. This project is a route designated as part of the Governor's Road Improvement Program (GRIP). Originally adopted in 1989 by the Georgia General Assembly, GRIP is a system of 19 proposed economic development highways in Georgia. 259 miles of the 259-mile US 84 corridor are completed or currently under construction. Estimated cost to complete the remaining portions of the corridor project: $0M.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going
    - Section 7 and FWCA coordination completed. FWS will continue to communicate with GDOT and the federal lead related to changes in project activities.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: currently under construction.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: State Route 96 corridor improvements

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** 0007251 322460 322470 (GDOT Project Identification)
- **Location:** Peach, Houston, and Twiggs counties, Georgia.
- **Estimated Cost:** ~$150M
- **Other:** State Route 96 corridor widening from the existing two lanes to the proposed four lanes, from Interstate-75 to Interstate-16. The project will also reconstruct the interchange of I-16 and SR 96. The existing bridge spanning I-16 will be replaced and SR 96 will be widened to 4 lanes with a raised median. Interchange lighting will be installed with the project's construction.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** Region 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going.
    - Section 7 and FWCA coordination completed. FWS will continue to communicate with GDOT and the federal lead related to changes in project activities.
- **Project Timeline:** Project estimated start date: some parts of this project are under construction.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (SHEP)**

Project Sponsor: Dept. of Commerce, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (federal sponsors), Georgia Department of Transportation and Georgia Ports Authority (non-federal sponsors)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Dept. of Commerce, USACE
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Savannah Harbor, GA
- **Estimated Cost: 702+M**
- **Other:** The WRDA of 1990 authorized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to construct the SHEP after receiving approval from the Department of Interior (FWS), Department of Commerce, and EPA that the associated mitigation plan adequately addressed the potential environmental impacts. After 16 years of analysis a plan was approved. SHEP's budgeted cost is $702M (FY 2014 price levels), over 40 percent of the cost is for the mitigation of impacts, mostly environmental. No federal construction dollars have been budgeted yet. The State of Georgia has a Project Partnership Agreement with the USACOE to accelerated use of the Georgia portion of the funding to allow the construction to begin.

FWS Involvement

- **Region** 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES, Charleston ES
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going
- FWS is currently involved in reviewing and commenting on revisions to various SHEP plans; Supplemental Environmental Assessments and work plans. This will last until near the time construction is complete, currently projected for January 2021. Also FWS participates in the Interagency Coordination Team for SHEP monitoring and adaptive management. This will last at least 10 years after construction is complete to insure effects of the SHEP are as projected.
- **Project Timeline:** Timeline for completion of FWS involvement: The FWS will be involved with at least some aspect of the SHEP through year 2031.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Atlanta-Charlotte High Speed Ground Transportation Project (HGST)

Project Sponsor: Georgia Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Railroad Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location**: Northern Georgia, Northern SC and vicinity of Charlotte, NC
- **Estimated Cost:** capital costs $2.5B, unknown complete cost
- **Other:** The Atlanta to Charlotte Passenger Rail Corridor Investment Plan (PRCIP) is an extension of the Southeast High-Speed Rail Corridor (SEHSR), which is under development from Charlotte to Washington, D.C. The extension from Charlotte, would travel southeast through portions of South Carolina and into Atlanta. The Atlanta to Charlotte Passenger Rail Corridor Investment Plan project was awarded a federal High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail grant in 2010, which funded most of the project. The Georgia Department of Transportation contributed additional "match" funding.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 4
- **Field Office:** Georgia ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** On-going. 2013. Initial Scoping meeting for the project. Upcoming review of Draft EIS
- **Project Timeline:** 2017 Draft EIS available.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-69 Bridge over the Ohio River

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration, Indiana Department of Transportation; Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration, Indiana
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** KYTC 2-1088
- **Location:** Henderson County, Kentucky; Vanderburgh County, Indiana
- **Estimated Cost:** Greater than 100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 3 and 4
  - **Lead Region, if more than one involved:** not identified at this time
- **Field Office:** Kentucky Field Office; Indiana Field Office
  - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** not identified at this time
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS technical assistance and early coordination in the form of meetings. FWS review and comment (3/6/17) on the FWHA NOI to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.
- **Project Timeline:** Per KYTC, submittal of a Biological Assessment is anticipated in the fall of 2017 for ESA review by the FWS. A draft EIS is anticipated spring of 2018. Initiation and completion of ESA consultation cannot be determined at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-75 Widening

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** KYTC 8-6.1, 8-6.2, 8-6.3
- **Location:** Rockcastle County, Kentucky
- **Estimated Cost:** Greater than 100 million
- **Other:** Widening Interstate to Six Lanes

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Kentucky Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA informal consultation completed November 4, 2016 on KYTC 8-6.3 section. Continued FWS involvement is ongoing including technical assistance and ESA consultation for the remaining KYTC 8-6.1 and 8-6.2 sections
- **Project Timeline:** KYTC intends to complete presence/absence surveys for sections 8-6.1 and .2 during the summer of 2017. Submittal of a Biological Assessment is anticipated in the fall of 2017 for ESA review by the FWS. ESA consultation is expected to be completed fall/winter 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Kentucky Lock Addition Project

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Nashville District

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation (by water)
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Nashville District
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FWS#2016-B-0469
- **Location:** Marshall and Livingston counties, KY
- **Estimated Cost:** $1.25 billion
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Kentucky Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA consultation regarding potential impacts to aquatic fauna. Biological Opinion completed. FWS is involved in an ongoing, minor modification of the BO and mussel monitoring through project construction.

Project Timeline: The BO completed in 2016. A minor modification of the project will require a minor modification of the BO that is expected to be completed

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Letcher County Prison

Project Sponsor: Federal Bureau of Prisons

Project Description

- **Sector:** Prison (construction)
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Bureau of Prisons
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Letcher County, KY
- **Estimated Cost:** $160,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Kentucky Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The Bureau of Prisons has submitted a draft Biological Assessment to the Kentucky Field Office to address ESA species and is expected to initiate formal consultation in early April 2017.
- **Project Timeline:** The Bureau of Prisons has requested a response from the Kentucky Field Office to the draft BA by the end of March at which time it is expected that they will initiate formal consultation. Formal consultation is expected to be completed in 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Olmsted Lock and Dam Project

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Louisville District & Inland Waterways Trust Fund

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation (by water)
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Louisville District
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Ballard County, KY and Pulaski County, IL
- **Estimated Cost:** $2.96 billion
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Kentucky Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA consultation regarding potential impacts to aquatic fauna has been completed. A Biological Opinion was completed by the Tennessee FO when project was initiated. FWS expects ongoing consultation on an as needed basis until the project is completed in 2023 to 2028 related to federally listed species, primarily freshwater mussels.
- **Project Timeline:** A BO was completed in 2003. FWS expects re-initiation of consultation with the USACOE in 2017-2019 due to recent listings of additional species under the ESA. Re-initiation may be informal or formal

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: The Tennessee Gas Abandonment and Capacity Project (ACR) and Utica Marcellus Texas Pipeline Project (UMTP)

Project Sponsor: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. and Utica Marcellus Texas Pipeline, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Pipelines
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC Docket No.CP15-88-000
- **Location:** multi-state – see below
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Project includes: (1) abandonment of 964 miles of mainline pipeline facilities between Louisiana and Ohio; (2) construction and operation of new and replacement pipelines totaling about 15.5 miles in Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi; (3) construction of four new natural gas compressor stations in Ohio; (4) construction of two new compressor units at an existing compressor station in Kentucky; (5) construction of one new compressor unit at an approved compressor station in Kentucky (6) construction of approximately 28 miles of greenfield lateral/collector lines in Ohio, (7) construction of a 200-acre tank storage facility and pump station in in Ohio; and (8) construction of approximately 202 miles of greenfield pipeline in Louisiana and Texas.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 2, 3, 4
- **Lead Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Many, multiple-states
- **Lead Field office:** Kentucky Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA section 7 consultation
- **Project Timeline:** Due to the pending nature of certain species-specific surveys and effects determinations, the FWS cannot provide an estimated completion date for Endangered Species Act consultation at this time. Upon receipt of the required information, the FWS will evaluate the potential effects of the Project on these species.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 51 Bridge Replacement

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** KYTC 1-1140.01
- **Location:** Ballard County, Kentucky
- **Estimated Cost:** Greater than 100 million
- **Other:** Replace bridge and approaches over the Ohio River near Cairo, Kentucky

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Kentucky Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA consultation process has not officially begun with the FWS at this time.
- **Project Timeline:** This project has been identified in the KYTC six year plan (2016-2022); however, no schedule and/or timeline have been identified yet per coordination with KYTC.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Wolf Creek Dam/Lake Cumberland Return to Historical Pool Level Operations

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District

Project Description

- **Sector:** Dam repair
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FWS 2008-B-0075
- **Location:** Russell County, Kentucky
- **Estimated Cost:** 100 million +
- **Other:** An emergency draw-down of Lake Cumberland was facilitated in 2007 to conduct repairs on the Wolf Creek Dam; this project involved returning the lake to historical pool level operations. The action area included Wolf Creek Dam, Lake Cumberland, and those riverine, riparian, and upland habitats associated with the Cumberland River mainstem and its tributaries upstream of Wolf Creek Dam, subject to temporary and/or permanent inundation.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Kentucky Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The drawdown of the lake exposed previously un-documented areas that were inhabited by the federally-endangered duskytail darter (*Etheostoma percnurum*). These areas were likely to be temporarily-to-permanently re-inundated by a return to historical lake operations; therefore, the USACOE determined the action "may affect, was likely to adversely affect" the species and requested formal consultation. Though the project is complete, FWS will continue to oversee implementation of the conservation measures (as described below) through 2024.
- **Project Timeline:** Formal consultation was initiated on February 13, 2014 and a final non-jeopardy biological opinion was issued by FWS on March 24, 2014. The USACOE accepted the BO on April 17, 2014 and immediately began returning Lake Cumberland to historical pool elevation. Lake Cumberland now operates at the historical pool elevation of 723 feet. Conservation measures described within the proposed action are undergoing active implementation and include the capture and holding of duskytail darters from the affected sites for propagation, three habitat improvement projects to improve water quality within duskytail darter projects, and following, as much as conditions allow, the Top SEPA Curve during the filling cycle until the habitat improvement projects are complete. Annual monitoring of the affected areas is also on-going.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Reconstruction of KY 32

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** KYTC 9-192
- **Location:** Elliott and Rowan counties, Kentucky
- **Estimated Cost:** Greater than 100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Kentucky Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA Section 7 formal consultation regarding adverse effects on federally-listed bats.
- **Project Timeline:** Currently the project has no letting date for construction. A Draft Biological Opinion has been completed and is in the review process. Formal consultation is expected to be completed in March 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Venture Global Calcasieu Pass Terminal and TransCameron Pipeline Project

Project Sponsor: Venture Global Calcasieu Pass, LLC (Venture Global) and TransCameron Pipeline, LLC (TransCameron)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Pipelines
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** CP15-550-000
- **Location:** Calcasieu River/Pass in Cameron Parish, Louisiana
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Louisiana Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS concluded an Endangered Species Act Section 7 informal consultation with FERC via official letter dated September 24, 2015. Through that correspondence, FWS concurred with "not likely to adversely affect" determinations for West Indian manatee, red knot, and piping plover. Migratory bird habitat impact assessments and associated mitigation considerations are currently being coordinated between FWS and the project proponent. FWS recent correspondence with FERC regarding those assessments occurred on February 6, 2017, and FWS biologists conducted a site inspection of the proposed impact area on February 23, 2017.
- **Project Timeline:** An estimated completion date is not available at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Red River L&D No. 4

Project Sponsor: BOST3 Hydroelectric Company, LLC (BOST3)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Hydropower
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC Project Number 12756
- **Location:** Natchitoches Parish, LA
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Louisiana Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The project proponent is continuing to coordinate with FERC regarding their license application. FWS has conducted Endangered Species Act Section 7 informal consultation regarding interior least tern, pallid sturgeon, and northern long-eared bat with FERC via emails and official letters over the last 14 years. FWS will continue to coordinate with FERC and the license applicant in a timely manner as requests for such coordination are submitted to our office.
- **Project Timeline:** An estimated completion date is not available at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Tier One Baton Rouge Loop Toll Facility

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** F.A.P. Project No. H008732
- **Location:** Baton Rouge, LA
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Louisiana Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS corresponded with FHWA regarding Endangered Species Act Section 7 requirements via official letter dated March 10, 2009, including information regarding potential project impacts to the Alabama (inflated) heelsplitter mussel, the Atlantic (Gulf) sturgeon, West Indian manatee, and pallid sturgeon. FWS provided additional comments regarding potential impacts to jurisdictional wetlands and migratory birds in an official letter dated December 21, 2011. FWS will continue to coordinate with FHWA in a timely manner as requests for such coordination are submitted to our office.
- **Project Timeline:** An estimated completion date is not available at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **I-10 to US 61 in St. John the Baptist Parish**

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: F.A.P. Project No. H004891
- **Location:** St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 4
- **Field Office:** Louisiana Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS has attended multiple meetings and provided written comments in an official letter dated December 20, 2013, in response to a Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed project. FWS expressed concerns regarding the reduction of project alternatives at that time and requested that all less-damaging practicable alternatives be included in forthcoming environmental analyses. That sentiment was reiterated in a May 12, 2015, email to the environmental consulting firm representing FHWA. FWS will continue to coordinate with FHWA in a timely manner as requests for such coordination are submitted to our office.
- **Project Timeline:** An estimated completion date is not available at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion

Project Sponsor: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (Louisiana)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Ecosystem Restoration
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District.
- **Location:** Jefferson, Plaquemine, and Lafourche Parishes, Louisiana
- **Estimated Cost:** $102,345,700
- **Other:** The diversion is expected to restore at least 20,000 acres of coastal wetlands over 50 years by restoring Mississippi River flows to the adjacent estuary.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Louisiana Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS has agreed to be a cooperating agency for the NEPA analysis. FWS involvement would include providing a draft and final Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act report on the permit, NEPA comments on the draft and final EIS, and preparation of a Biological Opinion. Also the FWS is the Lead Federal Agency as a trustee under OPA. Assistance in preparing a Migratory Bird Conservation Plan is a possibility.
- **Project Timeline:** The timeline is currently being developed.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Gulf LNG Liquefaction Project**

Project Sponsor: Gulf LNG Liquefaction Company, LLC and Gulf LNG Energy, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** CP15-521-000
- **Location:** Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi
- **Estimated Cost:** Estimated >$100 million
- **Other:** This project is proposing to construct natural gas liquefaction and liquid natural gas (LNG) export facilities at an existing LNG import terminal.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** Region 4
- **Field Office:** Jackson, Mississippi Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Coordination under the Endangered Species Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. To date our agency has coordinated with FERC and the applicant during FERC's pre-filing process. Our office has submitted comments regarding a number of different wetland mitigation options under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act review process. Additionally, our office has submitted preliminary information relative to potential impacts to federally listed species, migratory birds, and bald eagles. Our office will submit additional information on these issues once FERC's final environmental document is received within the allotted time allowed.
- **Project Timeline:** FERC received an incomplete application on 06/19/2015 is waiting on additional information from the applicant to complete the application. Once FERC receives a complete application, FERC will publish its final environmental document. Once that final environmental document is published, FWS will coordinate with FERC within the allotted time outlined in an agreed-upon timetable.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Port Bienville Railroad Project

Project Sponsor: Hancock County Port and Harbor Commission

Project Description

- **Sector:** Surface Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Department of Transportation/ Federal Railroad Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FRA-0023-00(003)/105494 101000-102000; TAILS# 2013-I-210, 2016-CPA-068
- **Location:** Hancock and Pearl River counties, Mississippi
- **Estimated Cost:** Unknown
- **Other:** Approximately 24-mile freight rail connecting the Port Bienville Railroad and the Norfolk Southern rail line near Interstate 59, north of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's John C. Stennis Space Center.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Mississippi
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Endangered Species Act Consultation: species list provided 12/16/2014 and updated on 11/10/2016. Agreed to be a Cooperating Agency in development of EIS on 02/19/2016.
- **Project Timeline:** An estimated completion date is not available at this time. A draft Environmental Impact Statement is being prepared with an anticipated release date of March 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: RDU runway reconstruction in Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** AV-5700
- **Location:** Wake County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Bonner Bridge and NC 12 Improvements in Dare Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** B-2500
- **Location:** Wake County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-85 pavement rehab in Vance/Warren Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-0914
- **Location:** Wake County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** Vance and Warren counties, North Carolina

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widen I-40 in Durham/Orange Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-3306
- **Location:** Durham and Orange counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widen I-40 in Johnston/Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-5111
- **Location:** Johnston and Wake counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-40/US 64 improvements in Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-5338
- **Location:** Wake County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Future I-73 in Guilford Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-5510
- **Location:** Guilford County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-40 improvements in Durham/Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-5702
- **Location:** Durham and Wake counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-440/US 1/US 64 interchange reconstruction in Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-5703
- **Location:** Wake County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Piedmont Rail Corridor Improvements in multiple counties

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** P-2918
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Raleigh Union Train Station improvements in Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** P-5500
- **Location:** Wake County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Norfolk Southern Rail Line grade separations in Durham Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** P-5710
- **Location:** Durham County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Havelock Bypass in Craven Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-1015
- **Location:** Craven County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: NC 11/NC 903 on new location in Pitt Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2250
- **Location:** Pitt County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Completion of New Bern Bypass in Craven/Jones Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2301
- **Location:** Craven and Jones counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: NC 24 improvements in Cumberland/Duplin/Sampson Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2303
- **Location:** Cumberland, Duplin, and Sampson counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Future I-73 in Guilford/Rockingham Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2413
- **Location:** Guilford and Rockingham counties**,** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widen US 1 in Richmond Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2501
- **Location:** Richmond County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widen US 158 in Gates/Hertford Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2507
- **Location:** Gates and Hertford counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 17 widening and bypasses of Belgrade, Maysville and Pollucksville in Jones/Carteret Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2514
- **Location:** Jones and Carteret counties**,** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Asheboro Southern Bypass in Randolph Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2536
- **Location:** Randolph County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widen US 64 in Tyrrell Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2545
- **Location:** Tyrrell County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Goldsboro Bypass in Wayne/Lenoir Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2554
- **Location:** Wayne and Lenoir counties**,** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widen US 158 in Camden/Currituck Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2574
- **Location:** Camden and Currituck counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Mid-Currituck Bridge in Currituck Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2576
- **Location:** Currituck County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widen US 158/NC 46 in Northampton Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2582
- **Location:** Northampton County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Completion of Wilmington Bypass in Brunswick Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2633
- **Location:** Brunswick County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Western Wake Freeway in Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2635
- **Location:** Wake County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Triangle Expressway Southeast Extension - NC 55 to US 401 - in Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2721
- **Location:** Wake County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 401 widening and bypasses in Franklin/Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2814
- **Location:** Franklin and Wake counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Triangle Expressway Southeast Extension - US 401 to I-40 - in Wake/Johnston Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2828
- **Location:** Wake and Johnston counties**,** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Triangle Expressway Southeast Extension - I-40 to U 64/264 Bypass in Wake/Johnston Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2829
- **Location:** Wake and Johnston counties**,** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Gallants Channel Bridge in Carteret Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-3307
- **Location:** Carteret County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widen US 401 in Hoke/Scotland Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-3333
- **Location:** Hoke and Scotland counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Rockingham Bypass in Richmond Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-3421
- **Location:** Richmond County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widen NC 211 in Brunswick Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-5021
- **Location:** Brunswick County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 15/US 501 widening in Hoke/Moore Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-5709
- **Location:** Hoke and Moore counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 70 improvements in Craven Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-5777
- **Location:** Craven County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Light Rail Service in Durham/Orange/Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** TE-4903A
- **Location:** Durham, Orange, and Wake counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: East End Connector on new location in Durham Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-0071
- **Location:** Durham County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Completion of Fayetteville Outer Loop - West - in Cumberland/Robeson Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-2519
- **Location:** Cumberland and Robeson counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Greensboro Western Loop in Guilford Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-2524
- **Location:** Guilford County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Greensboro Eastern Loop in Guilford Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-2525
- **Location:** Guilford County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-440/US widening and interchange reconstruction in Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-2719
- **Location:** Wake County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: NC 119 relocation in Alamance Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-3109
- **Location:** Alamance County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 117 relocation in Wayne Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-3125
- **Location:** Wayne County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Piney Grove Road improvements in Onslow Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-3810
- **Location:** Onslow County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 17 improvements in Onslow Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-4007
- **Location:** Onslow County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Independence Boulevard extension in New Hanover Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-4434
- **Location:** New Hanover County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Cape Fear Crossing on new location in Brunswick/New Hanover Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-4738
- **Location:** Brunswick and New Hanover counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Military Cutoff Road extension in New Hanover Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-4751
- **Location:** New Hanover County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 15/US 501 improvements in Orange Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-5304
- **Location:** Orange County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 1 improvements in Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-5307
- **Location:** Wake County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: NC 132 improvements in New Hanover Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-5702
- **Location:** New Hanover County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 70 improvements in Durham/Wake Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-5720
- **Location:** Durham and Wake counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: NC 54 improvements in Durham/Orange Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-5774
- **Location:** Durham and Orange counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Completion of Fayetteville Outer Loop - East - in Cumberland Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** X-0002
- **Location:** Cumberland County, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Corridor K Future US 74 ADHS sytem

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** A-0009
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Balfour Parkway NC 191 to US 64 Construct new location roadway

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-5744
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 221 Widen to multi-lanes and create Bypass of Rutherfordton on new location

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2233
- **Location:** Rutherfordton, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-26 Asheville Connector part on new location

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-2513
- **Location:** Asheville, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-26 US25 to NC 280 Widen to add additional lanes

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-4400
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-26 NC 280 to I-40 at Asheville add additional lanes

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-4700
- **Location:** Asheville, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-26 US 19/23 from Broadway Street in Asheville to TN state line

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** A-0010
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: NC 150 relocated NC 16 to I-77 widen to multi lanes

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2307
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 321 from N or US 70 in Hickory to SW Boulevard - widen to 6 lanes

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-4700
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 74 Shelby Bypass 4-lane divided highway on new location

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2707
- **Location:** Shelby**,** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** **>** $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-85 Widen roadway from US 321 to US 74

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-5895
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-85 Widen to 8 lanes from US 321 to NC 273

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-5719
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 221 Widen to four lanes from US 421 to NC 88

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2915
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: NC 105 Widen to multi lanes from US 221 to NC 105 Bypass in Boone

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2566
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 74 Independence Blvd Charlotte Outer Loop to Conference Dr

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-2509
- **Location:** Charlotte, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 74 Independence Blvd Brookshire Freeway to Idlewild Rd add additional lanes

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-0209
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-485 I-77 South of Charlotte to US 74 add express lanes

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-5507
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-77 I-277 to West Catawba Ave add additional lanes

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-3311
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-77 I-485 exit 1 to exit 11 widen to 10 lanes

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-5718
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-77 I-277 Construct HOT lanes

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-5405
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-77 From West Catawba Ave to I-40 widen and reconstruct roadway

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** I-4750
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: NC 73 From SR 2693 to US 29 Widen to multi lanes

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-5706
- **Location:** North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Future I-74 Winston-Salem Northern Beltway Eastern Section

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-2579
- **Location:** Winston-Salem, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Widen US 158 in Guilford/Forsyth Co

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2577
- **Location:** Guilford and Forsyth counties, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Winston-Salem Northern Beltway Western Section

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** R-2247
- **Location:** Winston-Salem, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-40 to west of US 158 in Winston-Salem replace bridges and safety improvements

Project Sponsor: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** NCDOT
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** U-2827
- **Location:** Winston-Salem, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million

FWS Involvement

- **Region: 4**
- **Field Office:** North Carolina Raleigh/Asheville
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** North Carolina Department of Transportation Merger Process. The Merger is a process to streamline the project development and permitting processes, agreed to by the USACE, NCDENR (DWQ, DCM), FHWA and NCDOT and supported by other stakeholder agencies and local units of government. To this effect, the Merger process provides a forum for appropriate agency representatives to discuss and reach consensus on ways to facilitate meeting the regulatory requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act during the NEPA/SEPA decision-making phase of transportation projects. The Merger Process allows agency representatives to work more efficiently (quicker and comprehensive evaluation and resolution of issues) by providing a common forum for them to discuss and find ways to comply with key elements of their agency's mission. The merger process helps to document how competing agency mandates are balanced during a shared decision-making process, which results in agency representatives reaching a "compromise based decision" to the regulatory and individual agency mandates.
- **Project Timeline:** TBD by NCDOT - see Merger Process timeline information

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Timbermill Wind

Project Sponsor*:* Timbermill Wind, LLC (Apex Clean Energy Holdings, LLC)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** USACE (CWA 404) or FWS (BGEPA Programmatic Take Permit)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA (at this time)
- **Location:** Chowan and Perquimans County, NC
- **Estimated Cost:** Exact cost unknown, but $100 million or more
- **Other:** Up to 105 turbines on 13,350 acres, as much as 300 Megawatts

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4 and the Eagle Technical Assistance Team
    - **Lead Region, if more than one involved:** 4
- **Field Office:** Raleigh ES FO, Region 4 Migratory Bird Division
    - **Lead Field Office:** Raleigh ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The Raleigh Ecological Services FO and Region 4 Migratory Bird Division met with Apex on multiple dates from 2014 to present, to discuss and review pre-construction monitoring in accordance with the FWS Land Based Wind Energy Guidelines and Eagle Conservation Plan Guidelines. No Formal ESA consultation is expected, but FWS anticipates need for a BGEPA Programmatic Take Permit (PTP).
- **Project Timeline:** Apex submitted a Final Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP) on 11/4/16. FWS provided comments to the ECP on 2/3/17. Application for a BGEPA PTP is anticipated in FY 2017. Pre-construction coordination and consultation is expected into 2018 (including ESA Section 7 Consultation for a CWA 404 Permit, and potential issuance of a BGEPA PTP). Post-construction monitoring and coordination expected through 2022 or beyond.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Little Alligator Wind

Project Sponsor: Renewable Energy Systems Americas Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** USACE (CWA 404) or FWS (BGEPA Programmatic Take Permit)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA (at this time)
- **Location:** Tyrrell County, NC
- **Estimated Cost:** Exact cost unknown, but $100 million or more
- **Other:** Up to 37 turbines on 10,546 acres, as much as 130 Megawatts

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Raleigh ES FO, Region 4 Migratory Bird Division
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The Raleigh Ecological Services FO and Region 4 Migratory Bird Division have coordinated with RES-Americas on pre-construction surveys since 2015. The company will continue surveys and coordination with the FWS in the next year or two. No Formal ESA consultation is expected, but the project may need a BGEPA Programmatic Take Permit (PTP).
- **Project Timeline:** The Raleigh Ecological Services FO and Region 4 Migratory Bird Division met with RES-Americas on November 4, 2015 and March 7, 2017, to discuss the first year of pre-construction monitoring in accordance with the FWS Land Based Wind Energy Guidelines and Eagle Conservation Plan Guidelines. FWS expects to continue with pre-construction coordination into 2019 (including ESA Section 7 Consultation for a CWA 404 Permit, and potential issuance of a BGEPA PTP). Post-construction monitoring and coordination is expected through 2022 or beyond.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Pantego Wind

Project Sponsor: Invenergy, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** USACE (CWA 404) or FWS (BGEPA Programmatic Take Permit)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA (at this time)
- **Location:** Beaufort County, NC
- **Estimated Cost:** Exact cost unknown, but is $100 million or more
- **Other:** Up to 49 turbines on 11,000 acres, as much as 80 Megawatts

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Raleigh ES FO, Region 4 Migratory Bird Division, Pocosin Lakes NWR
    - **Lead Field Office:** Raleigh ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The Raleigh ES FO, Region 4 Migratory Bird Division, and Pocosin Lakes NWR met with Invenergy in 2012 and 2014, to discuss/review pre-construction monitoring in accordance with the FWS Land Based Wind Energy Guidelines and Eagle Conservation Plan Guidelines. No Formal ESA consultation is expected, but FWS anticipates need for a BGEPA Programmatic Take Permit (PTP).
- **Project Timeline:** The Raleigh ES FO and Region 4 Migratory Bird Division met with Invenergy, LLC most recently on May 27, 2014, to discuss pre-construction monitoring progress and next steps. There has been no contact with the project sponsor since that date. If the project sponsor moves forward with the project, FWS anticipates continued pre-construction coordination (including ESA Section 7 Consultation for a CWA 404 Permit, and potential issuance of a BGEPA take permit) for up to 18 additional months, and post-construction monitoring and coordination after the project is constructed.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Amazon Wind Farm U.S. East (formerly Desert Wind)

Project Sponsor: Avangrid Renewables (formerly Iberdrola Renewables)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA (at this time)
- **Location:** Perquimans and Pasquotank counties, NC
- **Estimated Cost:** Exact cost unknown, but is $100 million or more
- **Other:** Currently 104 turbines, 208 Megawatts (when fully built out, 150 turbines and 300 Megawatts)

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Raleigh ES FO, Region 4 Migratory Bird Division
    - **Lead Field Office:** Raleigh ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The Raleigh ES FO and Region 4 Migratory Bird Division coordinated with the project sponsor from 2010 to 2012 on potential effects to listed species, migratory birds, and waterfowl. No formal ESA consultation or BGEPA Programmatic Take Permit was needed at that time. In 2016, the Raleigh ES FO coordinated with the project sponsor to determine potential effects to the newly-listed northern long-eared bat (NLEB).
- **Project Timeline:** The Raleigh ES FO coordinated with Avangrid's consultant in January 2016 on pre-construction monitoring for NLEB. No NLEB were recorded on the project site. The FWS involvement is completed, except for post-construction monitoring review. Post – construction monitoring is expected to continue until 2020 or beyond. The FWS will continue to coordinate review of post-construction monitoring methods and results with the project sponsor and its consultants.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: CSX Carolina Connector Cargo Terminal

Project Sponsor: CSX Railroad

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CWA 404)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** None yet
- **Location:** Edgecombe County, NC
- **Estimated Cost:** $160 million
- **Other:** Estimated 550 acres total. This facility will sort and re-route cargo arriving via trains and trucks for delivery.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Raleigh, NC
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The Raleigh Field Office has been meeting with CSX and their consultants since early 2016 regarding their desire to site an intermodal terminal in NC. FWS contacted CSX's consultants when the project was first proposed at a site in Johnston Co, NC due to its proximity to an important stream, Little River, for the federally-listed endangered dwarf wedgemussel and Tar River spinymussel. FWS expressed our concern and interest in working cooperatively on the project. That site was removed from consideration due to the public opposition. As they chose the new location, CSX's consultants worked with FWS on potential concerns. The current site is very near Swift Creek, a stream with dwarf wedgemussel and Tar River spinymussel, however the site drains away from that stream. As part of the project, there may be some rail improvements needed across Swift Creek. For this reason, FWS has discussed various methods which could lead to a "no effect" or a "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" determination during their ESA Section 7 consultation. At this, all discussions have been informal and no detailed plans have been distributed for review.
- **Project Timeline:** CSX hopes to break ground during the first quarter of 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Interstate 73

Project Sponsor*:* Federal Highway Administration and SC Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** USACE-SAC-2008-1333-DIS
- **Location:** Multiple Counties – Horry, Marion, Dillon, and Marlboro counties in SC; Richmond County, NC
- **Estimated Cost:** over $2.5 billion
- **Other:** New interstate approximately 75 miles in length from Hamlet, NC to Conway, SC. However, project split into two phases. The southern phase will connect the existing I-95 near Dillon, SC, to Conway, SC. The northern phase will connect I-95 in Dillon, SC to the existing I-73/74 near Hamlet, NC.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** SC Ecological Services, Raleigh Field Office
    - **Lead Field Office:** SC Ecological Services
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Served as a Cooperating Agency in development of EIS. Submitted NEPA comments. Performed section 7 (informal review). Provided comments via FWCA to USACE section 404 permitting.
- **Project Timeline:** Southern phase BA, October 2007; Northern phase BA July 2008; Final EIS September 2008; USACE public notice (both phases) January 2011: anticipated USACE permit issuance (both phases) July 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Interstate 526 (Mark Clark Expressway)

Project Sponsor*:* Federal Highway Administration and SC Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FWS 04ES1000-2008-CPA-0207
- **Location:** Charleston County, SC
- **Estimated Cost:** over $750 Million
- **Other:** Proposed to complete the final leg (approximately 6 miles) of the Mark Clark Expressway encircling the City of Charleston, SC. Very controversial project, highly contested by NGOs and some local politicians.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** SC Ecological Services
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Served as a Participating Agency in development of the draft EIS and two supplemental EISs and provided comments on them. Concurred with a Not Likely to Adversely Affect finding for all listed species in the area.
- **Project Timeline:** A draft EIS and two supplemental DEISs have been issued; however due to the controversy around this project and a lack of funding the timeline for additional analysis and project completion is unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Carolina Bays Parkway – Northern Extension

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration and SC Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** None at this time, project will have first multiagency meeting in March 2017
- **Location:** Multiple Counties – Horry, SC and Brunswick County, NC
- **Estimated Cost:** Unknown but likely to exceed $100 million
- **Other:** Approximately 8 miles in length from end of S-31 near Little River, SC to US 17 in Brunswick County, NC

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Raleigh Field Office, SC Ecological Services
    - **Lead Field Office:** Raleigh Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** First meeting to discuss project in March 2017.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Center Hill Dam Safety Project

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Project Description

- **Sector:** Hydropower
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Middle Tennessee, near Smithville
- **Estimated Cost:** $352.9 million
- **Other:** This project was to repair major structural problems with a hydro dam.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA consultation, FWCA technical assistance. ESA consultation is complete. Routine reviews of permits ongoing, monitoring of implementation of committed-to conservation measures and BMPs.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS involvement should be complete at end of CY17.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Chickamauga Lock Replacement Project

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, TVA, Inland Waterways Trust Fund

Project Description

- **Sector:** Navigation/Transportation (water)
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Hamilton County, TN (Tennessee River)
- **Estimated Cost:** $100 million+
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA consultation, FWCA technical assistance. Biological Opinion is complete. A great deal of coordination is ongoing, including reviews of permits, monitoring of implementation to ensure compliance with BO, technical assistance, etc.
- **Project Timeline:** Uncertain when construction and coordination will be completed.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Clinch River Small Modular Nuclear Reactor

Project Sponsor: Tennessee Valley Authority

Project Description

- **Sector:** Nuclear Power Generation
- **Lead Agency:** Tennessee Valley Authority or Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Roane County, TN
- **Estimated Cost:** $100 million+
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Review of NEPA documents, ESA consultation
- **Project Timeline:** NEPA scoping May 2017, early ESA consultation 2017, no target date for completion yet.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Cooper Ridge Surface Mine**

Project Sponsor: Kopper Glo Mining

Project Description

- **Sector:** Subsurface Coal Extraction
- **Lead Agency:** Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** OSMRE Permit #3270
- **Location:** Claiborne County, Tennessee
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Estimated production is 3.2 million tons of coal for the duration of the permit. This would result in an anticipated economic return of 112 million dollars.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Monitoring and technical assistance on implementation of Terms and Conditions of BO
- **Project Timeline:** Biological Opinion sent to OSMRE on 22 Feb 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Crab Orchard Wind Project

Project Sponsor: Apex Clean Energy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Possibly TVA (if they purchase the power)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Cumberland County, TN
- **Estimated Cost:** $100 million+
- **Other:** In Tier 2 studies now. 1000+ acre project.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Review of NEPA documents, ESA consultation or HCP (if TVA doesn't purchase power), coordination and technical assistance in implementing Wind Energy Guidelines.
- **Project Timeline:** Construction 2017, operational end of CY 2018. They are far behind schedule. Have not entered into consultation yet and are not able to give an estimated timeline.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Proposed Roach Creek Mountain Surface Mine

Project Sponsor: Clear Energy Corporation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Subsurface Coal Extraction
- **Lead Agency:** Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** OSMRE Permit# 3261
- **Location:** Scott County, Tennessee
- **Estimated Cost:** $100 million +
- **Other:** If the proposed mining operation meets SMCRA permitting requirements and is authorized, OSMRE staff indicates that the coal produced from this site would be in excess of $100 million dollars.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Awaiting effects determination from OSMRE. Tentative LIWA meeting has been informally discussed.
- **Project Timeline:** No timeline has been set for review of this project. Awaiting additional project information at this time. It is anticipated that the project would require formal consultation.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Corridor K (U.S. 64)

Project Sponsor: Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** TDOT PIN# 102420.00
- **Location:** Polk County, TN
- **Estimated Cost:** $199 Million- 1.3 Billion
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Tennessee FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Tennessee Environmental Streamlining Agreement Review and ESA coordination ongoing, no Biological Assessment or Biological Opinion yet
- **Project Timeline:** Record of Decision by Fall 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Volunteer Wind Project

Project Sponsor: Apex Clean Energy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind energy
- **Lead Agency:** Possibly TVA (if they purchase the power)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:**
- **Location:** Gibson County, TN
- **Estimated Cost:** $100 million+
- **Other:**

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 4
- **Field Office:** Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Review of NEPA documents, ESA consultation or HCP (if TVA doesn't purchase power), coordination and technical assistance in implementing Wind Energy Guidelines.
- **Project Timeline:** Construction 2017, operational end of CY 2018. They are far behind schedule. Have not entered into consultation yet and are not able to give an estimated timeline.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Allegheny Tunnel

Project Sponsor: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Pennsylvania
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Pennsylvania Turnpike

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Pennsylvania FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, ESA formal consultation should conclude in 2017 - waiting on information from the applicant.
- **Project Timeline:** Technical Assistance is ongoing, consultation has not been initiated; therefore, there is no timeline.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Atlantic Coast Pipeline/Supply Header Project

Project Sponsor: Dominion Power Company

Project Description

- **Sector:** Natural Gas Pipelines
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** CP15-554, CP15-554-001, CP15-555
- **Location:** West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina
- **Estimated Cost:** $5,000,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** West Virginia, Virginia FOs
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** West Virginia FO.
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, ESA Section 7 consultation. FWS has not received a complete Biological Assessment to date but will prepare a BO when it has.
- **Project Timeline:** Project planning is ongoing.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Atlantic Sunrise

Project Sponsor: Williams/Transco

Project Description

- **Sector**: Natural Gas Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: CP15-138
- **Location:** Pennsylvania
- **Estimated Cost: >**$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Pennsylvania FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, informal ESA consultation concluded on December 22, 2016; however, now working on additional survey for new portals that were found in late 2016/early 2017.
- **Project Timeline:** If consultation needs to be reinitiated it is believed that it should conclude mid-2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Baltimore-Washington Superconducting Maglev Project

Project Sponsor: Federal Railroad Administration and Maryland Transportation Authority

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Railroad Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost:** $10,000,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** Technical assistance, FWCA and ESA consultation are on-going.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Bay State Wind

Project Sponsor: DONG Energy/Eversource Energy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Massachusetts
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 Million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New England FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance
- **Project Timeline:** Project is in very early planning stage.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Bluestone Dam Safety Project

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Project Description

- **Sector**: Dam Safety
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** West Virginia
- **Estimated Cost:** $300,000,000
- **Other:** Dam Modification Project

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** West Virginia FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, ESA, FWCA. FWCA Report submitted on March 1, 2017, USACOE is finalizing EIS
- **Project Timeline:** EIS should be finalized soon.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation (CSVT)

Project Sponsor: FHWA**,** Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Pennsylvania
- **Estimated Cost: >**$100 million
- **Other:** Pennsylvania Turnpike

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Pennsylvania FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, ESA formal consultation should conclude in 2017 - waiting on information from the applicant.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Chesapeake Bay TMDL Program

Project Sponsor: Maryland State Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Maryland State Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost:** $600,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** Technical assistance, FWCA, and ESA consultation are on-going.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Constitution Pipeline

Project Sponsor: Williams

Project Description

- **Sector:** Natural Gas Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** CP13-499
- **Location:** New Jersey, Pennsylvania
- **Estimated Cost:** $800,000,000
- **Other: :** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New York and Pennsylvania FOs
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** New York FO**.**
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, CWA, FWCA, ESA, MBTA
- **Project Timeline:** Project in late planning status.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Corps Civil Works Project

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Project Description

- **Sector:** Coastal Resilience/Environmental Restoration
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** New Jersey, New York
- **Estimated Cost:** $500,000,000
- **Other:** Hudson/Raritan Estuary Comprehensive Restoration Plan

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New Jersey
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:**
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, CWA, FWCA, ESA
- **Project Timeline:** Project is in early planning status.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Corps Operations and Maintenance Dredging and Beach Nourishment Program

Project Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation and Coastal Resilience
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** New Jersey, Pennsylvania
- **Estimated Cost:** $1,300,000,000
- **Other:** Dredging of Federal Navigation Projects in NJ Harbor and the Atlantic Coat of NJ

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New Jersey and Pennsylvania
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** None identified**.**
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, CWA, FWCA, ESA
- **Project Timeline:** Project is ongoing.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Gilboa Dam Restoration

Project Sponsor: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Project Description

- **Sector**: Dam Safety
- **Lead Agency:** New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** New York
- **Estimated Cost:** $400,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New York FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** BGEPA permitting guidance.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Goethals Bridge Replacement

Project Sponsor: FHWA/NJDOT/NYSDOT

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:**
- **Location:** New York and New Jersey
- **Estimated Cost: $**15,000,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New Jersey
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:**
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, mitigation compliance
- **Project Timeline:** FWCA/ESA/CWA complete. Mitigation compliance on-going.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: HUD Rebuild by Design 2

Project Sponsor: Stormwater Infrastructure - Levee Construction, Hoboken

Project Description

- **Sector:** Coastal Resilience
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** New Jersey
- **Estimated Cost:** $230,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New Jersey
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:**
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, CWA, FWCA, ESA
- **Project Timeline:** Project is in early planning status.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: HUD Rebuild by Design 1

Project Sponsor: Stormwater Infrastructure - Levee Construction, Meadowlands

Project Description

- **Sector:** Coastal Resilience
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** New Jersey
- **Estimated Cost: $ 150,000,000**
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New Jersey
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:**
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, CWA, FWCA, ESA
- **Project Timeline:** Project is in early planning status.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-270 / Watkins Mill Interchange Construction

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration and Maryland State Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost:** $150,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** FWCA work complete, mitigation compliance on-going.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-495 / Greenbelt Metro Interchange Improvement

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration and Maryland State Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost:** $185,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** FWCA ongoing.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-695 Outer Loop Widening

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration and Maryland State Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost:** $100,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** FWCA ongoing.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Laurel Mountain

Project Sponsor: AES

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** West Virginia
- **Estimated Cost:** $127,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** West Virginia FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA involvement: preparing a Habitat Conservation Plan.
- **Project Timeline:** Project planning is ongoing.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Leach Xpress Project/Rayne XPress Expansion Project

Project Sponsor: Columbia Pipeline Group

Project Description

- **Sector:** Natural Gas Pipelines
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** CP15-514
- **Location:** Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania
- **Estimated Cost:** $1,400,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Ohio FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, ESA Section 7 consultation completed, MBTA ongoing.
- **Project Timeline:** Project planning is ongoing.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: MD 4 / Suitland Parkway New Interchange

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration and Maryland State Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost:** $140,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** FWCA work complete, mitigation compliance on-going.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: MD 175 Widening and Interchange Improvements

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration and Maryland State Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost:** $185,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** FWCA and mitigation on-going.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: MD 404 Dualization

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration and Maryland State Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost:** $160,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, FWCA, ESA consultation complete.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Mineville Pumped Storage

Project Sponsor: Moriah

Project Description

- **Sector**: Hydroelectric
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: P-12635
- **Location:** New York
- **Estimated Cost:** $260,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New York FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** Technical assistance, FWCA, and ESA consultation are on-going.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Mon/Fayette PA Route 51 to I-376

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Pennsylvania
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Pennsylvania Turnpike

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Pennsylvania FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, ESA.
- **Project Timeline:** Technical Assistance is ongoing, consultation has not been initiated; therefore, there is no timeline

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Montgomery Locks and Dam Hydroelectric Project

Project Sponsor: Solia 6 LLC

Project Description

- **Sector**: Hydroelectric Power
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: P-13768
- **Location:** Pennsylvania
- **Estimated Cost:** $129,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Pennsylvania FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, FWCA, ESA consultation complete.
- **Project Timeline:** License issuance expected in 1 to 2 months.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Mountain Valley Pipeline

Project Sponsor: Mountain Valley Pipeline LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Natural Gas Pipelines
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** CP16-10-000 and CP16-13-000
- **Location:** West Virginia, Virginia
- **Estimated Cost:** $3,500,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** West Virginia, Virginia FOs
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** West Virginia FO.
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, ESA Section 7 consultation. FWS has not received a complete Biological Assessment to date but will prepare a BO when it has.
- **Project Timeline:** Project planning is ongoing.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Mountaineer XPress Project

Project Sponsor: Columbia Pipeline Group

Project Description

- **Sector**: Natural Gas Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: CP16-357
- **Location:** West Virginia
- **Estimated Cost:** $1,800,000,000
- **Other:** Dam Modification Project

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** West Virginia FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, informal ESA consultation is ongoing
- **Project Timeline:** Section 7 is ongoing.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Mt. Storm II

Project Sponsor: Nextera Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** West Virginia
- **Estimated Cost:** $130,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** West Virginia FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, informal ESA consultation is still ongoing.
- **Project Timeline:** Project planning is ongoing.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: New Chesapeake Bay Bridge Crossing

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration and Maryland Transportation Authority

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Maryland State Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost: >**$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** Technical assistance, FWCA, and ESA consultation are on-going.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: New Creek

Project Sponsor: Enbridge

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** West Virginia
- **Estimated Cost:** $130,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** West Virginia FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, ESA informal consultation is still ongoing.
- **Project Timeline:** Project planning is ongoing.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: North Anna Power Station, Unit 3

Project Sponsor: Dominion Power Company

Project Description

- **Sector:** Nuclear Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Virginia
- **Estimated Cost:** $19,000,000,000
- **Other:** Additional Nuclear Reactor

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Virginia FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, informal ESA consultation ongoing while project construction details are worked out.
- **Project Timeline:** Project planning is ongoing.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Northern Access 2016

Project Sponsor: National Fuel

Project Description

- **Sector**: Natural Gas Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: CP15-115
- **Location:** Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Pennsylvania FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, ESA. FWS is waiting for FERC to submit the 4(d) Rule Streamlined Consultation Form. Project will conclude within 15 days of receiving the letter.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS waiting for FERC to submit the 4(d) Rule Streamlined Consultation Form. Project will conclude within 15 days of receiving the letter.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Northern Pass

Project Sponsor: Department of Energy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission Lines
- **Lead Agency:** Department of Energy
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** New Hampshire
- **Estimated Cost:** $1,600,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New England FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA, ESA Section 7 consultation.
- **Project Timeline:** DOE is finalizing EIS and BA.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Peace Bridge/Customs Plaza

Project Sponsor: Peace Bridge Authority

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Department of State
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** New York
- **Estimated Cost: >**$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New York FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** Technical assistance, FWCA, and MBTA.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: PennEast Pipeline

Project Sponsor: PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Pipelines
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** CP15-558
- **Location:** New Jersey, Pennsylvania
- **Estimated Cost:** $125,000,000
- **Other: :** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New Jersey and Pennsylvania FOs
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Pennsylvania FO**.**
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, CWA, FWCA, ESA, MBTA
- **Project Timeline:** Project is ongoing.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Pilgrim Pipeline

Project Sponsor: Pilgrim Partners

Project Description

- **Sector**: Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** New York State Thruway Authority, (gasoline pipeline)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** New York, New Jersey
- **Estimated Cost:** $900,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** New York FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** Technical assistance, FWCA, and ESA consultation are on-going.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Sunoco Pipeline LP PA Pipeline

Project Sponsor: Sunoco

Project Description

- **Sector**: Pipelines
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Pennsylvania
- **Estimated Cost: >**$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Pennsylvania FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, MBTA.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 219 Upgrade

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration and Maryland State Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost:** $100,000,000
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, FWCA, ESA consultation complete.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: US 301 Nice Bridge Improvement over Potomac River

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration and Maryland Transportation Authority

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** FHWA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Maryland
- **Estimated Cost:** $765 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** Chesapeake Bay FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement** FWCA and mitigation on-going.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: WB XPress Pipeline

Project Sponsor: Columbia Pipeline Group

Project Description

- **Sector:** Pipelines
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** CP16-38
- **Location:** West Virginia, Virginia
- **Estimated Cost:** $850,000,000
- **Other:** Capacity Enhancements/New Interconnects

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 5
- **Field Office:** West Virginia FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance, ESA Section 7 consultation.
- **Project Timeline:** Project is in very early planning stage.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Crossing Trails Wind

Project Sponsor: EDP Renewables

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** No federal nexus - NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Kit Carson and Cheyenne counties, Colorado
- **Estimated Cost:** Over $100 million
- **Other:** 150-400 MW, 40-145 turbines (Initial phase, 100-260 MW 29-75 turbines)

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Colorado - Lakewood
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Migratory Bird/Bat Conservation Plan, possible Eagle Take Permit, etc. FWS Authorities involved include ESA, MBTA and BGEPA.
- **Project Timeline:** Discussions/recommendations on environmental studies and project design in 2017-2018. Will review/make recommendations on turbine layout, determine need for eagle take permit, and discuss post-monitoring studies in 2018 -2020 and beyond.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Gross Reservoir Hydroelectric & Gross Reservoir Enlargement [Moffat] Project

Project Sponsor: Denver Water Company

Project Description

- **Sector:** Hydropower and Water Supply
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC No. 2035-099; Corps NO. NWO-2002-80762-DEN
- **Location:** Boulder County, Colorado
- **Estimated Cost:** $380 million
- **Other:** 77,000 acre-feet increase in water storage, annual generation increase of 4.4 gigawatt hrs, addition of 55 acres (private, USFS, and Denver Water land), removal of 321 acres USFS land and 68 acres Denver Water land.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Colorado - Lakewood
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Review and comment on amendment to FERC License and close involvement with USACE/Denver Water as Denver Water implements the Terms and Conditions of the Project BO issued June 17, 2016.
- **Project Timeline:** Possibly 2017-2025

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Rush Creek Wind I and II

Project Sponsor: Xcel Energy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy and Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** No federal nexus - NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Elbert, Arapahoe, Lincoln, Kit Carson, and Cheyenne counties, Colorado
- **Estimated Cost:** $1 billion
- **Other:** Up to 600 MW, 300 turbines, 90-mile transmission line

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Colorado - Lakewood
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Migratory Bird/Bat Conservation Plan, possible Eagle Take Permit, etc. FWS Authorities involved include MBTA and BGEPA. Ongoing discussions with developer on wind turbine micro-siting.
- **Project Timeline:** Ongoing discussions on project design/construction in 2017; then post-construction monitoring (and ECP?) discussions in 2017- 2018 and possibly beyond.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Seaman Water Supply [Expansion] Project

Project Sponsor: City of Greeley

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water Supply
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** Unknown
- **Location:** Larimer County, Colorado
- **Estimated Cost:** $100 million
- **Other:** 48,000 acre-feet increase in water storage.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Colorado –Lakewood
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Begin NEPA review/comment on DEIS as a cooperating agency; eventual ESA consultation and project review/recommendations per MBTA and BGEPA.
- **Project Timeline:** 2017-2019 (Expansion is targeted for design in 2028 and construction by 2030).

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Pratt Wind Energy Project**

Project Sponsor: Next Era Energy Resources

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Pratt County, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity of 218 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. No HCP or ECP applications expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date by end of 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Flat Ridge 4 Wind Energy Project**

Project Sponsor: Sempra Infrastructure

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Harper and Kingman counties, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity of 134 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. No HCP or ECP applications expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date by end of 2019

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Rush County Wind Energy Project (formerly Post Rock Wind Project)**

Project Sponsor: EDP Renewables North America (EDPR)

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Rush County, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity of 300 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. No HCP or ECP applications expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date by end of 2018

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Cloud County Wind Energy Project**

Project Sponsor: Unknown; contacted by consultant

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Cloud County, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity of 200 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. No HCP or ECP applications expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date unknown

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Wild Plains Wind Energy Project**

Project Sponsor: Tradewind Energy, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Sumner County, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity of 100-200 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. Company is actively working towards development of an Eagle Conservation Plan to support application for an Eagle Incidental Take Permit. No HCP application expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date late 2019. Company has just initiated collection of data in field studies for the ECP, so final eagle risk assessment is expected to be provided to the FWS by mid-2019.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Diamond Vista Wind Energy Project**

Project Sponsor: Tradewind Energy, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Dickinson, Marion, and McPherson counties, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity of 300 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. No HCP or ECP applications expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date April 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Solomon Forks Wind Energy Project**

Project Sponsor: Infinity Renewables

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Thomas County, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity is unknown; but expected to be at least 100 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region** 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. No HCP or ECP applications expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date unknown

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Reading Wind Energy Project

Project Sponsor: Renewable Energy Systems (RES)

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Lyon and Osage counties, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity is 200 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. No HCP or ECP applications expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date 2018

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Waverly Wind Energy Project**

Project Sponsor: EDF Renewable Energy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Ness and Trego counties, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity is 199 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region** 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
    - **Lead Office**: Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. Company is actively working towards development of an Eagle Conservation Plan to support application for an Eagle Incidental Take Permit. No HCP application expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Project already constructed, but company is working on ECP. Current ECP timeline is currently unknown.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Argyle Creek Wind Energy Project**

Project Sponsor: Invenergy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Sumner County, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity is 150 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. No HCP or ECP applications expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date is 2019.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Moran Wind Energy Project**

Project Sponsor: EDP Renewables North America

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Allen County, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity unknown, but expected at 200 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. Potential for application for HCP or ECP undetermined.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date is unknown. Initial project review meeting scheduled for March 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Pioneer Creek Wind Energy Project

Project Sponsor: Infinity Renewables

Project Description

- **Sector**: Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Ford County, Kansas
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost not disclosed; assumed greater than $100 million because it costs an estimated $1.3 to $2.2 million per megawatt (MW) of nameplate capacity installed.
- **Other**: Estimated nameplate capacity unknown, but expected at 200 MW

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO) and Region 6 Division of Migratory Birds
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. No HCP or ECP applications expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Estimated commercial operation date is unknown.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: **Grain Belt Express High Voltage Direct Current Transmission Project**

Project Sponsor: Clean Line Energy Partners

Project Description

- **Sector**: Transmission line
- **Lead Agency**: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; other federal, state and local agencies involved
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location**: Kansas, Missouri, Indiana and Illinois
- **Estimated Cost**: Cost estimated at $2 billion.
- **Other**: 780 mile overhead direct current transmission line with approximately 4,000 MW deliverable capacity being constructed to facilitate an estimated $7 billion dollars in new wind energy development.

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6 and 3
    - **Lead Region, if more than one involved**: 3
- **Field Office**: Kansas Ecological Services Field Office (KSEFO), Illinois ESFO, and Missouri ESFO
    - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved**: Missouri ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: No federal nexus, so no Section 7 Consultation. Technical assistance in evaluation of risk of take under Endangered Species Act for consideration of Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), or under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for consideration of Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP)/Eagle Incidental Take Permit. Technical assistance for avoidance planning for compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Frequency and timeline of engagement varies based on company actions; FWS is responsive to requests. No HCP or ECP applications expected.
- **Project Timeline**: Construction is estimated to begin in 2018 or 2019.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Beaver Hill Wind Project

Project Sponsor: Exelon Generation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Wibaux County, Montana
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million
- **Other:** Primarily private land (Two State sections being evaluated), 100 MW, up to 40 total turbines

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office:** Montana Field Office, Helena and Division of Migratory Birds, Denver
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Attended several meetings/calls with proponent regarding project and trust resource concerns; issued letter to proponent. Anticipate Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy (BBCS) development (Mig Birds and MT FO). Authorities: ESA, MBTA, BGEPA, NEPA
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipate BBCS development (Mig Birds and MT FO), and coordination regarding sage-grouse mitigation (MT FO) through 2017/2018. Construction commencement proposed 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Clearwater Wind Project

Project Sponsor: Orion Renewable Energy Group

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Custer, Rosebud, Garfield, Prairie counties, Montana
- **Estimated Cost:** > $500 million
- **Other:** 100 percent private land, 700 MW, up to 400 total turbines, 80-mile generation OH tie-in line

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office:** Montana Field Office, Helena and Division of Migratory Birds, Denver
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Attended several meetings/calls with proponent regarding project and trust resource concerns; issued letter to proponent; proponent has elected to pursue Eagle Take Permit. Anticipate ECP and BBCS development (Mig Birds and MT FO), and coordination regarding sage-grouse mitigation (MT FO). Authorities: ESA, MBTA, BGEPA, NEPA
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipate ECP and BBCS development (Mig Birds and MT FO), intra-service S7 consultation (Mig Birds and MT FO) and coordination regarding sage-grouse mitigation (MT FO) through 2017/2018. Construction commencement proposed 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Cloud Peak Energy Coal Projects; Spring Creek Mine and Youngs Creek Mine

Project Sponsor: Cloud Peak Energy / Spring Creek Coal

Project Description

- **Sector:** Coal Mine Expansion and Infrastructure
- **Lead Agency:** BLM, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, possibly OSMRE
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Big Horn County, Montana and Sheridan County, WY
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million
- **Other:** BLM EIS (MT): Combined proposed Spring Creek Coal Mine activities: 4 proposed actions related to coal mining at the Spring Creek Mine in Big Horn County, Montana. Proposed actions involve potential sale of two tracts of Federal coal through lease-by-application and lease modification application. Both applications cover proposed additions to an existing federal coal lease at the Spring Creek Mine. Also includes proposed amendments to an existing land use permit to maintain access to mine monitoring and gauging stations and an existing land use lease to provide room for the placement of overburden and infrastructure.

  Corps 404 Permit (MT and WY): Combined proposed new Youngs Creek Coal Mine (Sheridan County, Wyoming) and Spring Creek Coal Mine 9-mile haul road construction (Big Horn County, Montana) and rail spur project (Sheridan County, Wyoming, and Big Horn County, Montana.)

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Montana Field Office for MT, Wyoming Field Office for WY
  - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** NA
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** BLM EIS (MT): Met with proponent late 2016, provided written comments on species of concern conservation plan late 2016, submitted EIS scoping comments to BLM early 2017. Corps 404 Permit (MT/WY): submitted joint WYFO/MTFO comments to USACOE on 404 permit application early 2017. Authorities: ESA, MBTA, BGEPA, NEPA, CWA
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipated comment on BLM's Spring Creek Coal EIS 2017/2018. Anticipated interaction with proponent and other agencies re Youngs Creek Mine, haul road, and rail spur 2017/2018 (project proposed to occur between 2019 and 2046, with reclamation beginning in 2051).

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Cedar Creek Anticline CO2 Pipeline and Enhanced Oil Recovery Project

Project Sponsor: Denbury Resources, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Pipeline and Oil Recovery
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** SE Montana
- **Estimated Cost:** $220 million
- **Other:** 110 miles long

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Montana Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Introductory only thus far; applicant currently working with BLM regarding ROW grant. BLM conducting NEPA (EA). Anticipate S7 consultation and coordination regarding migratory birds and eagles. Authorities: ESA, MBTA, BGEPA
- **Project Timeline:** No meetings currently planned with FWS – but likely. NEPA (3rd party contractor) to begin April 2017 and be finalized by 1/1/19; proposed construction 8/1/2019 to 11/15/2019.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Gordon Butte Pumped Hydro Project

Project Sponsor: Absaroka Energy, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Hydroelectric Power
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC Project Number 13642
- **Location:** Meagher County, Montana
- **Estimated Cost:** $900 million
- **Other:** Private land, 400 MW, new six mile 230 kV OH tie-in line, closed-loop pumped storage hydro facility

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Montana Field Office, Helena
- **Status of FWS Involvement**: Attended several meetings/calls with proponent regarding project and trust resource concerns; issued letter to proponent. Anticipate intermittent coordination with project proponent regarding bald eagle nesting in project vicinity (MT FO). Authorities: ESA, MBTA, BGEPA
- **Project Timeline:** FERC license issued in December 2016. Anticipate coordination regarding bald eagle nesting and powerline marking (MT FO) through 2017 and 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Hungry Horse Power Plant Modernization (Hydroelectric Dam)

Project Sponsor: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (NEPA); Bonneville Power Administration (funding).

Project Description

- **Sector:** Hydroelectric Power
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Bonneville Power Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Flathead County, Montana, South Fork Flathead River
- **Estimated Cost:** $200M
- **Other:** Rehabilitation and upgrade of up to 4 turbines for the 428 megawatt Hungry Horse hydroelectric facility.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Montana ES
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA consultation. Minor NEPA comment submitted in 2016. Awaiting Biological Assessment addressing Bull Trout.
- **Project Timeline:** Work could potentially begin in 2017 and continue to 2025

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Mud Springs Wind Project

Project Sponsor: EverPower Wind Holdings, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Carbon County, Montana
- **Estimated Cost:** > $100 million
- **Other:** 100 percent private land, 240 MW, up to 96 total turbines in 3 phases, 14-mile generation OH tie-in line

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Montana Field Office, Helena and Division of Migratory Birds, Denver
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Attended several meetings/calls with proponent regarding project and trust resource concerns; issued multiple letters to proponent; proponent has elected to pursue Eagle Take Permit. Ongoing work on EA (3rd party contractor) in association with Eagle Take Permit (Mig Birds lead). Anticipate ECP and BBCS development (Mig Birds and MT FO), intra-service S7 consultation (Mig Birds and MT FO) and coordination regarding sage-grouse mitigation (MT FO). Authorities: ESA, MBTA, BGEPA, NEPA
- **Project Timeline:** Ongoing work on EA in association with Eagle Take Permit (Mig Birds lead). Anticipate ECP and BBCS development (Mig Birds and MT FO), intra-service S7 consultation (Mig Birds and MT FO) and coordination regarding sage-grouse mitigation (MT FO) through 2017/2018. Construction commencement proposed late2017; desire to be fully operational by Q4 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Rim Rock Wind Project

Project Sponsor: NaturEner Rim Rock Wind Energy, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Glacier and Toole counties, Montana
- **Estimated Cost: >** $100 million
- **Other:** Project constructed and operational as of December 2012; 100 percent on private land, 189 MW, 126 turbines, 6.85-mile generation OH tie-in line

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Montana Field Office, Helena and Division of Migratory Birds, Denver
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Attended several pre-construction meetings/calls with proponent regarding project and trust resource concerns and BBCS development; issued letters to proponent; proponent has elected to pursue Eagle Take Permit post-construction. Eagle Take Permit Application and Eagle Conservation Plan received 2/15/2017. Authorities: ESA, MBTA, BGEPA, NEPA
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipated work on EA in association with Eagle Take Permit (Migratory Birds lead). Anticipate ECP modification (Migratory Birds and MT FO), intra-service S7 consultation (Mig Birds and MT FO) through 2017/2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: R-Project Transmission Line

Project Sponsor: Nebraska Public Power District

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Nebraska
- **Estimated Cost:** $363 million
- **Other:** Project is construction of a 225-mile-long, 345 kilovolt transmission line

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Nebraska Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Preparation of EIS for Section 10 Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Authorities involved include ESA, MBTA, and BGEPA. DEIS and DHCP completed and ready for public review pending FR publication of NOA
- **Project Timeline:** Anticipated. 5/3/2017: NOA published in FR; 7/1/2017: End of Public comment Period; 9/1/2017: FEIS prepared, public and internal comments addressed; 9/1/2017: NOA announcing FEIS published in FR; 10/1/2017: ROD published in the FR, FWS involvement concludes then.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Master Development Plan

Project Sponsor: Continental Resources and Slawson Exploration

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil and Gas Exploration
- **Lead Agency:** USDA Forest Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** McKenzie County, ND
- **Estimated Cost:** $245 million
- **Other:** 49 oil and gas wells on Federal Lands (Dakota Prairie Grasslands)

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** ND
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - July 2016: NDFO conducted on-site reviews
    - December 2016: NDFO received a request for formal consultation. The FWS expects to deliver the biological opinion in April 2017.
- **Project Timeline:**
    - Estimated start of construction: 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project

Project Sponsor: The Souris River Joint Water Board

Project Description

- **Sector:** Flood Control
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Minot, ND
- **Estimated Cost:** $1 billion (full program through 2039)
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office: ND**
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - 2016: FWS began coordination with the USACE and Souris River Joint Board assisting sponsors and permitting authorities in project design for the Draft Programmatic EIS (released November 2016) pursuant to NEPA. The FWS also provided recommendations to the sponsors and USACE to minimize impacts and achieve regulatory (time) certainty under the Endangered Species Act.
- **Project Timeline:**
    - Estimated start of construction: first phase, 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Upland Pipeline

Project Sponsor: Upland Pipeline, LLC, subsidiary of TransCanada

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** State Department
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** North Dakota
- **Estimated Cost:** $300 million
- **Other:** U.S. portion only; pipeline extends into Canada

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office: ND**
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - August 2016: NDFO received NOI to prepare an EIS
    - February 2017: initial meeting (phone call) between the State Department and NDFO discussing Endangered Species Act approach. The FWS provided the recommendation to pursue section 7 consultation. The State Department is considering the FWS recommendation but indicated more interest in advising TransCanada to seek a section 10 HCP if incidental take is anticipated.
- **Project Timeline:**
    - Estimated in-service date is 2020

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: U.S. Highway 85 Improvement: I94 to Watford City, North Dakota

Project Sponsor: The Federal Highway Administration and North Dakota Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration and ND Department of Transportation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Western North Dakota
- **Estimated Cost:** $500 million
- **Other:** 67 miles long

FWS Involvement

- **Region**: 6
- **Field Office:** ND
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - 2015: The FWS began coordination and planning discussions with the sponsors to develop a timeline and deliverables pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and Endangered Species Act compliance activities.
    - 2016/17: The FWS is assisting the ND Game and Fish and the project sponsors in assessing the need for wildlife crossings and designing the roadway to be wildlife friendly.
- **Project Timeline:**
    - Estimated start of construction: 2018

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Lake Powell Pipeline

Project Sponsor: Utah Division of Water Resources

Project Description

- **Sector:** Hydroelectric Power
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC Project No. 12966
- **Location:** Kane and Washington counties, Utah and Coconino and Mohave counties, Arizona
- **Estimated Cost:** $1-3 billion
- **Other:** Transfer of 84,000 acre-feet of water from Lake Powell to Kane and Washington counties, Utah via pipeline and using topography of pipeline route to create pumped storage hydroelectric capacity of 300 megawatts (35 megawatts peaking power).

FWS Involvement

- **Regions:** 6 and 2
  - **Lead Region, if more than one involved:** 6
- **Field Offices:** Utah and Arizona
  - **Lead Field Office, if more than one involved:** Utah
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Comments on draft study plans and review of Preliminary Licensing Plan and Draft Study Reports prior to submittal to FERC. Awaiting draft Biological Assessment and draft Environmental Impact Statement from FERC.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time. Project construction anticipated to start in 2025.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Milford Wind Energy Facility

Project Sponsor: SunEdison, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Location:** Beaver and Millard counties, Utah
- **Other:** The facility was constructed in phases from 2008-2011. It is current operating as a 306 MW facility with 165 turbines.

FWS Involvement

- **Regions:** 6
- **Field Offices:** Utah Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS reviewed and edited the Eagle Conservation Plan (ECP). FWS participates in Wildlife Working Group meetings to discuss conservation measures, research, and data and will continue to work with the company on their ECP and potential eagle permit.
- **Project Timeline:** Post-construction; on-going meetings and reviews.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Apex Woods Canyon Wind Energy Facility

Project Sponsor: Apex Clean Energy, Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Renewable Energy: Wind
- **Lead Agency:** Private
- **Location:** Utah and Carbon counties, Utah
- **Other:** The 101 MW facility will include met towers, turbines, roads, and transmission capacity.

FWS Involvement

- **Regions:** 6
- **Field Offices:** Utah Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS met with the company and provided initial recommendations to follow the Wind Energy Guidelines, Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance, and Bird and Bat Conservation Strategies for siting, construction, and operations. FWS is preparing a letter to the company about the concern of impacts to migratory birds, including eagles, and greater sage-grouse.
- **Project Timeline:** Construction should occur in 2020.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: State Route 30

Project Sponsor: Utah Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Location:** Box Elder and Cache counties, Utah
- **Other:** UDOT is proposing to construct and maintain a multi-lane (up to 5 lanes with turning lanes) highway along 17.5 miles of existing 2 lane highway. The purpose of the project is for increased capacity and safety. The project bisects Cutler Marsh, an important wetland for migratory birds.

FWS Involvement

- **Regions:** 6
- **Field Offices:** Utah
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS is a participating agency, reviewing NEPA documents, environmental reports, and biological assessments.
- **Project Timeline:** UDOT (through MOU with Fed Highways) is drafting an EIS and has not yet released it to agencies.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: West Davis Corridor

Project Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration & Utah Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FHWA-UT-EIS-13-02-D
- **Location:** Davis and Weber counties, Utah
- **Estimated Cost:** $600 million
- **Other:** Combination four-lane divided highway and five-lane arterial, 20 to 24 miles long, depending on selected alternative.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Utah Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS is participating as a cooperating agency in the review of NEPA documents. The proposed highway is located adjacent to the Great Salt Lake, an important migratory bird resource that is part of the Western Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve Network, a distinction afforded to only seven areas in the lower 48 states. The FWS Utah Ecological Services Field Office has participated in numerous agency meetings and field reviews since 2010 to evaluate alternative alignments. FWS reviewed and provided comments to FHWA on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in August 2013. FWS received several draft chapters of the Final EIS from FHWA on January 30, 2017, and provided comments and recommendations on the proposed action's impacts to wetlands and wildlife resources on March 6, 2017.
- **Project Timeline:** The NEPA process for the West Davis Corridor began in 2010. FHWA plans to complete the Final EIS/ROD by summer 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Alton Coal Mine

Project Sponsor: Alton Coal

Project Description

- **Sector:** Coal
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Kane County, Utah
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** The Proposed Action would include approximately 3,576 acres, of which approximately 2,280 acres are federal surface and mineral estate and 1,296 acres are split estate; private surface estate and federal mineral estate. Recoverable portions of in-place coal reserves would be mined over approximately 25 years using surface-mining methods.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Utah Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS commented on a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) in January 2012, and an Administrative Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (ASDEIS) for the project in August 2013. FWS is in the process of reviewing a mitigation plan submitted to BLM by Alton Coal. The FWS primary trust resource in the area is the greater sage-grouse.
- **Project Timeline:** BLM anticipated completion date not known.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Crescent Point Energy Utah Federal-Tribal Well Development Project

Project Sponsor: Crescent Point Energy U.S. Corp

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil and Gas
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office, Utah
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Uinta Basin, Uintah and Duchesne counties, Utah
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Crescent Point proposes to drill up to 3,925 new oil and gas wells and build 863 miles of roads; 693 miles of pipelines co-located with roads; 170 miles of cross-country pipelines; 400 miles of trunk pipelines; 5 salt water disposal wells; 5 produced water treatment facilities; 20 central tank batteries; 4 gas processing plants; 8 oil storage areas, and 4 equipment storage areas.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Utah Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The FWS agreed to be recognized as a cooperating agency in a letter transmittal dated January 28, 2016. FWS attended a cooperators scoping meeting on April 25, 2016, and on May 20, 2016, provided comments on chapters 1 and 2 of BLM's Administrative Draft EIS.
- **Project Timeline:** A Proposed Action was submitted to BLM October 15, 2015. A Draft EIS will be prepared in mid-2017. The Final EIS will be prepared and reviewed in early- to mid-2018. The Record of Decision is expected by September 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Chokecherry Sierra Madre Wind Energy Project

Project Sponsor: Power Company of Wyoming

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** WYW-167155 (BLM right-of-way)
- **Location:** Carbon County, Wyoming
- **Estimated Cost:** $5,000,000,000
- **Other:** Up to 1,000 turbines producing up to 3,000 megawatts of power, constructed in two phases

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Wyoming Field Office (Ecological Services), working closely with the Migratory Bird Management Office in Lakewood
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
    - Includes review of BLM NEPA documents, ESA consultation, FWS NEPA and government to government consultation to issue eagle take permits (ETP).
    - Authorities include the ESA, MBTA, and BGEPA.
    - BA received on 8/27/12 and BO rendered on 9/5/12.
    - FWS reviewed BLM's final EIS and draft record of decision (ROD) in 2012; Secretary Ken Salazar signed the BLM ROD on 10/9/12.
    - December 2013, BLM initiated EA1 (first of several EAs tiered to the EIS) for infrastructure components and FWS initiated EIS for an eagle take permit; BLM and FWS coordinated closely on NEPA documents, including biweekly conference calls; BLM issued final decision record and finding of no new significant impact (FONNSI) for EA1 on 12/23/14;
    - BLM initiated EA2 for site-specific analysis of the first 500 turbines April 2015; BLM issued a FONNSI and ROD for EA2 on 1/18/17;
    - FWS issued a draft EIS for issuing ETPs on 4/29/16, a final EIS on 12/9/16, and a final ROD on 1/20/17;
    - FWS issued a standard ETP on 3/9/17 to cover disturbance take of eagles during construction of the infrastructure components and the first 500 turbines;
- **Project Timeline:**
    - FWS anticipates issuing a programmatic ETP for operation of the first 500 turbines in 2017. FWS will review annual reports required by the eagle take permits. Construction expected 2017 through 2019 for first phase.
    - Anticipate PCW will apply for ETP in 2017 to cover operation of the second 500 turbines, and BLM and FWS will likely cooperate on developing one EA.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Converse County Oil and Gas Project

Project Sponsor: EOG Resources, Anadarko Petroleum, Chesapeake Energy Corporation, RKI Exploration and Production, Samson Resources, SM Energy.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil and Gas
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Converse County, Wyoming
- **Estimated Cost: $**40,000,000,000
- **Other:** Project area- 1,501,707 acres. The majority of the federal mineral estate (808,154 acres) is located below private surface lands (split-estate). Total 5,000 oil and gas wells over 10 years, up to 1,500 well pads with up to 16 wells per well pad. Includes pipelines for oil and gas, condensate, and water, utility lines, roads, compressor stations..

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Wyoming Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating agency since 2016. Provided NEPA review-scoping, PDEIS review, and alternatives development. Development of Migratory Bird Conservation Plan in partnership with BLM, U.S. Forest Service and Operator Group (draft including compensatory mitigation for impacts to migratory bird habitats under MBTA, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, EO 13186 and the MOU between FWS and BLM.
- **Project Timeline:** Draft PDEIS cooperator review: April 2017. Review of proposed changes to DEIS cooperator review: late 2017. Notice of Availability for Final EIS cooperators review: winter 2017-2108. ROD 2018. Potential ESA consultation in 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Greater Crossbow Oil and Gas Project

Project Sponsor: EOG Resources

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil and Gas
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Converse and Campbell counties, Wyoming
- **Estimated Cost:** $12,000,000,000
- **Other:** Project surface area-119,104 acres. Total 1,500 oil and gas wells over 10 years, up to 100 optimized development well pads with up to 22 wells per well pad. Includes pipelines for oil and gas, condensate, water, and utility lines.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Wyoming Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating agency since 2015. Provided NEPA review-scoping, DEIS review, alternative development. Development of Migratory Bird Conservation Plan in partnership with Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service BLM, EOG Resources (draft and final including compensatory mitigation for impacts to migratory bird habitats under MBTA, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, EO 13186 and the MOU between FWS and BLM.
- **Project Timeline:** Draft EIS cooperator review: July 2017. Notice of Availability for Draft EIS: Jan 2018. Final EIS cooperator review: late 2018. Notice of Availability for Final EIS: early 2019. Record of Decision: mid 2019. Future potential ESA consultation in 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Energy Gateway South Transmission Line

Project Sponsor: Rocky Mountain Power (PacifiCorp)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah (approximately 400 miles)
- **Estimated Cost:** approximately $2 million/mile = approximately $800 million
- **Other:** 1,500 MW, 416 miles of 500 kV AC transmission line in southern Wyoming, northwestern Colorado, and northern Utah.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Offices:** Wyoming ESFO, Grand Junction CO ESFO, and Utah ESFO
    - **Lead Field Office:** Wyoming ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating agency since 2009. Provided detailed comments on: (a) NEPA documents (administrative and draft EIS, administrative and final EIS, and administrative and supplemental EIS); (b) section 7 consultation under ESA (draft and final BA, draft and final BO); (c) greater sage-grouse (GRSG) avoidance, minimization, and mitigation (GRSG direct effects habitat equivalency analysis (HEA) and quantification of indirect effect); and (d) migratory bird compensatory mitigation plan (draft and final migratory bird conservation plan, including compensatory mitigation for impacts to migratory bird habitats under MBTA, EO 13186 and the 2010 MOU between FWS and BLM, and BLM IM-WY2013-005).
- **Project Timeline:** 2008: BLM received ROW permit application, FWS assisted with developing mitigation plan, FWS commented on draft and final EIS; submitted final BO in January 2016; ROD signed by BLM in December 2016; anticipated in service 2020 - 2024

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Gateway West Transmission Line

Project Sponsor: Rocky Mountain Power and Idaho Power (PacifiCorp)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Wyoming and Idaho (approximately 1,000 miles)
- **Estimated Cost:** approximately $2 million/mile = approximately $2 billion
- **Other:** 147.4 miles of 230 kV AC line in Wyoming, 5.1 miles of 345-kV AC line in Wyoming, and 871.6 miles of 500 kV AC line in Wyoming and Idaho.

FWS Involvement

- **Regions:** Regions 6 and 1
  - **Lead Region:** Region 6
- **Field Offices:** Wyoming ESFO and Idaho FWS
  - **Lead Field Office:** Wyoming ESFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating agency since 2010. Provided detailed comments on: **(a)** NEPA documents (administrative and draft EIS, administrative and final EIS, and administrative and supplemental EIS); **(b)** section 7 consultation under ESA (draft and final BA, draft and final BO); **(c)** greater sage-grouse (GRSG) avoidance, minimization, and mitigation (GRSG direct effects habitat equivalency analysis (HEA) and quantification of indirect effect); and **(d)** migratory bird compensatory mitigation plan (draft and final migratory bird conservation plan, including compensatory mitigation for impacts to migratory bird habitats under MBTA, EO 13186 and the 2010 MOU between FWS and BLM, and BLM IM-WY2013-005).
- **Project Timeline:** 2008: BLM received ROW permit application; FWS provided final BO in September 2013; BLM signed ROD for segments 1-7 and 10 in WY and ID in November 2013; 10/7/16: Final supplemental EIS available; 12/13/16: BLM requested consultation on segments 8 and 9; FWS final BO in December 2016; BLM signed ROD for segments 8 and 9 in Idaho in January 2017. Project estimated to be in service 2019-2024. FWS and BLM still in discussions about future surveys for Ute ladies'-tresses orchid.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Moneta Divide Natural Gas and Oil Development Project

Project Sponsor: Encana Oil and Gas Inc., Burlington Oil and Gas Company

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil and Gas
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Fremont and Natrona counties, Wyoming
- **Estimated Cost:** $34,000,000,000
- **Other:** Project surface area-265,152 acres. Total 4,250 oil and gas wells over 15 years. Includes pipelines for oil and gas, condensate, water, and utility lines, roads, compressor stations.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Wyoming Ecological Services Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating agency since 2013. Provided NEPA review including scoping comments, preliminary DEIS review, and alternatives development. Provided recommendations and discussion on compensatory mitigation for impacts to migratory birds under MBTA, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, EO 13186, and the MOU between FWS and BLM; threatened and endangered species under the ESA.
- **Project Timeline:** Draft EIS cooperator review: summer 2017. Notice of Availability for Draft EIS: Jan 2018. ROD estimated 2018. Potential ESA consultation in 2017.

Major Construction Activity
2017

Project Name: Normally Pressured Lance Gas Development Project

Project Sponsor: Encana Oil and Gas Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil and Gas
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Fremont and Sweetwater counties, Wyoming
- **Estimated Cost:** $680,000,000
- **Other:** Project area-70,155 acres. 85 gas wells. Includes roads, pipelines, compressor stations.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Wyoming Ecological Service Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating agency since 2013. Provided NEPA review-scoping, Alternative and Proposed DEIS review, alternatives review**.** Discussed ESA impacts to listed species, pollinator conservation, migratory birds under the MBTA, EO13186, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, and MOU between FWS and BLM.
- **Project Timeline:** Possible ESA section 7 consultation in 2017. Cooperator review of DEIS in 2017. ROD estimated 2018.

Major Construction Activity
2017

Project Name: Riley Ridge to Natrona CO_2 Pipeline

Project Sponsor: Denbury Resources Inc.

Project Description

- **Sector: P**ipeline
- **Lead Agency:** BLM
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Fremont, Sublette, Sweetwater, and Natrona counties, Wyoming
- **Estimated Cost:** 833,280,000
- **Other:** 224 mile pipeline, with sweetening plant

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Wyoming Ecological Service Field Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating agency since 2014. Provided NEPA review-scoping, Alternative and Proposed DEIS review, alternatives review**.** Discussed ESA impacts to threatened and endangered species, pollinator conservation, migratory birds under the MBTA, EO13186, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, and MOU between BLM and FWS.
- **Project Timeline:** Possible ESA section 7 consultation in 2017. Cooperator review of DEIS late 2017. ROD estimated 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: North I-25 ROD1 Revision and ROD4

Project Sponsor: Colorado Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highways Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** IM 0253-255 (21506) and IM 0253-179
- **Location:** I-25 from Denver Union Station to State Highway 14 near Fort Collins, Colorado.
- **Estimated Cost:** $230 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Colorado - Lakewood
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** A programmatic biological opinion on the corridor was completed October 13, 2011. Since that time, we have been working with CDOT and FHWA to ensure that projects proposed under that programmatic BO fit within its terms.
- **Project Timeline:** Should be completed April 2017

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP)

Project Sponsor: Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water Supply
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** Corps File No. 200380509
- **Location:** Larimer and Weld counties, Colorado
- **Estimated Cost:** $933 million - $1.37 billion
- **Other:** Glade Reservoir, 170,000 acre-feet (af); Galeton Reservoir, 46,000 af.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 6
- **Field Office:** Colorado - Lakewood
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** ESA/reinitiation of formal consultation for Platte species affected by water depletions and close involvement with USACE/Northern as Northern implements the Terms and Conditions of the Project BO issued in October 2007.
- **Project Timeline:** Possibly 2017-2025

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Liberty Development and Production Plan (Liberty)

Project Sponsor: Hilcorp Alaska, LCC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil and Gas, pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** BOEM-2015-0068 and BOEM-2015-0096
- **Location:** Beaufort Sea Outer Continental Shelf (OCS); North Slope Borough, Alaska
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other**: Liberty concerns an oil and gas lease unit located within Foggy Island Bay, six miles offshore in the Alaska OCS zone of the Beaufort Sea. The Proposed Action consists of an offshore, artificial island (~24 acres at seafloor) The onshore project footprint – including above-ground pipeline (1.5 miles), ice roads (~30 miles requiring 60 million gallons of water/year for 2 years of construction, 4.3 million gallons/year for ~20 years of operations, and ~20 million gallons/year for 2 years of decommissioning), gravel mine site (~21 acres), and gravel pads – is located within the North Slope Borough.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 7
- **Field Office:** Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Field Office (FWFO) (lead), Marine Mammal Management Office (MMM)
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating Agency
  National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): FWS has provided input on alternatives and reviewed preliminary drafts of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). FWS is currently reviewing the Draft EIS and providing comments to BOEM, prior to public review. The Draft EIS will undergo BOEM internal review and revision prior to the public notice and review period.
  Endangered Species Act (ESA): Section 7 consultation will be necessary due to presence of spectacled eiders, polar bears, and polar bear critical habitat in the project area. Steller's eiders and Pacific walrus may also occur in the area, although the project is at the edge of both species' ranges.
  Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA): Harassment authorization will likely be necessary.
- **Project Timeline:** The Liberty Project is subject to a FAST Act schedule. Involvement anticipated through September 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Sterling Highway Milepost 45 to 60 Project

Project Sponsor: Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT & PF)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska
- **Estimated Cost:** This is a Federal Aid Highway project, and Federal Highway Trust Funds are anticipated to cover 90 percent of costs, with the State covering 10 percent. Depending upon the alternative selected, the project is estimated to cost between $250-304 million (estimated in 2014 dollars). Once the project moves into design, cost estimates will be refined in greater detail
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 7
- **Field Office:** Kenai National Wildlife Refuge (Kenai NWR); Regional Office; Kenai FWFO; and Anchorage FWFO
    - **Lead Field Office:** Kenai NWR
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating Agency

  NEPA: FWS is a Cooperating Agency and has extensively participated in public and agency outreach and formal scoping meetings, reviewed and provided substantive comments on the Draft EIS, Draft Supplemental EIS, Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation, Preliminary Final EIS and Final Section 4(f) Evaluation. As some work is to occur on the Kenai NWR, FWS will authorize any activities on land managed by FWS, via a Special Use Permit.
  ESA: No impacts to listed species are anticipated from this project.
- **Project Timeline:** This is an on-going project. Neither the Final EIS nor the Record of Decision have been completed.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas Project (AK LNG)

Project Sponsor: Alaska Gasline Development Corporation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission **(**FERC)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** FERC docket no. PF14-21 (prefiling documents)
- **Location:** Alaska. Project crosses multiple boroughs from Prudhoe Bay south to Nikiski: North Slope Borough, Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area, Fairbanks North Star Borough, Denali Borough, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and Kenai Peninsula Borough
- **Estimated Cost:** $45-65 billion
- **Other:** The Proposed Action consists of transmission lines to a gas treatment plant at Prudhoe Bay, a pipeline transporting gas from the North Slope to Southcentral Alaska (~800 miles, mostly buried), multiple compressor stations, a gas liquefaction facility, and a marine LNG terminal. The Proposed Action would involve construction of extensive new infrastructure, including roads, pads, airstrips, helipads, rail spurs, gravel mine sites, heater and meter stations for the pipeline, man camps, and disposal sites.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** Region 7
- **Field Office:** Fairbanks FWFO, Anchorage FWFO, MMM Office
- **Lead Field Office:** Fairbanks FWFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating Agency
  NEPA: FWS is a Cooperating Agency and has participated in multiple reviews of draft resource reports (part of the EIS).
  ESA: Section 7 consultation will be necessary due to presence of spectacled eiders, polar bears, and polar bear critical habitat at the north end of the project. At the southern end of the project, northern sea otters and their critical habitat, Steller's eider, and short-tailed albatross may be present. A nonexperimental population of wood bison occurs in Interior Alaska, in areas that would be crossed by the pipeline.
  MMPA: Harassment authorization may be necessary
- **Project Timeline:** Project is currently in pre-filing phase. Involvement through 2020.
  NEPA: Comments on draft resource reports filed with FERC on 3/3/2015. Comments on second draft Resource Reports filed with FERC 9/26/2016. A Draft EIS is anticipated by October 2017. Final EIS is anticipated between November 2017 and May 2018. Project proponent anticipates FERC order in the third quarter of 2018, with notices to proceed in the third quarter of 2019.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Alaska Standalone Pipeline (ASAP)

Project Sponsor: Alaska Gasline Development Corporation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** POA-2009-651
- **Location:** Alaska. Project crosses several boroughs from Prudhoe Bay south to Point MacKenzie: North Slope Borough, Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area, Fairbanks North Star Borough, Denali Borough, and Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** The Proposed Action consists of a central gas conditioning facility at Prudhoe Bay, a mainline transmission pipeline (~737 miles, mostly buried), 1-2 compressor, a straddle and off-take facility, a Cook Inlet Natural Gas Liquid Extraction Plant (NGLEP) facility, 3 meter stations, and other permanent facilities. The project would include a pipeline lateral to Fairbanks (~34 miles).

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 7
- **Field Office:** Fairbanks FWFO, Anchorage FWFO, MMM Office
    - **Lead Field Office:** Fairbanks FWFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating Agency
  NEPA: FWS is a Cooperating Agency and has participated in multiple reviews of draft EISs. The FFWFO participates in regular cooperators' calls. The FFWFO and AFWFO have advised the project proponent on their Migratory Bird Conservation Plan.
  ESA: Section 7 consultation will be necessary due to presence of spectacled eiders, polar bears, and polar bear critical habitat at the north end of the project. Steller's eiders and Pacific walrus may also occur in the northern portion of the project area. At the southern end of the project, northern sea otters may be present. A nonexperimental population of wood bison occurs in Interior Alaska, in areas that would be crossed by the pipeline.
  MMPA: Harassment authorization may be necessary
- **Project Timeline:** Ongoing through unknown date.
  NEPA: Scoping comments provided to USACE in March of 2010; final EIS published October 2012. Supplemental EIS is currently in progress. Comments on preliminary draft Supplemental EIS provided to USACE from FWS. Revised draft SEIS became available February 2, 2017, but no further agency review is anticipated.
  ESA: A Biological Opinion (BO) was completed in 2012, for project described in 2012 FEIS. A Biological Assessment (BA) reflecting the current project was received February 8, 2017. The FWS is beginning re-initiation of the ESA Section 7 consultation.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Kake to Petersburg Transmission Project

Project Sponsor: Alaska Energy Authority

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** USDA Forest Service (USFS)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Southeast Alaska (from Kake to Petersburg)
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100M
- **Other:** Proposed project is a 50-75-mile transmission line (depending on the alternative selected) to connect the village of Kake on Kupreaof Island to the power grid of Petersburg and Wrangell, which is fed primarily by the Tyee Hydropower facility on the Southeast Alaska mainland. The Kake-Petersburg Intertie would be used to transmit surplus hydroelectric power from Southeast Alaska Power Agency to the electric system in Kake, thereby offsetting the existing diesel generation while lowering and stabilizing the cost of electricity in Kake.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 7
- **Field Office:** Anchorage FWFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS has conducted eagle nest surveys over a portion of one alternative route. There have been no additional requests for FWS technical assistance.
  NEPA: FWS anticipates a request for scoping issues as the next step.
  ESA: At this time no impacts to listed species are anticipated from this project.
- **Project Timeline:** This is an on-going project and the future timeline is unclear. NEPA scoping is anticipated in 2017, Draft EIS in 2018, Record of Decision and final permits in 2018 or 2019. Negotiating environmental mitigation will likely occur in 2018 and bald eagle take permits possibly in 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Haines Highway Reconstruction

Project Sponsor: Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT & PF)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** ADOT&PF
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Haines, Alaska
- **Estimated Cost:** $100M
- **Other:** Upgrade of 22 miles of highway along the Chilkat River. Includes one major bridge replacement.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 7
- **Field Office:** Anchorage FWFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
  NEPA: FWS has provided technical assistance with impact avoidance, minimization, and compensation through the NEPA review, participated on numerous field trips and meetings, and provided comments on Draft EIS. Currently reviewing mitigation package associated with 404 permit under the Clean Water Act. Anticipate review of eagle take permit application (under the Bald and Golden Eagle Act) through spring/summer 2017. Expect additional NEPA and modification of 404 permit as future phases are designed.
  ESA: At this time no impacts to listed species are anticipated from this project.

- **Project Timeline:** Will provide comments on 404 permit notice in March 2017. Additional NEPA likely for future phases in 2018 and beyond.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Project (Ambler Road)

Project Sponsor: Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), with heavy National Park Service (NPS) involvement
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** Northwest Arctic Borough, Alaska
- **Estimated Cost:** $346.5 million
- **Other:** Proposed construction of ~211 mile industrial road from the Dalton Highway, just north of Bettles, west, just shy of Ambler and north of Shungnak to provide surface access to the Ambler Mining District through Gates of the Arctic National Park.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 7
- **Field Office:** Fairbanks FWFO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Participated in agency scoping meetings, but NEPA process not yet initiated.
  NEPA: FWS will have a review role due to anticipated impacts to wetlands and aquatic resources, essential fish habitat (EFH), migratory birds, and potential impacts to refuge resources. A migratory bird conservation plan may be requested.
  ESA: Project is south of the Brooks Range. No anticipated effects to listed species anticipated. A nonexperimental population of wood bison occurs in Interior Alaska, but their range is outside the project area.
- **Project Timeline:** Notice of Intent is anticipated March-May 2017. Timeline to be determined. Project is currently in the public scoping phase, and AIDEA and BLM are in the process of finalizing the EIS scope of work for a third party contractor.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Greater Moose's Tooth-2 (GMT-2)

Project Sponsor: ConocoPhillips Alaska Incorporated (CPAI)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil and Gas
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A)
- **Estimated Cost:** >$1billion
- **Other:** Construction and operation of a drill site in NPR-A with ancillary facilities to support oil and gas extraction. Site is located 20 miles southwest of the CPAI-operated Alpine Central Facility (CD-1).

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 7
- **Field Office:** Fairbanks FWFO (lead), MMM Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating Agency on BLM's Supplemental EIS. MMPA: Harassment authorization is necessary. CPAI has received authorizations for the past and current seasons. They will likely need authorizations for future season.
- **Project Timeline:** Notice of Intent published August 2016, currently in public comment phase for GMT-2 Draft SEIS. Final SEIS is scheduled for early 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Nunushuk Development

Project Sponsor: Armstrong Energy LLC.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil and Gas
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** North Slope Borough, Alaska, (52 miles west of Deadhorse and 6.5 miles from Nuiqsut).
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Proposed project will target hydrocarbon deposits in the Alpine C and Nanushuk reservoirs. The project involves construction of a pads for drill site 1, a central processing facility, drill site 2, drill site 3, an operations center pad, infield pipelines and roads, export/ import pipeline from the development, a tie-in pad, and potable water system.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 7
- **Field Office:** Fairbanks FWFO (lead), MMM Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Cooperating Agency
  NEPA: The public scoping period for the EIS closed. The USACE, with input from Cooperating Agencies, is developing and conducting impact evaluations on project alternatives.
  ESA: Once the project is in a later phase the FWS will also conduct a section 7 analysis on the potential impacts to listed eiders, polar bears, and designated polar bear critical habitat.
  MMPA: Armstrong Energy LLC has received authorizations for the past and current seasons. They will likely need authorizations for future season.
- **Project Timeline:** Timeline to be determined, but the NEPA process is well underway.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Caelus Energy - Smith Bay

Project Sponsor: Caelus Energy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Oil and Gas
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, State of Alaska
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:** NA
- **Location:** North Slope Borough, Alaska, offshore State of Alaska Marine waters, National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska.
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Project is in very early stages (exploration and early design).

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 7
- **Field Office:** Fairbanks FWFO (lead), MMM Office
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Provided information to applicant on resources in the area. Provided input on exploration phase.
  MMPA: Caelus Energy has received authorizations for the past and current seasons. They will likely need authorizations for future season.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown, applicant in pre-design phase.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project

Project Sponsor: State of Alaska, Alaska Energy Authority (AEA)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Hydroelectric Power
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Project Number:** FERC Project Number 14241
- **Location:** Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Susitna River basin, 87 river miles from Talkeetna, Alaska.
- **Estimated Cost:** $5.66 billion
- **Other:** Proposed location Susitna Rivermile 184, > 703-foot high dam, 42-mile long and 2-mile wide reservoir, and a 2,800,000 MWh capacity.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 7
- **Field Office:** Anchorage FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:**
  Participation and review during the Project's FERC integrated licensing process beginning in December 2011. The FERC study plan determination of initial Project studies was scheduled for March 10, 2017. The State and AEA have requested that the license process be held in abeyance after FERC issues the study plan determination.
  ESA: At this time no impacts to listed species are anticipated from this project.
- **Project Timeline:** The current FERC licensing process schedule ends with the March 10, 2017 initial study plan determination.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Aiya Solar Energy Project

Project Sponsors: First Solar and Las Vegas Paiute Tribe

Project Description

- **Sector:** Solar Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Indian Affairs)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Clark County, Nevada (Moapa River Indian Reservation)
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Southern Nevada FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Biological Opinion issued, construction currently on hold. Tortoise clearance and translocation not begun. Anticipate frequent coordination with the Tribe and its consultants during construction and implementation of mitigation measures.
- **Project Timeline:** Specific dates not currently available; anticipate development will begin in 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Battle Creek Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Project

Project Sponsor: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Project Description

- **Sector**: Water Supply
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: FERC Project Number 1121
- **Location:** California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** The restoration project has strong support from many of California's agricultural and municipal water entities as well as commercial and recreational fisherman.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Red Bluff FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement: FWS** reviewing a PG&E application to amend its FERC license. The license amendment is part of a multi-agency private / public collaboration to implement the Battle Creek Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Project. In addition, FWS is reviewing PG&E's Facility Maintenance Plan, Bureau of Reclamation's construction designs, and Endangered Species Act documents associated with National Marine Fisheries Service listed species. FWS also provides technical information and field assistance based on long-term monitoring of the salmon and steelhead that will be restored. FWS will review additional permits or documents including Clean Water Act Water Quality Certification, Endangered Species Act Biological Opinions, and construction bid documents. After construction is complete FWS will work with PG&E to insure that the new facilities and stream flows are performing as designed.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS has been working with PG&E and other agencies on the restoration project since 1999. FWS will continue to work with the PG&E and state and federal agencies for the next four years until the construction project is complete.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Butte County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Natural Community Conservation Plan

Project Sponsors: County of Butte, City of Oroville, City of Chico, City of Biggs, City of Gridley, Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG), California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Western Canal Water District (WCWD), Biggs-West Gridley Water District, Butte Water District, and Richvale Irrigation District

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water, Sewer, Electric, Gas, Roads, and Bridges.
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Butte County , California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act compliance is underway. Sponsors are revising the draft HCP based on extensive public comments. Sponsors and FWS will recirculate a revised draft HCP and draft EIS once revisions are complete**.**
- **Project Timeline:** Estimate Incidental Take Permit issued in summer 2018. Various projects will occur over a 50-year term. FWS, other State and Federal agencies that issue permits (FWS, USACOE, NMFS, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, etc.) related to the HCP will assist the Sponsors with implementing their HCP over the 50-year permit term.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Calam Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

Project Sponsors: California American Water Company (Calam), Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water Supply
- **Lead Agency:** California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Monterey County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Ventura FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS has been involved in informal ESA section 7 consultation for several years. FWS issued a concurrence letter for an initial testing phase of the project on July 7, 2014. Currently reviewing portions of the National Environmental Policy Act/California Environmental Quality Act (NEPA/CEQA) document for the full-scale project (available for public comment until March 29, 2017), but do not expect to make formal comments under NEPA/CEQA. FWS available to consult informally, as needed, and awaits MBNMS's initiation of formal consultation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA.
- **Project Timeline:** MBNMS will likely initiate formal consultation in the spring of 2017, with FWS completing a biological opinion in the fall of 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: California Flats Solar Project

Project Sponsor: California Flats Solar, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Solar Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** 280-megawatt photovoltaic solar generation facility on 2,363 acres.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Ventura FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS issued a Biological Opinion on November 19, 2015, under ESA section 7 consultation. Incidental take was exempted for construction, maintenance, and operations of the project through 2018, which is the date when the ACOE determined their jurisdictional authority ends. California Flats Solar, LLC has developed a low-effect habitat conservation plan (HCP) and has applied for an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for incidental take of four species during the 30-year operation and maintenance of the project. FWS has reviewed the HCP and supporting documents and has made a preliminary determination that issuance of the permit qualifies for a categorical exclusion under NEPA. The HCP mitigation strategy of avoidance and minimization of effects to species, and habitat preservation and management meets the standard for ITP issuance.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS is working to publish the Notice of Availability of the proposed HCP in the Federal Register for public comment with anticipated publication in the spring or summer 2017. FWS expects to have all compliance documents complete and a permit decision approximately one month after completion of the public review period, which is anticipated to be completed by late summer or fall 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: California High Speed Rail, Palmdale to Burbank Section

Project Sponsor: California High Speed Rail Authority, Federal Rail Authority

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Rail Authority
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Los Angeles County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS has been actively coordinating with the California High Speed Rail Authority prior to initiating consultation to address potential effects to multiple federally listed species.
- **Project Timeline:** Section 7 consultation to be initiated in 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: California High-Speed Rail

Project Sponsor: Federal Railroad Administration (on behalf of the California High Speed Rail Authority)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Railroad Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers:**
- **Location:** Central California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento, Ventura and Carlsbad FOs
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The project is comprised of 8 segments. Biological opinions were issued for two segments: Merced to Fresno, and Fresno to Bakersfield. The six additional segments are in planning. The system is being constructed under design-build contracts, which defers final design until later in the process. As a result, our initial biological opinions are issued when designs are only 10-15 percent complete for each segment. This approach leads to substantive design changes and multiple consultation reinitiations as design plans are finalized along each segment. FWS and the Authority are working on revised biological assessments for the first two segments to address species and impacts not accounted for in the initial biological opinions; reinitiation will begin in FY2017.
- **Project Timeline:** The schedule for completing the biological opinions for the remaining 6 segments is not known at this time. Technical assistance for these segments is ongoing. Biological assessments for the San Jose and San Francisco segments are expected in spring/summer 2018. FWS involvement will be ongoing

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: California WaterFix

Project Sponsor: Bureau of Reclamation and California Department of Water Resources (CDWR)

Project Description

- **Sector**: Water Supply
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Reclamation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** CDWR proposes to construct, operate, and maintain new water conveyance facilities in the Sacramento–San Joaquin River Delta and modify operations of existing facilities.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Expecting to finalize a programmatic biological opinion in 2017.
- **Project Timeline:** Section 7 consultations and ongoing technical assistance through the end of the construction phase (2030).

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project

Project Sponsors: Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water Supply
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine counties, Nevada
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Southern Nevada FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS issued a Biological and Conference Opinion in November 2012 pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. This Opinion had both programmatic (for future groundwater development and lateral pipelines) and project-specific (for main pipeline) consultation elements. BLM will consult with FWS on tiered aspects of the project before groundwater development occurs. SNWA has indicated that they will be developing a Migratory Bird Conservation Plan in conjunction with FWS, and a final, approved plan will be completed before the Notice to Proceed is issued. FWS was a Cooperating Agency in the programmatic National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for this project, and will likely continue to work closely with BLM, when the latter moves into tiered NEPA for the lateral pipelines and groundwater development. Additionally, FWS is one of four DOI bureaus working with SNWA to develop and implement monitoring plans for future groundwater development under DOI-SNWA Stipulated Agreements related to SNWA's water rights.
- **Project Timeline:** Project timeline is uncertain. The award of SNWA's water rights has been remanded back to the Nevada State Engineer for administrative hearings, scheduled for fall 2017. Resolution of litigation is still pending on BLM's December 2012 Record of Decision, and the subsequent issuance of a Right-of-Way to SNWA for the main pipeline.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Desert Quartzite Solar Energy Project

Project Sponsor: Desert Quartzite, LLC (a wholly owned subsidiary of First Solar Development Inc.)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Solar Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Riverside County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad and Palm Springs FOs
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS is coordinating with BLM and providing ongoing technical assistance as warranted on biological survey protocols and reports, and review of the project-specific Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy. FWS anticipates a request for formal consultation under section 7 of the ESA for up to four different species: desert tortoise, southwestern willow flycatcher**,** yellow-billed cuckoo, and Ridgway's rail
- **Project Timeline:** Pre-project environmental surveys complete with the Administrative Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Report in progress. Projected completion date for the Final EIS/EIR is early 2018. Initiation of formal section 7 consultation with FWS is anticipated in 2018. Includes environmental compliance monitoring for a minimum of two years post-construction.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Dry Lake Solar Energy Zone Project

Project Sponsors: First Solar, NV Energy, Invenergy

Project Description

- **Sector:** Solar Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Clark County, Nevada
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Southern Nevada FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Section 7 consultation has been completed on all projects, and FWS continues to track mitigation implementation and compliance. Other ongoing FWS involvement includes continuing to monitor translocated desert tortoises on the Playa Solar Project as well as pre-construction coordination, tortoise translocation and monitoring at other projects.
- **Project Timeline:** Playa Solar 80 percent complete; others to begin construction in 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: El Camino Real Bridge Replacement Project in San Diego County

Project Sponsor: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** San Diego County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Caltrans initiated Endangered Species Act section 7 formal consultation with FWS on this project to address potential effects to federally endangered least Bell's vireo and light-footed Ridgway's rail.
- **Project Timeline:** Caltrans initiated consultation on this project in March 2016. FWS will provide the amended Biological Opinion to Caltrans, if they regain their delegated federal authorities, or to the Federal Highway Administration upon request.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Golden Hills North Wind Energy Center Repowering Project

Project Sponsor: NextEra Energy Resources

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Alameda County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The field office is currently working out the project details with the ACOE, including finalizing the project description and conservation measures.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time, but the formal consultation is likely to be completed in FY2017. The timeline depends on the ACOE finalizing the project description.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Highway 1 HOV Lanes

Project Sponsor: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Santa Cruz County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Ventura FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Currently in the technical assistance phase. The biological assessment and request for formal consultation is expected late spring or early summer 2017.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I Street Bridge Replacement Project

Project Sponsor: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), City of Sacramento, City of West Sacramento

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Sacramento and Yolo counties, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Formal Consultation. Biological Opinion drafted, changes added by Caltrans need to be incorporated. Waiting on agreement between Caltrans and Federal Highway Administration to be able to finalize and issue Biological Opinion
- **Project Timeline:** Issuance of Biological Opinion is on hold due to agreement issues between Federal Highway Administration and Caltrans.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: I-5 North Coast Corridor San Elijo Lagoon Restoration Project in San Diego County

Project Sponsor: San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy, California Department of Transportation, San Diego Association of Governments

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation/Restoration
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** San Diego County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** The project is mitigation for the I-5 North Coast Corridor Project (I-5 NCC), and the California Coastal Commission permit for the I-5 NCC Project requires that the restoration project proceed concurrently with the transportation project.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** A request for formal ESA section 7 consultation was received from the USACOE on February 16, 2017, to address potential effects to the following federally listed species: western snowy plover, California least tern, light-footed Ridgway's rail, southwestern willow flycatcher, and coastal California gnatcatcher.
- **Project Timeline:** The Biological Opinion is anticipated to be completed by June 30, 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Interstate 10 Corridor Project (I-10 CP)

Project Sponsor: Caltrans and San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Caltrans, on behalf of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** San Bernardino County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad and Palm Springs FOs
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS expecting to conclude informal Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation by concurring with a Caltrans/FHWA "not likely to adversely affect" determination for road widening and three of the interchange improvements. The fourth interchange (Pepper Avenue) will affect the endangered Delhi Sands flower-loving fly. There is a 2006 Biological Opinion that addressed the improvement of the Pepper Avenue interchange, but the project analyzed was not built. Caltrans requested reinitiation of consultation to address the revised interchange footprint. FWS will provide the amended Biological Opinion to Caltrans, once they regain their delegated federal authorities, or to the Federal Highway Administration upon request.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS received the informal consultation request letter on March 9, 2017, and expects to provide concurrence by the end of March 2017. Amending the Biological Opinion should conclude in May 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Last Chance Grade

Project Sponsor: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Del Norte County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Located approximately 10 miles south of Crescent City, CA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Arcata FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Currently providing technical assistance on the proposed route alternatives, and attending regular meetings with Caltrans, other regulatory agencies, and Tribes to discuss potential impacts of the project alternatives to listed species and their habitats.
- **Project Timeline:** Earliest request for formal consultation is at least two years away depending on when the preferred alternative(s) is selected. Caltrans expects that all environmental permitting will take approximately 6-8 years to finalize.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Los Vaqueros Expansion II (LVE II)

Project Sponsor: Bureau of Reclamation and Contra Costa Water District

Project Description

- **Sector**: Water Storage
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Reclamation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Contra Costa **C**ounty, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Feasibility Study of proposed project to further enlarge Los Vaqueros Dam and Reservoir to provide additional water for Contra Costa County Water District and possibly others.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS has completed a final Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) for the initial dam enlargement, the proposal for enlargement of the dam and reservoir will require an addendum to the existing Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) Report. Reclamation will need to consult under §7 of the Endangered Species Act on the effects of the additional enlargement.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS should be providing a draft Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) addendum for this project by the end of the fiscal year, after that to be determined.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Lost Hills Solar

Project Sponsor: Consolidated Edison Development, Inc. (ConEd) through Consolidated Edison Development Lost Hills Solar, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Solar Energy
- **Lead Agency:** NA
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Kern County , California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Con Ed is developing a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and the Environmental Assessment, which are currently under Regional Solicitor review. Once Regional Solicitor review is completed, the documents will be submitted to the Federal Register for public review and comment. There will be a 30-day public review, followed by responses to comments and issuance of the Incidental Take Permit (ITP).
- **Project Timeline:** Estimated ITP issuance is June 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Measure M2 Habitat Conservation Plan

Project Sponsor: Orange County Transportation Authority

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Orange County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** The Measure M2 HCP addresses multiple freeway improvement projects in Orange County, CA.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Measure M2 HCP is awaiting publication in the Federal Register, currently scheduled for late March 2017.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS will complete the Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit decision process by approximately May 1, 2017. Remaining analyses to complete for the FWS's permitting decision on the HCP include the Biological Opinion, Findings, and Record of Decision.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: New Bullards Bar Flood Control Outlet

Project Sponsor: California Department of Water Resources, Yuba County Water Agency

Project Description

- **Sector**: Flood Control
- **Lead Agency:** California Department of Water Resources
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: FERC Project Number 2246
- **Location:** Yuba County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Yuba County Water Agency is proposing a New Flood Control Outlet at New Bullards Bar Dam.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** . Ongoing as related to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license.
- **Project Timeline:** Ongoing with current completion goal date of 2026.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: North-of-the-Delta Offstream Storage Investigation (NODOS or Sites Reservoir)

Project Sponsor: Bureau of Reclamation and the Sites Reservoir Joint Authority

Project Description

- **Sector**: Water Storage
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Reclamation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Colusa County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Feasibility Study of proposed project to construct a new 1.8 million acre-foot reservoir to inundate Antelope Valley, including the construction of nine saddle dams, a regulating reservoir, and a pipeline to the Sacramento River.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** No contact with the project proponents since 2012. The proposed project will require Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) Report and effects mitigation, formal consultation under §7 of the Endangered Species Act on the effects of the proposed project, and an eagle conservation plan under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.
- **Project Timeline:** No information at this time; to be determined, currently no project schedule has been provided to the FWS.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Palen Solar Photovoltaic Project

Project Sponsor: Palen Solar III, LLC (a wholly owned subsidiary of EDF Renewable Energy)

Project Description

- **Sector:** Solar Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Eastern Riverside County, California (~10 miles east of Desert Center, CA)
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS is coordinating with BLM and providing ongoing technical assistance as warranted for this project. Examples include review of biological survey protocols and reports, and review of the project-specific Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy. FWS anticipates a request for formal consultation under section 7 of the ESA for up to four species: desert tortoise, southwestern willow flycatcher**,** yellow-billed cuckoo, and Yuma clapper rail (Ridgway's rail).
- **Project Timeline:** Pre-project environmental surveys are complete. The Administrative Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Report is under review by BLM and the cooperating agencies with initiation of formal consultation under section 7 of the ESA anticipated in late 2017. Include environmental compliance monitoring for a minimum of two years post-construction.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Panoche Valley Solar Farm Project

Project Sponsor: Panoche Valley Solar, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Solar Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** San Benito County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** 247-megawatt photovoltaic solar generation facility on 2,154 acres.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Ventura FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS issued a biological opinion under ESA section 7 on March 8, 2016. The biological opinion exempts incidental take for four species for construction, maintenance, and operation of the project for 30 years. On April 15, 2016, several environmental groups filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court alleging the FWS's biological opinion failed to utilize the best available scientific data and would jeopardize the recovery of the San Joaquin kit fox, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, and giant kangaroo rat. The court ruled against the plaintiff's request for a preliminary injunction. On October 25, 2016, the plaintiffs agreed to dismiss the case without prejudice while the ACOE is reinitiating section 7 consultation. FWS is coordinating with the Office of the Solicitor and Department of Justice during the reinitiation of consultation to address any potential legal concerns.
- **Project Timeline:** The ACOE requested reinitiation of formal consultation on December 12, 2016. The project is continuing construction during reinitiation. FWS is drafting a new Biological Opinion and is expected to complete the consultation in April 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Placer County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Natural Community Conservation Plan

Project Sponsors: Placer County Planning Department, Placer Resource Conservation District, City of Lincoln, Placer County Water Agency, and the South Placer Regional Transportation Authority

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water, Sewer, Electric, Gas, Roads, and Bridges.
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Placer County , California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act compliance is underway. The Sponsors, State and Federal agencies are finalizing the draft HCP and draft Environmental Impact Statement; it is anticipated these will be noticed in the Federal Register for public review and comment in 2017.
- **Project Timeline:** Estimated the Incidental Take Permit will be issued in spring of 2018. Various projects will occur over a 50-year term. FWS and other State and Federal agencies that issue permits (FWS, USACOE, NMFS, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, etc.) related to the HCP will assist the Sponsors with implementation of their HCP over the 50-year permit term.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Placer State Route 65 Capacity and Operational Improvements

Project Sponsor: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Federal Highway Administration

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Highway Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Placer County, CA
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Currently providing technical assistance. Formal section 7 consultation to begin later in 2017. Biological Assessment not yet received.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Repair of Oroville Dam/Spillway from February 2017 Damage

Project Sponsor: California Department of Water Resources

Project Description

- **Sector**: Hydropower/Restoration
- **Lead Agency:** California Department of Water Resources
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: FERC Project Number 2100
- **Location:** Butte County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Oroville Dam and Spillway sustained significant damage in February 2017 during flood control operations. Emergency repairs are underway. Design and planning activities for a long-term fix are expected to occur later this year.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Repair work is underway now and will be handled through Endangered Species Act emergency consultation procedures. Anticipate long-term repairs to be subject to Section 7 consultation.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Sacramento Municipal Utility District Operations and Maintenance Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

Project Sponsors: Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water, Sewer, Electric, Gas, Roads, and Bidges.
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Sacramento County , California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** SMUD and the FWS are preparing the draft HCP and draft Environmental Impact Statement.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS estimates issuing the Incidental Take Permit in winter of 2018. Various projects will occur over a 30-year permit term. FWS will assist the permittee with implementation of its HCP over the 30-year permit term.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Sacramento River Bank Protection Project

Project Sponsor: State of California's Central Valley Flood Protection Board

Project Description

- **Sector:** Restoration/Flood Control
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Sacramento River, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** The project, authorized in 1960, is a long-term flood risk management project designed to enhance public safety, and help protect property along the Sacramento River and its tributaries. The Sacramento River has a history of flooding due to a number of contributing factors. The goal of the project is to evaluate levees bordering the river, and reduce stream bank erosion along them to minimize the threat of flooding. The original authorization approved rehabilitation of 430,000 linear feet of levee. The 1974 Water Resources Development Act added 405,000 linear feet of bank protection, and a 2007 bill authorized another 80,000 linear feet for a total of 915,000 linear feet.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement: FWS** involvement includes ESA section 7 consultation, and preparation of a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) report. The draft FWCA report was provided October 12, 2012.
- **Project Timeline:** A revised Biological Assessment for the last 80,000 linear foot addition to the project was received on January 26, 2017. FWS anticipates completing the section 7 consultation by the end of the calendar year 2017. The final FWCA report is expected to be completed in early 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: San Dieguito Double Track and Platform in San Diego County

Project Sponsor: Federal Railroad Administration, San Diego Association of Governments

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Railroad Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** San Diego County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS conducting pre-ESA section 7 consultation coordination with the project proponents regarding potential effects to federally listed species, including the following: western snowy plover, California least tern, light-footed Ridgway's rail, and coastal California gnatcatcher.
- **Project Timeline:** Formal consultation has not been initiated, but FWS anticipates that it will be initiated within the next 18 months.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention, and Habitat Restoration Measure (Measure AA)

Project Sponsor: San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

Project Description

- **Sector**: Restoration
- **Lead Agency:** Unknown
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** San Francisco Bay, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Development of guidelines; the Tidal Marsh Recovery Implementation Team is assisting in development of BMPs and restoration proposals.
- **Project Timeline:** 20 years (2016 to 2037).

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP)

Project Sponsor: Bureau of Reclamation, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and California Department of Water Resources

Project Description

- **Sector**: Restoration
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Reclamation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** San Joaquin River, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Program implementing the 2006 NRDC, et al v. Kirk Rodgers Settlement, providing for the restoration of Chinook salmon to the San Joaquin River.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Ongoing as an implementing partner in the Settlement.
- **Project Timeline:** Ongoing with current completion goal date of 2030.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: San Luis Low Point Improvement Project (SLLPIP)

Project Sponsor: Bureau of Reclamation and Santa Clara Valley Water District

Project Description

- **Sector**: Water Storage
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Reclamation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Santa Clara County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Feasibility Study that includes proposed project to enlarge Sisk Dam and San Luis Reservoir to provide additional south of the Delta water storage and reduce the effects of low point water quality for Santa Clara Valley Water District.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS has completed a draft Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) for the initial proposed project alternatives, additional alternatives have been added since that time. FWS will need to revise the existing draft Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) Report to include the two additional alternatives. Reclamation will need to consult under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act on the effects of the proposed project.
- **Project Timeline:** The FWS should be providing a draft Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) Report for this project by the end of the fiscal year, after that to be determined.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: San Luis Transmission Project

Project Sponsor: Western Area Power Administration

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** Western Area Power Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Alameda, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Merced counties, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Transmission line is 94 miles in length

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS issued a Draft Biological Opinion to WAPA on March 2, 2017, for their review and comment.
- **Project Timeline:** A final Biological Opinion will be issued to WAPA by March 18, 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: SDG&E/SoCalGas Rainbow–San Diego 36-inch (Line 3602) Natural Gas Pipeline and Pipeline 1600 Safety Enhancement Project

Project Sponsor: San Diego Gas and Electric Company

Project Description

- **Sector:** Pipeline
- **Lead Agency:** California Public Utilities Commission
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** San Diego County, CA
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** The project is replacement of an old gas line running from Rainbow, California to Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Pre-project coordination and technical assistance with SDG&E, California Public Utilities Commission, and Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.
- **Project Timeline:** This is a new project; FWS has met with both SDG&E and CPUC during pre-consultation coordination for the project. It is anticipated a request for formal consultation will be received in 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Shasta Lake Water Resource Investigation (SLWRI or Shasta Raise)

Project Sponsor: Bureau of Reclamation

Project Description

- **Sector**: Hydropower/Water Storage
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Reclamation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Shasta County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Federal feasibility study of a proposed project to enlarge Shasta Dam and Shasta Reservoir.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS has completed a final draft Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) Report for the proposed project. If the proposed project is authorized by Congress, then the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) Report will be finalized, including recommendations for mitigation. Reclamation will need to initiate formal consultation under §7 of the Endangered Species Act, and the FWS will provide a Biological Opinion for the project.
- **Project Timeline:** Unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Snow Mountain Solar Energy Project

Project Sponsors: First Solar and Las Vegas Paiute Tribe

Project Description

- **Sector:** Solar Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Indian Affairs
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Clark County, Nevada (Las Vegas Paiute Reservation)
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Southern Nevada FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Technical assistance and pre-ESA section 7 consultation activities, including desert tortoise survey and mitigation planning for this project on hold at this time.
- **Project Timeline:** Specific dates not available; project on hold awaiting purchase power agreement, but anticipate formal section 7 consultation will begin by the end of calendar year 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Solano County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

Project Sponsors: Solano County Water Agency, City of Vacaville, City of Fairfield, Suisun City, City of Vallejo, Solano County Irrigation District, Maine Prairie Water District, City of Rio Vista, City of Dixon, Reclamation District 2068, Dixon Resource Conservation District (RCD), Dixon Regional Watershed Joint Power's Authority, Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District, and Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water, Sewer, Electric, Gas, Roads, Bridges, and Flood Control
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Solano County , California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Sponsors and the FWS are finalizing the draft HCP and draft Environmental Impact Statement.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS estimates issuance of the Incidental Take Permit in fall of 2018. Various projects will occur over a 50-year term. FWS will assist the Sponsors with implementation of their HCP over the 50-year permit term.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Sorrento to Miramar Double Track Phase 2 in San Diego County

Project Sponsor: Federal Railroad Administration, San Diego Association of Governments

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** Federal Railroad Administration
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** San Diego County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Formal section 7 consultation initiated on June 12, 2015, to address potential effects to the following federally listed species: coastal California gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, San Diego fairy shrimp, and Riverside fairy shrimp.
- **Project Timeline:** The Biological Opinion is anticipated to be completed no later than June 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, Phase 2

Project Sponsor: Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) and the California State Coastal Conservancy

Project Description

- **Sector**: Restoration
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** San Francisco, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Largest wetland restoration project on the West Coast, encompassing 15,100 acres of the former Cargill Inc. salt ponds in South San Francisco Bay, which were acquired by a public-private partnership for restoration and management by the FWS and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2003. The Refuge and the California State Coastal Conservancy propose to continue implementing the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project through the construction, operation, and maintenance of selected ponds as part of Phase 2 project activities that cover approximately 2,200 acres on the Refuge.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Formal consultation: Review of Biological Assessment, issuance of Biological Opinion
- **Project Timeline:** Formal consultation initiated on February 21, 2017; biological opinion due by July 6, 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: South Sacramento County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

Project Sponsors: County of Sacramento, City of Galt, City of Rancho Cordova, the Sacramento County Water Agency and the Capital Southeast Connector Joint Powers Authority

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water, Sewer, Electric, Gas, Roads, and Bridges.
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Sacramento County , California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The draft HCP and draft Environmental Impact Statement have been completed and will be ready for public review following publication of the Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register.
- **Project Timeline:** The NOA will be submitted for approval for publication in the Federal Register in March or April 2017. FWS estimates issuing permits in winter of 2018. Various projects will occur over a 30- or 50-year term. FWS will assist the Sponsors with implementation of their HCP over the permit term.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Southern California Edison (SCE) Company Transmission Line Rating Remediation Project, Rector-Vestal No. 1 & 2, Magunden-Vestal No. 1 & 2, Antelope-Magunden No. 1

Project Sponsor: Southern California Edison

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transmission
- **Lead Agency:** Unknown
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Tulare, Kern and Los Angeles counties , California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS is providing technical assistance on the project staging, activities, alignment, and avoidance and minimization measures.
- **Project Timeline:** Completion expected in 2018.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: SR-241 SR-91 Express Lane Connectors Project in Orange County

Project Sponsor: Transportation Corridor Agencies, California Department of Transportation

Project Description

- **Sector:** Transportation
- **Lead Agency:** California Department of Transportation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Orange County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Carlsbad FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** A request for formal ESA section 7 consultation was received from Caltrans on January 3, 2017, to address potential effects to the federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher.
- **Project Timeline:** The Biological Opinion will be completed in May 2017. FWS will provide the amended Biological Opinion to Caltrans, if they regain their delegated federal authorities, or the Federal Highway Administration upon request.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Strauss Wind Energy Project (formerly Lompoc Wind Energy Project and Cabrillo Wind Project)

Project Sponsor: Bay Ware Wind, LLC

Project Description

- **Sector:** Wind Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Santa Barbara County, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Ventura FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** In December 2016, Bay Ware and its consultant (Sapphos Environmental) initiated coordination with Region 8 Migratory Birds, and the Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office which is ongoing.
- **Project Timeline:** Bay Ware contacted the FWS Region 8 Migratory Birds office regarding avian studies in the area in December 2016. The Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office was involved in previous iterations of the project with a different sponsor. Actual project timelines are unknown at this time.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Upper San Joaquin River Basin Storage Investigation (USJRBSI or Temperance Flat Reservoir)

Project Sponsor: Bureau of Reclamation and San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority

Project Description

- **Sector**: Water Storage
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Reclamation
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Fresno and Madera counties, California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** Federal feasibility study of proposed project to build a new dam on the San Joaquin River upstream of Millerton Reservoir and inundate the San Joaquin River Gorge creating the Temperance Flat Reservoir.

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** San Francisco Bay-Delta FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** FWS has completed a final draft Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) Report for the proposed project. If the proposed project is authorized by Congress, then the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act §2(b) Report will be finalized, including recommendations for mitigation. Reclamation will need to initiate formal consultation under §7 of the Endangered Species Act, and the FWS will provide a Biological Opinion for the project.
- **Project Timeline:** To be determined, currently no project schedule has been provided to FWS.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Valley Electric Solar Energy Project

Project Sponsors: Valley Electric Association

Project Description

- **Sector:** Solar Energy
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Nye County, NV (Pahrump area)
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Southern Nevada FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** HCP finalized and Incidental Take Permit issued. Construction complete. FWS involved in working with Valley Electric Association to develop a study to determine suitability of solar project sites for desert tortoises after construction and implement other mitigation to include tortoise monitoring and habitat restoration.
- **Project Timeline:** Specific dates not available; anticipate working with sponsor for at least the next five years.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Yellow Pine Solar Project

Project Sponsors: Nextera

Project Description

- **Sector:** Solar Energy
- **Lead Agency:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Clark County, Nevada
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Southern Nevada FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** Pre-section 7 consultation activities, including desert tortoise survey and mitigation planning.
- **Project Timeline:** Specific dates not available, but anticipate consultation will begin by the end of calendar year 2017.

Major Infrastructure Project
2017

Project Name: Yolo County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Natural Community Conservation Plan

Project Sponsors: Yolo County, City of Davis, City of West Sacramento, City of Winters, and City of Woodland.

Project Description

- **Sector:** Water, Sewer, Electric, Gas, Roads, and Bridges
- **Lead Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Any Identifying Project Numbers**: NA
- **Location:** Yolo County , California
- **Estimated Cost:** >$100 million
- **Other:** NA

FWS Involvement

- **Region:** 8
- **Field Office:** Sacramento FO
- **Status of FWS Involvement:** The draft HCP and draft Environmental Impact Statement have been completed and will be ready for public review following completion of review by FWS Region 8, and subsequent publication of a Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register.
- **Project Timeline:** FWS anticipates that the NOA will be submitted for approval for publication in the Federal Register in March or April 2017. FWS estimates issuing the Incidental Take Permit in fall of 2018. Various projects will occur over a 50-year term. FWS and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife will assist the Sponsors with implementation of their HCP over the 50-year permit term.

In Response Reply to:
FWS/D/XXXXXX

Memorandum

To: Service Directorate

From: Director

Subject: Required Correspondence Review – submitting items to the Document Tracking System Early Action Reporting database (DTS EAR)

Per the Secretary of Interior's April 12, 2017 memorandum, "Managing Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Other Significant Decisions," bureau heads and office directors are required to report proposed Records of Decision (RODs) or other decisions with nationwide, regional, or statewide impact to the Office of the Secretary to enable an assessment of the overall functioning of the Department's critical programs. A copy of the memorandum communicating this new requirement is attached (attachment A).

Additionally, Regional and Headquarter (HQ) Programs should alert the Director's Office of any actions that may be: 1) controversial with stakeholders (any type of project or action), or 2) likely to add significant cost or delay to infrastructure, energy, or border projects that are priorities of this Administration. The objective in both circumstances is to give the Director's office advance notification of actions that would likely rise to the attention of the Secretary.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has created a new database in the Document Tracking System (DTS) to facilitate the submission of materials to both the Office of the Secretary and the Director's Office. The *Early Action Request* (EAR) database is an early review tool that can be used to obtain Director's Office or Departmental review and surname for the actions outlined below. This memorandum offers guidance on what types of information should seek review, as well as submission instructions.

1) Items for Review by the Office of the Secretary

The procedures outlined below are temporary and are being implemented to assist the Secretary in understanding how each agency makes important decisions to advance the mission of the Department of the Interior, and to ensure coordination with the Office of Communications for significant announcements.

In accordance with the April 12, 2017, Secretarial memorandum, proposed RODs and proposed decisions that are not termed "ROD" but that have nationwide, regional, or statewide impact shall be submitted to the Secretary prior to issuance. All materials should be uploaded to the DTS EAR database via their respective Regional or HQ program and routed for Secretarial review, through the Director and Assistant Secretary. A decision should not be issued until the Office of the Secretary has reviewed the report and provided clearance.

For each uploaded DTS EAR record for Secretarial review, please include a Correspondence Memo with the following information (Attachment B):

1. Originating office
2. Title of decision document
3. One paragraph summary of proposed decision
4. Need and deadline (if any) for issuance
5. Positions of affected stakeholders. Highlight whether the decision is potentially controversial.
6. Other relevant considerations

Each DTS package should include, as appropriate, the draft action or decision document. Given the high volume of decision documents being reviewed by the Deputy Secretary's office, please build in appropriate time (potentially several weeks) into your planning.

2) Items for Review by the Director's Office

Items that are controversial with stakeholders or likely to add significant cost or delay to infrastructure, energy, or border projects that are priorities of this Administration will likely rise to the attention of the Secretary. We ask that you please identify these actions and submit them to the Director's Office as an early alert.

The starting point in identifying infrastructure, energy, or border projects that are priorities of this Administration is the list of "major infrastructure projects" that each Region submitted in mid-March 2017 (Attachment C).

Please note that not all Service actions on infrastructure, energy, or border projects need to be reviewed by the Director's office before transmittal. The vast majority of actions on these projects can and should proceed without review by the Director's office. Regional and HQ programs should exercise their judgment in identifying projects or actions that may be controversial. The sensitivity could be related to the species affected (e.g., Mexican wolf, red wolf, greater sage-grouse, manatee), the type of project (e.g., border wall, pipeline), or the political attention received to date (e.g., departmental, gubernatorial, congressional).

Director's Office early alerts should include a briefing paper along with any relevant correspondence or documents. All materials should be uploaded to the DTS EAR database via

their respective Regional or HQ program and routed for Director's Office review. A decision should not be issued until the Director's Office has reviewed and responded. Every effort will be made to respond to early alerts in a timely manner.

If you have questions about either of these review procedures, or need assistance in follow up on any submittals, please contact Charisa Morris, Chief of Staff, at (202) 208-3843.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

APR 17 2017

Memorandum

To: Assistant Secretaries
Heads of Bureaus and Office Directors

From: Secretary

Subject: Managing Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Other Significant Decisions

A hallmark of my management of the Department of the Interior (Department) will be empowering local managers to make responsible decisions. Local managers are closest to the public we serve and to the precious resources we manage on their behalf. I also have a duty to learn about the Department's operations as I take the helm of the ship. Only by understanding the varied operations will I be able to lead this great Department in fulfilling its important mission on behalf of the American people.

The Department annually distributes $5.5 billion in grants and cooperative agreements to a variety of grantees and cooperators to advance mission objectives. In order to help me to understand the immense impact grants and cooperative agreements have on the mission delivery of the Department, I am directing implementation of the following temporary procedures for processing grants and cooperative agreements:

> Effective immediately, bureau heads and office directors will use the attached template to report all planned Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 grants and cooperative agreements of $100,000 or more before final award. The reports should be submitted through the Assistant Secretaries to Mr. James Cason, who has been delegated the authority of the Deputy Secretary. The Office of Acquisition and Property Management will assist Mr. Cason in reviewing these reports. No grants should be awarded until the review has been completed. You will be notified about your clearance to proceed with awards following this review.

In addition, to better assess the overall functioning of the Department's critical programs:

> Each bureau head and office director shall ensure that their office obtains proposed records of decisions (RODs) and uses the attached template to report on proposed decisions prior to issuance. Proposed decisions that are not termed "ROD" but have nationwide, regional, or statewide impact shall also be reported using the template. All reports should be submitted to Mr. Cason. A decision should not be issued until he has reviewed the report and provided clearance.

The above procedures are temporary and are being implemented to assist me in understanding how we make important decisions to advance the mission of the Department, assess how we are

aligning our grants and cooperative agreements to Department priorities, and to assure coordination with the Office of Communications for significant announcements. The review and processing of grants, cooperative agreements, and RODs will return to their regular order as soon as possible.

Attachments: Template for Data Call on FY 2017 Grants and Cooperative Agreement Awards
Template for Data Call on Proposed Records of Decision and Other Significant Decision Documents

cc: James Cason
Acting Solicitor
DAS-BFPA
Director, PAM

Template for Data Call on Fiscal Year 2017 Grants and Cooperative Agreement Awards

The Department of the Interior leadership is establishing a new process, as of April 10, 2017, for reviewing all planned Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 grants and cooperative agreements of $100,000 or more before final award. The purpose is to better understand priorities being addressed, opportunities for addressing new priorities, and for significant announcements. Please use the following template to provide information for each grant or cooperative agreement totaling $100,000 or more to be awarded in FY 2017. Please submit the information to Mr. Jim Cason as you prepare grants and cooperative agreements for award, following clearance through bureau heads and assistant secretaries. You will be notified about clearance to proceed with awards following this review.

Information requested:

1. bureau or office
2. name of grant or cooperative agreement and anticipated issue date (month/year)
3. catalog of Federal domestic assistance (CFDA) number
4. purpose of grant or cooperative agreement
5. mandatory or discretionary nature of grant or cooperative agreement (if mandatory, cite authority)
6. current priorities being addressed by the grant or cooperative agreement
7. flexibility to direct grant or cooperative agreement to new priorities
8. source of funds
9. amount of grant or cooperative agreement and expected total value
10. targeted recipients/awardees
11. location of recipients/awardees
12. potential media interest

Template for Data Call on Proposed Records of Decision and Other Significant Decision Documents

Please use the following template to provide information for each proposed Record of Decision or other decision with nationwide, regional, or statewide impact. Please submit the completed information through your assistant secretary to Mr. Jim Cason. You will be notified of your clearance to proceed with issuance of a decision following the review.

Information requested:

1. bureau or office
2. title of document
3. one paragraph summary of proposed decision
4. need and deadline (if any) for issuance
5. positions of affected stakeholders
6. other relevant considerations

United States Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240
CORRESPONDENCE MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

DATE:

TO: Acting Deputy Secretary

THROUGH: Acting Assistant Secretary of Fish and Wildlife and Parks

FROM: Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

SUBJECT: Correspondence Review: Common Title

I.ORIGINATING OFFICE
Name, title, office, phone number

II.TITLE OF DECISION DOCUMENT

III.SUMMARY OF PROPOSED DECISION
Briefly and succinctly provide the necessary background information to frame the issue or topic.

IV.NEED FOR ISSUANCE

V.DEADLINE (if any)

VI.POSITIONS OF AFFECTED STAKEHOLDERS
Highlight whether the decision is potentially controversial.

VII.OTHER RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240

JUN 9 2017

In Response Reply to:
FWS/D/065804

Memorandum

To: Deputy Service Directorate

From: Director

Subject: Required Correspondence Review – submitting items to the Document Tracking System Early Action Reporting database (DTS EAR)

Per the Secretary of Interior's April 12, 2017 memorandum, "Managing Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Other Significant Decisions," bureau heads and office directors are required to report proposed Records of Decision (RODs) or other decisions with nationwide, regional, or statewide impact to the Office of the Secretary to enable an assessment of the overall functioning of the Department's critical programs. A copy of the memorandum communicating this new requirement is attached (attachment A).

Additionally, Regional and Headquarter (HQ) Programs should alert the Director's Office of any actions that may be: 1) controversial with stakeholders (any type of project or action), or 2) likely to add significant cost or delay to infrastructure, energy, or border projects that are priorities of this Administration. The objective in both circumstances is to give the Director's office advance notification of actions that would likely rise to the attention of the Secretary.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has created a new database in the Document Tracking System (DTS) to facilitate the submission of materials to both the Office of the Secretary and the Director's Office. The *Early Action Request* (EAR) database is an early review tool that can be used to obtain Director's Office or Departmental review and surname for the actions outlined below. This memorandum offers guidance on what types of information should seek review, as well as submission instructions.

1) Items for Review by the Office of the Secretary

The procedures outlined below are temporary and are being implemented to assist the Secretary in understanding how each agency makes important decisions to advance the mission of the Department of the Interior, and to ensure coordination with the Office of Communications for significant announcements.

In accordance with the April 12, 2017, Secretarial memorandum, proposed RODs and proposed decisions that are not termed "ROD" but that have nationwide, regional, or statewide impact shall be submitted to the Secretary prior to issuance. All materials should be uploaded to the DTS EAR database via their respective Regional or HQ program and routed for Secretarial review, through the Director and Assistant Secretary. A decision should not be issued until the Office of the Secretary has reviewed the report and provided clearance.

For each uploaded DTS EAR record for Secretarial review, please include a Correspondence Memo with the following information (Attachment B):

1. Originating office
2. Title of decision document
3. One paragraph summary of proposed decision
4. Need and deadline (if any) for issuance
5. Positions of affected stakeholders. Highlight whether the decision is potentially controversial.
6. Other relevant considerations

Each DTS package should include, as appropriate, the draft action or decision document. Given the high volume of decision documents being reviewed by the Deputy Secretary's office, please build in appropriate time (potentially several weeks) into your planning.

2) Items for Review by the Director's Office

Items that are controversial with stakeholders or likely to add significant cost or delay to infrastructure, energy, or border projects that are priorities of this Administration will likely rise to the attention of the Secretary. We ask that you please identify these actions and submit them to the Director's Office as an early alert.

The starting point in identifying infrastructure, energy, or border projects that are priorities of this Administration is the list of "major infrastructure projects" that each Region submitted in mid-March 2017 (Attachment C).

Please note that not all Service actions on infrastructure, energy, or border projects need to be reviewed by the Director's office before transmittal. The vast majority of actions on these projects can and should proceed without review by the Director's office. Regional and HQ programs should exercise their judgment in identifying projects or actions that may be controversial. The sensitivity could be related to the species affected (e.g., Mexican wolf, red wolf, greater sage-grouse, manatee), the type of project (e.g., border wall, pipeline), or the political attention received to date (e.g., departmental, gubernatorial, congressional).

Director's Office early alerts should include a briefing paper along with any relevant correspondence or documents. All materials should be uploaded to the DTS EAR database via

their respective Regional or HQ program and routed for Director's Office review. A decision should not be issued until the Director's Office has reviewed and responded. Every effort will be made to respond to early alerts in a timely manner.

If you have questions about either of these review procedures, or need assistance in follow up on any submittals, please contact Charisa Morris, Chief of Staff, at (202) 208-3843.

From:	Devolder, Andy
To:	Gale, Michael
Cc:	Joy Nicholopoulos; Charisa Morris; Gary Frazer; Anya Rushing
Subject:	R2 BPs for Secretary
Date:	Wednesday, July 19, 2017 12:51:45 PM
Attachments:	Kofa- Road Access TH.docx AZ Border BP TH.docx NM VDO BP TH.docx AZ Havasu Boating TH.docx 7.19.17 Zinke BP on Amity.docx BP Chiricahua leopard frog ESA hearing 19July2017.docx BP - R2 New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse 18july2017.docx BP Texas Hornshell ESA Hearing 19July2017.docx BP - R2 Kuenzler Hedgehog Cactus 19july2017.docx Gila Chub BP 7 19 17 (1).docx BP Jaguar Recovery Plan 19July2017ef (2).docx BP Arizona Border Coordination wtih BP 19July2017.docx 20170719_BP Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan.docx BP for the Secy - LPC v3.docx

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Attached are our BPs for the Secretary visit. Sorry for the delay.

Andy

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Andy DeVolder
Acting Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region
Office: 505-248-6285

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MEMBER: Senators McCain and Flake, Representative Gosar (AZ)
ISSUE: Road Closures by Private Land Owner on Kofa National Wildlife Refuge

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In 2016, Allen Armstrong who owns several in-holdings on Kofa National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge), stated he would be gating and closing a road passing through his property.
- This potential closure and others he is considering would significantly impair public access to much of the eastern part of the Refuge since these roads have been used for decades by recreationists. Additionally, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) relies on these roads for access to remote portions of the Refuge. Closure of the roads would add hours to some trips and require other trips to be conducted overnight.
- The FWS attempted to reach agreement with Mr. Armstrong on possible solutions that may include potential acquisition of easement or fee-title interests on portions of the roads. Mr. Armstrong was not interested in an easement and preferred that the FWS construct an alternate new road to maintain visitor access to the Refuge.
- Soon afterwards, Mr. Armstrong acquired power of attorney for two additional private inholdings held by Dean Weingarten and stated he would close road access there as well. Mr. Armstrong has expressed willingness to sell interest in Mr. Weingarten's properties to the FWS but contingent on Mr. Armstrong dictating the purchase price, identifying the route for a new road around the Castle Dome and Hull Mine properties, and the FWS signing a purchase contract in less than a month.
- The FWS has received a number of calls from affected visitors concerned that access via roads that had been used since prior to Refuge establishment are now closed. In October 2016, Mr. Armstrong agreed to unlock the gates to allow through-access for the public.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Mr. Armstrong contacted Senator McCain in November 2016 to express his frustration over the issue. The Refuge responded to Mr. Armstrong and expressed continued willingness to discuss potential solutions.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- There has been no congressional interest in this issue since November 2016.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS continues to meet with all vested stakeholders to evaluate alternate routes that do not cross privately-owned lands but provide similar access to the Refuge for the thousands of visitors who have frequented these areas for decades.

Date Monday, July 17, 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MEMBER: Senators McCain and Flake, Representative Grijalva (AZ)
ISSUE: Status of National Wildlife Refuges along the Arizona/Mexico International Border

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Within Arizona, Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) shares 56 miles of border with Mexico and Buenos Aires NWR shares approximately 7.5 miles, necessitating the presence of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for border security.
- On April 1, 2008, then Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary, Michael Chertoff, waived certain environmental statutes, as authorized by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, to ensure access to Department of the Interior (DOI)-managed lands, including national wildlife refuges and other lands for border security projects, allowing building of border barriers and access roads along 670 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border.
- In addition, DOI and the DHS have an existing agreement that calls for close collaboration on refuge lands and provides for mitigation of impacts to wildlife.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) coordinates closely with CBP on border-related issues and infrastructure project design, installation, and operation in an effort to minimize detrimental impacts to fish and wildlife and ensure the FWS mission is accomplished in concert with the DHS national security mission.
- The FWS employees working on the border continue to face resource protection challenges related to border narcotics smuggling, human trafficking, CBP off-road emergency pursuits, and humanitarian aid groups illegally depositing materials on NWR lands.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The international border continues to be an area of high interest in the media, among various advocacy groups, and in the political realm. Humanitarian aid volunteers continue to provide caches of supplies for undocumented aliens along trails and within designated wilderness, often in conflict with FWS policy and complicating CBP operations. Wilderness advocacy groups continue to express concern over border-related incursions in wilderness and impacts to natural resources. Cabeza Prieta NWR has experienced a recent increase in Freedom of Information Act requests from wilderness advocates and the media.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- No recent congressional activity has occurred related to the Arizona/Mexico international border

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- In coordination with other DOI land management agencies, the FWS continues to cooperate closely with the DHS and CBP in an effort to integrate the missions of the two departments and ensure conservation of FWS trust resources and to address illegal cross-border traffic activity on public lands.
- Cabeza Prieta and Buenos Aires NWRs continue to work with other DOI land managers to develop a consistent approach to addressing humanitarian aid groups operating outside of DOI policy and FWS regulations.

Date Monday, July 17, 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MEMBER: Senators Udall and Heinrich, Representative Lujan- Grisham (NM)
ISSUE: Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge – Community Partnerships and Engagement

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In September 2012, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) established Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) in the Albuquerque metropolitan area.
- The purchase of a former dairy farm (570 acres and associated water rights) to establish the Refuge was completed in 2015 and required $18.5 million, including $8.9 million of non-Federal funds from Bernalillo County, State of New Mexico, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA), National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and local partners. Other Federal partners have included: Bureau of Reclamation who contributed $2.9 million and will continue to partner on habitat restoration and the Land and Water Conservation Fund which provided $6.6 million.
- This is the first Refuge in the Southwest Region founded on community partnerships and engagement. As such, the Refuge was named the FWS's 3rd "Million-dollar Refuge" receiving $1 million in base funding.
- The Refuge and other Federal agencies and partner organizations are providing first-hand experiences in nature through meaningful employment of youth on various conservation lands.
- The Refuge is working closely with Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB) and the Federal Aviation Administration to minimize potential for bird strike hazards associated with proximity of the Refuge to the Albuquerque International Sunport and Kirtland AFB.
- The Refuge partnered with Bernalillo County to secure $12.5 million in Federal Lands Access Program Funds to improve access to the Refuge from surrounding neighborhoods.
- In 2016, the Refuge reached 6,000 youth through educational programs and 5,000 community members through special events and outreach. The Refuge provides: (1) opportunities for environmental education for a diverse under-served public, (2) conservation of valuable senior water rights for recovery of listed species, (3) recognition of intrinsic Middle Rio Grande historical and cultural resource values, and (4) expanded recreation on the Rio Grande corridor.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Refuge has had a significant positive impact on the local community and greater Albuquerque area. Senators Udall, Heinrich and Representative Lujan-Grisham have been engaged since Refuge establishment.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Senators Udall and Heinrich and Representative Lujan-Grisham have all visited the Refuge on multiple occasions.
- The Refuge has continued to keep representatives updated as progress continues.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- In 2016, $3.4 million was secured to begin design and construction of visitor use facilities. In 2017, the remaining $3.1 million was secured. A solicitation to hire a design/build contract firm is currently being reviewed and is slated to go out for bid September 2017.
- On July 18, 2017 the Refuge released their Environmental Assessment for the Restoration, Activities, and Site Plan and will hold a public meeting on August 2, 2017 to solicit community feedback. Eight Cooperating agencies are also expected to review and respond.

Date Monday, July 17, 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MEMBER: Senators McCain, Flake and Representative Gosar (AZ)
ISSUE: Recreational Boating on Havasu National Wildlife Refuge

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- On May 20, 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) announced a change in boating restrictions at Havasu National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). The Refuge extended an existing 17-mile zone (including no personal watercraft, waterskiing, and no-wake in backwaters) to include an additional ½-mile backwater to address resource and safety concerns and user conflicts.
- The management action taken on May 20, 2015, was enacted with the intention of protecting migratory birds and ensuring the safety of Refuge visitors engaged in boating activities, including kayaking, canoeing, birdwatching, hunting, and fishing.
- Enforcement of boating restrictions on the Refuge, including portions of the Colorado River, is authorized by existing Federal regulations.
- In April 2016, the FWS released a draft Compatibility Determination (CD) for recreational boating on the Refuge. Public meetings were held on May 2 and 3, 2016. After considering public input, the FWS withdrew the draft CD.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was finalized in 2014 among the Refuge Manager, Lake Havasu City leaders, land management agencies, and local tribes in which they agreed to coordinate management decisions within their jurisdictions on the Colorado River.
- The FWS management action of May 20, 2015, was not coordinated pursuant to the MOU; an oversight the FWS considers contrary to the collaborative intent of the partnership.
- Effective February 1, 2017, the FWS rescinded the additional ½-mile restriction enacted on May 20, 2015, in an effort to work with signatories of the MOU and cooperatively address the concerns of a diversity of recreational users.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Constituents contacted Representatives McCain and Gosar to voice their concerns with the May 20, 2015 management action and draft CD.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Representative Gosar attended and spoke at public meetings in 2016 and a congressional staff person for Senator McCain was present. Representative Gosar has been actively engaged in this issue.

IV. NEXT STEPS/OUTLOOK

- The Refuge Manager continues to meet with signatories of the 2014 MOU and vested stakeholders to communicate management actions.
- The FWS is preparing a new draft recreational boating CD for public comment beginning on August 1, 2017. A public meeting will be held in August and announced via media outlets.
- The FWS remains committed to ensuring the safety of all recreational users and is committed to ongoing communication with the public and our partners to ensure a diversity of safe recreational uses while supporting the conservation objectives and mission of the agency.

Date Monday, July 17, 2017

BUREAU: U.A. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER:
ISSUE: Amity Pueblo National Historic Preservation Act Consultation and Mitigation

ISSUE/BACKGROUND

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) provided Sport Fish Restoration grant funds to the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) for an approved project to construct a fishing pond on State land near Eagar, Arizona, on March 21, 2011. AGFD began excavation for the fishing pond on April 27, 2011. Excavation work unexpectedly uncovered Native American burials and disturbed numerous artifacts.
- The Service initiated Government-to-Government consultation with the Pueblo of Acoma, Pueblo of Laguna, Pueblo of Zuni, Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, White Mountain Apache Tribe and the San Carlos Apache Tribe. The Pueblo of Zuni became the lead tribe. The Pueblo of Acoma and Hopi Tribe also remained in the consultation.
- A fully executed National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement was signed in April 2016 by the Service, AGFD, National Council on Historic Preservation, Pueblo of Zuni, Pueblo of Acoma, The Archaeological Conservancy (TAC) and Society of American Archaeologists. This document served as a blueprint for restoration and repatriation.
- AGFD contracted with the Northland Research Inc. (NRI) who identified, recorded, and recovered all human remains, faunal remains, and artifacts that were exposed on the surface within the project area. NRI excavated test units in the berms to acquire baseline data for future work and assessed the integrity of the 23 documented features. They were mapped and photographed. A Pueblo of Zuni Tribal archeologist served as monitor.
- NRI then sifted and cataloged materials in the berm and spoil pile. Members of the Pueblo of Zuni and Pueblo of Acoma served as monitors.
- AGFD returned the screened soil to the excavated area and then smoothed, contoured, and hydro-seeded the area with native grasses.
- A Reburial Consultation was held by the Arizona State Museum with the Tribes and other parties.
- On November 4, 2016, the Zuni and Acoma Pueblo elders and an Acoma medicine man conducted a ceremony to guide their ancestors and interned all of the human remains and artifacts.

POSITION OF INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Tribal members were steadfast in opposition to scientific discovery, which would have further disturbed the site. The Service and AGFD supported the Tribes and consequently, the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) resigned from the consultation because they believed they would commit a dereliction of duty if they did not require scientific discovery. The Service asked the National Council on Historic Preservation to step into the consultation in place of SHPO, which they did. The Council's participation allowed the parties to come to a resolution and prevented further disturbance of the burial site.

NEXT STEPS/OUTLOOK

- The Arizona Game and Fish Commission owns the Amity Pueblo site. With the Tribes consent, AGFD is working to transfer ownership of Amity Pueblo to TAC to be protected in perpetuity.

7/19/2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Representative Steve Pearce (NM-02)
ISSUE: Balancing Protection for Chiricahua leopard frog Habitat and Access to Water for Livestock and Recreation on Forest Service Lands

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- On June 28, 2017, FWS received an informal inquiry from Rep Pearce's Office regarding concerns about grazing allotments on U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands and potential loss of access to water due to protections for the Chiricahua leopard frog (CLF).
- The Chiricahua leopard frog (CLF) was listed as threatened in 2002 with critical habitat designated in 2012. The species was determined to be present in Beaver Creek in 2007.
- The USFS signed a Decision Notice for a grazing allotment in 1999, which contained the provision, "A half mile of fence will be built around the perennial section of Beaver Creek to mitigate impacts to potential threatened and endangered species habitat." The Notice also stated that "A half mile of fence would be built around the perennial section of Beaver Creek on National Forest System Lands to mitigate impacts to potential threatened and endangered fish habitat."
- The permittee worked with USFS to install the fence on the grazing allotment around 10 years ago. The fence was subsequently damaged by a large rain event and is, according to the USFS, no longer effective at excluding cattle from the riparian area.
- The USFS is currently working with the permittee to have the fence repaired/rebuilt in such a way as to continue to protect the riparian habitat (and associated species), while still ensuring reasonable access to water for his livestock and ungulates in the area. The USFS shared that they met with the permittee on site on April 18, 2017, to discuss options, and again on June 9, 2017. On July 13, 2017, the parties met again with the purpose of flagging the location of a proposed swing gate/fence system on USFS lands.
- The USFS briefed FWS on the outcomes of these meetings and indicated that they will be requesting consultation on the proposed "Beaver Creek Riparian Improvement Project" in the near future; however FWS has not received an official request to date.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The permittee contacted Rep Pearce in April, prior to meeting with the Forest Service to develop access options. Recent meetings appear to have been productive with full involvement between the USFS and the permittee. At this point, FWS has not been formally involved, but expects to be in consultation with the USFS in the near future.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Rep Pearce's Office contacted FWS informally for an update on June 28, 2017.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS anticipates participating in formal consultation with the Forest Service to provide technical expertise and assistance in providing a fence that is compatible with the species and provides livestock with access to water in the near future.

Date Monday, July 17, 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Representative Steve Pearce (NM – 02)
ISSUE: Balancing Protection for New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse Habitat and Access to Water for Livestock and Recreation

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The New Mexico meadow jumping mouse (NMMJM) is a small mammal. Its historical distribution likely included riparian wetlands along streams in the Sangre de Cristo and San Juan Mountains from southern Colorado to central New Mexico, including the Jemez and Sacramento Mountains and the Rio Grande valley from Espanola to Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge), and into parts of the White Mountains in eastern Arizona.
- Based upon historical (1980s and 1990s) and current data (2005 to present), the distribution and abundance of the NMMJM has declined significantly range-wide.
- In 2016, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) designated approximately 13,973 acres along 169.3 miles of flowing streams, ditches and canals as Critical Habitat for the NMMJM in eight units within Colfax, Mora, Otero, Sandoval and Socorro Counties in New Mexico; Las Animas, Archuleta and La Plata Counties in Colorado; and Greenlee and Apache Counties in Arizona.
- Of the 13,973 acres designated as Critical Habitat, 62.4% occurs on Federal lands, 9.8% on State lands, and 27.8% on private lands. Of the 62.4% occurring on Federal lands, 88.4% occur on National Forest System lands and the remaining 11.4% occur on Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge.
- Water that flows through the Refuge is being managed to maintain riparian habitat in areas occupied by the NMMJM as well as providing habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife species while still delivering the flows required for downstream water rights.
- The USFS is working with grazing permittees to creatively manage livestock to ensure adequate access to water for livestock while still protecting NMMJM habitat. This is accomplished through a combination of fencing, swing gates, water lanes, development of alternative water sources, placement of processing corrals and movement corridors, pasture rotation and other techniques.
- State and Federal land managers are also actively managing recreation use in NMMJM habitat to minimize conflicts and as well as taking steps to minimize the effects of wildfire suppression in occupied areas.
- Surveys have been undertaken in potentially occupied tribal lands in partnership with Northern Arizona University and some contractors.
- The FWS continues to play an active role in providing technical assistance and expediting Section 7 consultations for projects which support habitat protection, riparian health, and continued provision of water for grazing, recreation and satisfying downstream water rights.
- The FWS is also working with researchers to encourage data collection to improve our understanding of the NMMJM, its habitat and distribution. Regions 6 and 2 recently completed a draft programmatic biological opinion to support the permitting of field investigations throughout the species' range. We expect to finalize the document in the next few months so it will be in place in advance of next year's field season.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Some permittees and recreationists are displeased with restricted access to riparian areas, springs and streams in NMMJM critical habitat and occupied areas. Other permittees and members of the public are generally supportive as long as alternative methods of access are provided.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- June 26, 2017 verbal briefing to Senator Udall's staff on the NMMJM and the working relationship between the FWS and USFS in identifying strategies to balance habitat protection and water use.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The FWS will continue to work with Federal, State and tribal land managers to proactively protect NMMJM habitat in ways consistent with agency missions and other legal requirements.

Date July 17, 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: New Mexico and Texas Delegation
ISSUE: Status update for the Texas Hornshell

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The Texas hornshell, a freshwater mussel native to the Rio Grande drainage in Texas and New Mexico as well as south along Mexican gulf coastal river systems, was proposed as an endangered species on August 10, 2016 (81 FR 52796). Overall, there are five known remaining populations of Texas hornshell, comprising approximately 15 percent of the species' historical range in the United States.
- The primary factors affecting Texas hornshell are river fragmentation due to habitat inundation by impoundments and alterations of the natural streamflow regime and degradation of water quality within its range.
- Our final listing determination is based on the best available science including the recently completed Species Status Assessment that included input and review from academia and state agencies.
- The Service is working to complete two Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAA) (for private and State lands) and a Candidate Conservation Agreement (for Federal lands) on the Black and Delaware Rivers. These agreements include private landowners, the local irrigation district, oil and gas companies, water sellers, the State of New Mexico, Texas, and others. The CCAAs are voluntary and provide non-federal landowners and developers the opportunity to implement conservation practices that address specific threats with assurances that, if the species is listed, they can continue to manage their land as outlined in their agreements with no additional requirements.
- In Texas, The Nature Conservancy and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) are managing their lands in the Devils River watershed to reduce sediment inputs and contaminants, thereby benefitting the Texas hornshell and other aquatic species. Research, focused on helping improve the understanding of the species, is being funded by the Office of the Texas Comptroller.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Public hearings were held on the proposed rule in Laredo, Texas, on June 13, 2017 and in Carlsbad, New Mexico on June 15, 2017.
- The states of New Mexico and Texas do not support listing Texas hornshell as endangered, but have not overtly opposed its listing. We have worked with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, the TPWD, and the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts extensively throughout the SSA, proposed listing, and final listing processes.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- The Service received a letter from Congressman Pearce (NM) on October 11, 2016, requesting an extension. The Service responded to the letter on October 27, 2016, with information on future opportunities to provide public comments.
- The Service notified the Texas and New Mexico congressional delegations of the proposed listing, public hearings and draft CCA and CCAA.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- We anticipate that we will have a final decision on the Texas hornshell CCA and CCAA in early August.
- A final listing rule or withdrawal of the proposal is due to the Federal Register by August 10, 2017. Congressional offices and partners will be notified when the final rule is ready for Federal Register publication.
- We will continue to work with the States of New Mexico and Texas, landowners, industry, and other partners on conservation efforts for the Texas hornshell.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
PREPARED FOR: U.S. Secretary of the Interior
ISSUE: 12-Month Finding/Proposed Rule to Downlist the Kuenzler Hedgehog Cactus

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Kuenzler hedgehog cactus was listed as an endangered species on October 26, 1979, without critical habitat (44 FR 61924).
- A species recovery plan was approved on March 28, 1985. Criteria to downlist the species include the protecting, maintaining and enhancing existing natural populations; cactus numbers increasing to approximately 5,000 individuals; and maintaining that population level for five consecutive years.
- In 2005, we completed a five-year review that recommended downlisting, as the cactus is more widely distributed and abundant than originally thought.
- On July 16, 2012, we received a petition from the Pacific Legal Foundation, Jim Chilton, the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association, New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau, New Mexico Federal Lands Council, and Texas Farm Bureau to downlist the Kuenzler hedgehog cactus.
- On September 9, 2013, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issued a 90-day finding indicating that downlisting/delisting Kuenzler hedgehog cactus may be warranted. Per Headquarters' guidance, we completed a new five-year review that recommended downlisting, completed on December 1, 2016. It is the supporting document for the combined 12-month finding and proposed rule to downlist, published in the Federal Register on January 6, 2017. Public comment period ended March 7, 2017.
- The FWS will publish a final rule by January 6, 2018.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- We considered expert opinion from three appropriate independent specialists regarding the proposed rule's science to ensure our delisting decision is based on scientifically sound data, assumptions and analyses during the public comment period.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- None

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The FWS will publish a final rule by January 6, 2018.

Date July 19, 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
PREPARED FOR: U.S. Secretary of the Interior
ISSUE: Decision to Propose Delisting for the Gila chub (*Gila intermedia)* and Its Critical Habitat Due to Taxonomic Status Change

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Gila chub was listed as an endangered species with critical habitat in 2005 (70 FR 66664). Headwater chub (*Gila nigra*) and the Lower Colorado River basin distinct population segment of roundtail chub (*Gila robusta)* were proposed for listing in 2015 (80 FR 60754).
- In September 2016, the Committee on Names of Fishes, a joint committee of the American Fisheries Society and American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (the Societies) issued a draft manuscript indicating that "no morphological or genetic data define populations of *Gila* in the lower Colorado River basin as members of more than one species", and "that the data available support recognition of only one species of *Gila*, the roundtail chub, *Gila robusta*".
- In April 2017, the FWS agreed with the single species conclusion and withdrew our proposed rule to list headwater chub and the distinct population segment of roundtail chub (82 FR 16981).
- This single species conclusion also indicates the currently listed Gila Chub is no longer a valid species per the Endangered Species Act.
- A draft proposed delisting rule has been forwarded to Headquarters and is under review.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Arizona Game and Fish Department initially requested that the Societies review the taxonomy of headwater, Gila, and roundtail chub, and support recognition of one species and delisting of Gila chub.
- The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish supports recognition of one species of chub as *Gila robusta.*
- Some researchers and geneticists dispute this conclusive finding, instead there is more than one species within the *Gila robusta* complex.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Congressman Pearce (NM) requested information on the proposed listings; however, he was satisfied when we withdrew them from listing consideration.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS anticipates proposing a delisting rule for Gila chub.
- FWS has taken steps to initiate a status review of the new taxonomic entity rangewide in both the upper and lower basins of the Colorado River within the next 2 to 4 years, as committed to in the April 2017 withdrawal.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
PREPARED FOR: U.S. Secretary of the Interior
ISSUE: Jaguar Draft Recovery Plan

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The jaguar is currently listed as an endangered species throughout its range under the Endangered Species Act, with critical habitat designated in the U.S. Jaguars are also listed as endangered by The Republic of Mexico.
- The bi-national (U.S.-Mexico) Jaguar Recovery Team and the Service have prepared a draft recovery plan for the jaguar. The Jaguar Recovery Team members represent management agencies, vested stakeholder groups, and universities in Mexico, Arizona, and New Mexico, along with tribal representation from the Tohono O'odham Nation.
- The June 29, 2016, draft recovery plan addresses recovery for the species throughout its range, but focuses primarily on the Northwestern Recovery Unit, which encompasses portions of the southwestern U.S. and northwestern Mexico.
- Jaguars historically ranged from the southern U.S. to central Argentina. Currently, they range from the southwestern U.S. to northern Argentina, and are found in all historically occupied countries except for El Salvador and Uruguay.
- The main contribution of the southwestern U.S. to the recovery of the jaguar is as a secondary area to accommodate dispersing jaguars.
- The draft recovery plan contains recovery criteria based on stabilizing and protecting current populations and habitat, as well as reducing threats to the species. To achieve delisting, viable jaguar populations should be secured throughout their range by removing, reducing, and mitigating the primary threats to the jaguar (habitat loss and fragmentation, illegal killing, and unsustainable depletion of jaguar prey resources).
- Since 2011, three male jaguars have been documented in southern Arizona through motion-sensor camera monitoring.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- This draft recovery plan complies with a March 30, 2009, agreement between the Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concerning designation of critical habitat and development of a recovery plan for a transnational and transboundary species that has over 99 percent of its range currently outside of the U.S. Also, as part of compliance with this agreement, the Jaguar Recovery Outline was posted April 18, 2012.
- Some U.S. environmental organizations recommend extending the Northwestern Recovery Unit to include habitat north of Interstate 10 and establishing a population of breeding jaguars in the U.S., thereby increasing the role the FWS should play in jaguar recovery.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- No Congressional activity

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Review comments from peer reviewers, the public, agencies, Tribes, and Mexican cooperators.
- Complete final recovery plan by November 2017.

Date Wednesday, July 19, 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MEMBER: Senators McCain and Flake, Representative Grijalva (AZ)
ISSUE: Status of National Wildlife Refuges along the Arizona/Mexico International Border

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Within Arizona, Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) shares 56 miles of border with Mexico and Buenos Aires NWR shares approximately 7.5 miles, necessitating the presence of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for border security.
- On April 1, 2008, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) waived certain environmental statutes, as authorized by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, to ensure access to Department of the Interior (DOI)-managed lands, including national wildlife refuges and other lands for border security projects, allowing building of border barriers and access roads along 670 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border.
- In addition, DOI and the DHS have an existing agreement that calls for close collaboration on refuge lands and provides for mitigation of impacts to wildlife.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) coordinates closely with CBP on border-related issues and infrastructure project design, installation, and operation in an effort to minimize detrimental impacts to fish and wildlife and ensure the FWS mission is accomplished in concert with the DHS national security mission.
- The FWS continues to face resource protection challenges related to border narcotics smuggling, human trafficking, CBP off-road emergency pursuits, and humanitarian aid groups illegally depositing materials on NWR lands.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The international border continues to be an area of high interest in the media, among various advocacy groups, and in the political realm. Humanitarian aid volunteers (No More Deaths) continue to provide caches of supplies for undocumented aliens along trails and within designated wilderness, often in conflict with FWS policy and complicating CBP operations. Wilderness advocacy groups continue to express concern over border-related incursions in wilderness and impacts to natural resources. Cabeza Prieta NWR has experienced a recent increase in Freedom of Information Act requests from wilderness advocates and the media.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- FWS is not aware of any recent congressional activity related to the Arizona/Mexico international border.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- In coordination with other DOI land management agencies, the FWS continues to cooperate closely with the DHS and CBP in an effort to integrate the missions of the two departments and ensure conservation of FWS trust resources and to address illegal cross-border traffic activity on public lands.
- Cabeza Prieta and Buenos Aires NWRs continue to work with other DOI land managers to develop a consistent approach to addressing humanitarian aid groups operating outside of DOI policy and FWS regulations.

Date Monday, July 17, 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
PREPARED FOR: U.S. Secretary of the Interior
ISSUE: Mexican Wolf Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- On June 29, 2017, FWS announced the availability of the Mexican Wolf Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision. During the public comment period, FWS is seeking review and comment of the draft plan from local, State, and Federal agencies; Mexican government agencies; Tribes; and the public. The draft plan is also undergoing peer review.
- The comment period is open from June 30, 2017 through August 29, 2017. To answer questions on the draft plan and provide an additional opportunity to receive written comments, we are holding public information meetings at the following locations and dates (note that these are informal meetings, not hearings):
    - July 18, 2017 (6 to 9pm): Flagstaff, Arizona
    - July 19, 2017 (6 to 9pm): Pinetop, Arizona
    - July 20, 2017 (6 to 9pm): Truth or Consequences, New Mexico
    - July 22, 2017 (2 to 5pm): Albuquerque, New Mexico
- The draft plan guides Mexican wolf recovery efforts by the FWS and its partners, with the ultimate goal of removing this endangered wolf subspecies from Endangered Species Act protections and returning management to the appropriate states and tribes.
- The recovery strategy outlined in the draft plan is to establish two Mexican wolf populations distributed in core areas within the subspecies' historical range in the United States and Mexico. This strategy addresses the threats to the species, including the extinction risk associated with small population size and the loss of genetic diversity. The draft plan provides estimates of the time and resources required to carry out this strategy and the associated measures needed to achieve the plan's goal.
- At the time of recovery, the Service expects Mexican wolf populations to be stable or increasing in abundance, well-distributed geographically in core areas within their historical range, and genetically diverse.
- In the U.S., the recovery strategy will focus on the area south of I-40 in Arizona and New Mexico in the area designated as the Mexican Wolf Experimental Population Area. The FWS has been reestablishing a population of Mexican wolves in this area since 1998. In Mexico, recovery is focused in the Sierra Madre Occidental in the states of Sonora, Chihuahua, and Durango. Mexico began reestablishing Mexican wolves in 2011.
- The current Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan was signed in 1982; however, it did not include criteria for recovery and delisting. In April 2016, the Service signed a Settlement Agreement with the Arizona Game and Fish Department and Defenders of Wildlife to complete a final revised Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan by the end of November 2017.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The States of Arizona, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico; the Forest Service; and government agencies in Mexico assisted in the development of the recovery plan. They expressed satisfaction with the recovery strategy in the draft plan.
- Although hunters and guides are concerned that Mexican wolves will affect their livelihoods, the target population is below the threshold where effects on elk and deer herds have been documented. Livestock industry and hunters and guides are concerned

that Mexican wolves will affect their livelihoods. To address such concerns, the FWS has put in place the Mexican wolf/Livestock Council which directs disbursement of funds to offset effects of Mexican wolves on livestock.

- Academicians and environmental groups are concerned that the plan is not sufficient to ensure recovery. However, the FWS based the development of the draft plan on the best scientific information available, which was used to develop a population viability model and a habitat suitability model. With these models, we assessed the recovery strategy to ensure that the two populations each achieved 90 percent probability of persistence over 100 years and retained 90 percent of the gene diversity in the captive population.
- To ensure that we are able to address public comments and meet the court settlement date of November 2017, we will not be extending the comment period beyond August 2017 or holding additional public information meetings. Additional hearings or an extension of the comment period would not be possible without an extension of the court settlement which we believe is unlikely to be supported by plaintiffs.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- On April 7, 2016, we received a letter from seven Members (four Senators) regarding the status of a recovery plan. FWS provided advance notification about availability of the draft plan to Members and key partners. Notifications were well received.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS will review and consider all information gained from the public comment period and public meetings. The Final revised Recovery Plan is anticipated to be completed by the end of November 2017.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
PREPARED FOR: U.S. Secretary of the Interior
ISSUE: Lesser Prairie-Chicken Species Status Assessment Update

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The lesser prairie-chicken is a medium-sized grouse that occurs in short- and mixed-grass prairies in Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) recognizes that long-term lesser prairie-chicken conservation relies on our continued cooperation and coordination with State, Federal and private partners.
- The lesser prairie-chicken was listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act in 2014 after decades of habitat and population declines. The Service initiated a Species Status Assessment (SSA) in the spring of 2015, following its listing, to inform recovery planning and critical habitat designation. In September 2015, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas vacated the listing and directed that the species be removed from the List.
- Following the removal of the lesser prairie-chicken as a threatened species, we adapted the SSA to inform future conservation efforts and inform a finding on a petition to list the bird.
- On September 8, 2016, the Service received a petition to re-list the lesser prairie-chicken. On November 30, 2016, the Service published a 90-day petition finding that the petition presented "substantial information" indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted.
- The lesser prairie-chicken SSA will provide a biological risk assessment using the best available information on threats and conservation to evaluate the lesser prairie-chicken's current condition and forecast its future biological status. To assist us in our lesser prairie-chicken SSA, we formed a working group to provide scientific input on species ecology, threats and conservation. The working group includes state wildlife agency representatives from across the species' five-state range and from the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' (WAFWA), the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and several academics. The Service has provided the working group with preliminary partial drafts of the SSA report and throughout this process we have addressed their comments.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The lesser prairie-chicken is a species which greatly interests agencies, industry, Non-Governmental Organizations, and private land-owners. The Service strongly encourages continued participation in existing species conservation and monitoring activities including the Service-endorsed WAFWA Range-wide Conservation Plan, which we believe provides a net conservation benefit for the bird.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- None

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- In late August provide a draft SSA report to our working group and peer reviewers for review.
- In fall of 2017 address peer and working group reviewer comments and finalize the SSA report.
- Utilize information and analysis in the SSA report to inform a policy recommendation and discussions of future conservation efforts for the lesser prairie-chicken with our partners.

Date July 19, 2017

From:	Ashfield, Patrice
To:	Daniel Brown; Delfinia Montano; Doug Laye; Drew Crane; Ellen Mcbride; Glenn Smith; Jerry Ziewitz; John Morse; Larry Salata; Michelle Durflinger; Phil Delphey
Subject:	Fwd: NOI: border wall prototypes / Sec. 7
Date:	Thursday, July 20, 2017 3:07:41 PM

fyi only

Patrice M. Ashfield
Branch Chief for National Consultations
Headquarters, Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:ES
Falls Church, VA 22041
(703) 358-2478 office

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Gilbert, Parks** <parks_gilbert@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Jul 17, 2017 at 4:29 PM
Subject: Re: NOI: border wall prototypes / Sec. 7
To: Craig Aubrey <craig_aubrey@fws.gov>, Bridget Fahey <bridget_fahey@fws.gov>, Patrice Ashfield <patrice_ashfield@fws.gov>, Carey Galst <Carey_Galst@fws.gov>, Ben Thatcher <ben_thatcher@fws.gov>, John Morse <john_morse@fws.gov>, Joan Goldfarb <Joan.Goldfarb@sol.doi.gov>, Nancy Brown-Kobil <Nancy.Brown-Kobil@sol.doi.gov>, Barbara Amidon <barbara_amidon@fws.gov>, "Clinedinst, Paula (ENRD)" <Paula.Clinedinst@usdoj.gov>, "Floom, Kristen (ENRD)" <kristen.floom@usdoj.gov>

All,

CBD has filed an amended complaint in this matter (against DHS and CBP only). They filed July 7. It brings claims under NEPA and FOIA (for failure to respond to its FOIA requests). This complaint challenges both the border wall prototypes, as well as a planned project to replace border wall and fence segments in the San Diego area.

http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/campaigns/border_wall/pdfs/Center_v_DHS_prototype_and_wall_extension_amended_complaint.pdf

On the same day, CBD noticed additional Section 7 claims (as to the wall/fence replacement; also only against DHS and CBP), alleging failure to consult. I received the NOI today in hard copy, but an electronic version is here:

http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/campaigns/border_wall/pdfs/ESA_NOI_SD_border_wall_replacement_2017_07_07.pdf

Thank you,

Parks

Parks Gilbert
ESA Litigation Specialist
Branch of Listing Policy and Support, Ecological Services

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:ES
Falls Church, VA 22041
703/358-1758
parks_gilbert@fws.gov

On Fri, Jun 2, 2017 at 4:35 PM, Gilbert, Parks <parks_gilbert@fws.gov> wrote:

> All,
>
> Please find linked below an NOI that CBD sent to DHS and Customs and Border Protection yesterday. We are not named at this time. DHS and CBP have put out RFPs for prototypes for border wall segments in San Diego County. CBD's letter alleges that DHS and CBP did not consult with us under Sec 7 on the projects, nor did they comply with NEPA. Apparently, the projects could affect many listed species and CH such as coastal CA flycatcher, San Diego and Riverside fairy shrimp, Otay tarplant, and Quino checkerspot butterfly.
>
> http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/programs/international/borderlands_and_boundary_waters/pdfs/Border_wall_prototype_ESA_and_NEPA_NOI_2017_06_01.pdf
>
> Thank you,
>
> Parks
>
> Parks Gilbert
> ESA Litigation Specialist
> Branch of Listing Policy and Support, Ecological Services
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:ES
> Falls Church, VA 22041
> 703/358-1758
> parks_gilbert@fws.gov

From:	Tincher, Chris
To:	Charisa Morris; Matthew Trott
Cc:	Gavin Shire; Chris Tollefson; Alyssa Hausman; Laury Parramore; Joy Nicholopoulos; Keenan Adams; Brian Hires; Marian Howe
Subject:	R2- Southwest Region Weekly Report Submission - August 25, 2017
Date:	Thursday, August 10, 2017 5:39:31 PM
Attachments:	FWS R2 Weekly Report FishBites 25August2017.docx

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Greetings,
Attached are submissions for FishBites, Media contacts and the Weekly Report in one file. Please let us know if you have any questions or need additional information.
Best,
Chris

Christine R. Tincher
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region
New Mexico * Arizona * Texas * Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954
Mobile: (505) 449-8776
Email: chris_tincher@fws.gov

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Through August 25, 2017

FishBites Report

FWS biologist receives Ruby Award

- **Topic:** This week, Kathy Robertson, fish and wildlife biologist with the FWS Arizona Ecological Services Office, officially received her prized Ruby Award. Robertson was nationally recognized by the International Partnering Institute (IPI) for her efforts collaborating with the Forest Service to develop conservation measures for endangered species earlier this year. The task was development of a transportation expansion project is on the US 60: Oak Flat to Miami, Arizona. The team "demonstrated a commitment to the partnering process, achieved excellent results and delivered an outstanding project." This project includes road improvements that will impact nearly 30 acres of undisturbed Forest Service land – much of it is habitat for the endangered Arizona hedgehog cactus. Collaboratively, conservation measures were developed to ensure protection of this endangered species, while enabling the project to move forward.
- **Supportive stakeholders:** FWS, U.S. Forest Service, Arizona Highway Department, Resolution Copper Mining, LLC and IPI
- **Impacted locations:** Central Arizona

Media Contact Report

- **Media publication:** New York Times, Michael Hardy, reporter
- **Topic:** Planned public protest against proposed Border Wall
- **Publication date**: Anticipating publication following protest on Sunday, Aug. 13
- **Current Status:** Reporter is planning to cover the protest scheduled to occur at the FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge this weekend. The reporter was provided the DOI approved statement and referred to CBP. FWS and CBP staff are prepared to be on site during the protest. FWS will share the DOI approved statement with media present at the protest along with a list of contacts from the various agencies.

Weekly Report

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

August 10 – FWS met with a staffer from Senator Cornyn's Office at Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge. DHS BP joined the informal briefing. (R2- Southwest Region)

August 17 – FWS Havasu National Wildlife Refuge (AZ) holding public listening session on revised draft Compatibility Determination (CD) for recreational boating. Comment period closes August 30. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

August 18 – FWS closes comment period for draft Environmental Assessment for Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Hot Topics - Week Ahead Announcements and Actions

In August – FWS anticipates publishing a notice announcing the receipt and consideration of applications for permits under the approved Industry Conservation Plan for American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma. See ES Items of Note for details. (R2 - Southwest Region)

In August – FWS expects to receive the final results of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) aerial surveys for the lesser prairie chicken. (R2 – Southwest Region)

August 29 – FWS closes comment period on Mexican Wolf draft revision of recovery plan. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Upcoming Workshops & Meetings

August 14 to August 17 – Scoping Meetings on Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Habitat Conservation Plan, Texas. See ES items of Note for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 1 – The Outdoors Alliance for kids expressed interest in having an event on FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge to celebrate the third year of the Every Kid in a Park pass. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Endangered Species Act Recovery Actions

UPDATED: Mexican Wolf Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision (draft recovery plan). FWS announced the availability of the draft recovery plan on June 30. The comment period ends August 29. Public meetings were held at the following dates and locations: July18, Flagstaff, Arizona (120 people); July 19, Pinetop, Arizona (45 people); July 20, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico (130 people); and July 22, in Albuquerque, New Mexico (80 People). Each event had about 30 to 40 demonstrators in front of the meeting location. Paul Kienzle, Chairman, New Mexico State Game Commission presented a comment on his personal standing saying he supported the intent of the recovery plan and looked forward to working together. Meetings saw mixed support in favor and against recovery efforts. During the public comment period, FWS will continue seeking review and comment on the peer-reviewed draft revision from local, State, and Federal agencies; Tribes; and the public, in both the United States and Mexico. Due to the high level of visibility and controversy on Mexican wolf recovery in general, extensive outreach is on-going, including personal phone calls, email reminders, public meetings and updated web postings. Follow up briefings after the comment period closes are being planned. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: In late October, FWS will publish a 12-month finding on the listing status of the southwestern willow flycatcher. Pacific Legal Foundation petitioned FWS to delist the flycatcher and in March 2016 we published a 90-day finding that the petition included substantial information, primarily regarding the subspecies' taxonomy. Upon robust consideration of the petition and the flycatchers' classification, the Southwest Region is completing a 12-month finding that delisting of the southwestern willow flycatcher is not warranted. Outreach is being planned – including a news release and Congressional notifications via email. Interest expected to be moderate. No controversy anticipated. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement – This Fall, FWS expects to announce the approval of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) enhancement of survival permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act, as well as the 30-year Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) for the Houston toad between TPWD and FWS. The agreement will cover voluntary activities to restore, maintain, enhance, or create habitat for the endangered Houston toad in the following nine Texas counties: Austin, Bastrop, Burleson, Colorado, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Milam and Robertson. Congressional interest from Rep McCaul (R TX Dist10) based on impacts from 2011 Bastrop fire. A conference call was held with Rep McCaul's Office to provide an update on the SHA in late July. A site visit is tentatively being planned to occur in September. Outreach planned – Congressional notification via email, a news release will be issued and posts will be made on the web and through Social media. (No FRN required). (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: American Burying Beetle Species Status Assessment - FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the American Burying Beetle (ABB) will be completed in early September. In June 2015, FWS initiated the SSA to support future conservation decisions and recovery planning for the ABB under the Endangered Species Act. FWS is using the SSA to evaluate all available information related to the current and potential threats to the species. The SSA was peer reviewed. State fish and game agencies and affected Tribes within the current ABB range reviewed the document following review of the formal peer review process. On February 22, 2017, the American Stewards of Liberty and the Independent Petroleum Association of America filed a Notice of Intent based on FWS' failure to make a 12-month finding on the petition to delist the ABB. (R2, R3, R4, R5 & R6)

Endangered Species Act Listing Actions

UPDATED: FWS announced on August 10, a 6-month extension of the final determination of whether to add the Texas hornshell a freshwater mussel species from New Mexico, Texas, and Mexico, to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. FWS is also reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species, for an additional 30 days. FWS is taking this action to extend the final determination based on substantial disagreement regarding the status of Texas hornshell in Mexico. FWS will submit a final listing determination to the Federal Register on or before February 10, 2018. Historically, the Texas hornshell occurred in New Mexico, Texas and Mexico. However, the population has declined notably throughout its range and it currently occupies about 15% of its U.S. historical range. The Texas hornshell was designated a candidate in 2001 and FWS was petitioned to list the species in 2004. FWS published a proposed rule to list the Texas hornshell as endangered on August 10, 2016. On July 6, 2017, FWS announced the availability of a draft Candidate Conservation Agreement and Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCA/CCAA) that would cover the Texas hornshell and four other species. The public comment period for the draft CCA / CCAA closed on August 7. Local interest is anticipated. A news release was issued and information was posted on Facebook at the time of publication in the *Federal Register*. Ranking 3. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: In September – FWS anticipates sending to the *Federal Register* 12-month findings on petitions including one to list the San Felipe gambusia, a Texas fish. (R4 – Southeast Region, R2 – Southwest Region (lead)

REPEAT: FWS anticipates publishing a final determination on the proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as endangered under the Endangered Species Act on or before September 21. The Sonoyta mud turtle occurs in the U.S. only at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in southern Arizona, and four locations in the Rio Sonoyta basin in Sonora Mexico. Controversy level is low. A communications strategy news release and set of FAQs are being drafted. (R2 – Southwest)

UPDATED: Lesser Prairie-Chicken Species Status Assessment – FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC) will be completed by the end of the calendar year. FWS began work on a Species Status Assessment in the spring of 2015, prior to the court ruling that vacated the listing of the LPC and the petition to relist the species. USGS, through its Open File Report (OFR), made available the population model it prepared for FWS. The population model represents one component of the SSA and will be considered alongside of all other available information. The goal of the SSA is to have the best available science to inform future Endangered Species Act decisions and conservation actions related to the lesser prairie-chicken. The Lesser Prairie Chicken Advisory Council is scheduled for a conference call the week of August 7. The agenda includes the FWS SSA, Industry Updates, and Conservation Updates. (R2 Southwest Region & R6 Mountain-Prairie Region)

Other Ecological Services Items of Note

NEW: Villages at Vigneto Development Endangered Species Act Consultation [Arizona] – FWS Arizona Ecological Services is undergoing ESA section 7 consultation with Army Corps of Engineers regarding a planned 12,200-acre, 28,000-home development near the San Pedro River in southern Arizona and a 141-acre off-site mitigation project on the river. The FWS and Corps have not reached agreement during section 7 consultations. This is primarily due to the Corps' view of the Clean Water Act (CWA) Scope of Effects (which includes only the fill of WOTUS and limited indirect impacts) versus the ESA regulations' requirement to consult on the Action Area (which includes all areas to be directly and indirectly affected by the action, including interdependent and interrelated actions (including water use)). While the developer has agreed to FWS's guidance and non-jeopardy draft biological opinion, the Corps wants to limit consultation to the narrower fill of WOTUS and the mitigation parcel. Six-plaintiff litigation filed against the Corps on this project/issue is pending. Local and regional media have covered the story; if the consultation on the project is elevated at a policy level, national media interest is anticipated.

UPDATED: Scoping Meetings on Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Habitat Conservation Plan, Texas – On July 31, FWS published in the *Federal Register* a Notice of Intent to prepare a draft National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Analysis on the proposed Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Services Corporation's (applicant's) Habitat Conservation Plan on July 31, 2017. The Habitat Conservation Plan and incidental take permit from FWS, if issued, will provide the applicant with compliance under the Endangered Species Act for activities, including construction and maintenance, of their electric transmission lines throughout Texas. Four public scoping meetings will be held in Texas in August. A news bulletin was issued and information was posted on Facebook after the notice published in the *Federal Register*. The dates and locations for the open houses are as follows:

- August 14, Owen R. Hopkins Library, Corpus Christi, Texas, from 5-7 pm
- August 15, LCRA Dalchau Service Ctr., Austin, Texas, from 6-8 pm

- August 17, MLK Community Center, Midland, Texas, from 6-8 pm
- August 21, Staybridge Suites, College Station, Texas, from 6-8 pm

(Region 2 –Southwest)

Late September – FWS anticipates publishing a notice announcing the receipt of application and consideration of an amendment to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and permit to add the recently listed Mexican gartersnake.

Late September – FWS anticipates publishing a notice announcing the receipt and consideration of an application for a permit for the draft Leander Independent School District Habitat Conservation Plan and draft NEPA analysis for a proposed access road through the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Program's preserve system in Texas.

REPEAT: The now-contained Frye Fire encompassed approximately 48,301 acres of Mt. Graham in the Pinaleño Mountains, Coronado National Forest (CNF), in southeastern Arizona. Burn-severity mapping indicates the majority of the fire was of low severity; however, two areas known for their relatively high Mount Graham Red Squirrel (MGRS) densities burned at high severity. (The MGRS occurs only on (is endemic to) this sky island mountain. The MGRS population was estimated to be only 252 animals in Fall 2016.) A total of 78% of the MGRS's occupied range is within the Frye Fire perimeter, with another 18% within the 2004 Nuttall-Gibson Fire perimeter. Access is currently limited due to flooding, washouts, and debris flows on the road, so reconnaissance is difficult. The Arizona Ecological Services Field Office is working with partners to gain access and determine the fire's effects on MGRS. Significant resources will likely be required to move forward with the subspecies' conservation and recovery. (Information submitted in previous reports.) (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Lesser Prairie-Chicken (LPC) Aerial Survey - FWS expects to formally receive the official results of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) aerial surveys for the LPC in the near future. WAFWA issued a news release on June 29, 2017, publically announcing the results of the survey. The announcement confirms an increase in the range-wide population estimate due to favorable precipitation patterns over the past few years across the Great Plains. WAFWA noted LPC population increase/decreases are very closely tied to precipitation patterns across the Great Plains, and stated there may be a fluctuation in numbers from year to year. FWS also recognizes the importance of continuing annual reviews to examine long-term population trends and gain an accurate population assessment of the LPC. (R2-Southwest Region and R6- Mountain Prairie Region)

UPDATED: Texas Hornshell Candidate Conservation Agreement and two Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances –FWS announced consideration of a draft Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA), draft Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA), and draft environmental assessment for the Texas hornshell (proposed for listing) and other covered species (Rio Grande River cooter, gray redhorse, blue sucker and Pecos springsnail), and an enhancement of survival permit application under the Endangered Species Act submitted by the Center of Excellence on August 7. The covered area would include portions of Eddy County, New Mexico, and Culberson County, Texas. The CCA, CCAA, and the associated section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permit will have duration of 30 years.

The FWS's New Mexico Ecological Field Office has been working for several years with the applicant to develop the CCAA on non-Federal lands and the applicant and the Bureau of Land Management to develop the CCA on Federal lands. The proposed listing of the Texas hornshell may be controversial in both Texas and southern New Mexico. A six month extension will be published on the final listing determination by August 10, 2017. A news release and FAQs were distributed to the states, partners, congressional staff and media and the notice was published inthe *Federal Register* on July 6. Substantial local stakeholder outreach has been conducted for CCA / CCAA. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS anticipates publishing two notices announcing the receipt and consideration of applications for permits under the approved Industry Conservation Plan for American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma. These applicants cover incidental take of American Burying Beetle for Oil and Gas development, extraction, and transport within the species range in eastern Oklahoma. This conservation plan reduces the time in acquiring an incidental take permit to 45 to 60 days depending on publication of the *Federal Register* Notice. These notices are published on regular basis as companies apply for incidental take coverage under this conservation plan. (R2 Southwest Region)

NEW: Leander Independent School District (LISD) ITP – In the coming weeks, FWS will announce in the *Federal Register* a Notice of Intent to prepare a draft National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Analysis on the proposed construction of a secondary access road at the joint Vandegrift High School and Four Points Middle School campus in northwest Travis County, Texas. Recently LISD submitted a draft habitat conservation plan and incidental take permit (ITP). The HCP and ITP, if issued by FWS, will provide the applicant with compliance under the Endangered Species Act for activities including the construction, use and maintenance activities associated with a proposed secondary access road. Local interest is anticipated. Outreach, including issuing a news bulletin, will occur at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2 – Southwest Region)

NEW: Delaware River (TX/NM) Spill - On August 1st the FWS was notified that there was a ruptured pipeline that spilled approximately 18,000 barrels of produced water mixed with some oil into the Delaware River. The spill occurred in Texas upstream of where the Delaware flows into New Mexico. The company, Cimarex, sent out cleanup crews that deployed booms. A large pulse of chlorides was released into the river, but most of the oil was contained at the spill site. No sign of oil has reached the occupied site for the Texas hornshell (proposed endangered), though produced water with high chlorides did flow through that site. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) reported that 155 fish were killed in the event, near the spill. FWS and New Mexico Game and Fish are not planning to survey for Texas hornshell until water quality tests confirm that it is safe to do so. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: San Antonio HCP, Texas – FWS anticipates publishing a Notice of Availability in August a draft Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit request from the San Antonio Water Systems for the incidental take of five federally-listed karst invertebrates (collectively the Covered Karst Invertebrates): Madla's Cave meshweaver; Robber Baron Cave meshweaver; Braken Bat Cave meshweaver; and two species of ground beetles with no common names (Rhadine infernalis and Rhadine exilis). The Covered Karst Invertebrates are associated

with the construction of two water pipelines in Bexar County, Texas. Once issued, the permit would be in place for 15 years. Controversy anticipated being low. Minimal outreach, including issuing a news bulletin locally is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. Congressional Offices will be notified via email, a news release will be issued as well as web postings. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District (BSEACD) ITP - FWS announced on July 17, receipt of an application for a section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permit (ITP), pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, from the BSEACD. The application is for the incidental take of the federally listed Barton Springs salamander and the Austin blind salamander for pumping withdrawals within the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer (Aquifer) implemented, authorized, or permitted by BSEACD in portions of Travis and Hays Counties, Texas. FWS also anticipates releasing a draft Environmental Impact Statement (dEIS) analyzing the effects of issuing a proposed incidental take permit based on the draft Habitat Conservation Plan. A public meeting will be held on August 22, 2017, from 6 to 8 pm at the BSEACD office, in Austin, Texas. Local interest anticipated. Outreach, including issuing a news bulletin locally was provided at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Black-capped vireo draft Post-delisting Monitoring Plan – FWS anticipates publishing a draft post-delisting monitoring plan (PDMP) for the black-capped vireo for public review this summer (August). The draft PDMP has been developed in coordination with partners and will guide how the species population is monitored for a minimum of five years if it is delisted. The plan will describe monitoring methods, reporting procedures and agency responsibilities. Multiple monitoring strategies will be used in order to assure that population trends and habitat status will be captured at various time periods and scales, respectively. The final delisting determination will likely occur in December 2017. Outreach, including issuing a news release locally and posting information on social media is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2-Southwest)

National Wildlife Refuge Actions

NEW: The Outdoors Alliance for kids expressed interest in having an event to celebrate the third year of the Every Kid in a Park pass on FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 1. The Outdoors Alliance is hoping to have Senator Heinrich (D NM) as a guest speaker, along with representation from other federal agency partners (National Park Service, Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, as well as nonprofit partners (friends group, Wilderness Society, Sierra Club, Middle Rio Grande E3 Alliance). Focus of the event will be on benefits to students. Fourth graders will receive park passes during the event. Educational activities are also planned. Open to the media and the public. The Outdoor Alliance, in coordination with partners, will conduct outreach. On July 10, Senator Heinrich (D NM) introduced S.1522, Every Kid Outdoors Act. (R2 – Southwest Region)

NEW: On August 9, 2017, FWS met with representatives U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) met to consider the potential for locating rescue beacons to a remote area of the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge. This is an area where more than a dozen human remains of illegal border crossers (CBVs) have been recovered over the past several years. The presence of rescue beacons – a prefabricated 4 X 4 ft. concrete base on which a 20 ft. tall steel pole, topped

with a blue light visible for 10 miles, is bolted and powered by a solar panel – will allow individuals to press a button and be rescued by CBP within an hour. While the affected area is located within designated wilderness, the improved efficiency and effectiveness of search and rescue operations and subsequent reduction in deaths is expected to not only have a significant life-savings affect, but would reduce impacts to designated wilderness. The agencies anticipate having a final decision within the next 30 to 60 days. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge Draft EA – On July 18, FWS made a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in Albuquerque, New Mexico, available for public review for 30 days. FWS held a public meeting on August 2, to provide interested parties an opportunity to learn more about the EA. More than 100 people attended the meeting, including staffers from Senators Udall (D NM), Heinrich (D NM) and Rep Michelle Lujan-Grisham (D NM Dist. 1). The majority of comments heard are in favor of the EA. Prior to releasing the draft, FWS consulted with vested partners to develop the draft EA, including Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) and the Federal Aviation Administration. As the urban refuge is in close proximity to the base's flight path, KAFB had concerns associated with potential aircraft bird strikes. Of primary concern was related to the habitat restoration plans for seasonal wetlands. KAFB believes wetlands may attract large-bodied birds (geese, cranes and ducks) to travel in flight patterns. FWS intends to continue coordinating with the Federal Aviation Administration and KAFB throughout this process to minimize concerns of wildlife hazards (aircraft bird strikes). On July 13, FWS met with Kirtland to discuss final edits to the draft before making it available to the public. Advance notifications made to Senators Heinrich (D NM) and Udall (D NM) and to Rep. Michelle Lujan-Grisham. A news release was issued to the media and posted online. Bulletins and fliers are posted and shared with partners and the Friends group. The public comment closes August 18. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Havasu National Wildlife Refuge Revised Draft Recreational Boating Compatibility Determination (CD) – FWS Havasu National Wildlife Refuge (AZ) announced availability of a revised draft Compatibility Determination (CD) for recreational boating on the Refuge on July 27. Comments are being accepted for 30-days, with the public comment period closing on August 30. A previous version was pulled from consideration after the FWS received a substantial number of public comments seeking reconsideration on the draft. The FWS determined more deliberation was required and an updated draft was developed. FWS will host a Public Listening Session in Lake Havasu City, Arizona on August 17. The media (Havasu News) received a copy of the draft from one of the members of the MOU. FWS is in the process of conducting outreach - Partners, and vested parties, including members of the MOU group, as well as Members of the Arizona Delegation received periodic updates and an advance copy of the draft CD. A news release and social media postings are being developed and will be posted in advance of the public comment period. Public notification is scheduled for next week. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Fever Ticks Continue to be a Threat to Cattle Industry in Texas – FWS met with Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) and U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health inspection Service regarding fever tick treatment at the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge on August 8. A summary of the report will be available in the near future. FWS is committed to continuing discussions and proactive actions in cooperation with the USDA, the Texas Animal Health Commission, private ranchers and others to aid in the battle to combat the

fever tick. The fever tick is detrimental to the Texas cattle industry and can be spread by cattle and deer. It may also potentially be spread by an invasive exotic species (the nilgai, an Asian antelope). The FWS Laguna Atascosa NWR remains under quarantine at this time. Proactive measures to combat the fever tick include a Nilgai herd reduction plan and prescribed burns in select areas. Additionally, FWS, in consultation with the USDA, issued a biological opinion (BO) in January 2016 for use of Ivermectin-laced corn outside of FWS Refuge lands. The BO discusses potential effects to ocelots, jaguarundis, and aplomado falcons from use of Ivermectin-laced corn in deer feeders to treat ticks on deer on private property. Local media interest remains high. High Congressional interest from Senator Cornyn (R TX), Rep. Conaway, Rep. Vela (D TX Dist. 34), and the House Agriculture Committee. Members have requested periodic updates. (Background previously reported in August 2016 and earlier.) (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Border Coordination: Suppling water to USACE – FWS is currently in discussions with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regarding access to water from a FWS-owned well on the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge for a Baboquivari Road Repair Project scheduled to begin in January 2018. Part of the project will require the transportation of water from the refuge to the Sasabe Forward Operating Base (FOB) to sustain approximately 60 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) members, who will reside at the FOB throughout the construction phase of the project. CBP plans to inspect the FWS-owned well and upgrade / replace pump and water delivery components to facilitate optimum functionality during the project's period of performance. This will ensure both the CBP national security mission and FWS objectives are met. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Border Coordination: Road Construction - On March 20, FWS was contacted by the U.S. Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO) to coordinate an upcoming road construction project for a 5.9-mile portion of the Presumido Canyon Road through the Baboquivari Mountains, scheduled to begin in January 2018. The project will require water for the construction, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will perform maintenance of an FWS pump and water well in return for increased use of the FWS-owned well. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Border Coordination: Communication Towers - On April 18, FWS and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) discussed advance planning for Block-1 Replacement (B1R) of existing infrastructure with integrated fixed towers (IFTP) located on and adjacent to the Buenos Aries National Wildlife Refuge. A total of two communication towers and four surveillance towers on the refuge would be affected, with the goal of upgrading technology and providing a more robust foundation – all within the original impact areas. Work is proposed to begin in January 2018 dependent upon completion of planning, engineering, and permitting. Follow-up conversations with FWS have occurred to determine the necessary special use permitting process. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Border Coordination: Restoration of roadways – On April 20, FWS was contacted by a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) contractor, to begin maintenance and repair on Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge on both the Garcia Road and Fresnal Road. The objective is to restore the roadways to a safe driving condition for both FWS and U.S. Border Patrol. Best Management Practices involved in the project include: performing work only within the existing road footprint; introducing no materials to the refuge; using designated parking,

staging areas, and vehicle turnouts; washing equipment to minimize introduction of non-native species; and utilizing drip pans at staging and parking areas to minimize the effects of potential fuel or oil leaks. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Group Seeking to Aid Border Crossers – On June 1, FWS was informally notified that the U.S. Attorney's Office is seeking a meeting between FWS, Park Service and volunteers with the humanitarian group, No More Deaths. A formal request has not been received and no date is set for a meeting. On April 28, FWS met with representatives of No More Deaths (NMD Group), a humanitarian group based out of southern Arizona. Members of the NMD Group routinely place food, clothing and water on the landscape to aid stranded border crossers. This leads to an accumulation of debris scattered within the Refuge. The NMD Group wants to expand on these efforts to include leaving items in remote sites including designated wilderness areas. This group is seeking permission for off-road access in areas closed to public vehicle use. (The NMD Group understands that failure to have authorization could result in a citation.) During the meeting, the NMD Group also shared that in addition to leaving food and water, members of the group execute search-and-rescue efforts in response to requests from family members. This could result in the attempted recovery of human remains. FWS informed the NMD Group that there are a number of rescue beacons on the FWS Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge that are continuously monitored by the Border Patrol. When a rescue beacon is activated, there is immediate assistance by trained emergency response teams to include life-flight rescues out, if needed. Border Patrol also regularly patrols the area with staff highly trained in search and rescue. Additionally, FWS shared that law enforcement considers human remains found on the Refuge part of a potential crime scene. If discovered, these remains must not be disturbed until the area is investigated by the Pima County Sherriff's Office. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Fish and Aquatic Conservation
Nothing significant to report.

Migratory Birds
Nothing significant to report.

Science Applications
Nothing significant to report

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration
Nothing significant to report.

Tribal Consultation
REPEAT: Havasu National Wildlife Refuge Sacramento Wash Project - FWS seeking formal consultation on the Environmental Assessment for the Sacramento Wash Project at Havasu NWR with the Fort Mojave and Hualapai Tribes. No dates set. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Inter-Tribal Wildlife Summits - FWS is planning to host two additional Tribal Wildlife Summits, one in Arizona (October 3-5) and in New Mexico (November 7-9). These summits will include aspects of all FWS Divisions, including the Endangered Species Act, with a portion of the summit devoted to law enforcement training to assist Tribal Game Wardens and other Tribal agents. International Game Warden magazine, Spring 2017, published a story on the

FWS law enforcement training for Native American conservation officers. (R2 – Southwest Region)

From:	Tincher, Chris
To:	Charisa Morris; Matthew Trott
Cc:	Gavin Shire; Chris Tollefson; Alyssa Hausman; Laury Parramore; Joy Nicholopoulos; Keenan Adams; Brian Hires; Marian Howe
Subject:	R2- Southwest Region Weekly Report Submission - September 1, 2017
Date:	Thursday, August 17, 2017 5:08:54 PM
Attachments:	FWS R2 Weekly Report FishBites 01September2017.docx

Hi all,
Attached is the Southwest Region's submission for the Weekly Report. Also included in the attached file is our contributions for FishBites and our significant Media Contacts.

The Havasu public information meeting is going very well. Low attendance. No controversy. The Mayor of Lake Havasu City and Penny Pew, District staffer from Rep Gosar's Office, attended. Good one-on-one conversations. The meeting will conclude in another hour.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Best,
Chris

Christine R. Tincher
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Through September 1, 2017

FishBites Report

Expanded Hunting Opportunities in Oklahoma

- **Topic**: This week, FWS's Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge near Vian, Oklahoma is proposing to expand public hunting opportunities on the Refuge through a new "Big Game, Upland Game, and Feral Hog Hunting Plan." The proposal is now available for a 30 day public review and comment in the Federal Register. See Refuges for details.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation; local, regional, and national hunting community
- **Impacted Locations:** Vian, Oklahoma and other areas

Media Contact Report

Title/Issue	Anticipated Publication Date	Current Status
NPR Proposed border wall at Santa Ana NWR	Week of Aug 14	Reporter requested interview, either on the record on background. No interviews by FWS being granted at this time. Official statement shared with Reporter. Reporter attended protest this past weekend. More stories planned on proposed wall.
AZ Central Mexican wolf draft plan	Week of Aug 14	Reporter requested some answers to questions regarding the Mexican wolf draft recovery plan, first revision. The questions revolved around the Mexican wolves historical range, ranchers having telemetry receivers, and the livestock depredation compensation programs.
KVOI radio Mexican wolf draft plan	Week of Aug 14	Reporter interviewed member of the Mexican Wolf Team for an on-air radio interview with KVOI radio out of Tucson, AZ. The interview focused on the Mexican wolf draft recovery plan.
Texas Tribune Dunes sagebrush lizard	Week of Aug 14	Reporter asked about information in the Texas Comptroller's July Report for the Dunes sagebrush lizard Texas Conservation Plan related to sand mining activities in west Texas.
Community Impact News LCRA Scoping Meeting	Week of August 14	Reporter attended Austin, Texas public meeting. She had questions related to the LCRA Scoping process and the habitat conservation plan process.
3 media Havasu NWR draft CD	August 18	Three reporters attended the Lake Havasu City, Arizona public meeting on the revised draft CD for Havasu National Wildlife Refuge. Media: Today's News Herald, Arizona Wildlife Outfitters (freelancer), and Needles Desert Star.

Weekly Report

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

August 14 to August 21 – FWS holding scoping meetings on Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Habitat Conservation Plan, Texas. See Other ES Items of Note. (R2 – Southwest Region)

August 17 – FWS Havasu National Wildlife Refuge (AZ) held a public listening session on revised draft Compatibility Determination (CD) for recreational boating. Draft CD being well received in the community. Comment period closes August 30. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

August 18 – FWS closes comment period for draft Environmental Assessment for Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

August 22 - FWS will hold a public meeting regarding the application for a section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permit (ITP) from Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District (BSEACD) ITP. See Other ES Items of Note. (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 1 – The Outdoors Alliance for kids expressed interest in having an event on FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge to celebrate the third year of the Every Kid in a Park pass. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Hot Topics - Week Ahead Announcements and Actions

August 18 – FWS anticipates publishing a notice announcing the receipt and consideration of applications for permits under the approved Industry Conservation Plan for American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma. See ES Items of Note for details. (R2 - Southwest Region)

In August – FWS expects to receive the final results of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) aerial surveys for the lesser prairie chicken. (R2 – Southwest Region)

August 29 – FWS closes comment period on Mexican Wolf draft revision of recovery plan. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Upcoming Workshops & Meetings

August 14 to August 21 – Scoping Meetings on Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Habitat Conservation Plan, Texas currently taking place. See ES items of Note for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Endangered Species Act Recovery Actions

NEW: Guadalupe fescue final listing and critical habitat determinations: In September the FWS will publish a final listing and critical habitat determination for Guadalupe fescue. On September 9, 2016, the FWS published a proposal to list Guadalupe fescue as an endangered

species and designate critical habitat. The plant occurs entirely in Big Bend National Park, Brewster County, Texas. We received no requests for a public hearing and we received no substantive public comments after two public comment periods. The final rule will list Guadalupe fescue as endangered and designate approximately 7,815 acres of critical habitat. Outreach is planned including the distribution of a news release and FAQ, as well as posts on the web and social media. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Mexican Wolf Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision (draft recovery plan). FWS announced the availability of the draft recovery plan on June 30. The comment period ends August 29. Public meetings were held at the following dates and locations: July18, Flagstaff, Arizona (120 people); July 19, Pinetop, Arizona (45 people); July 20, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico (130 people); and July 22, in Albuquerque, New Mexico (80 People). Each event had about 30 to 40 demonstrators in front of the meeting location. Paul Kienzle, Chairman, New Mexico State Game Commission presented a comment on his personal standing saying he supported the intent of the recovery plan and looked forward to working together. Meetings saw mixed support in favor and against recovery efforts. During the public comment period, FWS will continue seeking review and comment on the peer-reviewed draft revision from local, State, and Federal agencies; Tribes; and the public, in both the United States and Mexico. Due to the high level of visibility and controversy on Mexican wolf recovery in general, extensive outreach is on-going, including personal phone calls, email reminders, public meetings and updated web postings. Follow up briefings after the comment period closes are being planned. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: In late October, FWS will publish a 12-month finding on the listing status of the southwestern willow flycatcher. Pacific Legal Foundation petitioned FWS to delist the flycatcher and in March 2016 we published a 90-day finding that the petition included substantial information, primarily regarding the subspecies' taxonomy. Upon robust consideration of the petition and the flycatchers' classification, the Southwest Region is completing a 12-month finding that delisting of the southwestern willow flycatcher is not warranted. Outreach is being planned – including a news release and Congressional notifications via email. Interest expected to be moderate. No controversy anticipated. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement – This Fall, FWS expects to announce the approval of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) enhancement of survival permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act, as well as the 30-year Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) for the Houston toad between TPWD and FWS. The agreement will cover voluntary activities to restore, maintain, enhance, or create habitat for the endangered Houston toad in the following nine Texas counties: Austin, Bastrop, Burleson, Colorado, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Milam and Robertson. Congressional interest from Rep McCaul (R TX Dist10) based on impacts from 2011 Bastrop fire. A conference call was held with Rep McCaul's Office to provide an update on the SHA in late July. A site visit is tentatively being planned to occur in September. Outreach planned – Congressional notification via email, a news release will be issued and posts will be made on the web and through Social media. (No FRN required). (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: American Burying Beetle Species Status Assessment - FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the American Burying Beetle (ABB) will be completed in early September. In June 2015, FWS initiated the SSA to support future conservation decisions and recovery planning for the ABB under the Endangered Species Act. FWS is using the SSA to evaluate all available information related to the current and potential threats to the species. The SSA was peer reviewed. State fish and game agencies and affected Tribes within the current ABB range reviewed the document following review of the formal peer review process. On February 22, 2017, the American Stewards of Liberty and the Independent Petroleum Association of America filed a Notice of Intent based on FWS' failure to make a 12-month finding on the petition to delist the ABB. (R2, R3, R4, R5 & R6)

Endangered Species Act Listing Actions

REPEAT: FWS announced on August 10, a 6-month extension of the final determination of whether to add the Texas hornshell a freshwater mussel species from New Mexico, Texas, and Mexico, to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. FWS is also reopening the comment period on the proposed rule to list the species, for an additional 30 days. FWS is taking this action to extend the final determination based on substantial disagreement regarding the status of Texas hornshell in Mexico. FWS will submit a final listing determination to the Federal Register on or before February 10, 2018. Historically, the Texas hornshell occurred in New Mexico, Texas and Mexico. However, the population has declined notably throughout its range and it currently occupies about 15% of its U.S. historical range. The Texas hornshell was designated a candidate in 2001 and FWS was petitioned to list the species in 2004. FWS published a proposed rule to list the Texas hornshell as endangered on August 10, 2016. On July 6, 2017, FWS announced the availability of a draft Candidate Conservation Agreement and Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCA/CCAA) that would cover the Texas hornshell and four other species. The public comment period for the draft CCA / CCAA closed on August 7. Local interest is anticipated. A news release was issued and information was posted on Facebook at the time of publication in the *Federal Register*. Ranking 3. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: In September – FWS anticipates sending to the *Federal Register* 12-month findings on petitions including one to list the San Felipe gambusia, a Texas fish. (R4 – Southeast Region, R2 – Southwest Region (lead)

REPEAT: FWS anticipates publishing a final determination on the proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as endangered under the Endangered Species Act on or before September 21. The Sonoyta mud turtle occurs in the U.S. only at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in southern Arizona, and four locations in the Rio Sonoyta basin in Sonora Mexico. Controversy level is low. A communications strategy news release and set of FAQs are being drafted. (R2 – Southwest)

UPDATED: Lesser Prairie-Chicken Species Status Assessment – FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC) will be completed by the end of the calendar year. FWS began work on a Species Status Assessment in the spring of 2015, prior to the court ruling that vacated the listing of the LPC and the petition to relist the species. USGS, through its Open File Report (OFR), made available the population model it prepared for FWS. The population model represents one component of the SSA and will be considered alongside of

all other available information. On August 25, the draft SSA report will be will be sent to our external Working Group (biologists from the 5 states, WAFWA, NRCS, and academics) that we've been coordinating with throughout development of the SSA. The following week, August 28, the draft report will be sent out for external, independent scientific peer review through a third-party contractor. The goal of the SSA is to have the best available science to inform future Endangered Species Act decisions and conservation actions related to the lesser prairie-chicken. The Lesser Prairie Chicken Advisory Council is scheduled for a conference call the week of August 7. The agenda includes the FWS SSA, Industry Updates, and Conservation Updates. (R2 Southwest Region & R6 Mountain-Prairie Region)

Other Ecological Services Items of Note

NEW: Bone Cave Harvestman Species Status Assessment – FWS Austin Ecological Services Office completed a draft species status assessment for the Bone Cave harvestman. The assessment will be sent out for external, independent scientific peer review in the coming weeks. Concurrently with peer review of the species status assessment, FWS will host representatives from the City of Austin, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Travis County, and Williamson County to detail the methodology used to analyze ecological conditions at sites occupied by the Bone Cave harvestman. Comments and information provided by the peer review and site analysis meeting will be incorporated into the species status assessment. The final species status assessment will inform a 5-year review to be completed for the Bone Cave harvestman in fiscal year 2018. (R2-Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Villages at Vigneto Development Endangered Species Act Consultation [Arizona] – FWS Arizona Ecological Services is undergoing ESA section 7 consultation with Army Corps of Engineers regarding a planned 12,200-acre, 28,000-home development near the San Pedro River in southern Arizona and a 141-acre off-site mitigation project on the river. The FWS and Corps continue to disagree on the scope of effects (which the Corps insists includes only the fill of WOTUS and limited indirect impacts; we and our counsel believe the ESA regulations' require consultation on all areas to be directly and indirectly affected by the action, including interdependent and interrelated actions (including water use)). The applicant's counsel agrees with the Corps' position and the Corps is considering elevating the issue. Six-plaintiff litigation filed against the Corps on this project/issue is pending. Local and regional media have covered the story; if the consultation on the project is elevated at a policy level, national media interest is anticipated. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: FWS currently holding scoping meetings on Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Habitat Conservation Plan, Texas – On July 31, FWS published in the *Federal Register* a Notice of Intent to prepare a draft National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Analysis on the proposed Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Services Corporation's (applicant's) Habitat Conservation Plan. The Habitat Conservation Plan and incidental take permit from FWS, if issued, will provide the applicant with compliance under the Endangered Species Act for activities, including construction and maintenance, of their electric transmission lines throughout Texas. Four public scoping meetings will be held in Texas in August. A news bulletin was issued and information was posted on Facebook after the notice published in the *Federal Register*. The public meetings in Corpus Christi and Austin, Texas, were lightly attended

by the public and there was no controversy. The dates and locations for the open houses are as follows:

- August 14, Owen R. Hopkins Library, Corpus Christi, Texas, from 5-7 pm
- August 15, LCRA Dalchau Service Ctr., Austin, Texas, from 6-8 pm
- August 17, MLK Community Center, Midland, Texas, from 6-8 pm
- August 21, Staybridge Suites, College Station, Texas, from 6-8 pm

(Region 2 –Southwest)

REPEAT: In early October – FWS anticipates publishing a notice announcing the receipt of application and consideration of an amendment to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and permit to add the recently listed Mexican gartersnake.

REPEAT: Lesser Prairie-Chicken (LPC) Aerial Survey - FWS expects to formally receive the official results of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) aerial surveys for the LPC in the near future. WAFWA issued a news release on June 29, 2017, publically announcing the results of the survey. The announcement confirms an increase in the range-wide population estimate due to favorable precipitation patterns over the past few years across the Great Plains. WAFWA noted LPC population increase/decreases are very closely tied to precipitation patterns across the Great Plains, and stated there may be a fluctuation in numbers from year to year. FWS also recognizes the importance of continuing annual reviews to examine long-term population trends and gain an accurate population assessment of the LPC. (R2-Southwest Region and R6- Mountain Prairie Region)

UPDATED: Texas Hornshell Candidate Conservation Agreement and two Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances – FWS announced consideration of a draft Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA), draft Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA), and draft environmental assessment for the Texas hornshell (proposed for listing) and other covered species (Rio Grande River cooter, gray redhorse, blue sucker and Pecos springsnail), and an enhancement of survival permit application under the Endangered Species Act submitted by the Center of Excellence on July 6. The covered area would include portions of Eddy County, New Mexico, and Culberson County, Texas. The CCA, CCAA, and the associated section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permit will have duration of 30 years. The FWS's New Mexico Ecological Field Office has been working for several years with the applicant to develop the CCAA on non-Federal lands and the applicant and the Bureau of Land Management to develop the CCA on Federal lands. (The proposed listing of the Texas hornshell may be controversial in both Texas and southern New Mexico. A six month extension will be on the final listing determination was published on August 10, 2017.) A news release and FAQs were distributed to the states, partners, congressional staff and media and the notice was published inthe *Federal Register* on July 6. Substantial local stakeholder outreach has been conducted for CCA / CCAA. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Delaware River (TX/NM) Spill - On August 1st the FWS was notified that there was a ruptured pipeline that spilled approximately 18,000 barrels of produced water mixed with some oil into the Delaware River. The spill occurred in Texas upstream of where the Delaware flows into New Mexico. The company, Cimarex, sent out cleanup crews that deployed booms. A large pulse of chlorides was released into the river, but most of the oil was contained at the spill

site. No sign of oil has reached the occupied site for the Texas hornshell (proposed endangered), though produced water with high chlorides did flow through that site. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) reported that 155 fish were killed in the event, near the spill. FWS and New Mexico Game and Fish are not planning to survey for Texas hornshell until water quality tests confirm that it is safe to do so. (R2-Southwest Region)

UPDATED: FWS anticipates publishing two notices announcing the receipt and consideration of applications for permits under the approved Industry Conservation Plan for American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma. These applicants cover incidental take of American Burying Beetle for Oil and Gas development, extraction, and transport within the species range in eastern Oklahoma. This conservation plan reduces the time in acquiring an incidental take permit. With the 30 day public review, some permits may take longer (up to 105 days). These notices are published in the *Federal Register* on regular basis as companies apply for incidental take coverage under this conservation plan. (R2 Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Leander Independent School District (LISD) ITP – In the coming weeks, FWS will announce in the *Federal Register* a Notice of Intent to prepare a draft National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Assessment on the proposed construction of a secondary access road at the joint Vandegrift High School and Four Points Middle School campus in northwest Travis County, Texas. Recently LISD submitted a draft habitat conservation plan and incidental take permit (ITP). The HCP and ITP, if issued by FWS, will provide the applicant with compliance under the Endangered Species Act for activities including the construction, use and maintenance activities associated with a proposed secondary access road. Local interest is anticipated. Outreach, including issuing a news bulletin, will occur at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: San Antonio HCP, Texas – FWS anticipates publishing a Notice of Availability in early September a draft Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit request from the San Antonio Water Systems for the incidental take of five federally-listed karst invertebrates (collectively the Covered Karst Invertebrates): Madla's Cave meshweaver; Robber Baron Cave meshweaver; Braken Bat Cave meshweaver; and two species of ground beetles with no common names (Rhadine infernalis and Rhadine exilis). The Covered Karst Invertebrates are associated with the construction of two water pipelines in Bexar County, Texas. Once issued, the permit would be in place for 15 years. Controversy anticipated being low. Minimal outreach, including issuing a news bulletin locally is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. Congressional Offices will be notified via email, a news release will be issued as well as web postings. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District (BSEACD) ITP - FWS will hold a public meeting on August 22 regarding the application for a section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permit (ITP), pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, from the BSEACD. The application is for the incidental take of the federally listed Barton Springs salamander and the Austin blind salamander for pumping withdrawals within the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer (Aquifer) implemented, authorized, or permitted by BSEACD in portions of Travis and Hays Counties, Texas. FWS also anticipates releasing a draft Environmental Impact Statement (dEIS) analyzing the effects of issuing a proposed incidental take permit based on the draft Habitat

Conservation Plan. A public meeting will be held on August 22, 2017, from 6 to 8 pm at the BSEACD office, in Austin, Texas. Local interest anticipated. Outreach, including issuing a news bulletin locally on July 17, was conducted following publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Black-capped vireo draft Post-delisting Monitoring Plan – FWS anticipates publishing a draft post-delisting monitoring plan (PDMP) for the black-capped vireo for public review this summer (August). The draft PDMP has been developed in coordination with partners and will guide how the species population is monitored for a minimum of five years if it is delisted. The plan will describe monitoring methods, reporting procedures and agency responsibilities. Multiple monitoring strategies will be used in order to assure that population trends and habitat status will be captured at various time periods and scales, respectively. The final delisting determination will likely occur in December 2017. Outreach, including issuing a news release locally and posting information on social media is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2-Southwest)

National Wildlife Refuge Actions

NEW: Expanded Hunting Opportunities in Oklahoma - This week, FWS's Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge near Vian, Oklahoma is proposing to expand public hunting opportunities on the Refuge through a new "Big Game, Upland Game, and Feral Hog Hunting Plan." Currently, the Refuge conducts white-tailed deer hunts through the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation's controlled hunt program. The Hunt Plan proposes an additional 8,029 acres of the Refuge be opened to these deer hunts. The Refuge also currently offers rabbit and squirrel hunting (upland game). The Hunt Plan proposes an additional 1,193 acres of the Refuge be opened to upland game hunting. Lastly, it proposes hunters participating in big game hunting and upland game hunting be allowed incidental take of feral hogs (no bag limit). The proposal is now available for a 30 day public review and comment in the Federal Register. Stakeholders include the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, local, regional, and national hunting community. Not expected to be controversial. Potentially of Congressional interest to entire Oklahoma delegation (Senators Inhofe (R) and Lankford (R)).

REPEAT: The Outdoors Alliance for kids expressed interest in having an event to celebrate the third year of the Every Kid in a Park pass on FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 1. The Outdoors Alliance is hoping to have Senator Heinrich (D NM) as a guest speaker, along with representation from other federal agency partners (National Park Service, Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, as well as nonprofit partners (friends group, Wilderness Society, Sierra Club, Middle Rio Grande E3 Alliance). Focus of the event will be on benefits to students. Fourth graders will receive park passes during the event. Educational activities are also planned. Open to the media and the public. The Outdoor Alliance, in coordination with partners, will conduct outreach. On July 10, Senator Heinrich (D NM) introduced S.1522, Every Kid Outdoors Act. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge Draft EA – On July 18, FWS made a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in Albuquerque, New Mexico, available for public review for 30 days. FWS held a public meeting on August 2, to provide interested parties an opportunity to learn more about the EA. More than

100 people attended the meeting, including staffers from Senators Udall (D NM), Heinrich (D NM) and Rep Michelle Lujan-Grisham (D NM Dist. 1). The majority of comments heard are in favor of the EA. Prior to releasing the draft, FWS consulted with vested partners to develop the draft EA, including Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) and the Federal Aviation Administration. As the urban refuge is in close proximity to the base's flight path, KAFB had concerns associated with potential aircraft bird strikes. Of primary concern was related to the habitat restoration plans for seasonal wetlands. KAFB believes wetlands may attract large-bodied birds (geese, cranes and ducks) to travel in flight patterns. FWS intends to continue coordinating with the Federal Aviation Administration and KAFB throughout this process to minimize concerns of wildlife hazards (aircraft bird strikes). On July 13, FWS met with Kirtland to discuss final edits to the draft before making it available to the public. Advance notifications made to Senators Heinrich (D NM) and Udall (D NM) and to Rep. Michelle Lujan-Grisham. A news release was issued to the media and posted online. Bulletins and fliers are posted and shared with partners and the Friends group. The public comment closes August 18. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: [As of 5:01pm (AZ) on August 17.] Havasu National Wildlife Refuge Revised Draft Recreational Boating Compatibility Determination (CD) – FWS holding public information meeting on August 17 on the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge (AZ) revised draft Compatibility Determination (CD) for recreational boating. The draft CD was made available for comment on July 27. Comments are being accepted for 30-days, with the public comment period closing on August 30. A previous version was pulled from consideration after the FWS received a substantial number of public comments seeking reconsideration on the draft. The FWS determined more deliberation was required and an updated draft was developed. The media (Havasu News) received a copy of the draft from one of the members of the MOU. FWS has been actively conducting outreach - Partners, and vested parties, including members of the MOU group, as well as Members of the Arizona Delegation receive periodic updates and advance information. The early part of the public meeting from noon to 4:30p was lightly attended, with favorable comments. Rep Gosar's Office sent a representative. The Mayor of Lake Havasu City attended in a show of support of the draft CD. A final tally and summary of the meeting that ends at 6pm will be submitted later. A news release and social media postings were posted in advance of the public comment period, along with FAQs, maps and other information in addition to the draft CD. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Fever Ticks Continue to be a Threat to Cattle Industry in Texas – FWS met with Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) and U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health inspection Service regarding fever tick treatment at the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge on August 8. A summary of the report will be available in the near future. FWS is committed to continuing discussions and proactive actions in cooperation with the USDA, the Texas Animal Health Commission, private ranchers and others to aid in the battle to combat the fever tick. The fever tick is detrimental to the Texas cattle industry and can be spread by cattle and deer. It may also potentially be spread by an invasive exotic species (the nilgai, an Asian antelope). The FWS Laguna Atascosa NWR remains under quarantine at this time. Proactive measures to combat the fever tick include a Nilgai herd reduction plan and prescribed burns in select areas. Additionally, FWS, in consultation with the USDA, issued a biological opinion (BO) in January 2016 for use of Ivermectin-laced corn outside of FWS Refuge lands. The BO discusses potential effects to ocelots, jaguarundis, and aplomado falcons from use of Ivermectin-

laced corn in deer feeders to treat ticks on deer on private property. Local media interest remains high. High Congressional interest from Senator Cornyn (R TX), Rep. Conaway, Rep. Vela (D TX Dist. 34), and the House Agriculture Committee. Members have requested periodic updates. (Background previously reported in August 2016 and earlier.) (R2 – Southwest Region)

Border-Related Activities

REPEAT: On August 9, 2017, FWS met with representatives of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to consider the potential for locating rescue beacons to a remote area of the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge. This is an area where more than a dozen human remains of illegal border crossers (CBVs) have been recovered over the past several years. The presence of rescue beacons – a prefabricated 4 X 4 ft. concrete base on which a 20 ft. tall steel pole, topped with a blue light visible for 10 miles, is bolted and powered by a solar panel – will allow individuals to press a button and be rescued by CBP within an hour. While the affected area is located within designated wilderness, the improved efficiency and effectiveness of search and rescue operations and subsequent reduction in deaths is expected to not only have a significant life-savings affect, but would reduce impacts to designated wilderness. The agencies anticipate having a final decision within the next 30 to 60 days. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Border Coordination: Suppling water to USACE – FWS is currently in discussions with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regarding access to water from a FWS-owned well on the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge for a Baboquivari Road Repair Project scheduled to begin in January 2018. Part of the project will require the transportation of water from the refuge to the Sasabe Forward Operating Base (FOB) to sustain approximately 60 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) members, who will reside at the FOB throughout the construction phase of the project. CBP plans to inspect the FWS-owned well and upgrade / replace pump and water delivery components to facilitate optimum functionality during the project's period of performance. This will ensure both the CBP national security mission and FWS objectives are met. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Border Coordination: Road Construction - On March 20, FWS was contacted by the U.S. Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO) to coordinate an upcoming road construction project for a 5.9-mile portion of the Presumido Canyon Road through the Baboquivari Mountains, scheduled to begin in January 2018. The project will require water for the construction, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will perform maintenance of an FWS pump and water well in return for increased use of the FWS-owned well. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Border Coordination: Communication Towers - On April 18, FWS and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) discussed advance planning for Block-1 Replacement (B1R) of existing infrastructure with integrated fixed towers (IFTP) located on and adjacent to the Buenos Aries National Wildlife Refuge. A total of two communication towers and four surveillance towers on the refuge would be affected, with the goal of upgrading technology and providing a more robust foundation – all within the original impact areas. Work is proposed to begin in January 2018 dependent upon completion of planning, engineering, and permitting. Follow-up conversations with FWS have occurred to determine the necessary special use permitting process. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Border Coordination: Restoration of roadways – On April 20, FWS was contacted by a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) contractor, to begin maintenance and repair on Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge on both the Garcia Road and Fresnal Road. The objective is to restore the roadways to a safe driving condition for both FWS and U.S. Border Patrol. Best Management Practices involved in the project include: performing work only within the existing road footprint; introducing no materials to the refuge; using designated parking, staging areas, and vehicle turnouts; washing equipment to minimize introduction of non-native species; and utilizing drip pans at staging and parking areas to minimize the effects of potential fuel or oil leaks. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Group Seeking to Aid Border Crossers – On June 1, FWS was informally notified that the U.S. Attorney's Office is seeking a meeting between FWS, Park Service and volunteers with the humanitarian group, No More Deaths. A formal request has not been received and no date is set for a meeting. On April 28, FWS met with representatives of No More Deaths (NMD Group), a humanitarian group based out of southern Arizona. Members of the NMD Group routinely place food, clothing and water on the landscape to aid stranded border crossers. This leads to an accumulation of debris scattered within the Refuge. The NMD Group wants to expand on these efforts to include leaving items in remote sites including designated wilderness areas. This group is seeking permission for off-road access in areas closed to public vehicle use. (The NMD Group understands that failure to have authorization could result in a citation.) During the meeting, the NMD Group also shared that in addition to leaving food and water, members of the group execute search-and-rescue efforts in response to requests from family members. This could result in the attempted recovery of human remains. FWS informed the NMD Group that there are a number of rescue beacons on the FWS Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge that are continuously monitored by the Border Patrol. When a rescue beacon is activated, there is immediate assistance by trained emergency response teams to include life-flight rescues out, if needed. Border Patrol also regularly patrols the area with staff highly trained in search and rescue. Additionally, FWS shared that law enforcement considers human remains found on the Refuge part of a potential crime scene. If discovered, these remains must not be disturbed until the area is investigated by the Pima County Sherriff's Office. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Fish and Aquatic Conservation
Nothing significant to report.

Migratory Birds
Nothing significant to report.

Science Applications
Nothing significant to report

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration
Nothing significant to report.

Tribal Consultation
REPEAT: Inter-Tribal Wildlife Summits - FWS is planning to host two additional Tribal Wildlife Summits, one in Arizona (October 3-5) and in New Mexico (November 7-9). These summits will include aspects of all FWS Divisions, including the Endangered Species Act, with a

portion of the summit devoted to law enforcement training to assist Tribal Game Wardens and other Tribal agents. International Game Warden magazine, Spring 2017, published a story on the FWS law enforcement training for Native American conservation officers. (R2 – Southwest Region)

From:	Gustavson, Angela
To:	Jesup, Benjamin
Cc:	Charisa Morris; Matthew Huggler; Kodis, Martin
Subject:	Re: By 4pm if possible: Briefing materials for SOL nominee
Date:	Monday, August 28, 2017 12:53:40 PM
Attachments:	Arctic NWR FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Asian Carps FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Deferred Maintenance FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Delta Smelt FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx ESA Reform FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Greater Sage Grouse FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Grizzly Bear FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Highlands FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Izembek FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Lacey Act Court Decision FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx LPC FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Mitigation Policies FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Monarchs FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Southwest Border FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Wildlife Trafficking FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Wolves FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx Zebra Mussel FY 18 Budget Briefing Paper.docx

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Hi Ben,

We prepared 17 briefing papers for the Secretary's budget hearings that would be useful for the SOL nominee's background on current issues, which are attached.

We would also recommend that you check with Chris Salotti in OCL, if you haven't already, to see if they have background that was prepared for confirmation hearings.

Angela

Angela Gustavson
Deputy Chief
Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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Mobile: 202-909-5105
angela_gustavson@fws.gov

On Mon, Aug 28, 2017 at 2:05 PM, Kodis, Martin <martin_kodis@fws.gov> wrote:

> Adding Angela here as I'm leaving for the day shortly and will try to discuss with her before I go.
>
> Marty
>
> On Mon, Aug 28, 2017 at 1:53 PM, Charisa Morris <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hey there!
> >
> > Ben would love for us to shoot any products we already have at the ready to help him prep an SOL nominee for questions from Congress (possibly Senate EPW)- do we have anything we've already written up (even in draft) that he can borrow from?
> >
> > **He needs this by 4pm, if we have it.**

Thanks!
Charisa

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 28, 2017, at 12:58 PM, Jesup, Benjamin <benjamin.jesup@sol.doi.gov> wrote:

> Charisa:
>
> Did you guys put anything together for Greg or otherwise that lists or summarizes FWS issues? We are looking to create a list of questions that our nominee might get asked that relate to FWS (mostly ESA, probably, but other issues as well (e.g., MBTA, refuge hunting). Of course, we will focus on legal issues, but anything you have off the shelf that we could borrow from would be helpful.
>
> Thanks.
>
> Ben
>
> --
> Ben Jesup
> Assistant Solicitor for Fish and Wildlife
> Solicitor's Office
> Department of the Interior
> 202-208-3170
>
> NOTICE: This email message (including any attachments) is intended for the use of the individual(s) or entity to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected by applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or use of this message or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you receive this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy all copies.

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Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
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703-358-2241 ph
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BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: McCollum, Udall, Feinstein, Stewart, Bishop
ISSUE: Southwest Border Law Enforcement and Conservation Issues

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- There are eight National Wildlife Refuges along the U.S.-Mexico border, three in Texas, two in California and three in Arizona. FWS has 18 Federal Wildlife Officers (FWO) that cover these refuges.
- The FWOs at border refuges provide safety and security for visitors and protect fish, wildlife, cultural, and archaeological resources. Additionally, working closely with DHS, they address border issues that spill onto refuges, including drug and human trafficking and fatalities of undocumented immigrants.
- These refuges also face increased habitat degradation from significant amounts of human trash and waste left on site, escaped camp fires, sewage spills, and trail and road erosion. Additional trash is generated on Arizona border refuges by humanitarian organizations who, contrary to refuge regulations, leave stock piles of food, water, and clothing for illegal border crossers.
- Many native animals, like pronghorn antelope and ocelots, migrate across the Southwest border; physical barriers could also affect movement of wildlife and could affect surface water movement, causing local flooding.
- Sec. 102. of the REAL ID Act (P.L. 109-13), signed into law in 2005, gives the Department of Homeland Security authority to waive most environmental laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA), to ensure expeditious construction of barriers and roads.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Some Congressional Members have expressed concern about the cost of expanding and maintain a wall along the border, and the impact it may have on conservation of species and habitat in the area.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Congress released a bill on April 30, 2017, that does not include funding for the border wall.
- Other Members have explained how effective border security protects the environment by deterring illegal activity and border crossings.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- It is anticipated that the Administration's FY 2018 Budget Request will include a request for funding for the border wall.

From:	Tincher, Chris
To:	Charisa Morris; Matthew Trott
Cc:	Gavin Shire; Chris Tollefson; Alyssa Hausman; Laury Parramore; Joy Nicholopoulos; Keenan Adams; Brian Hires; Marian Howe
Subject:	R2 - Southwest Region Weekly Report Submission - September 15, 2017
Date:	Thursday, August 31, 2017 7:58:15 PM
Attachments:	FWS R2 Weekly Report FishBites 15September2017.docx

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Dear all,
Please see attached the Southwest Region's contributions for FishBites, Media Contacts and the Weekly Report.

I have returned from travel and will be in the office in the morning. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Best,
Chris

Christine R. Tincher
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region
New Mexico * Arizona * Texas * Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954
Mobile: (505) 449-8776
Email: chris_tincher@fws.gov

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Through September 15, 2017

FishBites Report

Full Extent of Damage from Hurricane Harvey yet to be known

- **Topic**: Numerous FWS facilities and national wildlife refuges along the Gulf Coast of Texas remain closed due to impacts from Hurricane Harvey. There is little relief at this point as the area continues to be hit with unprecedented rainfall. All FWS employees who work and live in the area are accounted for and safe. Many of these employees were evacuated (damage to their homes and full loss of personal belongings is not yet known). Damage assessments to FWS lands and facilities will be conducted once conditions are deemed safe. Currently the impacted areas are inaccessible. It is anticipated that access to these areas may not occur for up to two weeks. Hurricane Harvey made landfall late Friday, August 25, at Rockport, Texas as a *Category 4 hurricane*. Facilities and offices will remain closed until further notice. FWS will post updates and issue reopening notices when the areas are cleared. Recognizing the impacts of these tropical rains expand far beyond the resources managed by FWS, the agency is providing all possible support to the incident command team, and is prepared to deploy all available resources as needed to aid in rescue operations and recovery.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** The entire Nation has eyes on impacts from this natural disaster, Members of Congress, other federal and state agencies and many others
- **Impacted Locations:** Greatly impacted southern Texas along the coast and other areas

FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge Draft EA

- Topic: On August 30, FWS completed the Environmental Assessment for the first named urban FWS refuge in the Southwest - the Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The EA lays out a range of management alternatives for fulfilling the refuge's purpose while analyzing environmental impacts of each alternative, providing refuge history and incorporating public comments. Considered by many to be an "oasis," this urban refuge is situated just outside the City of Albuquerque, alongside the Rio Grande River. Comprised of 570 acres - and significant water rights - this urban jewel provides a place for people to get outside and truly enjoy nature in their own "backyard." Additionally, acquisition of the water rights is expected to greatly aid in the restoration of the Middle Rio Grande.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Tremendous support from the New Mexico Delegation – Senators Udall and Heinrich and Rep Michelle Lujan-Grisham (D NM Dist 1), Bureau of Reclamation, other many other partners, the local community and nearby school districts
- **Impacted Locations:** Albuquerque, New Mexico

FWS Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge to open more land to hunting

- **Topic**: FWS Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge in eastern Oklahoma, near Vian is proposing expanding hunting on an additional 8,029 acres for white-tailed deer hunts. Another 1,193 acres is proposed to be open to rabbit and squirrel hunting. Also, big game and upland game hunters is being proposed to allow a no-bag-limit take of feral hogs. The comment period on this proposal ends September 11. If approved, the new hunting

areas would be put in effect for the 2018-19 hunting season. The Refuge conducts white-tailed deer hunts through the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation's controlled hunt program.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, local hunting community and supported by Congressional Members in Oklahoma
- **Impacted Locations:** Oklahoma

Increased hunter access to FWS public lands

- **Topic:** FWS Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge re-opened 3,500 acres along the southern border to hunting. These lands were closed to all public use/visitation in 2006 due to national security concerns along the border. The area was re-opened to the public in 2015 for recreational use/visitation, but remained closed to hunting. This area is now open to hunting effective August 14. The Arizona archery deer season opened August 25.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Arizona Game and Fish Department, local hunting community and Congressional Members in Arizona
- **Impacted Locations:** Buenos Aires NWR, Sasabe, Arizona

Media Contact Report

Title/Issue	Anticipated Publication Date	Current Status
Multiple media Sonoran Desert bald eagle	Expecting coverage to continue for next couple of weeks	9th Circuit rules against endangered status for Sonoran Desert bald eagles. FWS is deferring all inquiries to the Department of Justice.
National Geographic Border Wall/ocelots	Unknown	Reporter with National Geographic Magazine contacted FWS seeking information on ocelot recovery efforts in Texas. Information was provided on ocelot conservation program. Reporter had follow up questions about potential border wall impacts on ocelots and was provided official/approved statement.
Media Topic		

Weekly Report

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

September 5 – FWS Refuge Manager meeting with Rep Michelle Lujan-Grisham's (D NM Dist 1) District Director to provide a tour of the urban refuge, Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 13 – FWS meeting with Leander School District (HCP applicant) regarding a proposal for secondary access through a preserve. See ES Items of note for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Hot Topics - Week Ahead Announcements and Actions

See Hurricane Harvey news above.

FWS plans to remove the endangered Gila chub and its critical habitat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to taxonomic change in the coming weeks. See ESA Recovery Actions for details. (Delisting: R2-Southwest Region. SSA: Regions 2 and 6.)

August 28 - The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed FWS' 2012 decision that bald eagles residing in the Sonoran Desert are not a distinct population segment eligible for listing under the ESA. See details under ESA Listing Actions (R2- Southwest Region)

August 29 – FWS closed the comment period on Mexican Wolf draft revision of recovery plan. FWS received more than 9,400 comments. The New Mexico Department of Game Commission voted to support the recovery plan. The Arizona Game and Fish Department is seeking clarification on the States' role. (R2 – Southwest Region)

August 30 – FWS joined the Forest Service and grazing permittee in a tour of a Lincoln National Forest grazing allotment following a request by Robert MacGregor, Legislative Assistant with the Office of Rep Pearce (R NM Dist 2), to discuss New Mexico Meadow jumping mouse. Rep Pearce is seeking resolution to the concerns of the permittee that will also meet the needs of species and its critical habitat. (R2 – Southwest Region)

In September – FWS expects to receive the final results of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) aerial surveys for the lesser prairie chicken. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Upcoming Workshops & Meetings

September 18-22 – FWS, the U.S. Forest Service and Arizona Game and Fish Department are conducting the annual census of the Mount Graham red squirrel. See more in previous reports. (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 19 – FWS was invited by the City of Brownsville, Texas to participate in an Eco Tourism media and legislative tour in Hidalgo and Cameron counties. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Endangered Species Act Recovery Actions

NEW: DELISTING - FWS plans to remove the endangered Gila chub and its critical habitat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to taxonomic change. Gila chub was listed with critical habitat in Arizona in 2005. In April 2017, FWS withdrew a proposal to list the headwater and roundtail chubs as a result of new taxonomic information that the two former species and the Gila chub are a single species (identified as the roundtail chub). (Conducting section 7 consultation and ongoing recovery efforts for Gila chub – a taxon that is no longer recognized – is problematic.) FWS is initiating a status assessment of the now larger taxon of roundtail chub throughout its five-state range. Objections from some taxonomists, desert fishes professionals and environmental groups are anticipated. Communications planning is under development. (Delisting: R2-Southwest Region. SSA: Regions 2 and 6.)

UPDATED: Mexican Wolf Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision (draft recovery plan). The comment period for the draft revision of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan closed August 29. FWS estimates receiving more than 9,400 comments. On August 23, the New Mexico State Game Commission (NMSGC) voted to support the recovery plan (6 to 1). The Arizona Game and Fish Department is seeking clarification on the role the States will play in recovery and release of wolves. Public meetings were held at the following dates and locations: July18, Flagstaff, Arizona (120 people); July 19, Pinetop, Arizona (45 people); July 20, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico (130 people); and July 22, in Albuquerque, New Mexico (80 People). Each event had about 30 to 40 demonstrators in front of the meeting location. Paul Kienzle, Chairman, NMSGC presented a comment on his personal standing saying he supported the intent of the recovery plan and looked forward to working together. Meetings saw mixed support in favor and against recovery efforts. During the public comment period, FWS will continue seeking review and comment on the peer-reviewed draft revision from local, State, and Federal agencies; Tribes; and the public, in both the United States and Mexico. Due to the high level of visibility and controversy on Mexican wolf recovery in general, extensive outreach is on-going, including personal phone calls, email reminders, public meetings and updated web postings. Follow up briefings after the comment period closes are being planned. FWS anticipates the final plan will be completed by the end of November. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: American Burying Beetle Species Status Assessment and 12-month finding – FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the American Burying Beetle (ABB) will be completed prior to the issuance of a 12-month finding which is expected at the end of 2017. In June 2015, FWS initiated the SSA to support future conservation decisions and recovery planning for the ABB under the Endangered Species Act. FWS is using the SSA to evaluate all available information related to the current and potential threats to the species. The SSA was peer reviewed. State fish and game agencies and affected Tribes within the current ABB range reviewed the document following review of the formal peer review process. On February 22, 2017, the American Stewards of Liberty and the Independent Petroleum Association of America filed a Notice of Intent based on FWS' failure to make a 12-month finding on the petition to delist the ABB. (R2, R3, R4, R5 & R6)

REPEAT: In late October, FWS will publish a 12-month finding on the listing status of the southwestern willow flycatcher. Pacific Legal Foundation petitioned FWS to delist the flycatcher

and in March 2016 we published a 90-day finding that the petition included substantial information, primarily regarding the subspecies' taxonomy. Upon robust consideration of the petition and the flycatchers' classification, the Southwest Region is completing a 12-month finding that delisting of the southwestern willow flycatcher is not warranted. Outreach is being planned – including a news release and Congressional notifications via email. Interest expected to be moderate. No controversy anticipated. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement – This Fall, FWS expects to announce the approval of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) enhancement of survival permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act, as well as the 30-year Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) for the Houston toad between TPWD and FWS. The agreement will cover voluntary activities to restore, maintain, enhance, or create habitat for the endangered Houston toad in the following nine Texas counties: Austin, Bastrop, Burleson, Colorado, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Milam and Robertson. Congressional interest from Rep McCaul (R TX Dist10) based on impacts from 2011 Bastrop fire. A conference call was held with Rep McCaul's Office to provide an update on the SHA in late July. A site visit is tentatively being planned to occur in September. Outreach planned – Congressional notification via email, a news release will be issued and posts will be made on the web and through Social media. (No FRN required). (R2 – Southwest Region)

Endangered Species Act Listing Actions

NEW: On August 28, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals "affirmed the district court's summary judgment in favor of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in an action brought by plaintiff environmental groups challenging the FWS's determination that the Sonoran Desert Area bald eagle was not a distinct population segment eligible for listing under the Endangered Species Act. In order to qualify as "distinct," the population segment must be both discrete and significant." In 2012, FWS determined that the Sonoran Desert Area bald eagle is a discrete population, but was not ecologically or biologically significant. Read the entire Opinion by Judge W. Fletcher at: http://cdn.ca9.uscourts.gov/datastore/opinions/2017/08/28/14-17513.pdf (R2 - Southwest Region)

NEW: FWS plans to remove the endangered Gila chub and its critical habitat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to taxonomic change. Gila chub was listed with critical habitat in Arizona in 2005. In April 2017, FWS withdrew a proposal to list the headwater and roundtail chubs as a result of new taxonomic information that the two former species and the Gila chub are a single species (identified as the roundtail chub). (Conducting section 7 consultation and ongoing recovery efforts for Gila chub – a taxon that is no longer recognized – is problematic.) Following proposing to delist the Gila chub, FWS will conduct a status assessment of the now larger taxon of roundtail chub throughout its five-state range. Objection from some taxonomists, desert fishes professionals and environmental groups is anticipated. Communications planning is under development. (Delisitng: R2-Southwest Region. SSA: Regions 2 and 6)

UPDATED: Lesser Prairie-Chicken Species Status Assessment – FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC) will be completed by the end of the calendar year. FWS began work on a Species Status Assessment in the spring of 2015, prior

to the court ruling that vacated the listing of the LPC and the petition to relist the species. USGS, through its Open File Report (OFR), made available the population model it prepared for FWS. The population model represents one component of the SSA and will be considered alongside of all other available information. On August 25, the draft SSA report was sent to an external Working Group (biologists from the 5 states, WAFWA, NRCS, and academics) that FWS has been coordinating with throughout development of the SSA. The following week, August 28, the draft report will be sent out for external, independent scientific peer review through a third-party contractor. The goal of the SSA is to have the best available science to inform future Endangered Species Act decisions and conservation actions related to the lesser prairie-chicken. (R2 Southwest Region & R6 Mountain-Prairie Region)

REPEAT: Guadalupe fescue final listing and critical habitat determinations: In September the FWS will publish a final listing and critical habitat determination for Guadalupe fescue. On September 9, 2016, the FWS published a proposal to list Guadalupe fescue as an endangered species and designate critical habitat. The plant occurs entirely in Big Bend National Park, Brewster County, Texas. We received no requests for a public hearing and we received no substantive public comments after two public comment periods. The final rule will list Guadalupe fescue as endangered and designate approximately 7,815 acres of critical habitat. Outreach is planned including the distribution of a news release and FAQ, as well as posts on the web and social media. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: In September – FWS anticipates sending to the *Federal Register* 12-month findings on petitions including one to list the San Felipe gambusia, a Texas fish. (R4 – Southeast Region, R2 – Southwest Region (lead)

REPEAT: FWS anticipates publishing a final determination on the proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as endangered under the Endangered Species Act on or before September 21. The Sonoyta mud turtle occurs in the U.S. only at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in southern Arizona, and four locations in the Rio Sonoyta basin in Sonora Mexico. Controversy level is low. A communications strategy news release and set of FAQs are completed. (R2 – Southwest)

Other Ecological Services Items of Note

NEW: FWS Partners with Steve Harvey Foundation, Texas – In late September or early October, the FWS Arlington Ecological Services Field Office will partner with the Steve Harvey Foundation and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to take a group of young Dallas boys fishing at a local pond. Over the last five years, the FWS and the Steve Harvey Foundation have partnered on a number of events aimed at getting inner city youth engaged in outdoor experiences. Supportive Stakeholders include The Steve Harvey Foundation, hunting and fishing community, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Leander Independent School District (LISD) ITP – In the coming weeks, FWS will announce in the *Federal Register* a Notice of Intent to prepare a draft National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Assessment on the proposed construction of a secondary access road at the joint Vandegrift High School and Four Points Middle School campus in northwest Travis County, Texas. Recently LISD submitted a draft habitat conservation plan and incidental take permit (ITP). The HCP and ITP, if issued by FWS, will provide the applicant

with compliance under the Endangered Species Act for activities including the construction, use and maintenance activities associated with a proposed secondary access road. A meeting with the applicant is taking place on September 13. Local interest is anticipated. Of significant Congressional interest. Outreach, including issuing a news bulletin, will occur at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Texas Hornshell Candidate Conservation Agreement and two Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances – FWS announced consideration of a draft Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA), draft Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAAs), and draft environmental assessment for the Texas hornshell (proposed for listing) and other covered species (Rio Grande River cooter, gray redhorse, blue sucker and Pecos springsnail), and an enhancement of survival permit application under the Endangered Species Act submitted by the Center of Excellence and New Mexico State Land Office on July 6. The covered area would include portions of Eddy County, New Mexico, and Culberson County, Texas. The CCA, CCAAs, and the associated section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permits will have duration of 30 years. FWS's New Mexico Ecological Field Office has been working for several years with the applicants to develop the CCAAs on non-Federal lands; and the Bureau of Land Management to develop the CCA on Federal lands. (The proposed listing of the Texas hornshell may be controversial in both Texas and southern New Mexico. A six month extension on the final listing determination was published on August 10, 2017.) A news release and FAQs were distributed to the states, partners, congressional staff and media and the notice was published in the *Federal Register* on July 6. Substantial local stakeholder outreach has been conducted for CCA / CCAAs. A decision on the CCA / CCAAs is anticipated before September 15, 2017. A news release and FAQs will be shared with the states, partners, congressional staff and media. A *Federal Register* notice is not published with the final CCA/As. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Delaware River (TX/NM) Spill - On August 1, FWS was notified that there was a ruptured pipeline that spilled approximately 18,000 barrels of produced water mixed with some oil into the Delaware River. The spill occurred in Texas upstream of where the Delaware flows into New Mexico. The company, Cimarex, sent out cleanup crews that deployed booms. A large pulse of chlorides was released into the river, but most of the oil was contained at the spill site. No sign of oil has reached the occupied site for the Texas hornshell (proposed endangered), though produced water with high chlorides did flow through that site. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) reported that 155 fish were killed in the event, near the spill. FWS and New Mexico Game and Fish are not planning to survey for Texas hornshell until water quality tests confirm that it is safe to do so. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Bone Cave Harvestman Species Status Assessment – FWS Austin Ecological Services Office completed a draft species status assessment for the Bone Cave harvestman. The assessment will be sent out for external, independent scientific peer review in the coming weeks. Concurrently with peer review of the species status assessment, FWS will host representatives from the City of Austin, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Travis County, and Williamson County to detail the methodology used to analyze ecological conditions at sites occupied by the Bone Cave harvestman. Comments and information provided by the peer review and site analysis meeting will be incorporated into the species status assessment. The final

species status assessment will inform a 5-year review to be completed for the Bone Cave harvestman in fiscal year 2018. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Villages at Vigneto Development Endangered Species Act Consultation [Arizona] – FWS Arizona Ecological Services is undergoing ESA section 7 consultation with Army Corps of Engineers regarding a planned 12,200-acre, 28,000-home development near the San Pedro River in southern Arizona and a 141-acre off-site mitigation project on the river. The FWS and Corps continue to disagree on the scope of effects (which the Corps insists includes only the fill of WOTUS and limited indirect impacts; we and our counsel believe the ESA regulations' require consultation on all areas to be directly and indirectly affected by the action, including interdependent and interrelated actions (including water use)). The applicant's counsel agrees with the Corps' position and the Corps is considering elevating the issue. Six-plaintiff litigation filed against the Corps on this project/issue is pending. Local and regional media have covered the story; if the consultation on the project is elevated at a policy level, national media interest is anticipated. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: In early October – FWS anticipates publishing a notice announcing the receipt of application and consideration of an amendment to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and permit to add the recently listed Mexican gartersnake.

REPEAT: Lesser Prairie-Chicken (LPC) Aerial Survey - FWS expects to formally receive the official results of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) aerial surveys for the LPC in the near future. WAFWA issued a news release on June 29, 2017, publically announcing the results of the survey. The announcement confirms an increase in the range-wide population estimate due to favorable precipitation patterns over the past few years across the Great Plains. WAFWA noted LPC population increase/decreases are very closely tied to precipitation patterns across the Great Plains, and stated there may be a fluctuation in numbers from year to year. FWS also recognizes the importance of continuing annual reviews to examine long-term population trends and gain an accurate population assessment of the LPC. (R2-Southwest Region and R6- Mountain Prairie Region)

REPEAT: FWS anticipates publishing two notices announcing the receipt and consideration of applications for permits under the approved Industry Conservation Plan for American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma. These applicants cover incidental take of American Burying Beetle for Oil and Gas development, extraction, and transport within the species range in eastern Oklahoma. This conservation plan reduces the time in acquiring an incidental take permit. With the 30 day public review, some permits may take longer (up to 105 days). These notices are published in the *Federal Register* on regular basis as companies apply for incidental take coverage under this conservation plan. (R2 Southwest Region)

REPEAT: San Antonio HCP, Texas – FWS anticipates publishing a Notice of Availability in early September a draft Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit request from the San Antonio Water Systems for the incidental take of five federally-listed karst invertebrates (collectively the Covered Karst Invertebrates): Madla's Cave meshweaver; Robber Baron Cave meshweaver; Braken Bat Cave meshweaver; and two species of ground beetles with no common names (Rhadine infernalis and Rhadine exilis). The Covered Karst Invertebrates are associated

with the construction of two water pipelines in Bexar County, Texas. Once issued, the permit would be in place for 15 years. Controversy anticipated being low. Minimal outreach, including issuing a news bulletin locally is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. Congressional Offices will be notified via email, a news release will be issued as well as web postings. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Black-capped vireo draft Post-delisting Monitoring Plan – FWS anticipates publishing a draft post-delisting monitoring plan (PDMP) for the black-capped vireo for public review this summer (August). The draft PDMP has been developed in coordination with partners and will guide how the species population is monitored for a minimum of five years if it is delisted. The plan will describe monitoring methods, reporting procedures and agency responsibilities. Multiple monitoring strategies will be used in order to assure that population trends and habitat status will be captured at various time periods and scales, respectively. The final delisting determination will likely occur in December 2017. Outreach, including issuing a news release locally and posting information on social media is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2-Southwest)

National Wildlife Refuge Actions

NEW: See Hurricane Harvey information above.

UPDATED: FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge EA Signed on August 30 – On July 18, FWS made a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for FWS Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in Albuquerque, New Mexico, available for public review for 30 days. FWS held a public meeting on August 2, to provide interested parties an opportunity to learn more about the EA. More than 100 people attended the meeting, including staffers from Senators Udall (D NM), Heinrich (D NM) and Rep Michelle Lujan-Grisham (D NM Dist. 1). The majority of comments heard are in favor of the EA. Prior to releasing the draft, FWS consulted with vested partners to develop the draft EA, including Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) and the Federal Aviation Administration. As the urban refuge is in close proximity to the base's flight path, KAFB had concerns associated with potential aircraft bird strikes. Of primary concern was related to the habitat restoration plans for seasonal wetlands. KAFB believes wetlands may attract large-bodied birds (geese, cranes and ducks) to travel in flight patterns. FWS intends to continue coordinating with the Federal Aviation Administration and KAFB throughout this process to minimize concerns of wildlife hazards (aircraft bird strikes). On July 13, FWS met with Kirtland to discuss final edits to the draft before making it available to the public. Advance notifications made to Senators Heinrich (D NM) and Udall (D NM) and to Rep. Michelle Lujan-Grisham. A news release was issued to the media and posted online. Bulletins and fliers are posted and shared with partners and the Friends group. The public comment closed August 18 and the EA was signed on August 30. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS participating in the annual Oklahoma Wildlife Expo September 23-24. The Expo celebrates Oklahoma's natural diversity and opportunities for the sporting enthusiasts and newcomers. From camping and outdoor skills to shooting sports, fishing and bird watching, Expo visitors have an opportunity to try their hands at two days of fun in the outdoors. Held annually in Guthrie, Oklahoma, the event is hosted by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. Other partners include all FWS Oklahoma national wildlife refuges, National Wild

Turkey Federation, Quail Forever/Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, Friends of the Wichitas, and numerous other partners. More than 42,000 participants are expected to attend this event. Learn more at: https://www.wildlifedepartment.com/expo (R2 - Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS was invited by the City of Brownsville, Texas to participate in an Eco Tourism media and legislative tour in Hidalgo and Cameron counties on September 19. The City is seeking inclusion of the FWS Bahia Grande Unit (Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge) as part of the tour. The City has inviting all the area State Reps/Senators and Rep Filemon Vela (D TX Dist 34). The tour is proposed to begin in Harlingen (Mckelvey Park), with a stop at Rio Hondo (Kayak and Arroyo Trail opportunities), before proceeding to Laguna Vista. The next proposed stop is of the FWS Bahia Grande Unit. The tour concludes at Palo Alto. The objective is to discuss how the "Active Plan and Active Tourism" play a role in each community. Background information on Bahia Grande Unit: In the year 2000, FWS Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge acquired the 21,700-acre Bahia Grande Unit located between the towns of Laguna Vista and Brownsville, Texas. Almost half of the unit is wetlands, including the 6,500 acre Bahia Grande basin for which the tract of land was named. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Expanded Hunting Opportunities in Oklahoma - This week, FWS's Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge near Vian, Oklahoma is proposing to expand public hunting opportunities on the Refuge through a new "Big Game, Upland Game, and Feral Hog Hunting Plan." Currently, the Refuge conducts white-tailed deer hunts through the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation's controlled hunt program. The Hunt Plan proposes an additional 8,029 acres of the Refuge be opened to these deer hunts. The Refuge also currently offers rabbit and squirrel hunting (upland game). The Hunt Plan proposes an additional 1,193 acres of the Refuge be opened to upland game hunting. Lastly, it proposes hunters participating in big game hunting and upland game hunting be allowed incidental take of feral hogs (no bag limit). The proposal is now available for a 30 day public review and comment in the Federal Register. Stakeholders include the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, local, regional, and national hunting community. Not expected to be controversial. The comment period ends September 11. Potentially of Congressional interest to entire Oklahoma delegation (Senators Inhofe (R) and Lankford (R)).

Border-Related Activities

REPEAT: On August 9, 2017, FWS met with representatives of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to consider the potential for locating rescue beacons to a remote area of the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge. This is an area where more than a dozen human remains of illegal border crossers have been recovered over the past several years. The presence of rescue beacons – a prefabricated 4 X 4 ft. concrete base on which a 20 ft. tall steel pole, topped with a blue light visible for 10 miles, is bolted and powered by a solar panel – will allow individuals to press a button and be rescued by CBP within an hour. While the affected area is located within designated wilderness, the improved efficiency and effectiveness of search and rescue operations and subsequent reduction in deaths is expected to not only have a significant life-savings affect, but would reduce impacts to designated wilderness. The agencies anticipate having a final decision within the next 30 to 60 days. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Suppling water to USACE – FWS is currently in discussions with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regarding access to water from a

FWS-owned well on the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge for a Baboquivari Road Repair Project scheduled to begin in January 2018. Part of the project will require transporting water from the refuge to the Sasabe Forward Operating Base (FOB) to sustain approximately 60 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) members, who will reside at the FOB throughout the construction phase of the project. CBP plans to inspect the FWS-owned well and upgrade / replace pump and water delivery components to facilitate optimum functionality during the project's period of performance. This will ensure both the CBP national security mission and FWS objectives are met. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Road Construction - On March 20, FWS was contacted by the U.S. Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO) to coordinate an upcoming road construction project for a 5.9-mile portion of the Presumido Canyon Road through the Baboquivari Mountains, scheduled to begin in January 2018. The project will require water for the construction, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will perform maintenance of an FWS pump and water well in return for increased use of the FWS-owned well. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Communication Towers - On April 18, FWS and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) discussed advance planning for Block-1 Replacement (B1R) of existing infrastructure with integrated fixed towers located on and adjacent to the Buenos Aries National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona. A total of two communication towers and four surveillance towers on the refuge would be affected, with the goal of upgrading technology and providing a more robust foundation – all within the original impact areas. Work is proposed to begin in January 2018 dependent upon completion of planning, engineering, and permitting. Follow-up conversations with FWS have occurred to determine the necessary special use permitting process. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Fish and Aquatic Conservation

REPEAT: FWS San Marcos Aquatic Resource Center will host a kids fishing day on October 21 in Texas.

Migratory Birds

Nothing significant to report.

Science Applications

Nothing significant to report

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration

Nothing significant to report.

Tribal Consultation

REPEAT: Inter-Tribal Wildlife Summits - FWS is planning to host two Tribal Wildlife Summits, one in Arizona (October 3-5) and in New Mexico (November 7-9). These summits will include aspects of all FWS Divisions, including the Endangered Species Act, with a portion of the summit devoted to law enforcement training to assist Tribal Game Wardens and other Tribal agents. International Game Warden magazine, Spring 2017, published a story on the FWS law enforcement training for Native American conservation officers. (R2 – Southwest Region)

From:	Tincher, Chris
To:	Charisa Morris; Matthew Trott
Cc:	Gavin Shire; Chris Tollefson; Alyssa Hausman; Laury Parramore; Joy Nicholopoulos; Keenan Adams; Brian Hires; Marian Howe
Subject:	R2 - Southwest Region Weekly Report Submission - September 21, 2017
Date:	Thursday, September 7, 2017 4:30:36 PM
Attachments:	FWS R2 Weekly Report FishBites 21September2017.docx

Dear all,
Please see attached the Southwest Region's contributions for FishBites, Media Contacts and the Weekly Report. We now have a website dedicated to housing updated information on Hurricane Harvey. Information on the website along with a brief summary of current status is included in the attached file. Also included is a highlight on an exceptional app pulled together by our Refuges Division of Biological Sciences to gain accurate information on impacts from the tropical storms in Texas and now in Florida. A larger story is being written on this effort and will be available soon.

Please let me know if you need additional information or if you have any questions.

Best,
Chris

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Through September 21, 2017

FishBites Report

FWS has an App for that – Data Captured in Real Time Enables Ability to Assess Damage from Tropical Storms

- **Topic**: Getting a full understanding of the damage caused by Hurricane Harvey and the aftermath of floodwaters quickly and accurately is critical. Through a bit of ingenuity, FWS staff developed an app for data collection that can easily be used on location through a smart device. No additional equipment on the ground is required. This amazing tool was used by the incident team and provided critical real-time information to others for immediate access and analyzing. Learning about the app created and used in the Southwest Region (R2), the Southeast Region (R4) asked for assistance in assessing potential impacts from Hurricane Irma. In less than 24 hours, dedicated R2 staff established an R4 Rapid Hurricane Assessment Group, an operations dashboard and created a blank feature service that is ready for data collection by a smart device. As early as September 6, the incident command team was able to obtain assets data.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** National support anticipated, including full support from Congressional Members, other federal and state agencies, and partners as well as local community and many others
- **Impacted Locations:** Coastal Texas and Florida

Hawaiian Hawk Hatched at Comanche Nation Aviary Turns One

- **Topic**: Just over a year old now, "Wahine" (Hawaiian for "little girl") is the first-ever female Hawaiian Hawk to be hatched in captivity. The Hawaiian Hawk is an endangered species and native only to its namesake state. Wahine's parents were among several pairs brought to the mainland from Hawaii in 1997, to breed in captivity. They are the last of the captive adults and arrived at the Sia' Comanche aviary, in Oklahoma, in 2015. Studying these rare captive hawks advances our scientific knowledge, and may also benefit the species in the wild, long-term. Sia' is one of six Tribal Eagle Aviaries in the Southwest Region and the first Tribal Non-Eagle Feather Repository in the United States. The Comanche Nation aviary and Sia' are authorized under the Migratory Bird Act, administered by the FWS. (Note photo is copyright protected and will require consent for external use.) Read the rest of the story in the Birding Wire at: http://www.birdingwire.com/features/232017\
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Comanche Nation and Sia', Federally-recognized Tribes whose members can obtain feathers and bird parts for religious purposes via the non-eagle feather repository at Sia' in Oklahoma (or a second repository, Liberty Wildlife, in Arizona). Oklahoma Delegation and others, including partners involved in avian rescue operations, permitted falconers and zoos.
- **Impacted Locations:** Sia' Comanche aviary and non-eagle feather repository are located in Oklahoma. Both help meet FWS' Trust responsibilities across the Nation.

FWS Partners with Steve Harvey Foundation to Take Urban Youth Fishing, Texas

- **Topic**: In a nod to hunting and fishing day, the FWS Arlington Ecological Services Field Office will partner with the Steve Harvey Foundation and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to take a group of young Dallas boys fishing at a local pond on September 30. For the last five years, the FWS has partnered with the Steve Harvey Foundation on a number of events aimed at getting inner city youth engaged in outdoor experiences.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** The Steve Harvey Foundation, hunting and fishing community, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- **Impacted Location:** Local urban area in Texas (R2 – Southwest Region)

FWS and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Private Landowners Celebrate Safe Harbor Agreement

- **Topic**: FWS values working together with partners to achieve conservation success. On Wednesday, October 4, 2017, FWS and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, alongside private landowners are holding a celebratory signing event on private land in Bastrop County, Texas (near Austin, Texas). The event is in recognition of the signing of the Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement. The Houston toad is one of Texas' most critically endangered species. The programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement provides an efficient and streamlined voluntary tool for landowners interested in participating in Houston toad conservation actions.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Bastrop County, Texas, private landowners, Houston Zoo and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- **Impacted Locations:** Bastrop County, Texas

Media Contact Report

Title/Issue	Anticipated Publication Date	Current Status
60 Minutes Zoo breeding program (Wolf)	Filming done in June. Expected to air soon.	60 minutes is preparing to air a segment on breeding programs in zoos in the near future. Filming and interviews were completed in June 2017. The Mexican wolf recovery program was featured during one interview as a good example of how zoos help recovery of species. The film crew captured video of pups born in captivity that were later part of a cross-fostering effort. FWS was contacted for background information.
CBS News Jaguar	Ca 9/21	CBS SF Bureau is in early investigation of jaguar sightings and subject matter experts for background on camera interviews in Arizona and Mexico
Santa Fe New Mexican Wolf	Sept. 7	Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan – article with State Legislature comments http://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local_news/new-mexico-dems-call-federal-government-s-wolf-recovery-plan/article_b0f9d90b-9cef-56f0-9c2e-9d4c62013ffd.html

Popular Science Magazine Whooping cranes	Possibly October or November	Freelance science journalist of the Popular Science monthly publication contacted FWS with an inquiry on migrating population of whooping cranes. Based on hurricane impacts, will whooping cranes return to the Aransas Natural Wildlife Refuge in October? No changes in the crane's wintering migration are expected to occur.

Weekly Report

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

September 13 – FWS meeting with Leander School District (HCP applicant) regarding a proposal for secondary access through a preserve. See ES Items of note for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 20 – FWS meeting with the National Forest Owners Association in proactive approach to advance the conservation of at-risk species on forest lands in eastern Texas and southeastern Oklahoma. See ES Items of Note for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 22 – FWS contacted by Border Patrol requesting a joint meeting with Deputy Commissioner Vitiello at the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 23 - Hunting / Fishing Day Celebration - FWS Participates in Grand Opening of Cabela's in Albuquerque, New Mexico. See WSFR below for details. (R2 – Southwest Region

Hot Topics - Week Ahead Announcements and Actions

Hurricane Impacts in Texas - Numerous Service facilities and lands were in the path of the storm or are predicted to be in coming days, and remain closed at this time. A brief summary of impacts from Hurricane Harvey can be found under Refuges. More updates are posted on the FWS Southwest webpage at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/hurricaneinfo/index.htmnews

September 23 is National Hunting and Fishing Day – See table at the end of report for a list of connecting with nature events taking place in the Southwest.

FWS plans to remove the endangered Gila chub and its critical habitat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to taxonomic change in the coming weeks. See ESA Recovery Actions for details. (Delisting: R2-Southwest Region. SSA: Regions 2 and 6.)

September 7 – FWS received the final results of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) aerial surveys for the lesser prairie chicken. (R2 – Southwest Region)

On or before September 21 - FWS anticipates publishing a final determination on the proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Upcoming Workshops & Meetings

September 18-22 – FWS, the U.S. Forest Service and Arizona Game and Fish Department are conducting the annual census of the Mount Graham red squirrel. See more in previous reports. (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 19 – FWS was invited by the City of Brownsville, Texas to participate in an Eco Tourism media and legislative tour in Hidalgo and Cameron counties. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 23-24 – FWS participating in the annual Oklahoma Wildlife Expo in Oklahoma. See details under Refuges. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Endangered Species Act Recovery Actions

UPDATED: FWS joined the Forest Service and grazing permittee in a tour of a Lincoln National Forest grazing allotment following a request by Robert MacGregor, Legislative Assistant with the Office of Rep Pearce (R NM Dist 2), to discuss New Mexico Meadow jumping mouse. Rep Pearce is seeking resolution to the concerns of the permittee that will also meet the needs of species and its critical habitat. A follow up call with information from a biological opinion is tentatively planned to occur in early September. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Mexican Wolf Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision (draft recovery plan). The comment period for the draft revision of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan closed August 29. FWS estimates receiving more than **92,000 comments**, this number includes signed petitions. On August 23, the New Mexico State Game Commission (NMSGC) voted to support the recovery plan (6 to 1). The Arizona Game and Fish Department is seeking clarification on the role the States will play in recovery and release of wolves. During the public comment period, FWS will continue seeking review and comment on the peer-reviewed draft revision from local, State, and Federal agencies; Tribes; and the public, in both the United States and Mexico. Due to the high level of visibility and controversy on Mexican wolf recovery in general, extensive outreach is on-going, including personal phone calls, email reminders, public meetings and updated web postings. Follow up briefings are being planned. FWS is under a Court settlement agreement to complete the final plan by November 11, 2017. Representative Pearce sent a letter to FWS regarding the recovery plan on September 6, 2017 and an article expressing concerns about the wolf population being able to thrive by members within the New Mexico State legislature was published on September 7, 2017. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: American Burying Beetle Species Status Assessment and 12-month finding – FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the American Burying Beetle (ABB) will be completed prior to the issuance of a 12-month finding which is expected at the end of 2017. In June 2015, FWS initiated the SSA to support future conservation decisions and recovery planning for the ABB under the Endangered Species Act. FWS is using the SSA to evaluate all available information related to the current and potential threats to the species. The SSA was peer reviewed. State fish and game agencies and affected Tribes within the current ABB range reviewed the document following review of the formal peer review process. On February 22, 2017, the American Stewards of Liberty and the Independent Petroleum Association of America

filed a Notice of Intent based on FWS' failure to make a 12-month finding on the petition to delist the ABB. (R2, R3, R4, R5 & R6)

REPEAT: In late October, FWS will publish a 12-month finding on the listing status of the southwestern willow flycatcher. Pacific Legal Foundation petitioned FWS to delist the flycatcher and in March 2016 we published a 90-day finding that the petition included substantial information, primarily regarding the subspecies' taxonomy. Upon robust consideration of the petition and the flycatchers' classification, the Southwest Region is completing a 12-month finding that delisting of the southwestern willow flycatcher is not warranted. Outreach is being planned – including a news release and Congressional notifications via email. Interest expected to be moderate. No controversy anticipated. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement – This Fall, FWS expects to announce the approval of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) enhancement of survival permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act, as well as the 30-year Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) for the Houston toad between TPWD and FWS. The agreement will cover voluntary activities to restore, maintain, enhance, or create habitat for the endangered Houston toad in the following nine Texas counties: Austin, Bastrop, Burleson, Colorado, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Milam and Robertson. Congressional interest from Rep McCaul (R TX Dist10) based on impacts from 2011 Bastrop fire. A conference call was held with Rep McCaul's Office to provide an update on the SHA in late July. A site visit is tentatively being planned to occur in September. Outreach planned – Congressional notification via email, a news release will be issued and posts will be made on the web and through Social media. (No FRN required). (R2 – Southwest Region)

Endangered Species Act Listing Actions

UPDATED: Lesser Prairie-Chicken Species Status Assessment – FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC) will be completed by the end of the calendar year. FWS began work on a Species Status Assessment in the spring of 2015, prior to the court ruling that vacated the listing of the LPC and the petition to relist the species. USGS, through its Open File Report (OFR), made available the population model it prepared for FWS. The population model represents one component of the SSA and will be considered alongside of all other available information. On August 25, the draft SSA report was sent to an external Working Group (biologists from the 5 states, WAFWA, NRCS, and academics) that FWS has been coordinating with throughout development of the SSA. On August 29, the draft report was sent out for external, independent scientific peer review through a third-party contractor. Comments are due back on October 10, 2017. The goal of the SSA is to have the best available science to inform future Endangered Species Act decisions and conservation actions related to the lesser prairie-chicken. (R2 Southwest Region & R6 Mountain-Prairie Region)

UPDATED: Guadalupe fescue final listing and critical habitat determinations: On September 8, FWS published a final listing and critical habitat determination for Guadalupe fescue. On September 9, 2016, the FWS published a proposal to list Guadalupe fescue as an endangered species and designate critical habitat. The plant occurs entirely in Big Bend National Park, Brewster County, Texas. We received no requests for a public hearing and we received no substantive public comments after two public comment periods. The final rule will list

Guadalupe fescue as endangered and designate approximately 7,815 acres of critical habitat. Outreach included the distribution of a news release and FAQ, as well as posts on the web and social media. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: DELISTING - FWS plans to remove the endangered Gila chub and its critical habitat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to taxonomic change. Gila chub was listed with critical habitat in Arizona in 2005. In April 2017, FWS withdrew a proposal to list the headwater and roundtail chubs as a result of new taxonomic information that the two former species and the Gila chub are a single species (identified as the roundtail chub). (Conducting section 7 consultation and ongoing recovery efforts for Gila chub – a taxon that is no longer recognized – is problematic.) Following proposing to delist the Gila chub, FWS will conduct a status assessment of the now larger taxon of roundtail chub throughout its five-state range. Objection from some taxonomists, desert fishes professionals and environmental groups is anticipated. Communications planning is under development. (Delisitng: R2-Southwest Region. SSA: Regions 2 and 6)

REPEAT: In September – FWS anticipates sending to the *Federal Register* 12-month findings on petitions including one to list the San Felipe gambusia, a Texas fish. (R4 – Southeast Region, R2 – Southwest Region (lead)

REPEAT: FWS anticipates publishing a final determination on the proposal to list the Sonoyta mud turtle as endangered under the Endangered Species Act on or before September 21. The Sonoyta mud turtle occurs in the U.S. only at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in southern Arizona, and four locations in the Rio Sonoyta basin in Sonora Mexico. Controversy level is low. A communications strategy news release and set of FAQs are completed. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Other Ecological Services Items of Note

NEW: Proactive Initiative with National Alliance of Forest Owners Member Companies Kick Off Meeting. On Wednesday, September 20, the National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife, and the Texas Comptrollers Office are hosting a kick off meeting with support from member companies of NAFO to advance the conservation of at-risk species on forest lands in eastern Texas and southeastern Oklahoma. National Alliance of Forest Owners, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Comptrollers Office, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife, and Oklahoma Department of Transportation. Southeastern Oklahoma and East Texas (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: FWS Partners with Steve Harvey Foundation, Texas to Take Urban Youth Fishing – On September 30, the FWS Arlington Ecological Services Field Office will partner with the Steve Harvey Foundation and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to take a group of young Dallas boys fishing at a local pond. Over the last five years, the FWS and the Steve Harvey Foundation have partnered on a number of events aimed at getting inner city youth engaged in outdoor experiences. Supportive Stakeholders include The Steve Harvey Foundation, hunting and fishing community, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: The now-extinguished Frye Fire encompassed approximately 48,301 acres of Mt. Graham in the Pinaleño Mountains, Coronado National Forest (CNF), in southeastern Arizona. Burn-severity mapping indicates the majority of the fire was of low severity; however, two areas known for their relatively high Mount Graham Red Squirrel (MGRS) densities burned at high severity. (The MGRS occurs only on (is endemic to) this sky island mountain. The MGRS population was estimated to be only 252 animals in Fall 2016.) A total of 78% of the MGRS's occupied range is within the Frye Fire perimeter, with another 18% within the 2004 Nuttall-Gibson Fire perimeter. Access is currently limited due to flooding, washouts, and debris flows on the road, so reconnaissance is difficult. The Arizona Ecological Services Field Office and partners gain access for an initial reconnaissance of the fire's effects on MGRS. Sept. 18-22 FWS, CNF and Arizona Game and Fish Department are conducting the annual census of the Mount Graham red squirrel and their winter-store food middens. Forest Service is developing a Biological Assessment of their fire response efforts to conduct an emergency section 7 consultation. Significant resources will likely be required to move forward with the subspecies' conservation and recovery. (Information submitted in previous reports.) (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Texas Hornshell Candidate Conservation Agreement and two Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances – FWS announced on July 6, consideration of a draft Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA), draft Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAAs), and draft environmental assessment for the Texas hornshell (proposed for listing) and other covered species (Rio Grande River cooter, gray redhorse, blue sucker and Pecos springsnail), and an enhancement of survival permit application under the Endangered Species Act submitted by the Center of Excellence and New Mexico State Land Office on July 6. The covered area would include portions of Eddy County, New Mexico, and Culberson County, Texas. The CCA, CCAAs, and the associated section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permits will have duration of 30 years. FWS's New Mexico Ecological Field Office has been working for several years with the applicants to develop the CCAAs on non-Federal lands; and the Bureau of Land Management to develop the CCA on Federal lands. (The proposed listing of the Texas hornshell may be controversial in both Texas and southern New Mexico. A six month extension on the final listing determination was published on August 10, 2017.) Substantial local stakeholder outreach has been conducted for CCA / CCAAs. A decision on the CCA / CCAAs is anticipated before September 22, 2017. A news release and FAQs will be shared with the states, partners, congressional staff and media. A *Federal Register* notice is not published with the final CCA/As. (R2-Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Lesser Prairie-Chicken (LPC) Aerial Survey – FWS received the official results of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) aerial surveys for the LPC on September 7. The results of the survey confirm an increase in the range-wide population estimate due to favorable precipitation patterns over the past few years across the Great Plains. WAFWA noted LPC population increase/decreases are very closely tied to precipitation patterns across the Great Plains, and stated there may be a fluctuation in numbers from year to year. FWS also recognizes the importance of continuing annual reviews to examine long-term population trends and gain an accurate population assessment of the LPC. (R2-Southwest Region and R6- Mountain Prairie Region)

UPDATED: American Burying Beetle ICP – FWS published a notice on September 5, to open a 30-day comment period on incidental take permit applications for Plains All American Pipeline, L.P. and Reach Energy Limited under the approved Industry Conservation Plan for American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma. These permit applications are to cover incidental take of American Burying Beetle for Oil and Gas development, extraction, and transport within the species range in eastern Oklahoma. This conservation plan reduces the time in acquiring an incidental take permit. The comment period closes on October 5, 2017. FWS anticipates making a permit decision within 60 days, but some permits may take longer (up to 105 days). FWS is drafting a notice for additional application for publication before the end of October. These notices are published in the *Federal Register* on regular basis as companies apply for incidental take coverage under this conservation plan. (R2 Southwest Region)

UPDATED: San Antonio HCP, Texas – FWS anticipates publishing a Notice of Availability in late September a draft Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit request from the San Antonio Water Systems for the incidental take of five federally-listed karst invertebrates (collectively the Covered Karst Invertebrates): Madla's Cave meshweaver; Robber Baron Cave meshweaver; Braken Bat Cave meshweaver; and two species of ground beetles with no common names (Rhadine infernalis and Rhadine exilis). The Covered Karst Invertebrates are associated with the construction of two water pipelines in Bexar County, Texas. Once issued, the permit would be in place for 15 years. Controversy anticipated being low. Minimal outreach, including issuing a news bulletin locally is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. Congressional Offices will be notified via email, a news release will be issued as well as web postings. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Leander Independent School District (LISD) ITP – In the coming weeks, FWS will announce in the *Federal Register* a Notice of Intent to prepare a draft National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Assessment on the proposed construction of a secondary access road at the joint Vandegrift High School and Four Points Middle School campus in northwest Travis County, Texas. Recently LISD submitted a draft habitat conservation plan and incidental take permit (ITP). The HCP and ITP, if issued by FWS, will provide the applicant with compliance under the Endangered Species Act for activities including the construction, use and maintenance activities associated with a proposed secondary access road. A meeting with the applicant is taking place on September 13. Local interest is anticipated in the outcome of this project. It is also of significant Congressional interest. Outreach, including issuing a news bulletin, will occur at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Bone Cave Harvestman Species Status Assessment – FWS Austin Ecological Services Office completed a draft species status assessment for the Bone Cave harvestman. The assessment will be sent out for external, independent scientific peer review in the coming weeks. Concurrently with peer review of the species status assessment, FWS will host representatives from the City of Austin, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Travis County, and Williamson County to detail the methodology used to analyze ecological conditions at sites occupied by the Bone Cave harvestman. Comments and information provided by the peer review and site analysis meeting will be incorporated into the species status assessment. The final species status assessment will inform a 5-year review to be completed for the Bone Cave harvestman in fiscal year 2018. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: In October – FWS anticipates publishing a notice announcing the receipt of application and consideration of an amendment to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and permit to add the recently listed Mexican gartersnake.

REPEAT: Black-capped vireo draft Post-delisting Monitoring Plan – FWS anticipates publishing a draft post-delisting monitoring plan (PDMP) for the black-capped vireo for public review this summer. The draft PDMP has been developed in coordination with partners and will guide how the species population is monitored for a minimum of five years if it is delisted. The plan will describe monitoring methods, reporting procedures and agency responsibilities. Multiple monitoring strategies will be used in order to assure that population trends and habitat status will be captured at various time periods and scales, respectively. The final delisting determination will likely occur in December 2017. Outreach, including issuing a news release locally and posting information on social media is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2-Southwest)

National Wildlife Refuge Actions

UPDATED: (Submitted as FishBite last week.) Hurricane Harvey - As the impacts from this storm event continue to unfold, public and staff safety remain the number one priority for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Numerous Service facilities and lands were in the path of the storm or are predicted to be in coming days, and remain closed at this time. Full Extent of Damage from Hurricane Harvey yet to be known. There is little relief at this point as the area continues to be hit with unprecedented rainfall. All FWS employees who work and live in the area are accounted for and safe. Many of these employees were evacuated (damage to their homes and full loss of personal belongings is not yet known). Damage assessments to FWS lands and facilities will be conducted once conditions are deemed safe. Currently the impacted areas are inaccessible. It is anticipated that access to these areas may not occur for up to two weeks. Hurricane Harvey made landfall late Friday, August 25, at Rockport, Texas as a *Category 4 hurricane*. Facilities and offices will remain closed until further notice. FWS will post updates and issue reopening notices when the areas are cleared. Recognizing the impacts of these tropical rains expand far beyond the resources managed by FWS, the agency is providing all possible support to the incident command team, and is prepared to deploy all available resources as needed to aid in rescue operations and recovery. The entire Nation has eyes on impacts from this natural disaster, Members of Congress, other federal and state agencies and many others. Greatly impacted southern Texas along the coast and other areas. More updates are posted on the FWS Southwest webpage at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/hurricaneinfo/index.htmnews
Currently closed facilities/offices include:

- Aransas National Wildlife Refuge (including Matagorda Island)
- Big Boggy National Wildlife Refuge
- San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge
- Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge
- Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge
- Moody National Wildlife Refuge
- McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge
- Texas Point National Wildlife Refuge
- Limited public access at Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge – Main Office open, all

refuge lands closed due to widespread flooding (see details below)
(R2 – Southwest Region)

NEW: FWS Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge Closed to Public Use due to flooding – FWS Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge will be closed to all public use until further notice due to impacts from widespread flooding in south Texas. The earliest anticipated date for the Refuge to re-open is September 15. Severe flooding at the FWS Champion Lake Public Use Area may be closed for an extended time due to damage to the levee and road culvert issues. Due to the flooding, FWS has extended the period for accepting hunt applications September 9. The National Public Lands Day cleanup event at Trinty River NWR has been cancelled. FWS has an office open in Liberty, Texas. High public use area of interest to recreationists, including hunting community, local community and Congressional Members in Southern Texas.

NEW: FWS Southwest Region Celebrates Refuge Week. See table at end of document with a list of upcoming public events. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS participating in the annual Oklahoma Wildlife Expo September 23-24. The Expo celebrates Oklahoma's natural diversity and opportunities for the sporting enthusiasts and newcomers. From camping and outdoor skills to shooting sports, fishing and bird watching, Expo visitors have an opportunity to try their hands at two days of fun in the outdoors. Held annually in Guthrie, Oklahoma, the event is hosted by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. Other partners include all FWS Oklahoma national wildlife refuges, National Wild Turkey Federation, Quail Forever/Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, Friends of the Wichitas, and numerous other partners. More than 42,000 participants are expected to attend this event. Learn more at: https://www.wildlifedepartment.com/expo (R2 - Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS was invited by the City of Brownsville, Texas to participate in an Eco Tourism media and legislative tour in Hidalgo and Cameron counties on September 19. The City is seeking inclusion of the FWS Bahia Grande Unit (Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge) as part of the tour. The City has inviting all the area State Reps/Senators and Rep Filemon Vela (D TX Dist 34). The tour is proposed to begin in Harlingen (Mckelvey Park), with a stop at Rio Hondo (Kayak and Arroyo Trail opportunities), before proceeding to Laguna Vista. The next proposed stop is of the FWS Bahia Grande Unit. The tour concludes at Palo Alto. The objective is to discuss how the "Active Plan and Active Tourism" play a role in each community. Background information on Bahia Grande Unit: In the year 2000, FWS Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge acquired the 21,700-acre Bahia Grande Unit located between the towns of Laguna Vista and Brownsville, Texas. Almost half of the unit is wetlands, including the 6,500 acre Bahia Grande basin for which the tract of land was named. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Border-Related Activities

REPEAT: On August 9, 2017, FWS met with representatives of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to consider the potential for locating rescue beacons to a remote area of the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge. This is an area where more than a dozen human remains of illegal border crossers have been recovered over the past several years. The presence of rescue beacons – a prefabricated 4 X 4 ft. concrete base on which a 20 ft. tall steel pole, topped with a blue light visible for 10 miles, is bolted and powered by a solar panel – will allow individuals to press a button and be rescued by CBP within an hour. While the affected area is

located within designated wilderness, the improved efficiency and effectiveness of search and rescue operations and subsequent reduction in deaths is expected to not only have a significant life-savings affect, but would reduce impacts to designated wilderness. The agencies anticipate having a final decision within the next 30 to 60 days. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Suppling water to USACE – FWS is currently in discussions with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regarding access to water from a FWS-owned well on the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge for a Baboquivari Road Repair Project scheduled to begin in January 2018. Part of the project will require transporting water from the refuge to the Sasabe Forward Operating Base (FOB) to sustain approximately 60 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) members, who will reside at the FOB throughout the construction phase of the project. CBP plans to inspect the FWS-owned well and upgrade / replace pump and water delivery components to facilitate optimum functionality during the project's period of performance. This will ensure both the CBP national security mission and FWS objectives are met. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Road Construction - On March 20, FWS was contacted by the U.S. Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO) to coordinate an upcoming road construction project for a 5.9-mile portion of the Presumido Canyon Road through the Baboquivari Mountains, scheduled to begin in January 2018. The project will require water for the construction, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will perform maintenance of an FWS pump and water well in return for increased use of the FWS-owned well. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Communication Towers - On April 18, FWS and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) discussed advance planning for Block-1 Replacement (B1R) of existing infrastructure with integrated fixed towers located on and adjacent to the Buenos Aries National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona. A total of two communication towers and four surveillance towers on the refuge would be affected, with the goal of upgrading technology and providing a more robust foundation – all within the original impact areas. Work is proposed to begin in January 2018 dependent upon completion of planning, engineering, and permitting. Follow-up conversations with FWS have occurred to determine the necessary special use permitting process. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Fish and Aquatic Conservation

REPEAT: FWS San Marcos Aquatic Resource Center will host a kids fishing day on October 21 in Texas.

Migratory Birds

Nothing significant to report.

Science Applications

Nothing significant to report

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration

September 23 - Hunting Fishing Day Celebration - FWS is participating in the Grand Opening of Cabela's in Albuquerque, New Mexico. FWS Southwest Region WSFR Chief, Cliff Schleusner,

will join Albuquerque Mayor Berry and Mary Cabela at a ribbon-cutting event, opening the doors to the newest Cabela's store in New Mexico. The hunting and angling community will see a permanent FWS display that highlights work in conservation in New Mexico and beyond. The grand opening coincides with National Hunting and Fishing Day on September 23. The event will include threatened Gila trout on display in a living stream from Mora National Fish Hatchery. The species was federally endangered until 2006, and opened to angling in 2007, after a 50-year hiatus. Conservation endeavors now offer adventurous anglers a change to catch the rare copper-colored trout. Of great interest to the hunting and fishing community and many others. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Tribal Consultation

REPEAT: Inter-Tribal Wildlife Summits - FWS is planning to host two Tribal Wildlife Summits, one in Arizona (October 3-5) and in New Mexico (November 7-9). These summits will include aspects of all FWS Divisions, including the Endangered Species Act, with a portion of the summit devoted to law enforcement training to assist Tribal Game Wardens and other Tribal agents. International Game Warden magazine, Spring 2017, published a story on the FWS law enforcement training for Native American conservation officers. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Upcoming public events including in the Southwest			
Connecting People with Nature	September 6-30, 2017	Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, TX	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	September 09, 2017 (Saturday)	Bitter Lake NWR, Roswell, NM	View Details
Other Special Event	September 21, 2017 (Thursday)	Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Okla	View Details
Hunting / Fishing Day Celebration – Cabela's	Septemeber 23, 2017	FWS Participates in Grand Opening of Cabela's in Albuquerque, New Mexico.	See WSFR for details above
Steve Harvey Fishing event for urban youth	September 30, 2017	Dallas, Texas	Details above in FishBites & ES Items of Note
National Public Lands Day	September 30, 2017 (Saturday)	Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, AZ	View Details
Birding Festival	September 30, 2017 (Saturday)	Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge, NM	View Details
National Public Lands Day - **Canceled**	September 30, 2017 (Saturday)	Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge, TX	View Details
Other Special Event	October 01, 2017 (Sunday)	Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge, TX	View Details
National Wildlife Refuge Week (Oct. 8-15)	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge, TX	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge	View Details
Birding Festival	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge, TX	View Details
National Wildlife Refuge Week (Oct. 8-15)	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Salt Plains NWR, Okla	View Details
Other Special Event	October 19, 2017 (Thursday)	Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Okla	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	October 21, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, TX	View Details
Pollinator Events	October 21, 2017	Trinity River National	View Details

	(Saturday)	Wildlife Refuge, TX	
Birding Festival	November 05, 2017 (Sunday)	Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge, NM	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	November 11, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, TX	View Details
Birding Festival	November 14-19, 2017	Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, NM	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	November 18, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge	View Details
Birding Festival	November 25, 2017 (Saturday)	Bitter Lake NWR, Roswell, NM	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	December 09, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, TX	View Details
Other Special Event	December 21, 2017 (Thursday)	Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Okla	View Details
Birding Festival	December 28, 2017 (Thursday)	Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge, TX	View Details
Birding Festival	April 14-15, 2018 (Saturday)	Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR, TX	View Details

From:	Tincher, Chris
To:	Charisa Morris; Matthew Trott; Chris Tollefson
Cc:	Gavin Shire; Alyssa Hausman; Laury Parramore; Joy Nicholopoulos; Keenan Adams; Brian Hires; Marian Howe; Amy Lueders; John Bradley
Subject:	R2 - Southwest Region Weekly Report Submission - October 13, 2017
Date:	Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:25:32 PM
Attachments:	FWS R2 Weekly Report FishBites 13October2017.docx

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Attached for consideration is R2's submission for the Weekly Report, FishBites and an update on significant media inquiries.
Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Best,
Chris

Christine R. Tincher
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region
New Mexico * Arizona * Texas * Oklahoma

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Through October 13, 2017

FishBites Report

Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement

- **Topic**: FWS and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department host an event at Rancho Zunzun in Bastrop County, Texas (near Austin, Texas), to celebrate the signing of the Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement on October 4, 2017. The 30-year Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement for the Houston toad covers voluntary activities to restore, maintain, enhance, or create habitat for the endangered Houston toad in the following nine Texas counties: Austin, Bastrop, Burleson, Colorado, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Milam and Robertson. See details below. (R2 – Southwest Region)
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** TPWD, private landowners, industry, local elected officials, state and county partners and Congressional members.
- **Impacted Location:** Austin, Bastrop, Burleson, Colorado, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Milam and Robertson counties in Texas

"See With a Hunter's Heart"

- **Topic**: FWS pitches a story from the ardent perspective of a hunter – "Hunters describe their full immersion experience in varying degrees as connecting with the fruits of the land in ways that can't come from other endeavors. Philosophers from Socrates to Ortega y Gassett to Leopold considered that the experience of hunting as clarifying for the mind. Hunters fully immerse themselves as not just an observer of nature, but one who is in nature." Read more of this engaging writing on the Outdoor Wire at: http://www.theoutdoorwire.com/features/232056 or in the Sporting Classics at: http://sportingclassicsdaily.com/hunters-heart/
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Conservation partners, outdoor enthusiasts, hunting community
- **Impacted Location:** Any place individuals can hunt and be one with nature.

Media Contact Report

Title/Issue	Anticipated Publication Date	Current Status
Outdoor News LPC	Sept. 26	Continued interest (relatively low) in the 12-month Finding schedule for lesser prairie chicken from Outdoor News publications.
Texas Observer and others DSL	Stories already published	Renewed interest in the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard - "Destruction of Lizard's West Texas Habitat 10 Times Worse Than Previously Thought" - Texas Observer - "Report: Sand miners disturbing threatened West Texas lizard's habitat"- Texas Tribune - "Sand mines draw scrutiny over lizard, Environmental group

		reports habitat loss" – Odessa Online
Multiple media Rosemont Mine - BO	Published Sept 25 – anticipating future coverage	Law360, KNAU/NPR, Arizona Public Media, Arizona Daily Star, et. al. sought comment on Center for Biological Diversity suit over the FWS's 2106 Biological Opinion on Rosemont Mine development south of Tucson. (press release largely targeted to jaguar). FWS does not comment on pending or on-going litigation. FWS background materials (developed in 2016) was available to many inquirers.
Multiple Media Wolf recovery plan	Sept 27	Cally Carswell, Freelance Science and Environmental Journalist | Santa Fe, New Mexico. Follow up on earlier interview to fact check story on the draft recovery plan and the science used. http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/09/endangered-us-wolf-denied-new-habitat-critics-charge-politics-trumped-science Other media following the Mexican wolf recovery plan.
Sonoran News Sonoyta mud turtle	Oct 2	Sonoran News (Univ. Ariz. press) Interview and follow-up information requests were provided re: Sonoyta mud turtle.

Weekly Report

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

September 28 - Tribal Alliance for Pollinators Inaugural Event: Sulphur, Oklahoma. See Tribal Consultation below for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Hot Topics - Week Ahead Announcements and Actions

Hurricane Impacts in Texas - Updates are posted on the FWS Southwest webpage at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/hurricaneinfo/index.htmnews

September 30 – FWS partners with the Steve Harvey Foundation and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to take a group of young Dallas boys fishing at a local pond. See ES Items of Note for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 30 – Twenty-first release of California Condors. See ESA Recovery Actions below. . (R2 – Southwest Region)

September 30 - National Public Lands Day celebrations. See table at the end of report for a list of events taking place in the Southwest. (R2 – Southwest Region)

In late September FWS will be sent out for external, independent scientific peer review a draft species status assessment for the Bone Cave harvestman. See ES Items of Note. (R2 – Southwest Region)

In early October, FWS anticipates publishing a Notice of Availability for a draft Habitat Conservation Plan request from the San Antonio Water Systems. See ES Items of Note for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Through October 8 – Texas Pollinator BioBlitz is currently taking place on FWS National Wildlife Refuges and other locations in Texas. See ES Items of Note below. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 14 - FWS is hosting the annual Rio Reforestation event on the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 15 – FWS Havasu NWR will close the public comment period on the draft Environmental Assessment for the Sacramento Wash Improvements Project. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Upcoming Workshops & Meetings

October 4 - FWS and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department kickoff the Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement in McDade, Texas, at the first property to enroll under the Agreement. See details under ESA Recovery Actions. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 18 – FWS is tentatively proposing to co-host a Mussel 101 Congressional briefing for District staffers with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Final date and location TBD. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 18 – Tentatively proposed - Consultation meeting with the White Mountain Apache Tribe in Arizona to discuss Statement of Relations with incoming Regional Director. Details will be available as meeting is firmed up. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 21 – A media conference regarding the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community at or near FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge. See Border-related Activities for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October and November – Meet and Greet meetings will be arranged between incoming Regional Director and Members in the District, when possible. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Endangered Species Act Recovery Actions

UPDATED: The Center for Biological Diversity filed a lawsuit (Federal District Court – Tucson) on September 25, regarding a biological opinion (BO) issued on the proposed Rosemont copper mine project in the Santa Rita Mountains, south of Tucson, Arizona, and potential impacts to jaguar (one had been extensively monitored on the project area) and other endangered and threatened species. (To learn more about the lawsuit, visit the Center for Biological Diversity's website) The document in question is the Final Reinitiated BO requested by the U.S. Forest Service (Action Agency) by submittal of the Supplemental Biological Assessment on May 25, 2015. The non-jeopardy BO provides information on the potential incidental take, and as applicable destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat, of the

following species: the endangered desert pupfish, Gila chub, Gila topminnow, jaguar, ocelot, lesser long-nosed bat, southwestern willow flycatcher, Huachuca water umbel, and Pima pineapple cactus as well as the threatened western yellow-billed cuckoo, Chiricahua leopard frog and northern Mexican gartersnake. FWS completed its initial BO in Oct. 2013, and reinitiated consultation after receiving new hydrological modeling information, additional species listings, and confirmation of ocelot presence in the area. The reinitiated BO was completed on April 16, 2016, and later amended on April 28, 2016. The Amended BO issued by the FWS' website. (R2 - Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Mexican Wolf Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision (draft recovery plan) – The comment period for the draft revision of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan closed August 29. FWS estimates receiving more than **101,009 comments**, this number includes signed petitions. On August 23, the New Mexico State Game Commission (NMSGC) voted to support the recovery plan (6 to 1). The Arizona Game and Fish Department and New Mexico Department of Game and Fish are seeking clarification on the role the States will play in recovery and release of wolves. FWS met with the Chairman of the New Mexico State Game Commission and the Director of New Mexico Department of Game and Fish on September 7, to discuss moving forward with Mexican wolf recovery, including releases of Mexican wolves in New Mexico. The State is considering rejoining as a partner agency in Mexican wolf recovery. The Chairman requested a presentation to the Commission on permits for importation and release of Mexican wolves on December 20, 2017. Due to the high level of visibility and controversy on Mexican wolf recovery in general, extensive outreach is on-going, including personal phone calls, email reminders and updated web postings. Follow up briefings are being planned in early November. FWS is under a Court settlement agreement to complete the final plan by the end of November 2017. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement – In early October, FWS expects to announce the approval of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) enhancement of survival permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act, as well as the 30-year Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) for the Houston toad between TPWD and FWS. The agreement will cover voluntary activities to restore, maintain, enhance, or create habitat for the endangered Houston toad in the following nine Texas counties: Austin, Bastrop, Burleson, Colorado, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Milam and Robertson. On October 4, 2017, TPWD and FWS will host an event at Rancho Zunzun, Ms. Roxanne Hernandez's property in Bastrop County, Texas (near Austin, Texas), to celebrate the signing of the Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement. Local congressional offices, local elected officials, partners and media will be invited. Outreach on the October 4 event has occurred – Save the Date announcements sent to Congressionals and partners. Additional outreach planned to announce the availability of the Safe Harbor Agreement including Congressional notification via email, a news release will be issued and posts will be made on the web and through Social media. (No FRN required). (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: In late October, or early November, FWS will publish a 12-month finding on the listing status of the southwestern willow flycatcher. Pacific Legal Foundation petitioned FWS to delist the flycatcher and in March 2016 we published a 90-day finding that the petition included substantial information, primarily regarding the subspecies' taxonomy. Upon robust

consideration of the petition and the flycatchers' classification, the Southwest Region is completing a 12-month finding that delisting of the southwestern willow flycatcher is not warranted. Outreach is being planned – including a news release and Congressional notifications via email. Interest expected to be moderate. No controversy anticipated. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: On September 30, FWS, The Peregrine Fund and cooperating agencies will release to the wild two or three California condors in Vermilion Cliffs National Monument in northern Arizona. The public is invited to observe the 21st annual release from a viewing area where spotting scopes will be set up and project personnel will be available to answer questions. The release coincides with National Public Lands Day. There are presently 74 condors in the wild in the canyon country of northern Arizona and southern Utah. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: American Burying Beetle Species Status Assessment and 12-month finding – FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the American Burying Beetle (ABB) will be completed prior to the issuance of a 12-month finding which is expected at the end of 2017. In June 2015, FWS initiated the SSA to support future conservation decisions and recovery planning for the ABB under the Endangered Species Act. FWS is using the SSA to evaluate all available information related to the current and potential threats to the species. The SSA was peer reviewed. State fish and game agencies and affected Tribes within the current ABB range reviewed the document following review of the formal peer review process. On February 22, 2017, the American Stewards of Liberty and the Independent Petroleum Association of America filed a Notice of Intent based on FWS' failure to make a 12-month finding on the petition to delist the ABB. (R2, R3, R4, R5 & R6)

Endangered Species Act Listing Actions

REPEAT: FWS anticipates sending to the *Federal Register* 12-month findings on petitions including one to list the San Felipe gambusia, a Texas fish this Fall. (R4 – Southeast Region, R2 – Southwest Region (lead)

REPEAT: Lesser Prairie-Chicken Species Status Assessment – FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC) will be completed by the end of the calendar year. FWS began work on a Species Status Assessment in the spring of 2015, prior to the court ruling that vacated the listing of the LPC and the petition to relist the species. USGS, through its Open File Report (OFR), made available the population model it prepared for FWS. The population model represents one component of the SSA and will be considered alongside of all other available information. On August 25, the draft SSA report was sent to an external Working Group (biologists from the 5 states, WAFWA, NRCS, and academics) that FWS has been coordinating with throughout development of the SSA. On August 29, the draft report was sent out for external, independent scientific peer review through a third-party contractor. Comments are due back on October 10, 2017. The goal of the SSA is to have the best available science to inform future Endangered Species Act decisions and conservation actions related to the lesser prairie-chicken. (R2 Southwest Region & R6 Mountain-Prairie Region)

REPEAT: DELISTING - FWS plans to remove the endangered Gila chub and its critical habitat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to taxonomic change. Gila

chub was listed with critical habitat in Arizona in 2005. In April 2017, FWS withdrew a proposal to list the headwater and roundtail chubs as a result of new taxonomic information that the two former species and the Gila chub are a single species (identified as the roundtail chub). (Conducting section 7 consultation and ongoing recovery efforts for Gila chub – a taxon that is no longer recognized – is problematic.) Following proposing to delist the Gila chub, FWS will conduct a status assessment of the now larger taxon of roundtail chub throughout its five-state range. Objection from some taxonomists, desert fishes professionals and environmental groups is anticipated. Communications planning is under development. (Delisitng: R2-Southwest Region. SSA: Regions 2 and 6)

Other Ecological Services Items of Note

UPDATED: Texas Pollinator BioBlitz - Led by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, FWS along with a variety of other natural resource agencies and Non-Government organizations, are planning the second annual Texas Pollinator BioBlitz. The event will be held September 23 through October 8, 2017. Outreach and educational events covering monarchs and other pollinators will be held on FWS National Wildlife Refuges, state and city parks, botanical gardens, zoos, and other public venues. The BioBlitz serves as an opportunity for the public to engage in monarch and pollinator conservation and to serve as a citizen scientist. For details on Pollinator BioBlitz events and more, visit: https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/bioblitz (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Leander Independent School District (LISD) ITP – FWS will announce in the *Federal Register* a Notice of Intent to prepare a draft National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Assessment on the proposed construction of a secondary access road at the joint Vandegrift High School and Four Points Middle School campus in northwest Travis County, Texas after consultation efforts are completed. LISD submitted a draft habitat conservation plan and incidental take permit (ITP). The HCP and ITP, if issued by FWS, will provide the applicant with compliance under the Endangered Species Act for activities including the construction, use and maintenance activities associated with a proposed secondary access road. One of the species identified in the application is the endangered black-capped vireo. FWS continues to meet with the applicant and other vested parties. A follow up meeting is proposed to occur on Oct. 3. This may be followed with a site visit at a future date. Local interest anticipated. It has significant Congressional interest, as well as strong opposition from other parties. In support, DOI received a Congressional Inquiry dated June 16 from Texas Representatives McCaul, Carter, Flores, Smith and Williams and a September 25, letter from Senators Cornyn and Cruz. Congressional briefings are being proposed. Additional outreach, including issuing a news bulletin, will occur at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Since November 2016, BLM motion activated cameras in southern Arizona's Dos Cabezas Mountains and Chiricahua Mountains area have captured four photo images of what is believed to be the same male jaguar. The Center for Biological Diversity obtained video of a jaguar in the Chiricahua area and issued a press announcement. The Arizona Game and Fish Department specialists have since determined that the video and still photos are indeed of the same animal by utilizing spot recognition. (FWS – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: FWS, Coronado National Forest (CNF), Arizona Game and Fish Department, and the Phoenix Zoo conducted an annual census of the Mount Graham red squirrel (MGRS) and their winter-store food caches (called middens) September 18-20. Results will be available mid- to late October, but preliminary impressions suggest the squirrel and its habitat (including middens) were heavily impacted by the now-extinguished Frye Fire that began earlier this summer. The MGRS occurs only on (is endemic to) Mt. Graham in the Pinaleño Mountains, CNF, in southeastern Arizona. The MGRS population was estimated to be only 252 animals in Fall 2016. The Frye Fire encompassed approximately 48,443 acres of the Pinaleño Mountains, and included an estimated 78% of the MGRS's occupied range within its perimeter, with another 18% within the 2004 Nuttall-Gibson Fire perimeter. Portions of the MGRS's habitat were destroyed by high-severity burn, although even in areas of low- to moderate-severity burn, some middens were partially or completely destroyed. The Forest Service is developing a Biological Assessment of their fire response efforts to conduct an emergency section 7 consultation. MGRS experts and partners are working together to determine the path forward. Significant resources will likely be required to move forward with the subspecies' conservation and recovery. (Additional background submitted in previous reports.) (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Bone Cave Harvestman Species Status Assessment – FWS Austin Ecological Services Office completed a draft species status assessment for the Bone Cave harvestman. The assessment will be sent out for external, independent scientific peer review in late September. Concurrently with peer review of the species status assessment, FWS will host representatives from the City of Austin, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Travis County, and Williamson County to detail the methodology used to analyze ecological conditions at sites occupied by the Bone Cave harvestman. Comments and information provided by the peer review and site analysis meeting will be incorporated into the species status assessment. The final species status assessment will inform a 5-year review to be completed for the Bone Cave harvestman in fiscal year 2018. (R2-Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Texas Hornshell Candidate Conservation Agreement and two Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances – The week of October 2, FWS anticipates signing a Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA), draft Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAAs), and environmental assessment for the Texas hornshell (proposed for listing) and other covered species (Rio Grande River cooter, gray redhorse, blue sucker and Pecos springsnail), and an enhancement of survival permit under the Endangered Species Act. (Application was submitted by the Center of Excellence and New Mexico State Land Office on July 6.) The covered area will include portions of Eddy County, New Mexico, and Culberson County, Texas. The CCA, CCAAs, and the associated section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permits will have duration of 30 years. FWS's New Mexico Ecological Field Office has been working for several years with the applicants to develop the CCAAs on non-Federal lands; and the Bureau of Land Management to develop the CCA on Federal lands. (The proposed listing of the Texas hornshell may be controversial in both Texas and southern New Mexico. A six month extension on the final listing determination was published on August 10, 2017.) Substantial local stakeholder outreach has been conducted for CCA / CCAAs. A news release and FAQs will be shared with the states, partners, congressional staff and media. (A *Federal Register* notice is not published with the final CCA/As.) (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS participating in the Texas Monarch Summit. Taking place November 1-2, this event will serve as a technical working meeting to develop quantitative goals for monarch conservation across the state. Participation is by invitation only. FWS participants include Katie Boyer (on the planning committee), Cyndee Watson (Texas PFW Program Coordinator), Chris Best (Texas State Botanist), and Leah Murray (SMARC Botanist). (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Monarch Joint Venture annual meeting takes place November 7-9, in San Antonio, Texas on the UT-San Antonio campus. These meetings provide an opportunity for all Monarch Joint Venture partners to collaborate on the annual Monarch Conservation Implementation Plan which guides national and international priorities. (All FWS)

REPEAT: FWS will join the Southern Core States for the monarch meeting taking place in Oklahoma City November 29 and December 1. This is a ~12 person working meeting with representatives from the state fish and game agencies to develop similar quantitative goals for the entire southern core geography. Kelly Meyers and Katie Boyer are the FWS representatives attending this meeting. (All FWS)

REPEAT: Black-capped vireo draft Post-delisting Monitoring Plan – FWS anticipates publishing a draft post-delisting monitoring plan (PDMP) for the black-capped vireo for public review this Fall. The draft PDMP has been developed in coordination with partners and will guide how the species population is monitored for a minimum of five years if it is delisted. The plan will describe monitoring methods, reporting procedures and agency responsibilities. Multiple monitoring strategies will be used in order to assure that population trends and habitat status will be captured at various time periods and scales, respectively. The final delisting determination will likely occur in December 2017. Outreach, including issuing a news release locally and posting information on social media is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2-Southwest)

REPEAT: FWS Partners with Steve Harvey Foundation, Texas to Take Urban Youth Fishing – On September 30, the FWS Arlington Ecological Services Field Office will partner with the Steve Harvey Foundation and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to take a group of young Dallas boys fishing at a local pond. Over the last five years, the FWS and the Steve Harvey Foundation have partnered on a number of events aimed at getting inner city youth engaged in outdoor experiences. Supportive Stakeholders include The Steve Harvey Foundation, hunting and fishing community, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: American Burying Beetle ICP – FWS published a notice on September 5, to open a 30-day comment period on incidental take permit applications for Plains All American Pipeline, L.P. and Reach Energy Limited under the approved Industry Conservation Plan for American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma. These permit applications are to cover incidental take of American Burying Beetle for Oil and Gas development, extraction, and transport within the species range in eastern Oklahoma. This conservation plan reduces the time in acquiring an incidental take permit. The comment period closes on October 5, 2017. FWS anticipates making a permit decision within 60 days, but some permits may take longer (up to 105 days). FWS is drafting a notice for additional application for publication before the end of October. These notices are

published in the *Federal Register* on regular basis as companies apply for incidental take coverage under this conservation plan. (R2 Southwest Region)

REPEAT: San Antonio HCP, Texas – FWS anticipates publishing a Notice of Availability in late September or early October for a draft Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit request from the San Antonio Water Systems for the incidental take of five federally-listed karst invertebrates (collectively the Covered Karst Invertebrates): Madla's Cave meshweaver; Robber Baron Cave meshweaver; Braken Bat Cave meshweaver; and two species of ground beetles with no common names (Rhadine infernalis and Rhadine exilis). The Covered Karst Invertebrates are associated with the construction of two water pipelines in Bexar County, Texas. Once issued, the permit would be in place for 15 years. Controversy anticipated being low. Minimal outreach, including issuing a news bulletin locally is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. Congressional Offices will be notified via email, a news release will be issued as well as web postings. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: In October – FWS anticipates publishing a notice announcing the receipt of application and consideration of an amendment to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and permit to add the recently listed Mexican gartersnake. Outreach will consist of notifying stakeholders. (R2-Southwest Region)

National Wildlife Refuge Actions

September 23 through October 8 – Texas Pollinator BioBlitz takes place on various Refuges in Texas. See ES Items of Note above for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

NEW: The FWS Havasu National Wildlife Refuge will close the public comment period for the draft Environmental Assessment on the proposed Sacramento Wash Right-of-way (ROW) improvement Project. The draft EA was opened for public review on September 15. The purpose of the proposed action is to consider issuance of a ROW permit to Mohave County, Arizona. The objective of the County's project is to restore Sacramento Wash to its historical drainage patterns to reduce the significant sediment transported and deposited on Oatman Highway and at Sacramento Wash outfall in Topock Bay, within the FWS Havasu National Wildlife Refuge. The location of the proposed project is in Mohave County, Arizona, on lands administered by FWS and adjacent to Oatman Highway. Potential local controversy and of Congressional interest. (R2 – Southwest Region)

NEW: FWS celebrates the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge through a series of Ten Minute Talks on a variety of subjects, including reduction of prairie dogs, bats: nature's unsung heroes, and a turtle's tale: staying cool in a hot world. The informal talks will be held on the north patio on October 21. Tours of the Sevilleta Field Station, operated by the University of New Mexico in collaboration with FWS' Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge, will take place immediately after the informal talks. Also taking place during the celebratory event are birding walks along the Rio Grande, hikes, exhibitions with live animals, and live music. This family-friendly, fun-filled day is open to the public and media. Most activities are free, however some events require early registration and may require a fee. (R2 – Southwest Region)

NEW: On September 25, 2017, Representative Mark Wayne Mullin's District staffer Eddie Dempsey stopped by the FWS Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma to check on

the progress of the construction plans for the new visitor center and maintenance shop proposed to replace infrastructure destroyed in the 2015 floods. FWS is working on developing a Memorandum of Agreement with the State Historical Preservation Office, Oklahoma Archaeological Survey, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Chickasaw Nation, which will allow forward movement on the new construction. FWS anticipates the MOA could be in place by December 2017, or earlier. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS is hosting the annual Rio Reforestation event on October 14, on the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. This event is open to all individuals interested in restoring natural habitats, with special invitations being extended to teachers, students, parents, scouting organizations as well as the general public. FWS is seeking 1,000 volunteers to plant seedlings for 32 species of trees and shrubs on 17 acres of refuge land on the La Sal Del Rey tract. Visit on line for more information on the Rio Reforestation 2017 event.

REPEAT: September 30 - FWS celebrating National Public Lands Day and the 5th Birthday of the Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge, an urban refuge outside of Albuquerque, New Mexico. This free, family-friendly festival is open to the public and the media. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act Celebrates 20 Years – FWS will join the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act on October 12-13, 2017. Friends of the New Mexico's National Wildlife Refuges are gathering at Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge for the start of the two-day celebration. In the afternoon, the event moves to Sevilleta NWR. On Day 2, the festivities continue at Bosque del Apache NWR on October 13. Congressional representatives, other dignitaries, and FWS Refuge managers are invited to speak the morning of Day 1. Open to the media and the public. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS Southwest Region Celebrates Refuge Week. See table at end of document with a list of upcoming public events. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Border-Related Activities

NEW: A media conference regarding the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community on Saturday, October 21, 2017. The event is proposed to occur at or near the FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge (FWS is not a participant). If the event takes place, it is estimated that 50 to 65 individuals could be in attendance, including 18 Mayors from local towns of the Rio Grande Valley (the nearest City to the Refuge is Alamo, Texas). It is anticipated the local community will have signed resolutions against the proposed project. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Suppling water to USACE – FWS is currently in discussions with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regarding access to water from a FWS-owned well on the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge for a Baboquivari Road Repair Project scheduled to begin in January 2018. Part of the project will require transporting water from the refuge to the Sasabe Forward Operating Base (FOB) to sustain approximately 60 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) members, who will reside at the FOB throughout the construction phase of the project. CBP plans to inspect the FWS-owned well and upgrade /

replace pump and water delivery components to facilitate optimum functionality during the project's period of performance. This will ensure both the CBP national security mission and FWS objectives are met. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Road Construction - On March 20, FWS was contacted by the U.S. Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO) to coordinate an upcoming road construction project for a 5.9-mile portion of the Presumido Canyon Road through the Baboquivari Mountains, scheduled to begin in January 2018. The project will require water for the construction, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will perform maintenance of an FWS pump and water well in return for increased use of the FWS-owned well. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Communication Towers - On April 18, FWS and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) discussed advance planning for Block-1 Replacement (B1R) of existing infrastructure with integrated fixed towers located on and adjacent to the Buenos Aries National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona. A total of two communication towers and four surveillance towers on the refuge would be affected, with the goal of upgrading technology and providing a more robust foundation – all within the original impact areas. Work is proposed to begin in January 2018 dependent upon completion of planning, engineering, and permitting. Follow-up conversations with FWS have occurred to determine the necessary special use permitting process. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Fish and Aquatic Conservation

NEW: The Arizona Game and Fish Department has temporarily closed Frye Creek to fishing in order to evaluate and restore a population of Gila trout following widespread habitat damage on Mt. Graham due to this past summer's Frye Fire and ensuing flooding. The State agency intends to reopen the stream to fishing once habitat is suitable for stocking of Gila trout and a population is established that can sustain angling pressure. See more information on the Frye Fire under ES Items of Note (Mt Graham Red Squirrel). (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS San Marcos Aquatic Resource Center will host a kids fishing day on October 21 in Texas.

Migratory Birds

Nothing significant to report.

Science Applications

Nothing significant to report

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration

See FishBites – Feature providing the perspective of a hunter.

UPDATED: September 23 - Hunting Fishing Day Celebration - FWS participated in the Grand Opening of Cabela's in Albuquerque, New Mexico. FWS Southwest Region WSFR Chief, Cliff Schleusner, joined Albuquerque Mayor Berry and Mary Cabela at a ribbon-cutting event, opening the doors to the newest Cabela's store in New Mexico. The hunting and angling community will see a permanent FWS display that highlights work in conservation in New

Mexico and beyond. The grand opening coincides with National Hunting and Fishing Day. The event included threatened Gila trout on display in a living stream from Mora National Fish Hatchery. The species was federally endangered until 2006, and opened to angling in 2007, after a 50-year hiatus. Conservation endeavors now offer adventurous anglers a change to catch the rare copper-colored trout. Of great interest to the hunting and fishing community and many others. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Tribal Consultation

NEW: October 18 – FWS is tentatively proposing to co-host a Mussel 101 Congressional briefing for District staffers with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Final date and location in Texas TBD. (R2 – Southwest Region)

NEW: The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona is planning a November meeting and is interested in discussing the revised Native American Policy and implementation in the Southwest Region. Date and location in Arizona TBD.

REPEAT: FWS grant supports the Tribal Alliance for Pollinators Inaugural Event in Sulphur, Oklahoma on September 28, 2017. The Learning Center at the Euchee Butterfly Farm, Monarch Watch, and the Chickasaw Nation will host the Inaugural Event of the Tribal Alliance for Pollinators (TAP). The TAP is envisioned as an innovative consortium whose goal is to provide technical support to Tribes in Oklahoma and throughout North America seeking to restore native plants to their Tribal lands. This new initiative will unite native peoples in promoting habitat restoration for monarchs, pollinators, and native grassland ecosystems, which will also benefit cultural traditions. The Inaugural Event will take place at the Chickasaw Nation's Cultural Center and will celebrate the success of Tribes already completing monarch habitat restoration projects through the Tribal Environmental Action for Monarchs as well as formally announce the creation of the TAP. FWS Southwest Region completed a grant agreement to assist in establishment and facilitation of the TAP and will present an award to the Chickasaw Nation at the event. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Inter-Tribal ESA Training - FWS is planning to host two Tribal Wildlife Summits, one in Arizona (October 3-5) and in New Mexico (November 7-9). These summits will include aspects of all FWS Divisions, including the Endangered Species Act, with a portion of the summit devoted to law enforcement training to assist Tribal Game Wardens and other Tribal agents. International Game Warden magazine, Spring 2017, published a story on the FWS law enforcement training for Native American conservation officers. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS and the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) are hosting a workshop for tribes on pollinators and monarch butterflies at the GRIC's Huhugam Heritage Center, Chandler, Arizona (Southeast of Phoenix) on October 31 and November 1, 2017. On day two, there will be a hands-on planting of monarch and pollinator plants in a pollinator garden. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Upcoming public events in the Southwest			
Connecting People with Nature	On-going thru September 30, 2017	Hagerman NWR, Texas	View Details
Hunting / Fishing Day Celebration – Cabela's	September 23, 2017	FWS Participates in Grand Opening of Cabela's - NM	See WSFR for details above
Steve Harvey Youth Fishing event	September 30, 2017	Dallas, Texas	Details in ES Items of Note
National Public Lands Day	September 30, 2017	Havasu NWR Kayak Trail Litter Pick-up event	Details: https://www.billwilliamsriver-havasufriends.org/calendar.html
National Public Lands Day	September 30, 2017 (Saturday)	Bosque del Apache NWR, Arizona	View Details
Birding Festival	September 30, 2017 (Saturday)	Las Vegas NWR, New Mexico	View Details
National Public Lands Day - **Canceled**	September 30, 2017 (Saturday)	Trinity River NWR, Texas	View Details
Other Special Event	October 01, 2017 (Sunday)	Caddo Lake NWR, Texas	View Details
National Wildlife Refuge Week Family fun day	October 10, 2017	Friends and Family Fun Day at Catfish Paradise Havasu NWR & partners	Details: https://www.billwilliamsriver-havasufriends.org/calendar.html
National Wildlife Refuge Week (Oct. 8-15)	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Balcones Canyonlands NWR, Texas	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman NWR, Texas	View Details
Birding Festival	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Trinity River NWR, Texas	View Details
National Wildlife Refuge Week (Oct. 8-15)	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Salt Plains NWR, Okla	View Details
Other Special Event	October 19, 2017 (Thursday)	Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Okla	View Details
Connecting People	October 21, 2017	Hagerman NWR,	View Details

with Nature	(Saturday)	Texas	
Pollinator Events	October 21, 2017 (Saturday)	Trinity River NWR, Texas	View Details
Clean up event	October 28, 2017	Bill Williams River NWR Adopt-a-Highway Litter Pick-up Event	Details: https://www.billwilliamsriver-havasufriends.org/calendar.html
Birding Festival	November 05, 2017 (Sunday)	Las Vegas NWR, New Mexico	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	November 11, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman NWR, Texas	View Details
Birding Festival	November 14-19, 2017	Bosque del Apache NWR, New Mexico	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	November 18, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman NWR, Texas	View Details
Birding Festival	November 25, 2017 (Saturday)	Bitter Lake NWR, Roswell, NM	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	December 09, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman NWR, Texas	View Details
Other Special Event	December 21, 2017 (Thursday)	Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Okla	View Details
Birding Festival	December 28, 2017 (Thursday)	Trinity River NWR, Texas	View Details
Birding Festival	April 14-15, 2018 (Saturday)	Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR, TX	View Details

From:	Tincher, Chris
To:	Charisa Morris; Matthew Trott; Chris Tollefson
Cc:	Gavin Shire; Alyssa Hausman; Laury Parramore; Joy Nicholopoulos; Brian Hires; Marian Howe; Amy Lueders; Beth Ullenberg; John Bradley
Subject:	R2 - Southwest Region Weekly Report Submission - October 20, 2017
Date:	Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:50:53 PM
Attachments:	FWS R2 Weekly Report FishBites 20October2017.docx

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Dear all,

Attached is the Southwest Region's contribution for the Department's Weekly Report. Also in the attachment are suggestions for FishBites along with recent significant media contacts. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Best,
Chris

Christine R. Tincher
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region
New Mexico * Arizona * Texas * Oklahoma

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Through October 20, 2017

FishBites Report

FWS Hooks Families on Fishing – Family Fish Camps Planned on National Wildlife Refuges

- **Topic**: FWS is gearing up to become a First Catch Center in partnership with the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation and the local non-profit organization Fishings' Future, in Texas. As a First Catch Center the FWS Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge will be offering several Family Fish Camps each year to provide local families with the basic knowledge and skills to start fishing. FWS, in partnership with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, is offering training for individuals to become certified angler to assist with the Family Fish Camps. The first training takes place on Saturday, October 21. Read more at: http://www.valleymorningstar.com/news/local_news/article_4b1a0700-9ce5-11e7-bdf7-8b879f686e62.html. (R2 – Southwest Region)
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, outdoor enthusiasts, anglers, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation and others
- **Impacted Location:** state

Private Land Owners Sign Safe Harbor Agreement to Help Conserve Critically Endangered Houston Toad - Texas

- **Topic**: FWS and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department joined with several other partners to kickoff a signed agreement that provides a brighter future for the Houston toad, one of the first amphibians to be protected under the Endangered Species Act and one of Texas' most critically endangered species. The kickoff event was held on October 4 to announce the newly signed Safe Harbor Agreement, a voluntary program involving private landowners in important conservation efforts. The event was in Bastrop County, Texas, at Rancho Zunzun, the first property to enroll in the Safe Harbor Agreement. Thirty people in attendance, including members of the media. See details under ESA Recovery Actions. (R2 – Southwest Region)
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, working with Bastrop County, the Houston Zoo, Texas State University, nonprofit groups and other partners.
- **Impacted Location:** Bastrop County, Texas

FWS Partners with Steve Harvey Foundation, Texas to Take Urban Youth Fishing

- **Topic**: FWS Arlington Ecological Services Field Office partnered with the Steve Harvey Foundation and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to take 25 Dallas, Texas area boys fishing at Cedar Hill State Park on September 30, 2017. For many of the young men this was their first fishing experience and they were excited to spend the afternoon learning about fishing and being outside. One of the goals of the Steve Harvey Foundation is to introduce and pair children with community leaders as mentors; through group and one-on-one mentoring programs. Over the last five years, the USFWS, TPWD and the Steve Harvey Foundation have partnered on a number of events aimed at getting inner city youth engaged in outdoor experiences. (R2 – Southwest Region)

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** The Steve Harvey Foundation, hunting and fishing community, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- **Impacted Location:** Dallas, Texas

Media Contact Report

Title/Issue	Anticipated Publication Date	Current Status
The Independent Wolf	Oct 3	Feature on White Mountain Animal Hospital veterinarian, Ole Alcumbrac after returning from a Mexican wolf capture at the Springerville Airport on Jan. 26, 2017. The operation was a joint venture with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Arizona Department of Game and Fish. Read more at: http://www.wmicentral.com/news/pinetop_lakeside/local-wild--life-vet-is-a-man-of-many/article_cec02e7d-8e36-525c-b482-3719900c2ea6.html
KUNM Wolf	Oct. 12 8 to 9a MT	Megan Kamerick is hosting a live call in show on KUNM in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The program will focus on the Mexican wolf recovery plan. Potential questions from callers could touch on topics such as livestock depredation, genetic diversity, and habitat area. John Oakleaf, Mexican wolf recovery program field coordinator, will be the FWS representative on the call-in program. http://kunm.org/people/megan-kamerick
Outdoor Channel Wolf	Oct 16 or 23	The Outdoor Channel program "Wild Ops" will feature the Mexican wolf on Oct. 23. The episode is expected to include footage of USFWS Mexican wolf recovery team during their 2016 (Jan - Feb 2017) annual count and survey. See ES Items of Note for details.
Austin Statesman and others SHA – Houston Toad	Oct 5-6	Houston Toad – Safe Harbor Agreement – see FishBites above. Coverage: https://texasnongameprogram.wordpress.com/category/only-in-texas-endemic-species/ Spectrum News: http://spectrumlocalnews.com/tx/austin/news/2017/10/05/texas-landowners-encouraged-to-protect-endangered-houston-toad-

Weekly Report

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

October 3-5 - FWS held the first of two Tribal Wildlife ESA training events in the Southwest Region in Arizona. There were 27 Tribal members from several Tribes in Arizona in attendance. A second Tribal Wildlife ESA training will be held in New Mexico (November 7-9). See Tribal Consultations for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Through October 8 – Texas Pollinator BioBlitz is currently taking place on FWS National Wildlife Refuges and other locations in Texas. See ES Items of Note below. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 8-14FWS celebrates National Wildlife Refuge Week. See list of events below for activies in the Southwest.

October 12-13 - FWS Southwest Region joins the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 14 - FWS is hosting the annual Rio Reforestation event on the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 18 – FWS is tentatively proposing to co-host a Mussel 101 Congressional briefing for District staffers with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Final date and location TBD. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 18 – Tentatively proposed - Consultation meeting with the White Mountain Apache Tribe in Arizona to discuss Statement of Relations with incoming Regional Director. Details will be available as meeting is firmed up. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Hot Topics - Week Ahead Announcements and Actions

Hurricane Impacts in Texas - Updates are posted on the FWS Southwest webpage at: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/hurricaneinfo/index.htmnews

In late September FWS will be sent out for external, independent scientific peer review a draft species status assessment for the Bone Cave harvestman. See ES Items of Note. (R2 – Southwest Region)

In early October, FWS anticipates publishing a Notice of Availability for a draft Habitat Conservation Plan request from the San Antonio Water Systems. See ES Items of Note for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

In early October, FWS anticipates signing a Candidate Conservation Agreement, draft Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances, and environmental assessment for the Texas hornshell. See ES Items of Note for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 5, 2017 – FWS is closing the 30-day comment period on an incidental take permit under the American Burying Beetle ICP for Plains All American Pipeline, L.P. and Reach Energy Limited in Oklahoma. See ES Items of Note for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 10 – FWS anticipates receipt of peer-reviewed comments on the Lesser Prairie-Chicken Species Status Assessment. See ESA Listing Actions for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October 15 – FWS Havasu NWR will close the public comment period on the draft Environmental Assessment for the Sacramento Wash Improvements Project. See Refuges for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Upcoming Workshops & Meetings

October 21 – A media conference regarding the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community at or near FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge. See Border-related Activities for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

October and November – Meet and Greet meetings will be arranged between incoming Regional Director and Members in the District, when possible. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Endangered Species Act Recovery Actions

UPDATED: Houston Toad Safe Harbor Agreement – On October 4, FWS announced the approval of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) enhancement of survival permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act, as well as the 30-year Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) for the Houston toad between TPWD and FWS. The agreement covers voluntary activities to restore, maintain, enhance, or create habitat for the endangered Houston toad in the following nine Texas counties: Austin, Bastrop, Burleson, Colorado, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Milam and Robertson. TPWD and FWS hosted an event at Rancho Zunzun, Ms. Roxanne Hernandez's property in Bastrop County, Texas (near Austin, Texas), to kick off the Houston Toad Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement. Local congressional offices, local elected officials, partners and media were invited. Outreach on the October 4 event has occurred – Save the Date announcements sent to Congressionals and partners. Additional outreach was conducted to announce the availability of the Safe Harbor Agreement including Congressional notification via email, a news release was issued and posted online. Additional posts completed through Social media. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: The Center for Biological Diversity filed a lawsuit (Federal District Court – Tucson) on September 25, regarding a biological opinion (BO) issued on the proposed Rosemont copper mine project in the Santa Rita Mountains, south of Tucson, Arizona, and potential impacts to jaguar (one had been extensively monitored on the project area) and other endangered and threatened species. (To learn more about the lawsuit, visit the Center for Biological Diversity's website) The document in question is the Final Reinitiated BO requested by the U.S. Forest Service (Action Agency) by submittal of the Supplemental Biological Assessment on May 25, 2015. The non-jeopardy BO provides information on the potential incidental take, and as applicable destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat, of the following species: the endangered desert pupfish, Gila chub, Gila topminnow, jaguar, ocelot, lesser long-nosed bat, southwestern willow flycatcher, Huachuca water umbel, and Pima pineapple cactus as well

as the threatened western yellow-billed cuckoo, Chiricahua leopard frog and northern Mexican gartersnake. FWS completed its initial BO in Oct. 2013, and reinitiated consultation after receiving new hydrological modeling information, additional species listings, and confirmation of ocelot presence in the area. The reinitiated BO was completed on April 16, 2016, and later amended on April 28, 2016. The Amended BO issued by the FWS' website. (R2 - Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Mexican Wolf Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision (draft recovery plan) – The comment period for the draft revision of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan closed August 29. FWS estimates receiving more than **101,009 comments**, this number includes signed petitions. On August 23, the New Mexico State Game Commission (NMSGC) voted to support the recovery plan (6 to 1). The Arizona Game and Fish Department and New Mexico Department of Game and Fish are seeking clarification on the role the States will play in recovery and release of wolves. FWS met with the Chairman of the New Mexico State Game Commission and the Director of New Mexico Department of Game and Fish on September 7, to discuss moving forward with Mexican wolf recovery, including releases of Mexican wolves in New Mexico. The State is considering rejoining as a partner agency in Mexican wolf recovery. The Chairman requested a presentation to the Commission on permits for importation and release of Mexican wolves on December 20, 2017. Due to the high level of visibility and controversy on Mexican wolf recovery in general, extensive outreach is on-going, including personal phone calls, email reminders and updated web postings. Follow up briefings are being planned in early November. FWS is under a Court settlement agreement to complete the final plan by the end of November 2017. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: In late October, or early November, FWS will publish a 12-month finding on the listing status of the southwestern willow flycatcher. Pacific Legal Foundation petitioned FWS to delist the flycatcher and in March 2016 we published a 90-day finding that the petition included substantial information, primarily regarding the subspecies' taxonomy. Upon robust consideration of the petition and the flycatchers' classification, the Southwest Region is completing a 12-month finding that delisting of the southwestern willow flycatcher is not warranted. Outreach is being planned – including a news release and Congressional notifications via email. Interest expected to be moderate. No controversy anticipated. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: On September 30, FWS, The Peregrine Fund and cooperating agencies will release to the wild two or three California condors in Vermilion Cliffs National Monument in northern Arizona. The public is invited to observe the 21st annual release from a viewing area where spotting scopes will be set up and project personnel will be available to answer questions. The release coincides with National Public Lands Day. There are presently 74 condors in the wild in the canyon country of northern Arizona and southern Utah. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: American Burying Beetle Species Status Assessment and 12-month finding – FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the American Burying Beetle (ABB) will be completed prior to the issuance of a 12-month finding which is expected at the end of 2017. In June 2015, FWS initiated the SSA to support future conservation decisions and recovery planning for the ABB under the Endangered Species Act. FWS is using the SSA to evaluate all

available information related to the current and potential threats to the species. The SSA was peer reviewed. State fish and game agencies and affected Tribes within the current ABB range reviewed the document following review of the formal peer review process. On February 22, 2017, the American Stewards of Liberty and the Independent Petroleum Association of America filed a Notice of Intent based on FWS' failure to make a 12-month finding on the petition to delist the ABB. (R2, R3, R4, R5 & R6)

Endangered Species Act Listing Actions

UPDATED: On October 6, the 12-month findings on petitions including one to list the San Felipe gambusia, a Texas fish will be published in the *Federal Register*. (R4 – Southeast Region, R2 – Southwest Region (lead)

UPDATED: Lesser Prairie-Chicken Species Status Assessment – FWS anticipates a Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC) will be completed by the end of the calendar year. FWS began work on a Species Status Assessment in the spring of 2015, prior to the court ruling that vacated the listing of the LPC and the petition to relist the species. USGS, through its Open File Report (OFR), made available the population model it prepared for FWS. The population model represents one component of the SSA and will be considered alongside of all other available information. On August 25, the draft SSA report was sent to an external Working Group (biologists from the 5 states, WAFWA, NRCS, and academics) that FWS has been coordinating with throughout development of the SSA. On August 29, the draft report was sent out for external, independent scientific peer review through a third-party contractor. Comments are due back on October 10, 2017. The goal of the SSA is to have the best available science to inform future Endangered Species Act decisions and conservation actions related to the lesser prairie-chicken. FWS continues work to strengthen relationships and increase coordination with partners by regularly reaching out on a one-on-one basis, coordinating and hosting several regularly scheduled calls, and working with WAFWA, the States, and others to plan a face-to-face coordination meeting. WAFWA finalized permanent conservation agreements with three private landowners to conserve 3,682 acres of lesser prairie-chicken habitat in the shortgrass ecoregion of northwestern Kansas. The parcels are located near the 17,290-acre Smoky Valley Ranch, which is owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy. (R2 Southwest Region & R6 Mountain-Prairie Region)

REPEAT: DELISTING - FWS plans to remove the endangered Gila chub and its critical habitat from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to taxonomic change. Gila chub was listed with critical habitat in Arizona in 2005. In April 2017, FWS withdrew a proposal to list the headwater and roundtail chubs as a result of new taxonomic information that the two former species and the Gila chub are a single species (identified as the roundtail chub). (Conducting section 7 consultation and ongoing recovery efforts for Gila chub – a taxon that is no longer recognized – is problematic.) Following proposing to delist the Gila chub, FWS will conduct a status assessment of the now larger taxon of roundtail chub throughout its five-state range. Objection from some taxonomists, desert fishes professionals and environmental groups is anticipated. Communications planning is under development. (Delisitng: R2-Southwest Region. SSA: Regions 2 and 6)

Other Ecological Services Items of Note

NEW: On October 16 or 23, FWS anticipates The Outdoor Channel will be airing a program titled "Wild Ops," which will feature the USFWS Mexican wolf recovery team during their 2016 (Jan - Feb 2017) annual count and survey. PROGRAM SYNOPSIS: "On Wild Ops, a crack team of veterinarians, muggers and pilots attempt to capture, study and relocate wild animals. Utilizing helicopters, snowmobiles, ATVs, radio-collars, dart guns, ropes, nets, hobbles and mobile ER units, these wildlife wranglers chase a wide variety of wildlife: deer, moose, elk, wolves, pronghorn, and bighorn sheep, to name a few. Once captured, the Wild Ops team administers necessary medicines and tracking devices to ensure the health of the individual animal and the entire species for generations to come. The host of the Wild Ops program is Dr. Peter "Ole" Alcumbrac. He's the Director of Wildlife Health Services, which specializes in immobilization and capture of native and exotic species. He provides clinical and consultation services for private and public collections." As a Consulting Veterinarian for the Arizona Game and Fish Department, The White Mountain Apache Tribe and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Dr. Alcumbrac has been a key member of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program, the Sonoran Pronghorn Antelope Recovery Team and Bighorn Sheep disease studies. Since 1992, Dr. Alcumbrac has owned and operated a mixed animal and exotic practice in Arizona with Staff of five veterinarians, providing treatment to more than 15,000 animals. He is a recipient of the Award of Excellence from the Arizona Game and Fish Commission. (R2 – Southwest Region)

UPDATED: Texas Pollinator BioBlitz - Led by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, FWS along with a variety of other natural resource agencies and Non-Government organizations, are planning the second annual Texas Pollinator BioBlitz. Opening the doors on September 23, the event continues through October 8, 2017. Outreach and educational events covering monarchs and other pollinators will be held on FWS National Wildlife Refuges, state and city parks, botanical gardens, zoos, and other public venues. The BioBlitz serves as an opportunity for the public to engage in monarch and pollinator conservation and to serve as a citizen scientist. For details on Pollinator BioBlitz events and more, visit: https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/bioblitz (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Leander Independent School District (LISD) ITP – FWS will announce in the *Federal Register* a Notice of Intent to prepare a draft National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Assessment on the proposed construction of a secondary access road at the joint Vandegrift High School and Four Points Middle School campus in northwest Travis County, Texas after consultation efforts are completed. LISD submitted a draft habitat conservation plan and incidental take permit (ITP). The HCP and ITP, if issued by FWS, will provide the applicant with compliance under the Endangered Species Act for activities including the construction, use and maintenance activities associated with a proposed secondary access road. One of the species identified in the application is the endangered black-capped vireo. FWS continues to meet with the applicant and other vested parties. A follow up meeting is proposed to occur on Oct. 3. This may be followed with a site visit at a future date. Local interest anticipated. It has significant Congressional interest, as well as strong opposition from other parties. In support, DOI received a Congressional Inquiry dated June 16 from Texas Representatives McCaul, Carter, Flores, Smith and Williams and a September 25, letter from Senators Cornyn and Cruz. Congressional briefings are being proposed. Additional outreach, including issuing a news bulletin, will occur at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Since November 2016, BLM motion activated cameras in southern Arizona's Dos Cabezas Mountains and Chiricahua Mountains area have captured four photo images of what is believed to be the same male jaguar. The Center for Biological Diversity obtained video of a jaguar in the Chiricahua area and issued a press announcement. The Arizona Game and Fish Department specialists have since determined that the video and still photos are indeed of the same animal by utilizing spot recognition. (FWS – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS, Coronado National Forest (CNF), Arizona Game and Fish Department, and the Phoenix Zoo conducted an annual census of the Mount Graham red squirrel (MGRS) and their winter-store food caches (called middens) September 18-20. Results will be available mid- to late October, but preliminary impressions suggest the squirrel and its habitat (including middens) were heavily impacted by the now-extinguished Frye Fire that began earlier this summer. The MGRS occurs only on (is endemic to) Mt. Graham in the Pinaleño Mountains, CNF, in southeastern Arizona. The MGRS population was estimated to be only 252 animals in Fall 2016. The Frye Fire encompassed approximately 48,443 acres of the Pinaleño Mountains, and included an estimated 78% of the MGRS's occupied range within its perimeter, with another 18% within the 2004 Nuttall-Gibson Fire perimeter. Portions of the MGRS's habitat were destroyed by high-severity burn, although even in areas of low- to moderate-severity burn, some middens were partially or completely destroyed. The Forest Service is developing a Biological Assessment of their fire response efforts to conduct an emergency section 7 consultation. MGRS experts and partners are working together to determine the path forward. Significant resources will likely be required to move forward with the subspecies' conservation and recovery. (Additional background submitted in previous reports.) (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Bone Cave Harvestman Species Status Assessment – FWS Austin Ecological Services Office completed a draft species status assessment for the Bone Cave harvestman. The assessment will be sent out for external, independent scientific peer review in late September. Concurrently with peer review of the species status assessment, FWS will host representatives from the City of Austin, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Travis County, and Williamson County to detail the methodology used to analyze ecological conditions at sites occupied by the Bone Cave harvestman. Comments and information provided by the peer review and site analysis meeting will be incorporated into the species status assessment. The final species status assessment will inform a 5-year review to be completed for the Bone Cave harvestman in fiscal year 2018. (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Texas Hornshell Candidate Conservation Agreement and two Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances – The week of October 2, FWS anticipates signing a Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA), draft Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAAs), and environmental assessment for the Texas hornshell (proposed for listing) and other covered species (Rio Grande River cooter, gray redhorse, blue sucker and Pecos springsnail), and an enhancement of survival permit under the Endangered Species Act. (Application was submitted by the Center of Excellence and New Mexico State Land Office on July 6.) The covered area will include portions of Eddy County, New Mexico, and Culberson County, Texas. The CCA, CCAAs, and the associated section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permits will have duration of 30 years. FWS's New Mexico Ecological Field Office has been working for several years with the applicants to develop the CCAAs on

non-Federal lands; and the Bureau of Land Management to develop the CCA on Federal lands. (The proposed listing of the Texas hornshell may be controversial in both Texas and southern New Mexico. A six month extension on the final listing determination was published on August 10, 2017.) Substantial local stakeholder outreach has been conducted for CCA / CCAAs. A news release and FAQs will be shared with the states, partners, congressional staff and media. (A *Federal Register* notice is not published with the final CCA/As.) (R2-Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS participating in the Texas Monarch Summit. Taking place November 1-2, this event will serve as a technical working meeting to develop quantitative goals for monarch conservation across the state. Participation is by invitation only. FWS participants include Katie Boyer (on the planning committee), Cyndee Watson (Texas PFW Program Coordinator), Chris Best (Texas State Botanist), and Leah Murray (SMARC Botanist). (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Monarch Joint Venture annual meeting takes place November 7-9, in San Antonio, Texas on the UT-San Antonio campus. These meetings provide an opportunity for all Monarch Joint Venture partners to collaborate on the annual Monarch Conservation Implementation Plan which guides national and international priorities. (All FWS)

REPEAT: FWS will join the Southern Core States for the monarch meeting taking place in Oklahoma City November 29 and December 1. This is a ~12 person working meeting with representatives from the state fish and game agencies to develop similar quantitative goals for the entire southern core geography. Kelly Meyers and Katie Boyer are the FWS representatives attending this meeting. (All FWS)

REPEAT: Black-capped vireo draft Post-delisting Monitoring Plan – FWS anticipates publishing a draft post-delisting monitoring plan (PDMP) for the black-capped vireo for public review this Fall. The draft PDMP has been developed in coordination with partners and will guide how the species population is monitored for a minimum of five years if it is delisted. The plan will describe monitoring methods, reporting procedures and agency responsibilities. Multiple monitoring strategies will be used in order to assure that population trends and habitat status will be captured at various time periods and scales, respectively. The final delisting determination will likely occur in December 2017. Outreach, including issuing a news release locally and posting information on social media is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. (R2-Southwest)

REPEAT: American Burying Beetle ICP – FWS published a notice on September 5, to open a 30-day comment period on incidental take permit applications for Plains All American Pipeline, L.P. and Reach Energy Limited under the approved Industry Conservation Plan for American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma. These permit applications are to cover incidental take of American Burying Beetle for Oil and Gas development, extraction, and transport within the species range in eastern Oklahoma. This conservation plan reduces the time in acquiring an incidental take permit. The comment period closes on October 5, 2017. FWS anticipates making a permit decision within 60 days, but some permits may take longer (up to 105 days). FWS is drafting a notice for additional application for publication before the end of October. These notices are published in the *Federal Register* on regular basis as companies apply for incidental take coverage under this conservation plan. (R2 Southwest Region)

REPEAT: San Antonio HCP, Texas – FWS anticipates publishing a Notice of Availability in late September or early October for a draft Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit request from the San Antonio Water Systems for the incidental take of five federally-listed karst invertebrates (collectively the Covered Karst Invertebrates): Madla's Cave meshweaver; Robber Baron Cave meshweaver; Braken Bat Cave meshweaver; and two species of ground beetles with no common names (Rhadine infernalis and Rhadine exilis). The Covered Karst Invertebrates are associated with the construction of two water pipelines in Bexar County, Texas. Once issued, the permit would be in place for 15 years. Controversy anticipated being low. Minimal outreach, including issuing a news bulletin locally is planned at time of publication in the *Federal Register*. Congressional Offices will be notified via email, a news release will be issued as well as web postings. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: In October – FWS anticipates publishing a notice announcing the receipt of application and consideration of an amendment to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and permit to add the recently listed Mexican gartersnake. Outreach will consist of notifying stakeholders. (R2-Southwest Region)

National Wildlife Refuge Actions

Continuing through October 8 – Texas Pollinator BioBlitz takes place on various Refuges in Texas. See ES Items of Note above for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: The FWS Havasu National Wildlife Refuge will close the public comment period for the draft Environmental Assessment on the proposed Sacramento Wash Right-of-way (ROW) improvement Project. The draft EA was opened for public review on September 15. The purpose of the proposed action is to consider issuance of a ROW permit to Mohave County, Arizona. The objective of the County's project is to restore Sacramento Wash to its historical drainage patterns to reduce the significant sediment transported and deposited on Oatman Highway and at Sacramento Wash outfall in Topock Bay, within the FWS Havasu National Wildlife Refuge. The location of the proposed project is in Mohave County, Arizona, on lands administered by FWS and adjacent to Oatman Highway. Potential local controversy and of Congressional interest. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS celebrates the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge through a series of Ten Minute Talks on a variety of subjects, including reduction of prairie dogs, bats: nature's unsung heroes, and a turtle's tale: staying cool in a hot world. The informal talks will be held on the north patio on October 21. Tours of the Sevilleta Field Station, operated by the University of New Mexico in collaboration with FWS' Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge, will take place immediately after the informal talks. Also taking place during the celebratory event are birding walks along the Rio Grande, hikes, exhibitions with live animals, and live music. This family-friendly, fun-filled day is open to the public and media. Most activities are free, however some events require early registration and may require a fee. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: On September 25, 2017, Representative Mark Wayne Mullin's District staffer Eddie Dempsey stopped by the FWS Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma to check on the progress of the construction plans for the new visitor center and maintenance shop proposed to replace infrastructure destroyed in the 2015 floods. FWS is working on developing a

Memorandum of Agreement with the State Historical Preservation Office, Oklahoma Archaeological Survey, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Chickasaw Nation, which will allow forward movement on the new construction. FWS anticipates the MOA could be in place by December 2017, or earlier. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS is hosting the annual Rio Reforestation event on October 14, on the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. This event is open to all individuals interested in restoring natural habitats, with special invitations being extended to teachers, students, parents, scouting organizations as well as the general public. FWS is seeking 1,000 volunteers to plant seedlings for 32 species of trees and shrubs on 17 acres of refuge land on the La Sal Del Rey tract. Visit on line for more information on the Rio Reforestation 2017 event.

REPEAT: National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act Celebrates 20 Years – FWS Southwest Region joins the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act on October 12-13, 2017. Friends of the New Mexico's National Wildlife Refuges are gathering at Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge for the start of the two-day celebration. In the afternoon, the event moves to Sevilleta NWR. On Day 2, the festivities continue at Bosque del Apache NWR on October 13. Congressional representatives, other dignitaries, and FWS Refuge managers are invited to speak the morning of Day 1. Open to the media and the public. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS Southwest Region Celebrates Refuge Week. See table at end of document with a list of upcoming public events. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Border-Related Activities

REPEAT: A media conference regarding the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community on Saturday, October 21, 2017. The event is proposed to occur at or near the FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge (FWS is not a participant). If the event takes place, it is estimated that 50 to 65 individuals could be in attendance, including 18 Mayors from local towns of the Rio Grande Valley (the nearest City to the Refuge is Alamo, Texas). It is anticipated the local community will have signed resolutions against the proposed project. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Suppling water to USACE – FWS is currently in discussions with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regarding access to water from a FWS-owned well on the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge for a Baboquivari Road Repair Project scheduled to begin in January 2018. Part of the project will require transporting water from the refuge to the Sasabe Forward Operating Base (FOB) to sustain approximately 60 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) members, who will reside at the FOB throughout the construction phase of the project. CBP plans to inspect the FWS-owned well and upgrade / replace pump and water delivery components to facilitate optimum functionality during the project's period of performance. This will ensure both the CBP national security mission and FWS objectives are met. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Road Construction - On March 20, FWS was contacted by the U.S. Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM

PMO) to coordinate an upcoming road construction project for a 5.9-mile portion of the Presumido Canyon Road through the Baboquivari Mountains, scheduled to begin in January 2018. The project will require water for the construction, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will perform maintenance of an FWS pump and water well in return for increased use of the FWS-owned well. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: Jan 2018 - Border Coordination: Communication Towers - On April 18, FWS and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) discussed advance planning for Block-1 Replacement (B1R) of existing infrastructure with integrated fixed towers located on and adjacent to the Buenos Aries National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona. A total of two communication towers and four surveillance towers on the refuge would be affected, with the goal of upgrading technology and providing a more robust foundation – all within the original impact areas. Work is proposed to begin in January 2018 dependent upon completion of planning, engineering, and permitting. Follow-up conversations with FWS have occurred to determine the necessary special use permitting process. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Fish and Aquatic Conservation

REPEAT: The Arizona Game and Fish Department has temporarily closed Frye Creek to fishing in order to evaluate and restore a population of Gila trout following widespread habitat damage on Mt. Graham due to this past summer's Frye Fire and ensuing flooding. The State agency intends to reopen the stream to fishing once habitat is suitable for stocking of Gila trout and a population is established that can sustain angling pressure. See more information on the Frye Fire under ES Items of Note (Mt Graham Red Squirrel). (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS San Marcos Aquatic Resource Center will host a kids fishing day on October 21 in Texas.

Migratory Birds

Nothing significant to report.

Science Applications

Nothing significant to report

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration

Nothing significant to report

Tribal Consultation

UPDATED: Inter-Tribal ESA Training - FWS hosted the first of two Tribal Wildlife ESA training events to be offered in the Southwest Region in Arizona (October 3-5). The second ESA training event will occur in New Mexico (November 7-9). These Tribal training events include aspects of all FWS Divisions, including the Endangered Species Act, with a portion of the summit devoted to law enforcement training to assist Tribal Game Wardens and other Tribal agents. International Game Warden magazine, Spring 2017, published a story on the FWS law enforcement training for Native American conservation officers. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: October 18 – FWS is tentatively proposing to co-host a Mussel 101 Congressional briefing for District staffers with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Final date and location in Texas TBD. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona is planning a November meeting and is interested in discussing the revised Native American Policy and implementation in the Southwest Region. Date and location in Arizona TBD.

REPEAT: FWS grant supports the Tribal Alliance for Pollinators Inaugural Event in Sulphur, Oklahoma on September 28, 2017. The Learning Center at the Euchee Butterfly Farm, Monarch Watch, and the Chickasaw Nation will host the Inaugural Event of the Tribal Alliance for Pollinators (TAP). The TAP is envisioned as an innovative consortium whose goal is to provide technical support to Tribes in Oklahoma and throughout North America seeking to restore native plants to their Tribal lands. This new initiative will unite native peoples in promoting habitat restoration for monarchs, pollinators, and native grassland ecosystems, which will also benefit cultural traditions. The Inaugural Event will take place at the Chickasaw Nation's Cultural Center and will celebrate the success of Tribes already completing monarch habitat restoration projects through the Tribal Environmental Action for Monarchs as well as formally announce the creation of the TAP. FWS Southwest Region completed a grant agreement to assist in establishment and facilitation of the TAP and will present an award to the Chickasaw Nation at the event. (R2 – Southwest Region)

REPEAT: FWS and the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) are hosting a workshop for tribes on pollinators and monarch butterflies at the GRIC's Huhugam Heritage Center, Chandler, Arizona (Southeast of Phoenix) on October 31 and November 1, 2017. On day two, there will be a hands-on planting of monarch and pollinator plants in a pollinator garden. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Upcoming public events in the Southwest			
National Wildlife Refuge Week Family fun day	October 10, 2017	Friends and Family Fun Day at Catfish Paradise Havasu NWR & partners	Details: https://www.billwilliamsriver-havasufriends.org/calendar.html
National Wildlife Refuge Week (Oct. 8-15)	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Balcones Canyonlands NWR, Texas	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman NWR, Texas	View Details
Birding Festival	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Trinity River NWR, Texas	View Details
National Wildlife Refuge Week (Oct. 8-15)	October 14, 2017 (Saturday)	Salt Plains NWR, Okla	View Details

Other Special Event	October 19, 2017 (Thursday)	Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Okla	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	October 21, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman NWR, Texas	View Details
Pollinator Events	October 21, 2017 (Saturday)	Trinity River NWR, Texas	View Details
Clean up event	October 28, 2017	Bill Williams River NWR Adopt-a-Highway Litter Pick-up Event	Details: https://www.billwilliamsriver-havasufriends.org/calendar.html
Birding Festival	November 05, 2017 (Sunday)	Las Vegas NWR, New Mexico	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	November 11, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman NWR, Texas	View Details
Birding Festival	November 14-19, 2017	Bosque del Apache NWR, New Mexico	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	November 18, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman NWR, Texas	View Details
Birding Festival	November 25, 2017 (Saturday)	Bitter Lake NWR, Roswell, NM	View Details
Connecting People with Nature	December 09, 2017 (Saturday)	Hagerman NWR, Texas	View Details
Other Special Event	December 21, 2017 (Thursday)	Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Okla	View Details
Birding Festival	December 28, 2017 (Thursday)	Trinity River NWR, Texas	View Details
Birding Festival	April 14-15, 2018 (Saturday)	Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR, TX	View Details

From:	Chambers, Micah
To:	Jason Larrabee; Greg Sheehan; Aurelia Skipwith
Cc:	Willens, Todd
Subject:	Doc Review - NPS, FWS
Date:	Wednesday, October 11, 2017 4:58:27 PM
Attachments:	FWS.zip NPS.zip

Jason, Aurelia and Greg. Hope you're all doing well. I've attached two groups of documents to this email. I referenced them this morning in the politicals meeting. These are one-pagers for the secretary to have for his member meetings with HNR and HAC-I. They were created at the bureau level and have not been edited by a political. I need you all to determine who is responsible for the political reviews and get the edited versions back to me by COB Friday. If you separate FWS and Parks and I get two separate responses, that's fine. Just need them by Friday night. Once we get them back from you all, we will be working on them with PMB and up to the front office. Thanks and let me know who I should expect them from...cause I will bug you. haha

Micah

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Micah Chambers
Acting Director
Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs
Office of the Secretary of the Interior

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Multiple Member interest
ISSUE: Oil and Gas Development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) of 1980 created the 19 million acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (Arctic Refuge).
- Section 1002 of ANILCA required DOI to conduct a resource assessment, completed in 1987, of the 1.5 million acre Arctic Refuge coastal plain area (1002 Area) located adjacent to the Beaufort Sea.
- In the 1987 assessment, the Secretary recommended that Congress consider leasing the 1002 Area for oil and gas. In 2009, the USGS determined the area had a mean estimate of 10.35 billion barrels of technically recoverable oil with 80 to 90 percent of that volume being economically recoverable.
- The Arctic Refuge's initial Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP), completed in 1988, recognized the coastal plain as a critical calving area for the Porcupine caribou herd, which are an important subsistence resource for Alaska Native people.
- A revised CCP with a final EIS was completed on April 3, 2015. It recommended designating 12 million acres of the Arctic Refuge as Wilderness, including the 1002 Area. Additionally, four rivers were recommended for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Alaska delegation supports leasing the coastal plain for oil and gas development.
- The State of Alaska, North Slope Borough, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, and other development interests oppose the proposed Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River designations in the Arctic Refuge.
- The Native Gwich'in people, as well as environmental and conservation groups, support permanent wilderness designation.
- The majority of public comments on the 2015 CCP supported wilderness designation.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, Sen. Markey (D-MA) introduced S. 820, and Rep. Huffman (D-CA-2) introduced H.R. 1889, nearly identical bills which would designate 1.6 million acres of the Arctic Refuge as wilderness.
- Sen. Murkowski (R-AK) introduced S. 49, and Rep. Young (R-AK) introduced H.R.49, which would both allow oil and gas leasing in the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge.
- The Senate and House FY18 Budget Resolutions contain instructions for obtaining $1 and $5 billion in revenue to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources and House Natural Resources Committees respectively.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The Department included a legislative proposal in the FY 2018 President's Budget to open the coastal plain to oil and gas leasing. The first lease sales are projected to be in 2022 or 2023. A second lease sale would occur four years later.
- A FY18 Congressional Budget Resolution could pave the way for opening the 1002 Area.

October 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Thompson, Portman, Stabenow, Bergman, Franken, Duckworth, McCollum, Joyce, Kaptur
ISSUE: Asian Carp

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Bighead, Black, and Silver carps (Asian carp) are listed as injurious wildlife under the Lacey Act (18 USC 42) and may not be imported or transported between the continental U.S., the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or any other territory of the U.S.
- FWS works with state and federal agency partners to implement the national *Management and Control Plan for Bighead, Black, Grass, and Silver Carps in the United States* (Plan), which addresses Asian carp issues across the nation. The Plan was written by the Asian Carp Working Group of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF). It was approved by the ANSTF in 2007.
- FWS and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) co-chair the 27-member Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee (ACRCC), which develops an annual Action Plan with activities funded through agency base appropriations and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding.
- FWS leads federal implementation of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) Sec. 1039, which calls for increased inter-agency collaboration to prevent the spread of Asian carp in the Upper Mississippi (UMRB) and Ohio River (ORB) Basins.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Asian carp are a high-priority for the Great Lakes Task Force, other Members from the Great Lakes, UMRB and ORB, State leadership, conservation groups, and the media.
- Rep. McCollum (D-MN-4) has an interest in actions conducted in support of WRRDA and efforts focused on the UMRB, especially in Minnesota.
- Sens. Portman (R-OH) and Stabenow (D-MI) and Reps. Kaptur (D-OH-9) and Joyce (R-OH-14) have an interest in actions conducted in the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS) and secondary pathways to protect the Great Lakes.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Sens. Stabenow and Portman held a Great Lakes Task Force meeting to discuss actions within the Midwest on Asian carp. FWS presented. Fourteen Members attended.
- FWS testified in March 2017 before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing, *"Examining Innovative Solutions to Control Invasive Species and Promote Wildlife Conservation".*
- FWS delivered the ANSTF's 2015 Report to Congress.
- July, 2017: In response to a silver carp being found above the last electrical barrier before Lake Michigan, FWS led a Congressional briefing on the 2017 Asian Carp Monitoring and Response Plan and the Upper Illinois Waterway Contingency Response Plan.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Deliver WRRDA 2016 Report to Congress. With OMB for clearance.
- The FY 2018 request for FWS's Asian carp effort is $7,885,000.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bergman, Westerman, Gosar, Cochran, Leahy
ISSUE: Cormorant Depredation of Fish in Southeast, Northeast, and Midwestern States

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Double-crested cormorants are fish-eating birds that are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The MBTA prohibits the take (killing, capture, selling, trading, transport, etc.) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization.
- Cormorants congregate in the southern states in the fall and winter, where they impact aquaculture facilities. In the spring and summer, cormorants congregate in northern states where they are perceived to be a competitor to fishermen for wild free-swimming fish.
- In May 2016, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia vacated two FWS Depredation Orders that previously allowed for the lethal take of cormorants, citing inadequate NEPA documentation.

II. POSITION OF INTERESTED PARTIES

- Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Thad Cochran and other Members representing affected southern states (AL, AR, LA, MS, NC) have urged the FWS to allow for the take of cormorants before they return to southern aquaculture facilities.
- Members from Northeast and Midwest states (MI, MN, NH, NY, VT) have urged the FWS to address cormorant impacts on wild free-swimming fish that are perceived to effect commercial and recreational fisheries in their states.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, Rep. Crawford and Sen. Cotton introduced companion bills, H.R. 368 and S. 219, cosponsored by Members from AR, AL, MS, and NC, to address cormorant impacts on aquaculture by reinstating the FWS Depredation Order that the U.S. District Court vacated.
- The FY 2017 appropriations conference report directed the FWS to expedite NEPA documents that would allow the agency to issue cormorant depredation permits per the direction of the U.S. District Court.
- On July 22, 2017 Rep. Bergman used his time during a House Natural Resources Committee to ask Sec. Zinke to address the cormorant and wild fish issue in his district.

IV. NEXT STEPS / OUTLOOK

- FWS and USDA are completing a NEPA Environmental Assessment to evaluate options for lethal take permits for aquaculture facilities, among other circumstances, which is expected to be completed by the end of October.
- FWS will also review the science and options for lethal take permits involving cormorants and their potential damage to recreational and commercial fishing, including by working with state fish and wildlife agencies to collect and share data. This process is expected to take at least a year.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Murkowski, Bishop, Cantwell, Grijalva
ISSUE: FWS' Deferred Maintenance Backlog

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Over 51 million people visited FWS hatcheries and refuges last year, including hunters, anglers, birders, and other outdoor recreationists.
- FWS real property assets include: 6,500 buildings; 8,600 water management structures; nearly 14,000 roads, bridges, and dams; and 10,500 "other" structures.
- Inadequate investments in asset maintenance have led to failing infrastructure and a deferred maintenance backlog at the FWS.
- While the FWS has reduced its backlog since 2010, a current FWS deferred maintenance (DM) backlog of approximately $1.4 billion remains.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- There is congressional interest in addressing the DM backlog at the FWS, and across the Department of the Interior.
- Chairman Rob Bishop (R-UT) and other Members have taken the position that funding the Department's DM backlog should be prioritized, specifically over new land acquisition funding.
- Chairwoman Murkowski (R-AK) has emphasized public-private partnerships to address DM funding.
- Ranking Members Cantwell (D-WA) and Grijalva (D-AZ) are supportive of DM funding.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- The House Natural Resources Committee included addressing the DM backlog in the Committee's oversight plan for the 115th Congress.
- Chairwoman Murkowski's Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hosted staff briefings in March on the DM backlog where FWS and other Bureaus presented.
- Chairwoman Murkowski held a hearing in March on the topic of "opportunities to improve and expand infrastructure important to federal lands, recreation, water, and resources" where she highlighted addressing the Department's DM backlog.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The President's FY18 budget request emphasizes DM funding, requesting $41.0 million in Refuge DM and $10.2 million in Hatchery DM.
- The House-passed FY18 omnibus appropriations bill increased Refuge DM by $1.3 million to $42.3 million and added $3.0 million to Hatchery DM for a total of $13.2 million.
- Outside of the annual appropriations process, Congress and the Administration are considering a separate infrastructure package that would likely include provisions to address the FWS's and the Department's DM.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bishop, Grijalva, Huffman, Calvert
ISSUE: Delisting/Downlisting 3-Year Plan

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In order to recognize success in recovering species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), keep the lists of endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species accurate and up-to-date, and focus conservation resources on those species most in need, the FWS reviews the status of listed species every five years, and responds to petitions received from the public to determine whether listed species should be reclassified from endangered to threatened (downlisted) or removed from the list (delisted).
- The FWS has developed a national workplan reflecting our schedule for actions addressing 5-year status review recommendations and substantive petitions to downlist and delist species over the next three years.
- The workplan was developed to provide greater clarity and predictability regarding the timing of eventual downlisting and delisting determinations to state wildlife agencies, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders and partners.
- A species' inclusion in this workplan does not mean that a final decision has been made to downlist or delist.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- There is congressional interest in focusing ESA recovery funding on activities that are inherently federal, such as 5-year reviews and status changes.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- The House FY 2018 Interior Appropriations bill contains $85,570,000 for ESA recovery activities, including $3,000,000 for delisting and downlisting activities.
- The House FY 2018 Interior Appropriations Committee Report directed the Service to complete all five-year reviews within the period required by law, and, for any determination on the basis of such review whether a species should be delisted, downlisted, or uplisted, promulgate an associated regulation prior to initiating the next status review for such species.

III. NEXT STEPS

- To keep the public informed of our progress in recovering species, the FWS plans to periodically update this work plan to reflect our consideration of new information over time, new status reviews initiated as a result of petitions, and new recommendations resulting from our 5-year reviews.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Feinstein, McCarthy, Calvert, McClintock, Denham, LaMalfa, Costa, Huffman
ISSUE: Delta Smelt, 08 Biological Opinion, California WaterFix Consultation, FISH Act

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The threatened Delta smelt is a small fish endemic to the San Francisco Bay-Delta that completes its entire one-year lifecycle in and near where fresh and salt water mix in the estuary. The Bay-Delta has been altered by land use changes, water development, and invasive species, reducing the amount of high quality habitat available for Delta smelt.
- Record-low abundance of Delta smelt reflects decades of habitat change, competition and predation from invasive species, and the recent multi-year drought.
- In 2008, FWS issued a jeopardy Biological Opinion (BiOp) on the operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. FWS included a Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA), affecting the amount of water that can be used from the system, to avoid jeopardy and adverse modification, which remains in place today.
- The WaterFix project represents the State of California's plan to upgrade outdated infrastructure in the Delta to secure water supplies and improve the Delta's ecosystem. FWS finalized the WaterFix BiOp in June 2017.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Water export restrictions to protect Delta smelt are opposed by agricultural and municipal water users, but supported by environmental groups and fishing interests.
- WaterFix is supported by a number of agricultural and municipal interests and the State of California, but opposed by many environmental groups (who have filed litigation challenging the WaterFix BiOp) and local landowners. The Westlands Water District Board recently voted against participating in WaterFix stating that the project is not financially viable.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- FWS is working with partners to implement the requirements contained in the 2016 WIIN (Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation) Act, which contained a requirement to develop and expand captive breeding capability.
- This month, Congressmen Calvert, LaMalfa, and others introduced the Federally Integrated Species Health (FISH) Act to consolidate management and regulation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) with the FWS. This would essentially transfer authority over ESA-listed marine mammals and anadromous fish, such as salmon, from the National Marine Fisheries Service to FWS.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Last August, a multi-year process, led by Bureau of Reclamation with federal and state partners, began to develop a new BiOp to find balance between the needs of agriculture, municipalities and conservation.
- FWS approved Reclamation's proposal to modify implementation of RPA Action 4 from the 2008 BiOp in October 2017, which is intended to maintain the low salinity zone in specific locations in the estuary during the fall in wet and above normal water years.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bishop, McClintock, Pearce, Grijalva, Tsongas, Beyer, Huffman
ISSUE: ESA Reform and Legislation

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In this Congress, the EPW Committee and HNR Committee have expressed an interest in moving legislation that would amend the ESA, and have held related oversight hearings.
- Hearings and oversight in the 114th Congress centered on the role of litigation and settlements, use of data, transparency in decision-making, policies for designating critical habitat, and barriers to recovery.
- FWS is participating in a multi-year process led by the Western Governors' Association (WGA) to examine species conservation and the ESA and to identify actions to improve the statute or its implementation.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Last June, the WGA passed a resolution urging Congress to reauthorize the ESA, including several principles to reform the law.
- This March, the National Governor's Association adopted a policy similar to the WGA.
- The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has participated in discussions on ESA reform, including an April EPW staff briefing with other state officials.
- Chairman Bishop (R-UT-1) has expressed strong interest in reforming the ESA.
- Ranking Member Grijalva (D-AZ-3) is opposed to reforming the ESA.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- H.R. 3916 (Calvert: R-CA) – Would transfer management of ESA-listed anadromous fish (salmon, sturgeon, etc.) from NOAA Fisheries to FWS. HNR Subcommittee legislative hearing is scheduled for Oct. 12. DOI statement for the record supports the bill.
- FWS Acting Director Greg Sheehan testified in July before HNR generally in support of 5 bills to amend the ESA. All 5 bills passed out of HNR on Oct. 4.
    - H.R. 424 – Gray Wolf State Management Act (Peterson: D-MN) – Reinstates delisting of Western Great Lakes and WY wolves.
    - H.R. 717 – Listing Reform Act (Olson: R-TX) – Requires economic analysis at listing for threatened species, gives flexibility to prioritize petitions, removes 90-day and 12-month deadlines.
    - H.R. 1274 – State, Tribal, and Local Species Transparency and Recovery Act (Newhouse: R-WA) – Requires data transparency, requires all data be provided to states prior to listing, defines best available data to include state & local.
    - H.R. 2603 – Saving America's Endangered Species (SAVES) Act (Gohmert: R-TX) -- Nonnative species in U.S. not considered listed under ESA.
    - H.R. 3131 – Endangered Species Litigation Reasonableness Act (Huizenga: R-MI) – Would tie ESA fee awards to EAJA cap of $125/hr

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The WGA issued recommendations for ESA reform over the summer.
- We anticipate continued oversight and legislative activity from HNR and EPW regarding ESA implementation and modernization.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bishop, Lamborn, Labrador, Tipton, Cheney, Barrasso, Risch, Daines, Calvert, Stewart, Simpson, Amodei, Lee
ISSUE: Greater sage-grouse

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In 2010, FWS made the greater sage-grouse a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. In response, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service (USFS) worked with the states to develop a land use strategy to conserve and restore sagebrush habitat across the species' range.
- In 2015, citing the federal land use strategy and associated rangeland fire strategy, along with state and private lands conservation efforts, FWS determined that the greater sage-grouse was not warranted for listing under the ESA.
- The 2015 "not warranted" finding included a commitment to revisit the status of the species in 5 years, a commitment made to strengthen the defensibility of that finding.
- FWS and a coalition of public and private partners, particularly the states, have built a durable, collaborative effort to conserve sagebrush-dependent species, avoid future listing of those species, and secure a healthy sagebrush ecosystem for people and wildlife.
- BLM and USFS amended or revised nearly 100 resource and land management plans to improve protections for sage-grouse and sagebrush habitat.
- All states have sage-grouse plans; some interface seamlessly with the federal plans. States have management responsibility for the species and are leading the larger effort to proactively conserve the larger sagebrush ecosystem.
- In August 2017, Secretary Zinke received a report from the Department's Sage-Grouse Review Team regarding possible plan and policy modifications to complement state efforts to improve greater sage-grouse conservation and economic development on public lands, as required by Secretarial Order 3353.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Some conservation groups were critical of the FWS' not-warranted determination; others were highly supportive.
- Some industry and trade groups have filed litigation opposing the federal plans.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, legislation seeks to provide state management over federal land management plans and delay future action to list the sage-grouse. Sponsors include Sens. Risch (R-ID), Lee (R-UT), and Daines (R-MT) and Reps. Simpson (R-ID), Amodei (R-NV), Gosar (R-AZ), Stewart (R-UT), Tipton (R-CO), and Cheney (R-WY).
- The FY17 Omnibus appropriations bill bars FWS from expending any funds for status reviews, listing determinations, or rulemakings regarding the greater sage-grouse.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS will continue to provide technical assistance to public and private partners as they implement sage-grouse conservation measures. FWS will also continue to support collaborative efforts to conserve the larger sagebrush ecosystem.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Tester, Daines, Simpson, McCollum, Barrasso, Risch, Labrador, Cheney, Grijalva, Newhouse
ISSUE: Grizzly Bears

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In 1975, FWS listed the grizzly bear as threatened in the lower 48 states.
- FWS organizes grizzly bears into six recovery zones/ecosystems to allow for targeted recovery efforts. Recovery zones include parts of WA, ID, MT, and WY.
- In March 2007, FWS finalized a rule to establish the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem grizzly bear distinct population segment (DPS) and to delist this DPS due to recovery. Courts overturned this rule in 2009, reinstating ESA protections for Yellowstone bears.
- In June 2017, FWS published a new final rule to delist the Yellowstone DPS. The rule does not change the threatened status of the remaining grizzly bears in the lower 48 states. FWS has received several complaints from environmental groups and tribal interests challenging the rule.
- In early 2017, the National Park Service and FWS published a draft Environmental Impact Statement on alternatives to restore grizzly bear in the North Cascades Recovery Unit. Alternatives range from no action to the establishment of a population of grizzly bears in the North Cascades Ecosystem.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Most members of Congress and federal and state agencies supported the delisting of the Yellowstone grizzly bear DPS.
- Almost all Tribes contacted stated strong opposition to delisting grizzly bears in the Yellowstone ecosystem.
- Several environmental groups have been outspoken in their opposition to delisting.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Senators Daines (R-MT), Barrasso (R-WY), Enzi (R-WY), Rep. Cheney (R-WY), and House Natural Resources Chairman Bishop (R-UT) issued statements supporting the final delisting of the Yellowstone grizzly bear.
- Rep. Grijalva (D-AZ-3) opposed delisting, citing tribal rights and hunting concerns.
- Rep. Newhouse (R-WA-4) has expressed opposition to potential restoration of grizzly bears in the North Cascades. His office remains engaged with FWS on the issue.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The comment period on the North Cascades draft EIS closed in April 2017. Next steps include analyzing comments, developing a final EIS, and issuing a Record of Decision.
- In August 2017, in regards to delisting wolves in the Western Great Lakes, a court ruled that FWS failed to reasonably analyze or consider: (1) the impacts of partial delisting; and, (2) historical range loss on the already listed species. FWS must pursue any future proposals to delist a grizzly bear DPS in the context of that ruling. This is most relevant to the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem recovery zone in northern Montana.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Frelinghuysen
ISSUE: Highlands Conservation Act

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The Highlands Conservation Act (HCA) was enacted in 2004 to provide assistance to States to preserve and protect high quality conservation land in the 3.4 million acre Highlands region of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.
- The program was first funded in 2007. The program also received funding in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2015, 2016, and 2017.
- In FY 2016, Congress increased the appropriation "up to $10 million," and included administrative funding to the FWS, which had not been provided in several years. FWS works with the U.S. Forest Service and the four states to identify projects that meet the intent of the law to conserve important habitat in the Highlands region.
- To date, more than $26 million in Federal funds has been allocated to the four states for land acquisition. These funds have resulted in the permanent protection of over 6,200 acres and leveraged non-Federal funds at a nearly 3:1 ratio.
- Funding for the program comes from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- There is no funding for Highlands in the FY 2018 President's Budget.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Highlands Coalition is comprised of more than 200 national, regional, state and local organizations that work collaboratively with state agencies, the U.S. Forest Service and FWS to implement critical conservation in the Highlands region. This broad coalition has yielded sustained congressional support.
- House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee Chairman Frelinghuysen is a champion of the program which also has bi-partisan support across all four states.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Chairman Frelinghuysen introduced H.R. 1281(S. 1627, Sen. Gillibrand [D-NY]) to reauthorize the law through 2021. No Congressional action has been taken to date.

IV. NEXT STEPS

- FWS is working with the U.S. Forest Service on a Memorandum of Understanding to solidify roles and responsibilities for administering the grant program.
- August, 2017: FWS announced funding distribution of $2,420,000 to each of the four states. Announcements of funding to states were sent to Congressional offices.
- The 2018 President's Budget did not include funding for Highlands.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Murkowski, Young
ISSUE: Izembek National Wildlife Refuge and King Cove Road

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- This issue centers on construction of a road through wilderness areas of the Izembek Refuge to provide access to an all-weather airport for the community of King Cove, AK.
- Congress previously appropriated funds to upgrade the local medical clinic, improve the King Cove airstrip, and enhance a marine transportation link between the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay.
- The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 directed the Secretary to develop an EIS to evaluate a three-party land exchange between the federal government, the State of Alaska, and the King Cove Corporation for the purpose of constructing a road between King Cove and Cold Bay, which has an existing all-weather airport.
- As part of the proposed land exchange, about 56,000 acres owned by the State and King Cove Corporation would be transferred to the Izembek and Alaska Peninsula Refuges.
- The proposed King Cove road would cross designated wilderness in the Izembek Refuge, potentially creating adverse impacts to high value habitat.
- In December 2013, as required by the 2009 law, former Interior Secretary Jewell issued a final decision that found the land exchange was not in the public interest.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Alaska Congressional Delegation strongly supports the road and land exchange.
- The communities of King Cove and Cold Bay support the land exchange and road.
- Wilderness and environmental groups strongly oppose a road due to the impact to pristine habitat and the precedent set.
- Some Alaska Natives and subsistence users in the Yukon Delta also oppose the road.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Senator Murkowski included policy language in the FY16 and FY17 Interior-Environment appropriations bills that would require a land transfer at Izembek. The language was not ultimately included in the final FY16 or FY17 appropriations bills.
- At the time of drafting, the FY18 Senate appropriations bill was not yet released.
- This year, bills were introduced by Sen. Murkowski (S. 101) and Rep. Young (H.R. 218) to provide a land exchange for the construction of a road between the two communities. H.R. 218 passed the House on July 20, 2017.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Next steps depend on whether the land exchange is with the State of Alaska or Native Corporation. For example, if land is exchanged with the Native Corporation, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Section 22(g) and its implementing regulation, 50 CFR 25.21, stipulates that Alaska Native Village Corporation lands within the boundaries of a National Wildlife Refuge established prior to ANCSA are subject to National Wildlife Refuge System compatibility requirements. If land is exchanged with the State of Alaska, then a National Environmental Policy Act EIS is likely required, unless new statute dictates otherwise.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Gohmert, Westerman, Johnson, Denham, and Tsongas
ISSUE: D.C. Circuit Decision on FWS Interpretation of Lacey Act Interstate Transport Prohibition

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Under the Lacey Act (18 U.S.C. §42), the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to regulate the importation and transport between the continental U.S., the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or any other territory of the U.S., of species determined to be injurious to human beings, the interests of agriculture, horticulture or forestry, or to wildlife or wildlife resources of the U.S. FWS has long interpreted the language related to shipment of injurious species to prohibit transportation of injurious species between states within the continental U.S.
- The U.S. Association of Reptile Keepers (USARK) filed a lawsuit in December 2013 challenging FWS authority. The District Court for the District of Columbia found that 18 U.S.C. § 42(a)(1) does not prohibit interstate transport of injurious wildlife between states within the continental U.S. and enjoined FWS from implementing that provision with respect to two species at issue in the litigation. FWS appealed this decision.
- On April 7, 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit affirmed the District Court's judgment and held that FWS lacks authority pursuant to the Lacey Act to prohibit shipments of injurious species between states within the continental U.S.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Aquaculture and live animal trade industries have expressed support for the Appellate Court's decision.
- The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has concerns regarding the FWS losing its ability to regulate the interstate transport of injurious species between States within the continental U.S.
- Senator Gillibrand (D-NY) has an interest in revising the injurious species listing process

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Rep. Gohmert (R-TX-1) introduced HR 1807 - Public Water Supply Invasive Species Compliance Act of 2017 (companion bill in the Senate, S. 789 sponsored by Sen. Cruz (R-TX)), exempting certain water transfers between public water supplies located on, along, or across the boundaries of Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana from the Lacey Act. Reps. Westerman (R-AR-4) and Mike Johnson (R-LA-4), who are on the House Natural Resources Committee, are co-sponsors. The bill was passed out of committee.
- October, 2017: Senator Gillibrand (D-NY) had a press conference on the emerald ash borer beetle in the Adirondacks, mentioning the injurious species listing process. Gillibrand has previously introduced legislation to reform this process. Reintroduction of this legislation is likely to occur this session; but, it has not yet happened.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS did not seek additional appeals and as a result of this decision the FWS may no longer place any limitation on transport of injurious wildlife across the 49 continental states

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Gardner, Cole, Calvert, Gohmert, Pearce, Tipton
ISSUE: Lesser Prairie-Chicken

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In April 2014, FWS listed the lesser prairie-chicken as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and concurrently finalized a special rule under section 4(d) of the ESA that established compliance with the State-led Range-wide Conservation Plan as also being ESA compliant.
- In June 2014, the Permian Basin Petroleum Association and four New Mexico counties filed a lawsuit challenging the FWS's final rule to list the lesser prairie-chicken. Separate lawsuits were filed by other plaintiffs, including environmental groups.
- In September 2015, a U.S. District Court ruled on the Permian Basin lawsuit and vacated the FWS's listing rule. The Government decided not to appeal.
- Prior to the 2015 court ruling, FWS began work on a species status assessment for the lesser prairie-chicken, with input from the five range states. The goal of the status assessment was to synthesize the best available science to inform recovery planning and conservation actions.
- In September 2016, FWS was petitioned to list the lesser prairie-chicken as endangered. FWS found the petition to be substantial. The status assessment will also serve to inform the 12 month finding on that petition.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), in partnership with New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, created *The Lesser Prairie-Chicken Range-wide Conservation Plan* to develop a conservation and mitigation strategy for the species. FWS will incorporate WAFWA's 2016 Annual Report into the status assessment, along with 2017 population survey results.
- Several Members of Congress disagreed with FWS's 2014 decision to list the lesser prairie-chicken under the ESA.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 114th Congress, Rep. Lucas (R-OK) filed an amendment to the House National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to prohibit listing the bird under the ESA; the amendment was withdrawn. Similar language was included in other NDAA amendments, appropriations bills, and a standalone bill.
- There has been no relevant legislation introduced in the 115th Congress.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS anticipates completing the status assessment in 2017, though exact timing depends on recommendations and comments received from peer and Working Group reviewers. The status assessment will inform future decisions related to the bird. Coordination with the States, WAFWA and others is expected to continue.
- FWS did not meet the deadline for the 12-month finding on the petition to list (September 8, 2017). The finding is expected after completion of the status assessment and will fully consider the conservation actions underway.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Murkowski, Simpson
ISSUE: FWS Mitigation Policy Status

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The FWS has used a mitigation policy since 1981 to guide agency recommendations on mitigating the adverse impacts of land and water development projects on fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats.
- In 2016, FWS finalized revisions to the 1981 policy. Notably, the scope of the revised policy expanded to address all resources for which FWS has authority to require or recommend mitigation, including those listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
- In December 2016, the FWS finalized the ESA compensatory mitigation policy, a more detailed, ESA-specific stepdown of the revised Service-wide mitigation policy.
- These policies were consistent with the Presidential Memorandum entitled *Mitigating Impacts on Natural Resources from Development and Encouraging Related Private Investment* (PM) (November 3, 2015) and with Secretarial Order 3330, *Improving Mitigation Policies and Practices of the Department of the Interior* (October 31, 2013).
- A March 28, 2017, Executive Order (EO) rescinded the 2015 PM and directed all agencies to identify affected agency actions (including existing regulations, orders, and policies) and, as appropriate, suspend, revise, or rescind them.
- Sec. Order (SO) 3349 (March 29, 2017) implements the March 2017 EO. It revoked SO 3330 and required the Deputy Secretary to inform the Bureaus whether to proceed with reconsideration, modification, or rescission of actions related to the PM or SO 3330.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Sen. Murkowski (R-AK) strongly opposed the 2016 revised mitigation policy and sent a letter to former FWS Director Ashe urging him to retract it, expressing concern about its standard and the impact of the policy on smaller entities, such as Alaska Native communities, who want to develop resources on their lands.
- At a March 2016 Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing, the State of Alaska expressed concerns with the PM and requested its revision to incorporate the Alaska Native Settlement Claims Act and Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation.
- Response from State agencies varied; FWS received comments from States both supporting and expressing concerns with the policies.
- In some cases, industry had concerns that the policies were an attempt to create new authority for FWS.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Rep. Newhouse (R-WA) introduced two resolutions to disapprove the two FWS mitigation policies through the Congressional Review Act (CRA), but no further action has been taken on them.

IV. NEXT STEPS

- Consistent with SO 3349, this October, FWS will solicit public comment on the policies. Based on comments received, FWS will decide whether and how to revise the policies.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: McCollum, Udall, Feinstein, Stewart, Bishop
ISSUE: Southwest Border Law Enforcement and Conservation Issues

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- There are eight National Wildlife Refuges along the U.S.-Mexico border, three in Texas, two in California and three in Arizona. FWS has 18 Federal Wildlife Officers (FWO) that cover these refuges.
- Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge sits along the U.S.-Mexico border in Texas, and has been identified as a location for early preparations for border wall construction. The Refuge has been visited this year by Senator Cornyn's (R-TX) staff and Representative O'Rourke (D-TX-16). Senator Cruz (R-TX) has expressed an interest in visiting the refuge as well.
- The FWOs at border refuges provide safety and security for visitors and protect fish, wildlife, cultural, and archaeological resources. Additionally, working closely with DHS, they address border issues that spill onto refuges, including drug and human trafficking and fatalities of undocumented immigrants.
- These refuges also face increased habitat degradation from significant amounts of human trash and waste left on site, escaped camp fires, sewage spills, and trail and road erosion. Additional trash is generated on Arizona border refuges by humanitarian organizations who, contrary to refuge regulations, leave stock piles of food, water, and clothing for illegal border crossers.
- Many native animals, like pronghorn antelope and ocelots, migrate across the Southwest border; physical barriers could also affect movement of wildlife and could affect surface water movement, causing local flooding.
- Sec. 102. of the REAL ID Act (P.L. 109-13), signed into law in 2005, gives the Department of Homeland Security authority to waive most environmental laws, including NEPA and the ESA, to ensure expeditious construction of barriers and roads.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Some Congressional Members have expressed concern about the cost of expanding and maintain a wall along the border, and the impact it may have on species and habitat in the area, as well as the impact on public lands, including National Wildlife Refuges.
- Other Members have explained how effective border security protects the environment by deterring illegal activity and border crossings.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- On October 4, the House Homeland Security Committee passed the Border Security for America Act (H.R. 3548), which includes a $10 billion authorization for construction of a U.S.-Mexico border wall.
- On July 27, the House passed the Make America Secure Appropriations Act of 2018 (H.R. 3219), which includes $1.6 billion in funding for construction of the border wall.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Congress will continue to debate funding for the border wall.
- The President's FY18 budget request includes $1.6 billion for border wall construction.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Senator Murkowski (R-AK), Representative Don Young (R-AK-AL)
ISSUE: Alaska Native-Crafted Walrus Ivory

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In 2016, FWS finalized regulations to prohibit most commercial domestic trade in African elephant ivory. Also, several states (including California, New Jersey, Hawaii, and Nevada) have taken steps to ban the intrastate purchase and sale of ivory (some including walrus and other types of ivory). Some state ivory bans have provisions that exempt items expressly authorized by federal law, license, or permit. At least 8 more states are considering such measures.
- Alaska Native artists are expressing concern to the Alaska Congressional delegation about loss of sales, because consumers are nervous about buying ivory and confusion over federal and state laws governing the sale of ivory.
- The U.S. does not prohibit the sale, purchase, import, export, or transport of genuine, Alaska Native-crafted walrus ivory pieces, and these may be brought into the lower 48 states by individual consumers or shipped to retail stores.
- In May of 2017, DOI announced the release of a brochure, coordinated by DOI's Indian Arts and Crafts Board (Board) and FWS to inform consumers and Alaska Native artists about walrus conservation, relevant laws, and how law enforcement recognizes walrus ivory and distinguishes it from elephant ivory.
- This brochure is being distributed online, through DOI venues, and has been offered to cruise lines and other tourism outlets. Related advertisement has also been published.
- FWS ensures its law enforcement officers are fully knowledgeable about identifying elephant vs. walrus ivory during inspections of imports and exports.
- FWS also works closely with the Board to investigate and pursue cases of counterfeit Native arts and crafts that violate the Indian Arts and Crafts Act, including several in AK.
- On October 4, 2017, the Service announced a "not warranted" finding for listing of walrus under the ESA.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Alaska delegation has expressed concern about the impact of the elephant ivory ban and state ivory bans on the sales of genuine Alaska Native-crafted walrus ivory.
- Members are pleased with the efforts of FWS and the Board to inform consumers and artists about the importance of Native American arts and crafts, and the legality of the sale of Alaska Native-crafted walrus ivory, as well as our efforts to enforce the Indian Arts and Crafts Act.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- This issue was raised by Senator Murkowski during the June 21, 2017 Senate Interior Appropriations hearing for FY 2018.
- FWS and the Board have met on this issue with staff of the three AK delegation offices.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The Department will continue to work to increase awareness and provide best information about relevant Federal laws.
- During the FY 2018 Senate Interior appropriations hearing, the Secretary committed to a Secretarial Order and to convene a working group on the matter.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Young, Grijalva, Beyer, Flake, Portman, McCollum, Udall
ISSUE: Combating Wildlife Trafficking

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- FWS (via DOI) is a co-chair, along with the State Department and Department of Justice, of the interagency Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking.
- In 2016, Congress passed the bipartisan, bicameral END Wildlife Trafficking Act, which codified the Task Force, National Strategy, and Implementation Plan, and included additional requirements of federal agencies.
- In 2016, FWS finalized regulations to prohibit most commercial domestic trade in African elephant ivory. Exemptions for antiques and items containing small amounts of ivory were included to allow for the continued trade in items that do not impact conservation of African elephants.
- In February 2017, the President signed an Executive Order on Transnational Organized Crime, which states the U.S. shall address threats to national security from transnational criminal organizations involved in a variety of activities, including wildlife trafficking.
- FWS has stationed law enforcement special agents at U.S. embassies as international attachés to address wildlife trafficking in key nations.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Combating wildlife trafficking has strong bipartisan support in Congress.
- Several Members of Congress are also supportive of FWS' broader international conservation and wildlife law enforcement work.
- Some Members have sought to limit FWS authority to restrict elephant ivory trade.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, there have been several bills introduced that address wildlife trafficking and international conservation, including:
    - H.R. 227, sponsored by Rep. Young (R-AK-AL) reauthorizes the Multinational Species Conservation Funds (Funds).
    - H.R. 1247, sponsored by Rep. Donovan (R-NY-11), and S. 480, sponsored by Sen. Portman (R-OH), reauthorize the Tiger Stamp.
    - S. 826, sponsored by Sen. Barrasso (R-WY), reauthorizes the Funds and creates a prize competition to address wildlife trafficking.
    - H.R. 226, sponsored by Rep. Young (R-AK-AL), would allow for the commercial trade of African elephant ivory.

IV. NEXT STEPS/OUTLOOK

- The Task Force continues to implement the END Wildlife Trafficking Act. FWS and State have taken the lead in developing a list of countries of concern due to wildlife trafficking. This list will be included in a report due to Congress in early October.
- We expect less focus on wildlife trafficking issues in this Congress given the passage of the END Wildlife Trafficking Act in the 114th Congress. However, there are still Members who are focused on this issue who will pursue events, briefings, and additional legislation.
- In FY 2018, the Service requests $8.9 million specifically dedicated for combating wildlife trafficking.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Barrasso, Flake, Heinrich, Gardner, Stabenow, Franken, Wyden, Merkley, Udall, McCollum, Stewart, Pearce, Gosar, Bishop, Tipton, Bergman, Cheney, Rouzer
ISSUE: Wolves

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- FWS believes the wolf is recovered under the ESA, and has attempted to delist it nationwide, except for the Mexican wolf and the red wolf subspecies.
- In 2014, final rules delisting **Gray wolves** in Wyoming and in the Western Great Lakes (WGL) were vacated by separate District Court judges; ESA protections were reinstated for these populations. FWS appealed both of these rulings.
- In March 2017, a court ruled in favor of FWS delisting WY wolves and, in April, the FWS reinstated its previous Wyoming delisting rule.
- In August 2017, a court ruled against FWS delisting of WGL wolves; Wolves remain federally endangered in WI and MI and threatened in MN.
- Wolves are under state management in eastern WA and OR, but wolves in the western portions of those states remain endangered, limiting management options.
- In January 2015, FWS separately listed the **Mexican wolf** as endangered and revised regulations for the nonessential experimental population under ESA section 10(j).
- In 2016, New Mexico sued FWS to enjoin release of Mexican wolves without state permits. An injunction was issued, but vacated upon appeal in April 2017. FWS is reviewing comments on the draft revised recovery plan for the Mexican wolf subspecies.
- **Red wolves** are listed as endangered and exist in the wild as a non-essential, experimental population (NEP) in eastern NC. In September 2016, after a review of the red wolf recovery program, FWS announced plans to propose changes to the NEP management, expand the captive population, and revise the recovery plan.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The environmental community largely opposes actions to lessen protections for wolves.
- States support efforts to delist wolves, and to prevent and compensate for depredation.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- 115th Congress Legislation: S. 368, Requires revised recovery plan for Mexican wolves (Sen. Flake); S. 164 and H.R. 424, Reinstates FWS final rules delisting wolves in Wyoming and WGL (Sen. Barrasso and Reps. Cheney, Labrador, Simpson, Bergman). Similar language is included in sportsmen's legislation and the House appropriations bill.
- In July 2017, Acting FWS Director Sheehan testified in support of H.R. 424.
- In the 114th Congress, the House Natural Resources Committee held an oversight hearing on Federal management of gray, Mexican, and red wolves.
- Rep. Newhouse sought to delist wolves in OR, WA, UT, and NV in the 114th Congress.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS is examining next steps for gray wolf management, in light of WGL court ruling.
- FWS will revise the recovery plan for Mexican wolves by the end of November 2017.
- FWS will soon initiate a NEPA evaluation of revisions to the NEP for red wolves in NC.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Daines, Tester, Merkley, Kilmer, Simpson
ISSUE: Dreissenid Mussel Discovery in Montana near Columbia River Headwaters

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Zebra mussels and quagga mussels (Dreissenids) have since spread throughout the Great Lakes region, south along the Mississippi River and to areas west of the Mississippi. In January 2007, the first population of Dreissenid mussels west of the 100th Meridian was discovered in Lake Mead. Both species are easily spread between water bodies by watercraft, and cause damage to water-based infrastructure that is estimated to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars.
- In October 2016, Dreissenids (microscopic larvae called veligers) were detected for the first time in the upper Missouri River Basin in Montana, near the headwaters of the Columbia River.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Montana Governor has declared an environmental disaster. The Idaho legislature and governor responded by enacting emergency state supplemental funding.
- The Montana Legislature called for development of the Upper Columbia Conservation Commission to address threats of Dreissenid mussels. DOI bureaus have been asked to participate.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- The QZAP was developed by the Western Regional Panel and approved by the ANSTF in 2010, and is the Department of Interior (DOI) roadmap for this issue. The FWS works with other DOI Bureaus, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, States, and partners to support boat inspection and decontamination, early warning systems, and training.
- Congress has appropriated approximately $2 million per year since FY 2010 to support this effort.

IV. NEXT STEPS

- The FWS Region 6 dive team specializes in Dreissenid mussel detection. They deployed to both Canyon Ferry and Tiber Reservoirs in Montana as well as the Columbia River Basin Team rapid response test exercise in Washington.
- In FY16 and FY 17, FWS allocated about $930,000 each year to partners through grants for projects to control the spread of invasive mussels in the western U.S. under the *Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters* (QZAP), with emphasis on containment and prevention. FY 2018 Budget Request included $2 million for support.
- FWS delivers $1 million of the QZAP funding to states and regional groups with Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) plans which have been signed by the respective governor and approved by the ANS Task Force (ANSTF). In FY17, each approved plan was awarded $46,715. Montana received an additional $16K from FWS R6 to support veliger detection.
- July 2017: DOI announced the "Safeguarding the West from Invasive Species" package to address the Columbia River Basin and other uninfested Western waters, to help better integrate government efforts to stop the spread of invasive mussels.

Alaska Federal/State Wildlife Management

Bureau: National Park Service
Member: State Delegation

Key Points:

- The NPS final rule implementing several changes in sport hunting practices allowed in Alaska's national preserves was published in the Federal Register on 9/15/15.
- Hunting practices that were prohibited include the take of brown and black bears over bait (including the use of human food and garbage), the take of bear cubs and sows at den sites while using artificial light, and the take of wolf and coyote pups during the denning season (May 1 - August 9).
- During a lengthy public comment process, about 120,000 comments were received. Over 99% of the comments favored the proposed rule.
- The vast majority of state hunting regulations, and all federal subsistence hunting in national preserves, were unchanged by the final rule.
- Alaska has about 21 million acres of national preserves open to sport hunting; all were established in 1980.

Background:

- The final rule responded to changes in State of Alaska hunting regulations (which generally, but not exclusively, govern sport hunting on national preserves). NPS repeatedly requested the Alaska Board of Game to exempt national preserves from liberalized methods for taking predators, primarily wolves and bears.
- The board left the predator hunting methods in place, and NPS responded for several years with specific and repeated one-year prohibitions in preserves through Superintendent's Compendiums. The State suggested several times that restrictions were more appropriately addressed in federal rulemaking.
- After proposing this rule, NPS held 26 public hearings, as well as tribal government-to-government consultations, during the 121-day comment period.
- The State opposed the rule, asserting: (1) wildlife management and allocation of game in Alaska—including NPS preserves—should be the state's responsibility alone, and (2) federal action is only justified to maintain healthy or viable wildlife populations.
- The 2015 rule also implemented changes unrelated to the State's focus on predator reduction, including: a prohibition on intentionally obstructing or hindering people lawfully hunting or trapping; a simplified procedure for implementing closures or restrictions in NPS areas; an update of regulations to reflect federal assumption of the management of subsistence hunting and fishing from Alaska in the 1990s; an allowance for the use of native species as bait for fishing in accordance with applicable federal and non-conflicting State law; and, a prohibition on the sport hunting of swimming caribou, and on using dogs to assist in hunting black bears.

Current Status:

- All elements of the final rule have been in effect since January 1, 2016.
- On January 13, 2017, the State, Safari Club, and Alaska Professional Hunters Association sued the NPS and the U.S, Fish & Wildlife Service, which had promulgated separate, but similar, regulations.

- In July 2017, the Department of the Interior instructed the NPS to revisit the 2015 rulemaking. A notice of intent was sent to the Department to announce the reconsideration of the 2015 rule and is expected to be published in the Federal Register sometime this fall.

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Last Updated: October 4, 2017

Arlington Memorial Bridge Rehabilitation

Member: **Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)**
Park/Program: **George Washington Memorial Parkway**

Arlington Memorial Bridge Rehabilitation Project Update

- Without full rehabilitation, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) estimates that Arlington Memorial Bridge (AMB) will not be safe for traffic by 2021.
- NPS planned to complete the project in two phases at a total cost of $262 million (Phase I: $166 million, Phase II: $96 million) with a construction duration of 4.35 years (or longer depending on availability of future appropriations).
- Due to favorable bid conditions, NPS anticipates awarding the full rehabilitation by November 2017 which will reduce the construction duration by 1.5 years and save $35.05 million.

	Phase 1 $	Phase 1 %	Phase 2 $	Total $
DOT FASTLane Grant	90,000,000	56%		90,000,000
DC and VA Transportation Funds			30,000,000	30,000,000
NPS Transportation Funds	36,800,000	23%	36,950,000	73,750,000
NPS Construction Funds	33,200,000	21%		33,200,000
Total	**160,000,000**	**100%**	**66,950,000**	**226,950,000**

- The NPS was awarded a $90 million USDOT FY 2016 FASTLANE grant for Phase I. The grant can only fund up to 60 percent of the project, and requires at least 20 percent (Phase 1: $33.2 million) be funded from sources other than Titles 23/49.
- NPS has received approval to reprogram $15M from its FY17 Line Item Construction (LIC) program towards the non-Title 23/49 match requirement. The remaining $18.2M has been submitted as NPS's top priority LIC project in in the President's FY18 Budget.
- The NPS plans to fund the balance of Phase I and to fund Phase II from FLTP, including $30M from VA and DC transferred to NPS as required by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017.

Background

- The historic Arlington Memorial Bridge spanning the Potomac River in Washington DC was constructed in 1932 and is owned and maintained by the National Park Service. The structure serves as an iconic national treasure which links the west end of the National Mall with the Arlington Cemetery at the footstep of our Nation's Capital.
- This bridge is in the worst condition of all high volume urban federally owned bridges across the country (10,300 federally owned bridges). It is one of the highest traffic volume bridges and currently the most costly to rehabilitate. It is also one of the oldest bridges and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Current:

- The NPS has formulated a financial plan to award both phases by the absolute deadline of November 14th. Awarding by the deadline reducing the construction duration from 1550 days to 1,000 days,[1] approximately one and one-half years and saves $35.05 million compared to original total project cost estimate.

Contact Person: Doug Jacobs, Associate Regional Director, National Capital Region, (202) 619-7038

Last Updated: October 3, 2017

[1] . The total contract duration would be 1000 calendar days if all of the options are awarded at the same time as the base contract The maximum time could be increased by up to 550 days to allow for flexibility to award multiple options as funding becomes available, but is a trade-off delaying completion up to one and one-half years

Centennial Summary and Achievements

Bureau: National Park Service
Member: General Interest

Key Points

- 2016 marked the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service (NPS), offering an opportunity expand public engagement and prepare for a new century of stewardship, preservation and conservation.
- The overarching goal of the NPS Centennial was to connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, supporters and advocates.
- NPS and the National Park Foundation launched the Find Your Park public awareness campaign in April 2015. No appropriated funds were used for the campaign.
- Additional major initiatives included the Every Kid in a Park program providing free access to parks for all 4th graders; and the Centennial Challenge program, which leveraged philanthropic funds to support improvement projects in parks.

Background

- Throughout the centennial, NPS park partners, non-profit organizations, concessioners, and other stakeholders were engaged in our celebrations, national programs, and the Find Your Park campaign, including a representative stakeholder advisory group.
- More than 160 members of Congress joined the honorary Congressional Friends of the NPS Centennial to celebrate the NPS Centennial and public lands.
- The Find Your Park campaign had extensive media reach - 16.8 billion campaign impressions (print media, digital and social media, out-of-home media such as billboards, media coverage, etc.), and one in four millennials recalled seeing Find Your Park.
- Visitation to national park in 2016 increased by 7.7% over 2015, and digital followers of NPS and NPF national accounts totaled more than 1.3 million since spring of 2015.
- In 2016, more than 180 youth interns served as Centennial Volunteer Ambassadors, working in parks and programs across the country.

Current Status:

- More than 100,000 Every Kid in a Park passes were redeemed at NPS sites in FY 2016 and 198,000 in FY 2017 as of August 31.
- The successful Centennial Volunteer Ambassadors program is continuing -- they are now called Community Volunteer Ambassadors.
- In FY 2017, $20 million was appropriated for the Centennial Challenge program, which will build on the previous year's successes leveraging $35 million in non-federal philanthropic support.
- The Find Your Park campaign is continuing in 2017 and 2018 focusing on building awareness for lesser-known parks and stories throughout the system.
- While the 2017 numbers won't be confirmed until next year, visitation appears to be up in many parks again this year.

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Last Updated: October 2, 2017

Deferred Maintenance (Maintenance Backlog)

Bureau: National Park Service
Member: General Interest

Key Points:

- The NPS owns and/or manages approximately 76,000 constructed assets valued at more than $157 billion. Many of these assets date back several decades and were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps or through the Mission 66 program. 51% of the asset portfolio was constructed prior to 1966.
- As of September 30, 2016, the deferred maintenance backlog is approximately $11.3 billion**.** Approximately 44% of the total asset portfolio has no reported deferred maintenance and over 50% of the cataloged deferred maintenance is associated with transportation assets.
- Approximately 70-80% of the total cost of ownership for a facility asset is found in operations and maintenance and restoration and disposal activities. Only 20-30% of the total cost of ownership is reflected in initial design and construction of the asset.

Background:

- The NPS completed implementation of an enterprise asset management program in 2003. This system catalogs the portfolio of real property asset across the National Park System and identifies work requirements (including deferred maintenance) through a work order structure. Most assets are identified in the system using industry standard "asset categories," however, over 18,000 relatively unique features such as monuments, fortifications, and picnic areas are also catalogued.
- In FY 2012, the NPS implemented the Capital Investment Strategy which directs limited appropriated resources toward the highest priority assets to improve their condition.
- NPS has prioritized facility assets in "bands" based on relative importance in meeting mission objectives. Approximately 1/3 of NPS total assets have been determined to be critical or very important to meeting mission and/or park operational needs. The deferred maintenance for these assets is valued at $8.3 billion.
- Since 1980, 4,572 assets with a deferred maintenance value of $862 million were added to the inventory. Most of these assets were acquired through the addition of new parks.

Current Status:

- In FY 2017, the NPS invested over $700 million across the system to address facility repair and improvement needs. This includes funds from the Highway Trust Fund through the US Department of Transportation directed at transportation assets.
- Other deliberate efforts by the NPS to more effectively manage the maintenance backlog have included disposition of assets, utilization of leasing authorities, philanthropic efforts, a focused commitment from fee revenues, and assuring deferred maintenance is addressed by concession operators for assigned facilities.

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Last Updated: October 4, 2017

Everglades Ecosystem Restoration

Bureau: National Park Service
Member: General Interest

Key Points:

- Interagency activities for restoration of the Everglades have been underway since the 1970s.
- These are large scale, long-term water management projects—such as the Modified Water Deliveries (MWD) project and the Canal 111 (C-111) South Dade project—approved by Congress in 1989, and the Tamiami Trail Next Steps project in 2011.
- Similar large scale water quality treatment projects (focused on reducing nutrients entering the Everglades) began in 1994 following the settlement of a 1988 federal lawsuit.
- In 1996, Congress created the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force in recognition of the magnitude of the restoration problems and the critical importance of partnerships with federal, state, tribal, and local governments.
- These initial efforts led to passage of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), a collection of over 50 infrastructure projects developed over decades of collaboration by scientists, policy makers, and affiliated stakeholders.
- CERP is a watershed-scale federal & state partnership to restore/preserve/protect the south Florida ecosystem and sustain water supply & flood protection for South Florida's economy.

Background:

- Expanding urban and agricultural development since the 1880s reduced the natural Everglades ecosystem to half of its original size; restoring water depths, flooding durations, and water quality will help to preserve the remaining native habitats and species.
- Restoration efforts also help sustain system-wide water availability, making south Florida more resilient to rainfall variations, sea level rise, and salt water intrusion.

Current Status:

- Several foundation projects—such as the MWD, C-111, and Tamiami Trail Next Steps Phase I projects—are scheduled to be complete between 2018 and 2020.
- The first phase of water quality improvements was completed in 2012, and the second phase, the Restoration Strategies project, will have construction complete in 2025.
- CERP infrastructure projects have been approved by Congress in phases: four 1st Generation CERP projects were approved in 2007; four 2nd Generation CERP projects were approved in the 2014; and two 3rd Generation CERP projects were just approved in 2016.
- The recently authorized Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) will reduce harmful discharges to the northern estuaries by redirecting flows from Lake Okeechobee southward back into the Everglades, but is dependent on DOI's completion of the Tamiami Trail Next Steps Phase II project.
- The current estimated total cost for the combined CERP and non-CERP projects is approximately $19 billion, with construction extending into the 2040s.

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Last Updated: October 2, 2017

FY 2018 Budget Overview, National Park Service

Key Points

- The FY 2018 President's Budget Request for NPS discretionary funding is $2.55 billion, a $378.5 million, and 12.9 percent decrease from FY 2017 enacted.
  - NPS budget priorities balance daily park and program operations with long-term investments. Park operations continue to be strained by increasing visitation and other responsibilities, compounded by years of fixed cost absorption and FTE losses. Despite recent funding increases that have supported long-term priorities, primarily deferred maintenance, the NPS still lacks sufficient funds to maintain its large portfolio of assets and to make substantial gains on its $11.3 billion deferred maintenance backlog.
  - Decreases include reductions to all parks and program management (-$148.0 million), maintenance project funding (-$42.1 million), non-maintenance project funding (-$30.7 million), historic preservation grant funding (-$29.8 million) and land acquisition funding (-$28.8 million), as well as elimination of funding for National Heritage Areas (-$18.8 million).
  - Increases include +$14.2 million to support construction projects, planning and execution, +$8.0 million for direct support for Abandoned Mineral Land and Demolition/Disposal projects, +$25.7 million for fixed costs, and +$1.1 million for responsibilities at newly established units.
  - The request funds 7.2 percent fewer FTE (-1,410) than FY 2017 actual usage. Since 2011, the NPS workforce has decreased by 11 percent, while visitation has increased by 19 percent.
  - The budget also proposes a shift of $90 million from discretionary to mandatory funding for State conservation grants.
  - In order to meet reduced funding levels, many parks would need to reduce services that impact the visitor experience. This may include shorter seasons, reduced operating hours at visitor centers, fewer seasonal rangers to interact with the public, and diminished capacity for resource and visitor protection. As a result, the NPS expects moderate declines in performance metrics on natural and cultural resource stewardship, and visitor satisfaction.
- The House of Representatives passed H.R. 3354 on September 14, 2017, that would provide FY 2018 appropriations for the NPS. Senate action on the bill has yet to occur.
  - The NPS would receive discretionary appropriations of $2.89 billion, a decrease of $44.8 million (-1.5 percent) from the FY 2017 Enacted level of $2.93 billion. The bill is $333.7 million (13.1 percent) above the FY 2018 President's Budget request of $2.55 billion.
- The National Park Service Centennial Act (P.L. 114-289) created several authorities relating to permanent appropriations that the NPS is currently implementing.
  - The National Park Foundation will create an endowment to which $10 million of recreation fee revenue from the sale of Senior Passes will be deposited annually, to fund activities that further the mission and purposes of the NPS.
  - Senior Pass revenues in excess of $10 million will go to a newly established National Park Centennial Challenge Fund, to be the Federal match to leverage private sector partnership that fund signature projects and programs. The budget estimates the Federal match at $15.0 million in 2018.

- The Visitor Experience Improvement Authority allows the NPS to award commercial services contracts whose proceeds will go to a revolving fund supporting management and enhancement of commercial visitor services and facilities, as well as payment of possessory interest and leasehold surrender interest.

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Last Updated: October 3, 2017

FY 2018 Budget Overview, National Park Service (cont.)

Background

The National Park Service budget contains six discretionary appropriations and an annual proposal to rescind contract authority. The NPS also has several major permanent appropriations and two major allocation accounts. Finally, the NPS has offsetting collections and reimbursable activity. The major appropriations and allocations are described in greater detail below.

Discretionary Appropriations

National Park Service ($000) – Discretionary Appropriations	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 President's Budget	FY 2018 House Mark
Operation of the National Park System	2,369,596	2,425,018	2,225,485	2,421,723
Centennial Challenge	15,000	20,000	14,971	15,000
National Recreation and Preservation	62,632	62,638	37,001	59,629
Historic Preservation Fund	65,410	80,910	51,100	82,910
Construction	192,937	209,353	226,529	219,844
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	173,670	162,029	26,380	116,075
LWCF Contract Authority Rescission	-27,960	-28,000	-28,020	-28,020
Total, Discretionary Budget Authority	**2,851,285**	**2,931,948**	**2,553,446**	**2,887,161**

The **Operation of the National Park System (ONPS)** appropriation supports the operations of our Nation's national parks, trails, wild and scenic rivers, and central support offices. Funding covers all aspects of park operations and is classified under distinct budget activities comprising the major components of the ONPS appropriation. These include Park Management and External Administrative Costs.

The **Park Management** activity covers the management and operation of park areas and servicewide programs, supporting recurring operations and competitive project funding. This activity contains the following subactivities, and the funding is allocated according to the NPS Park and Program Summary, which is included in the FY 2018 Budget Justification:

- **Resource Stewardship** encompasses natural and cultural resource management, as well as funding for restoration of the Everglades ecosystem.

- **Visitor Services** includes educational and interpretive programs and the management of commercial services to enhance the visitor's experience.
- **Park Protection** provides for the protection of park resources, visitors, and staff, including the United States Park Police and public health operations.
- **Facility Operations and Maintenance** encompasses the operations and maintenance of buildings, and other facilities.
- **Park Support** covers the management, oversight, internal controls and administrative operations for park areas, and servicewide programs.

The **External Administrative Costs** activity provides for administrative support requirements primarily determined by parties outside the NPS and managed centrally to ensure performance efficiency. These support all activities and programs of the NPS and include worker's compensation payments, GSA office space leases, the DOI Working Capital Fund, and others.

The **Centennial Challenge** appropriation leverages federal funding at least 1:1 with non-federal donations to accomplish projects that reduce deferred maintenance, enhance visitor services, and improve natural and cultural resource protection at national parks.

The **National Recreation and Preservation (NR&P)** appropriation is the backbone of the NPS technical and financial assistance programs. The collection of relatively small programs reaches broadly to support natural and cultural resource preservation and recreation. Each of the programs is focused on different resources and needs, largely outside the National Park System.

The **Historic Preservation Fund (HPF)** appropriation supports grant programs to state historic preservation offices (SHPOs), Tribal historic preservation offices (THPOs), and others, to facilitate the preservation of the nation's historic and cultural resources. This appropriation is funded by the Historic Preservation Fund.

The **Construction** appropriation provides for major maintenance and rehabilitation of park facilities and infrastructure, including compliance, design, and support to carry out large-scale asset management and infrastructure investment, as well as Congressionally-directed resource studies and planning for parks and programs.

The **Land Acquisition and State Assistance (LASA)** appropriation, funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), provides for the acquisition of land and interests in land to preserve the values of congressionally authorized areas within the National Park System for public use and enjoyment. It also supports partnerships with state and local agencies through grants to create and protect a nationwide system of public spaces. These complement the mission of the NPS by providing educational, recreational, and conservation benefits to the public.

Permanent Appropriations

National Park Service Permanent Appropriations ($000)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Estimate
Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriation	290,682	281,900	285,078
Other Permanent Appropriations	201,263	208,487	213,011
Miscellaneous Trust Funds	56,128	75,003	71,003
Land Acquisition and State Assistance - GOMESA	89	319	0

Land Acquisition and State Assistance - Mandatory	0	0	90,000
Construction Mandatory - Helium Act	0	0	20,000
LWCF Contract Authority	27,960	27,960	28,020
Total, Discretionary Budget Authority	**576,122**	**593,669**	**707,112**

The **Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriation** includes several permanent authorities, most notably the recreation entrance and use fees authorized by the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA, P.L. 108-447) in 2005. The FY 2018 budget proposes appropriations language to extend this authorization through FY 2019 and a legislative proposal for permanent reauthorization. Fee revenues are used for high-priority visitor service and facility maintenance projects. Up to 80 percent may be retained for use by the collecting park, with the remainder for servicewide use. Beginning in FY 2018, NPS policy will be to dedicate at least 55 percent of retained revenue to projects that address deferred maintenance and related infrastructure needs.

The **Other Permanent Appropriations** include permanent authorities largely derived from receipt sources. These include park concession franchise fees and improvement accounts, the park buildings lease and maintenance fund, operation and maintenance of quarters, and special use fees. These also include contributions for US Park Police annuity benefits, made from a permanent, indefinite appropriation at the Treasury Department.

The **Miscellaneous Trust Funds** include donated funds consistent with legislative authority and the wishes of the grantors for federally matched signature projects and programs, non-matched donated funds consistent with legislative authority and grantor wishes, and funds to preserve the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln available from an endowment established for that purpose.

The **Mandatory Construction – Helium** account was established by the Helium Stewardship Act of 2013 (P.L. 113-40). It authorized mandatory funding in FY 2018 and FY 2019 to support the federal share of deferred maintenance and other infrastructure deficiency projects; projects require a minimum 1:1 non-federal match.

The **Mandatory Land Acquisition and State Assistance – GOMESA** is funded by qualified Outer Continental Shelf lease revenues, including revenue from a small portion of the Gulf of Mexico that was newly opened for leasing by the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA, P.L. 109-432). The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes to replace the formula for allocating receipts to the LWCF State Grants program established by GOMESA with a comparable permanent appropriation, derived from the LWCF, of $90.0 million in 2018.

Allocation Accounts

Obligations incurred under allocations from other accounts are included in the schedules of the parent appropriations. The NPS' major allocation accounts are Transportation and Wildland Fire.

The **Federal Lands Transportation Program** was continued under the 2015 FAST Act, including increased funding for the NPS program. The NPS received an allocation of $276 million in FY 2017, up from $240 million in prior years. The authorization will rise incrementally to $300 million over the life of the FAST Act, through 2020.

The NPS receives an allocation from the **DOI Wildland Fire Management** appropriation; funds support fire management programs at NPS units, as well as central office management. Major programs include Preparedness and Hazardous Fuels Reduction, which support operations and planned projects, as well as Suppression, which funds NPS response to wildfires.

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Last Updated: October 3, 2017

LWCF - Federal Land Acquisition

Bureau: National Park Service
Member: General Interest

Key Points:

- The NPS Federal Land Acquisition program is funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Although funding for the LWCF, derived from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) mineral leasing receipts, is authorized at $900 million annually it requires an annual appropriation to be utilized.
- The LWCF expired on September 30, 2015, but was extended for 3 years in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, until September 30, 2018. In FY 2018, the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture will review options for reauthorization.
- NPS Federal acquisition of land or interests in land must be within a park's authorized boundary and owner willingness to sell cannot be definitively determined until the United States obtains an appraisal, tenders an offer to the owner (to acquire the land or interest in land), and completes negotiations with the owner.
- The NPS maintains a list of lands that have been identified for acquisition through the General Management Plan and Land Protection Plan process. As of November 2016, the land acquisition backlog of funding needs totals $2.1562 billion for 1,603,758 acres in 12,111 tracts.

Background:

- The backlog is a list of privately owned lands within authorized boundaries of the National Park System that have been identified for acquisition and for which appropriated funds are not available.
- The backlog lists only those acres and tracts for which the plans recommend purchase.
- Lands expected to be acquired by donation/exchange are omitted from the backlog, as are privately owned lands that are, at present, adequately protected.
- The major criteria used to prioritize land acquisitions are: threat to the resource; preservation of the resource; visitor use facility accommodation; commitment has been made to acquire; involvement of partners, non-profit groups, or availability of matching funds; continuation of an ongoing effort; recreational opportunities; hardship of the owner; existence of legislative authority to acquire; local and congressional support for the project; ability to obligate appropriated funds; regional priority of the project; economic escalation or inflation factors; and the type of the unit.

Current Status:

- The backlog is continually changing due to acquisitions of land, changes in use from compatible to incompatible, boundary expansions, and new units being created.
- Currently, there is no project funding for FY 2018.
- If the FY 2018 proposal is approved, mandatory LWCF funding would also be provided for non-Federal land acquisition programs: State Conservation Grants, the American Battlefield Protection Program land acquisition grants, and the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery grants.

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Last Updated: October 5, 2017

LWCF - State Conservation Grants Program

Bureau: National Park Service
Member: General Interest

Key Points:

- The LWCF State Conservation Grants Program provides matching grants (50/50) to States and Territories (and through states to local units of government) to plan, acquire, and develop public lands for outdoor recreation purposes to improve quality of life and the health and vitality of present and future generations.
- Starting in 2009, LWCF appropriations for this program have been supplemented by revenues from certain Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico (GOMESA, P.L. 109-432). The NPS State Conservation Grants Federal Land Acquisition program is funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Although funding for the LWCF, derived from Outer Continental Shelf mineral leasing receipts, is authorized at $900 million annually, it requires annual appropriation.
- Under this Act, 12.5% of OCS revenues are distributed to states for conservation purposes through the State Conservation Grants program. GOMESA receipts are projected to increase significantly from nearly $310,000 in 2017 to $70.0 million in 2018 due to expanded leasing in the Gulf of Mexico, and are expected to reach $125 million annually in the out years.
- Market fluctuations and difficulties predicting receipt totals has resulted in a proposal included in the FY 2018 budget to replace the formula for allocating receipts to the LWCF State Grants program established by GOMESA with a comparable permanent appropriation, derived from the LWCF, of $90.0 million in 2018, increasing to $125.0 million in 2022 and each year thereafter.
- All grant-assisted parks are protected from conversion to non-recreation uses in perpetuity unless approved by the Secretary under specific conditions.

Background:

- Since 1965, over 43,000 projects have been approved, awarding over $4.1 billion in federal financial assistance to State and local recipients.
- More than 30,000 public park areas will be monitored in partnership with the States to ensure continued public use and accessibility, and an estimated 50-75 parkland conversions authorized by Section 6(f)(3) of the LWCF Act will be resolved in FY 2017. Across the country there are increasing pressures to convert parkland to other uses.
- In FY 2017, in partnership with the States and Territories, NPS awarded 333 individual Grant Awards totaling $75.2 million in federal LWCF funding. Of the individual grants awarded, the majority, 86%, are for development or rehabilitation of outdoor recreation facilities, while 10% will be used to acquire recreational lands and 4% will support statewide recreation planning efforts.

Current Status:

- For FY 2018 the President has requested $90.0 million for the State Conservation Grants Program (a decrease of $16.6 million from FY17 requested/enacted) and included a proposal to shift funding from discretionary to mandatory appropriations.

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Last Updated: October 3, 2017

Newly Established Units

Bureau: National Park Service
Member: General Interest

Key Points

- The NPS is taking a deliberate approach to developing operations at its newest units, as compared to past political and budget environments.
- In the first budget request following creation of a new unit, the NPS typically requests $180,000 to support a superintendent or site manager and basic start-up costs. Until Congress appropriates funding for new units, the NPS will not begin operating the new units in the traditional sense. Employees from the regional office or neighboring parks may be detailed in to provide intermediate support, but permanent, long-term operations do not begin.
- Since 2000, 39 new units have been established in the national park system; of which 19 have been designated through a Presidential Proclamation citing the authority promulgated in the Antiquities Act (54 USC 320301).

Background

- Assuming Congress funds the $180,000 as requested, the new superintendent/site manager position will then begin developing the plan to build permanent operations, including identification of investments needed with one-time project funds.
- The delay between creation of a new unit and permanent funding for expected operations often causes frustration with stakeholders and partners of the new units.
- As more new units have been added to the System, the NPS has prioritized stair-step increases in operational funds for new units to ensure they reach minimal operating levels; this has been done at the expense of other parks and program needs within tight budgets for operational funding.
- Since 2000, 39 new units have been established in the national park system; of these, 19 have been designated through the Antiquities Act, including 15 since 2009: Fort Monroe, Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad, Cesar E. Chavez, First State, Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers, Pullman, Honouliuli, Waco Mammoth, Castle Mountains, Belmont-Paul Women's Equality, Stonewall, Katahdin Woods and Waters, Birmingham Civil Rights, Freedom Riders, and Reconstruction Era National Monuments.
- These new national park units seek to connect with new audiences as the units often represent untold stories of American history; they commemorate specific events (Freedom Riders NM), influential Americans (Cesar E. Chavez and Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers NMs), or entire movements (Belmont-Paul Women's Equality and Stonewall NMs). Issues range from farm workers' rights; to the first American colony; to the fight for equal rights for African Americans, the LGBT community, and women.
- To reduce the burden on the federal government, many of the recently authorized units are managed in cooperation with partners. For example, Manhattan Project NHP located in New Mexico, Tennessee, and Washington, tells the story of the people, events, science, and engineering that led to the creation of the atomic bomb, is managed in partnership with the Department of Energy. Additionally, Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad NHP in Maryland, which tells the story of one woman's role in an entire movement to guide enslaved people north to freedom, is managed in partnership with the state of Maryland.

Current Status

- The FY 2018 President's Budget requested $1.1 million in funding for initial support ($180,000 each) for Birmingham Civil Rights, Castle Mountains, Freedom Riders, Katahdin Woods and Waters, Reconstruction Era, and Stonewall national monuments; all of which were authorized or established after the FY 2017 President's Budget Request was published in February 2016.
- As of October 2017, there are 23 pending Special Resource Studies that are evaluating the feasibility of new park units. Congress directs NPS through legislation to undertake studies of sites to provide analysis about the resource qualities at the site and alternatives for protection. The special resource and other study processes are designed to provide Congress with information used in the legislative process of designating a new unit.

Contact Person: Jessica Bowron, NPS Comptroller, (202) 513-7138, Jessica_bowron@nps.gov
Last Updated: October 3, 2017

Unit Name	Date Established	Authority	FY 2016 Enacted ($000)	FY 2017 Enacted ($000)	FY 2018 Request ($000)
First Ladies NHS	Oct. 2000	P.L. 106-291	1,010	1,011	934
Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front NHP	Oct. 2000	P.L. 106-352	1,313	1,323	1,240
Great Sand Dunes National Preserve	Nov. 2000	P.L. 106-530	2,344	2,352	2,203
Virgin Islands Coral Reef NM	Jan. 2001	Proclamation 7399	454	455	427
Governor's Island NM	Jan. 2001	Proclamation 7402	1,514	1,520	1,418
Minidoka NHS	Sep. 2001	Proclamation 7395	459	460	431
Craters of the Moon NPres	Aug. 2002	P.L. 107-213	1,620	1,625	1,522
Flight 93 NMem	Sept. 2002	P.L. 107-226	1,577	1,582	1,485
Cedar Creek and Belle Grove NHP	Dec. 2002	P.L. 107-373	889	894	835
World War II Memorial[2]	May 2004	P.L. 107- 011	35,048	35,193	32,980
Carter G. Woodson Home NHS[1]	Feb. 2006	P.L. 108-192	16,676	16,750	15,670
African Burial Ground NM	Feb. 2006	Proclamation 7984	1,985	1,989	1,847
Sand Creek Massacre NHS	Apr. 2007	P.L. 106-464	891	894	836
Port Chicago Naval Magazine NM	Oct. 2009	P.L. 111-84	195	297	277
River Raisin NBP	Oct. 2010	P.L. 111-11	677	881	822
President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home NHS	Dec. 2010	P.L. 111-11	458	750	700
Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial[2]	Feb. 2011	P.L. 104-333	35,048	35,193	32,980
Fort Monroe NM	Nov. 2011	Proclamation 8750	509	1,000	925
Paterson Great Falls NHP	Nov. 2011	P.L. 111-11	579	894	832
César E. Chávez NM	Oct. 2012	Proclamation 8884	369	371	345
Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers NM	Mar. 2013	Proclamation 8945	510	663	614
First State NM	Mar. 2013	Proclamation 8944	364	716	666
Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad NM[3]	Mar. 2013	Proclamation 8943	594	705	652
Tule Springs Fossil Beds NM	Dec. 2014	P.L. 113-291	226	537	499
Blackstone River Valley NHP	Dec. 2014	P.L. 113-291	929	931	865
Valles Caldera NPres	Dec. 2014	P.L. 113-291	3,354	3,366	3,141
World War I Memorial[2]	Dec. 2014	P.L. 113-291	35,048	35,193	32,980
Pullman NM	Feb. 2015	Proclamation 9233	180	571	533
Honouliuli NM	Feb. 2015	Proclamation 9234	209	346	321
Waco Mammoth NM	Jul. 2015	Proclamation 9299	180	375	348
Manhattan Project NHP	Nov. 2015	P.L. 113-291	341	691	639
Castle Mountains NM	Feb. 2016	Proclamation 9394	N/A	N/A	180
Belmont-Paul Women's Equality NM[2,4]	Apr. 2016	Proclamation 9423	35,048	35,193	32,980
Stonewall NM	Jun. 2016	Proclamation 9465	N/A	N/A	180
Katahdin Woods and Waters NM	Aug. 2016	Proclamation 9476	N/A	N/A	180
Harriet Tubman NHP[3]	Jan. 2017	P.L. 113-291	594	705	652
Birmingham Civil Rights NM	Jan. 2017	Proclamation 9565	N/A	N/A	180
Freedom Riders NM	Jan. 2017	Proclamation 9566	N/A	N/A	180
Reconstruction Era NM	Jan. 2017	Proclamation 9567	N/A	N/A	180

[1] This unit is a site within National Capital Parks-East for which site-level budget data is not available. The total for National Capital Parks-East is presented here.

[2] These units are sites within the National Mall & Memorial Parks for which site-level budget data is not available. The total for the National Mall & Memorial Parks is presented here.

[3] In the FY 2018 President's Request, funding information for Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad NM and Harriet Tubman NHP were shown on the same row.

[4] Formerly designated Sewall-Belmont NHS, an affiliated area of the National Park System.

Partnerships & Philanthropy

Bureau: National Park Service
Member: General Interest

Key Points

- The NPS accomplishes much of its mission through partnerships with individuals; organizations; tribal, state, and local governments; and other federal agencies, and with philanthropic support.
- By entering into public-private partnerships, the NPS receives valuable assistance in the form of educational programs, visitor services, recreation, search-and-rescue operations, habitat restoration, scientific and scholarly research, ecosystem management, cooperative management, and a host of other activities.
- Philanthropic support is an important supplement—not a replacement—for federal appropriations. It comes in the form of donated funds, and as volunteerism, in-kind support, and the donation of talent to supplement the work of NPS employees.
- Philanthropic support allows the NPS to react more quickly to resource protection or visitor needs than typical federal funding cycles may permit.
- The recent NPS Centennial and the accompanying fundraising and "Find Your Park" marketing campaigns have increased interest in partnering with/donating to the NPS.
- The release of "Director's Order 21: Donations and Philanthropic Partnerships" on December 28, 2016, has made it easier for the NPS to work with a broader range of philanthropic partners. The NPS is also exploring new ways to expand its public private partnerships beyond philanthropy.

Background

- Over the last 100 years, private philanthropy has played a major role in creating and improving parks and programs. This support often comes from individuals, corporations, foundations, or non-profit Friends Groups who fundraise on behalf of the NPS. In 2016, the 212 Friends Groups provided over $300 million in support to the NPS.
- High profile parks are often able to develop successful philanthropic or public-private partnerships to assist in the accomplishment of the NPS mission. The NPS is exploring new models for attracting outside support and gaining access to private sector insights and investment so more parks and programs may benefit.

Current Status

- The NPS is working with the DOI Solicitor's Office and Ethics Office to provide guidance on the most common questions raised by NPS employees engaged in philanthropy and partnerships.
- The reference manual that accompanies DO-21 will be developed throughout 2017. The manual will provide information to implement DO-21.
- The NPS is developing new "collaborative clinics" and partnership training workshops to improve employee proficiency in working with partners and funders.

Contact: Jeffrey Reinbold, Assistant Director, Partnerships & Civic Engagement, (202) 208-2532, jeff_reinbold@nps.gov
Last Updated: October 5, 2017

Sexual Harassment Response

Bureau: National Park Service
Member: General Interest

Key Points:

- Since November 2016, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued several reports related to sexual harassment and retaliation in the National Park Service
- The results from the winter Work Environment Survey indicate that 17.6% of women in the NPS experienced sexual harassment in the last year; this statistic mirrors findings from a 2016 MSPB study where 18% of females reported being harassed
- The NPS will implement key actions to ensure a sustained and comprehensive response to prevent and respond to cases of sexual harassment.

Background:

- The following actions have occurred in the last 16 months
    - The NPS Equal Employment Opportunity now reports to the NPS Director.
    - All managers were required to take Prohibited Personnel Practices and Whistleblower training by June 15th. All employees were required to complete online sexual harassment awareness and NO FEAR Act training by the end of 2017.
    - Two Ombuds have gathered 1,700 comments from 650 employees.
    - A comprehensive Work Environment Survey was issued to all employees.
    - The NPS created the Women's Employee Resource Group (WERG). This group provides peer support and offered bystander intervention training

In the next 15 months:

- The results from the Workplace Environment Survey will be widely shared.
- A new anti-harassment Director's Order will be implemented that will clarify responsibilities and detail a consistent process to ensure accountability.
- All employees will receive training on how to report and respond to allegations of harassment in accordance with the new Director's Order and reference manual.
- All NPS managers will complete Civil Treatment for Leaders training.
- 13 sessions of Bystander Intervention training will be offered to 429 participants and 120 NPS employees will be trained to instruct Bystander Intervention training.
- 15 peer facilitators will conduct 150 listening sessions. Feedback from listening sessions will provide qualitative data to inform management decisions.
- Additional Employee Relations/Labor Relations and Ethics staff will be hired to increase capacity and ensure appropriate responses to incidents of harassment.
- NPS will develop a holistic data collection process and use this information to make data-driven decisions and track and share progress.
- NPS will create and provide materials to new and current employees about preventing and reporting harassment as part of a service-wide approach to consistent onboarding.

Contact: Lena McDowall, Deputy Director, Management and Administration, (202) 208-5651, lena_mcdowall@nps.gov
Last Updated: October 3, 2017

From:	Gale, Michael
To:	Aurelia Skipwith
Cc:	Thomas Garcia; Robbins, Tasha; Foster, Maureen; Greg Sheehan
Subject:	Updated BPs for Micah Chambers OCL on FWS Issues
Date:	Thursday, October 12, 2017 10:26:14 AM
Attachments:	FWS BPs UPDATED.zip

Hello,

Greg asked me to send you this zip file with updated versions of the briefing papers that Micah Chambers sent to you and him asking for edits. Greg has reviewed all of these.

I've copied Thomas Garcia in case you need hard copies of these.

Thanks!

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office
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BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Multiple Member interest
ISSUE: Oil and Gas Development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) of 1980 created the 19 million acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (Arctic Refuge).
- Section 1002 of ANILCA required DOI to conduct a resource assessment, completed in 1987, of the 1.5 million acre Arctic Refuge coastal plain area (1002 Area) located adjacent to the Beaufort Sea.
- In the 1987 assessment, the Secretary recommended that Congress consider leasing the 1002 Area for oil and gas. In 2009, the USGS determined the area had a mean estimate of 10.35 billion barrels of technically recoverable oil with 80 to 90 percent of that volume being economically recoverable.
- The Arctic Refuge's initial Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP), completed in 1988, recognized the coastal plain as a critical calving area for the Porcupine caribou herd, which are an important subsistence resource for Alaska Native people.
- A revised CCP with a final EIS was completed on April 3, 2015. It recommended designating 12 million acres of the Arctic Refuge as Wilderness, including the 1002 Area. Additionally, four rivers were recommended for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Alaska delegation supports leasing the coastal plain for oil and gas development.
- The State of Alaska, North Slope Borough, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, and other development interests oppose the proposed Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River designations in the Arctic Refuge.
- The Native Gwich'in people, as well as environmental and conservation groups, support permanent wilderness designation.
- The majority of public comments on the 2015 CCP supported wilderness designation.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, Sen. Markey (D-MA) introduced S. 820, and Rep. Huffman (D-CA-2) introduced H.R. 1889, nearly identical bills which would designate 1.6 million acres of the Arctic Refuge as wilderness.
- Sen. Murkowski (R-AK) introduced S. 49, and Rep. Young (R-AK) introduced H.R.49, which would both allow oil and gas leasing in the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge.
- The Senate and House FY18 Budget Resolutions contain instructions for obtaining $1 and $5 billion in revenue to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources and House Natural Resources Committees respectively.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The Department included a legislative proposal in the FY 2018 President's Budget to open the coastal plain to oil and gas leasing. The first lease sales are projected to be in 2022 or 2023. A second lease sale would occur four years later.
- A FY18 Congressional Budget Resolution could pave the way for opening the 1002 Area.

October 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Thompson, Portman, Stabenow, Bergman, Franken, Duckworth, McCollum, Joyce, Kaptur
ISSUE: Asian Carp

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Bighead, Black, and Silver carps (Asian carp) are listed as injurious wildlife under the Lacey Act (18 USC 42) and may not be imported or transported between the continental U.S., the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or any other territory of the U.S.
- FWS works with state and federal agency partners to implement the national *Management and Control Plan for Bighead, Black, Grass, and Silver Carps in the United States* (Plan), which addresses Asian carp issues across the nation. The Plan was written by the Asian Carp Working Group of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF). It was approved by the ANSTF in 2007.
- FWS and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) co-chair the 27-member Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee (ACRCC), which develops an annual Action Plan with activities funded through agency base appropriations and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding.
- FWS leads federal implementation of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) Sec. 1039, which calls for increased inter-agency collaboration to prevent the spread of Asian carp in the Upper Mississippi (UMRB) and Ohio River (ORB) Basins.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Asian carp are a high-priority for the Great Lakes Task Force, other Members from the Great Lakes, UMRB and ORB, State leadership, conservation groups, and the media.
- Rep. McCollum (D-MN-4) has an interest in actions conducted in support of WRRDA and efforts focused on the UMRB, especially in Minnesota.
- Sens. Portman (R-OH) and Stabenow (D-MI) and Reps. Kaptur (D-OH-9) and Joyce (R-OH-14) have an interest in actions conducted in the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS) and secondary pathways to protect the Great Lakes.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Sens. Stabenow and Portman held a Great Lakes Task Force meeting to discuss actions within the Midwest on Asian carp. FWS presented. Fourteen Members attended.
- FWS testified in March 2017 before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing, *"Examining Innovative Solutions to Control Invasive Species and Promote Wildlife Conservation".*
- FWS delivered the ANSTF's 2015 Report to Congress.
- July, 2017: In response to a silver carp being found above the last electrical barrier before Lake Michigan, FWS led a Congressional briefing on the 2017 Asian Carp Monitoring and Response Plan and the Upper Illinois Waterway Contingency Response Plan.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Deliver WRRDA 2016 Report to Congress. With OMB for clearance.
- The FY 2018 request for FWS's Asian carp effort is $7,885,000.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bergman, Westerman, Gosar, Cochran, Leahy
ISSUE: Cormorant Depredation of Fish in Southeast, Northeast, and Midwestern States

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Double-crested cormorants are fish-eating birds that are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The MBTA prohibits the take (killing, capture, selling, trading, transport, etc.) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization.
- Cormorants congregate in the southern states in the fall and winter, where they impact aquaculture facilities. In the spring and summer, cormorants congregate in northern states where they are perceived to be a competitor to fishermen for wild free-swimming fish.
- In May 2016, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia vacated two FWS Depredation Orders that previously allowed for the lethal take of cormorants, citing inadequate NEPA documentation.

II. POSITION OF INTERESTED PARTIES

- Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Thad Cochran and other Members representing affected southern states (AL, AR, LA, MS, NC) have urged the FWS to allow for the take of cormorants before they return to southern aquaculture facilities.
- Members from Northeast and Midwest states (MI, MN, NH, NY, VT) have urged the FWS to address cormorant impacts on wild free-swimming fish that are perceived to effect commercial and recreational fisheries in their states.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, Rep. Crawford and Sen. Cotton introduced companion bills, H.R. 368 and S. 219, cosponsored by Members from AR, AL, MS, and NC, to address cormorant impacts on aquaculture by reinstating the FWS Depredation Order that the U.S. District Court vacated.
- The FY 2017 appropriations conference report directed the FWS to expedite NEPA documents that would allow the agency to issue cormorant depredation permits per the direction of the U.S. District Court.
- On July 22, 2017 Rep. Bergman used his time during a House Natural Resources Committee to ask Sec. Zinke to address the cormorant and wild fish issue in his district.

IV. NEXT STEPS / OUTLOOK

- FWS and USDA are completing a NEPA Environmental Assessment to evaluate options for lethal take permits for aquaculture facilities, among other circumstances, which is expected to be completed by the end of October.
- FWS will also review the science and options for lethal take permits involving cormorants and their potential damage to recreational and commercial fishing, including by working with state fish and wildlife agencies to collect and share data. This process is expected to take at least a year.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Murkowski, Bishop, Cantwell, Grijalva
ISSUE: FWS' Deferred Maintenance Backlog

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Over 51 million people visited FWS hatcheries and refuges last year, including hunters, anglers, birders, and other outdoor recreationists.
- FWS real property assets include: 6,500 buildings; 8,600 water management structures; nearly 14,000 roads, bridges, and dams; and 10,500 "other" structures.
- Inadequate investments in asset maintenance have led to failing infrastructure and a deferred maintenance backlog at the FWS.
- While the FWS has reduced its backlog since 2010, a current FWS deferred maintenance (DM) backlog of approximately $1.4 billion remains.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- There is congressional interest in addressing the DM backlog at the FWS, and across the Department of the Interior.
- Chairman Rob Bishop (R-UT) and other Members have taken the position that funding the Department's DM backlog should be prioritized, specifically over new land acquisition funding.
- Chairwoman Murkowski (R-AK) has emphasized public-private partnerships to address DM funding.
- Ranking Members Cantwell (D-WA) and Grijalva (D-AZ) are supportive of DM funding.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- The House Natural Resources Committee included addressing the DM backlog in the Committee's oversight plan for the 115th Congress.
- Chairwoman Murkowski's Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hosted staff briefings in March on the DM backlog where FWS and other Bureaus presented.
- Chairwoman Murkowski held a hearing in March on the topic of "opportunities to improve and expand infrastructure important to federal lands, recreation, water, and resources" where she highlighted addressing the Department's DM backlog.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The President's FY18 budget request emphasizes DM funding, requesting $41.0 million in Refuge DM and $10.2 million in Hatchery DM.
- The House-passed FY18 omnibus appropriations bill increased Refuge DM by $1.3 million to $42.3 million and added $3.0 million to Hatchery DM for a total of $13.2 million.
- Outside of the annual appropriations process, Congress and the Administration are considering a separate infrastructure package that would likely include provisions to address the FWS's and the Department's DM.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bishop, Grijalva, Huffman, Calvert
ISSUE: Delisting/Downlisting 3-Year Plan

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In order to recognize success in recovering species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), keep the lists of endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species accurate and up-to-date, and focus conservation resources on those species most in need, the FWS reviews the status of listed species every five years, and responds to petitions received from the public to determine whether listed species should be reclassified from endangered to threatened (downlisted) or removed from the list (delisted).
- The FWS has developed a national workplan reflecting our schedule for actions addressing 5-year status review recommendations and substantive petitions to downlist and delist species over the next three years.
- The workplan was developed to provide greater clarity and predictability regarding the timing of eventual downlisting and delisting determinations to state wildlife agencies, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders and partners.
- A species' inclusion in this workplan does not mean that a final decision has been made to downlist or delist.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- There is congressional interest in focusing ESA recovery funding on activities that are inherently federal, such as 5-year reviews and status changes.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- The House FY 2018 Interior Appropriations bill contains $85,570,000 for ESA recovery activities, including $3,000,000 for delisting and downlisting activities.
- The House FY 2018 Interior Appropriations Committee Report directed the Service to complete all five-year reviews within the period required by law, and, for any determination on the basis of such review whether a species should be delisted, downlisted, or uplisted, promulgate an associated regulation prior to initiating the next status review for such species.

III. NEXT STEPS

- To keep the public informed of our progress in recovering species, the FWS plans to periodically update this work plan to reflect our consideration of new information over time, new status reviews initiated as a result of petitions, and new recommendations resulting from our 5-year reviews.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Feinstein, McCarthy, Calvert, McClintock, Denham, LaMalfa, Costa, Huffman
ISSUE: Delta Smelt, 08 Biological Opinion, California WaterFix Consultation, FISH Act

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The threatened Delta smelt is a small fish endemic to the San Francisco Bay-Delta that completes its entire one-year lifecycle in and near where fresh and salt water mix in the estuary. The Bay-Delta has been altered by land use changes, water development, and invasive species, reducing the amount of high quality habitat available for Delta smelt.
- Record-low abundance of Delta smelt reflects decades of habitat change, competition and predation from invasive species, and the recent multi-year drought.
- In 2008, FWS issued a jeopardy Biological Opinion (BiOp) on the operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. FWS included a Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA), affecting the amount of water that can be used from the system, to avoid jeopardy and adverse modification, which remains in place today.
- The WaterFix project represents the State of California's plan to upgrade outdated infrastructure in the Delta to secure water supplies and improve the Delta's ecosystem. FWS finalized the WaterFix BiOp in June 2017.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Water export restrictions to protect Delta smelt are opposed by agricultural and municipal water users, but supported by environmental groups and fishing interests.
- WaterFix is supported by a number of agricultural and municipal interests and the State of California, but opposed by many environmental groups (who have filed litigation challenging the WaterFix BiOp) and local landowners. The Westlands Water District Board recently voted against participating in WaterFix stating that the project is not financially viable.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- FWS is working with partners to implement the requirements contained in the 2016 WIIN (Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation) Act, which contained a requirement to develop and expand captive breeding capability.
- In October 2017, Congressmen Calvert, LaMalfa, and others introduced the Federally Integrated Species Health (FISH) Act to consolidate management and regulation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) with the FWS. This would essentially transfer authority over ESA-listed marine mammals and anadromous fish, such as salmon, from the National Marine Fisheries Service to FWS.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- In August 2016, a multi-year process, led by Bureau of Reclamation with federal and state partners, began to develop a new BiOp to find balance between the needs of agriculture, municipalities and conservation.
- FWS approved Reclamation's proposal to modify implementation of RPA Action 4 from the 2008 BiOp in October 2017, which is intended to maintain the low salinity zone in specific locations in the estuary during the fall in wet and above normal water years.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bishop, McClintock, Pearce, Grijalva, Tsongas, Beyer, Huffman
ISSUE: ESA Reform and Legislation

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In this Congress, the EPW Committee and HNR Committee have expressed an interest in moving legislation that would amend the ESA, and have held related oversight hearings.
- Hearings and oversight in the 114th Congress centered on the role of litigation and settlements, use of data, transparency in decision-making, policies for designating critical habitat, and barriers to recovery.
- FWS is participating in a multi-year process led by the Western Governors' Association (WGA) to examine species conservation and the ESA and to identify actions to improve the statute or its implementation.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Last June, the WGA passed a resolution urging Congress to reauthorize the ESA, including several principles to reform the law.
- This March, the National Governor's Association adopted a policy similar to the WGA.
- The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has participated in discussions on ESA reform, including an April EPW staff briefing with other state officials.
- Chairman Bishop (R-UT-1) has expressed strong interest in reforming the ESA.
- Ranking Member Grijalva (D-AZ-3) is opposed to reforming the ESA.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- H.R. 3916 (Calvert: R-CA) – Would transfer management of ESA-listed anadromous fish (salmon, sturgeon, etc.) from NOAA Fisheries to FWS. HNR Subcommittee legislative hearing is scheduled for Oct. 12. DOI statement for the record supports the bill.
- FWS Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan testified in July before HNR generally in support of 5 bills to amend the ESA. All 5 bills passed out of HNR on Oct. 4.
    - H.R. 424 – Gray Wolf State Management Act (Peterson: D-MN) – Reinstates delisting of Western Great Lakes and WY wolves.
    - H.R. 717 – Listing Reform Act (Olson: R-TX) – Requires economic analysis at listing for threatened species, gives flexibility to prioritize petitions, removes 90-day and 12-month deadlines.
    - H.R. 1274 – State, Tribal, and Local Species Transparency and Recovery Act (Newhouse: R-WA) – Requires data transparency, requires all data be provided to states prior to listing, defines best available data to include state & local.
    - H.R. 2603 – Saving America's Endangered Species (SAVES) Act (Gohmert: R-TX) -- Nonnative species in U.S. not considered listed under ESA.
    - H.R. 3131 – Endangered Species Litigation Reasonableness Act (Huizenga: R-MI) – Would tie ESA fee awards to EAJA cap of $125/hr

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The WGA issued recommendations for ESA reform over the summer.
- We anticipate continued oversight and legislative activity from HNR and EPW regarding ESA implementation and modernization.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bishop, Lamborn, Labrador, Tipton, Cheney, Barrasso, Risch, Daines, Calvert, Stewart, Simpson, Amodei, Lee
ISSUE: Greater sage-grouse

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In 2010, FWS made the greater sage-grouse a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. In response, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service (USFS) worked with the states to develop a land use strategy to conserve and restore sagebrush habitat across the species' range.
- In 2015, citing the federal land use strategy and associated rangeland fire strategy, along with state and private lands conservation efforts, FWS determined that the greater sage-grouse was not warranted for listing under the ESA.
- The 2015 "not warranted" finding included a commitment to revisit the status of the species in 5 years, a commitment made to strengthen the defensibility of that finding.
- FWS and a coalition of public and private partners, particularly the states, have built a durable, collaborative effort to conserve sagebrush-dependent species, avoid future listing of those species, and secure a healthy sagebrush ecosystem for people and wildlife.
- BLM and USFS amended or revised nearly 100 resource and land management plans to improve protections for sage-grouse and sagebrush habitat.
- All states have sage-grouse plans; some interface seamlessly with the federal plans. States have management responsibility for the species and are leading the larger effort to proactively conserve the larger sagebrush ecosystem.
- In August 2017, Secretary Zinke received a report from the Department's Sage-Grouse Review Team regarding possible plan and policy modifications to complement state efforts to improve greater sage-grouse conservation and economic development on public lands, as required by Secretarial Order 3353.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Some conservation groups were critical of the FWS' not-warranted determination; others were highly supportive.
- Some industry and trade groups have filed litigation opposing the federal plans.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, legislation seeks to provide state management over federal land management plans and delay future action to list the sage-grouse. Sponsors include Sens. Risch (R-ID), Lee (R-UT), and Daines (R-MT) and Reps. Simpson (R-ID), Amodei (R-NV), Gosar (R-AZ), Stewart (R-UT), Tipton (R-CO), and Cheney (R-WY).
- The FY17 Omnibus appropriations bill bars FWS from expending any funds for status reviews, listing determinations, or rulemakings regarding the greater sage-grouse.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS will continue to provide technical assistance to public and private partners as they implement sage-grouse conservation measures. FWS will also continue to support collaborative efforts to conserve the larger sagebrush ecosystem.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Tester, Daines, Simpson, McCollum, Barrasso, Risch, Labrador, Cheney, Grijalva, Newhouse
ISSUE: Grizzly Bears

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In 1975, FWS listed the grizzly bear as threatened in the lower 48 states.
- FWS organizes grizzly bears into six recovery zones/ecosystems to allow for targeted recovery efforts. Recovery zones include parts of WA, ID, MT, and WY.
- In March 2007, FWS finalized a rule to establish the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem grizzly bear distinct population segment (DPS) and to delist this DPS due to recovery. Courts overturned this rule in 2009, reinstating ESA protections for Yellowstone bears.
- In June 2017, FWS published a new final rule to delist the Yellowstone DPS. The rule does not change the threatened status of the remaining grizzly bears in the lower 48 states. FWS has received several complaints from environmental groups and tribal interests challenging the rule.
- In early 2017, the National Park Service and FWS published a draft Environmental Impact Statement on alternatives to restore grizzly bear in the North Cascades Recovery Unit. Alternatives range from no action to the establishment of a population of grizzly bears in the North Cascades Ecosystem.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Most members of Congress and federal and state agencies supported the delisting of the Yellowstone grizzly bear DPS.
- Tribes had varying opinions regarding delisting and some had strong opposition to delisting grizzly bears in the Yellowstone ecosystem.
- Several environmental groups have been outspoken in their opposition to delisting.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Senators Daines (R-MT), Barrasso (R-WY), Enzi (R-WY), Rep. Cheney (R-WY), and House Natural Resources Chairman Bishop (R-UT) issued statements supporting the final delisting of the Yellowstone grizzly bear.
- Rep. Grijalva (D-AZ-3) opposed delisting, citing tribal rights and hunting concerns.
- Rep. Newhouse (R-WA-4) has expressed opposition to potential restoration of grizzly bears in the North Cascades. His office remains engaged with FWS on the issue.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The comment period on the North Cascades draft EIS closed in April 2017. Next steps include analyzing comments, developing a final EIS, and issuing a Record of Decision.
- In August 2017, in regards to delisting wolves in the Western Great Lakes, a court ruled that FWS failed to reasonably analyze or consider: (1) the impacts of partial delisting; and, (2) historical range loss on the already listed species. FWS will pursue any future proposals to delist a grizzly bear DPS in the context of that ruling. This is most relevant to the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem recovery zone in northern Montana.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Frelinghuysen
ISSUE: Highlands Conservation Act

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The Highlands Conservation Act (HCA) was enacted in 2004 to provide assistance to States to preserve and protect high quality conservation land in the 3.4 million acre Highlands region of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.
- The program was first funded in 2007. The program also received funding in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2015, 2016, and 2017.
- In FY 2016, Congress increased the appropriation "up to $10 million," and included administrative funding to the FWS, which had not been provided in several years. FWS works with the U.S. Forest Service and the four states to identify projects that meet the intent of the law to conserve important habitat in the Highlands region.
- To date, more than $26 million in Federal funds has been allocated to the four states for land acquisition. These funds have resulted in the permanent protection of over 6,200 acres and leveraged non-Federal funds at a nearly 3:1 ratio.
- Funding for the program comes from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- There is no funding for Highlands in the FY 2018 President's Budget.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Highlands Coalition is comprised of more than 200 national, regional, state and local organizations that work collaboratively with state agencies, the U.S. Forest Service and FWS to implement critical conservation in the Highlands region. This broad coalition has yielded sustained congressional support.
- House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee Chairman Frelinghuysen is a champion of the program which also has bi-partisan support across all four states.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Chairman Frelinghuysen introduced H.R. 1281(S. 1627, Sen. Gillibrand [D-NY]) to reauthorize the law through 2021. No Congressional action has been taken to date.

IV. NEXT STEPS

- FWS is working with the U.S. Forest Service on a Memorandum of Understanding to solidify roles and responsibilities for administering the grant program.
- August 2017: FWS announced funding distribution of $2,420,000 to each of the four states. Announcements of funding to states were sent to Congressional offices.
- The 2018 President's Budget did not include funding for Highlands.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Murkowski, Young
ISSUE: Izembek National Wildlife Refuge and King Cove Road

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- This issue centers on construction of a road through wilderness areas of the Izembek Refuge to provide access to an all-weather airport for the community of King Cove, AK.
- Congress previously appropriated funds to upgrade the local medical clinic, improve the King Cove airstrip, and enhance a marine transportation link between the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay.
- The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 directed the Secretary to develop an EIS to evaluate a three-party land exchange between the federal government, the State of Alaska, and the King Cove Corporation for the purpose of constructing a road between King Cove and Cold Bay, which has an existing all-weather airport.
- As part of the proposed land exchange, about 56,000 acres owned by the State and King Cove Corporation would be transferred to the Izembek and Alaska Peninsula Refuges.
- The proposed King Cove road would cross designated wilderness in the Izembek Refuge, potentially creating adverse impacts to high value habitat.
- In December 2013, as required by the 2009 law, former Interior Secretary Jewell issued a final decision that found the land exchange was not in the public interest.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Alaska Congressional Delegation strongly supports the road and land exchange.
- The communities of King Cove and Cold Bay support the land exchange and road.
- Wilderness and environmental groups strongly oppose a road due to the impacts to fish and wildlife habitat.
- Some Alaska Natives and subsistence users in the Yukon Delta also oppose the road.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Senator Murkowski included policy language in the FY16 and FY17 Interior-Environment appropriations bills that would require a land transfer at Izembek. The language was not ultimately included in the final FY16 or FY17 appropriations bills.
- At the time of drafting, the FY18 Senate appropriations bill was not yet released.
- This year, bills were introduced by Sen. Murkowski (S. 101) and Rep. Young (H.R. 218) to provide a land exchange for the construction of a road between the two communities. H.R. 218 passed the House on July 20, 2017.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Next steps depend on whether the land exchange is with the State of Alaska or Native Corporation. For example, if land is exchanged with the Native Corporation, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Section 22(g) and its implementing regulation, 50 CFR 25.21, stipulates that Alaska Native Village Corporation lands within the boundaries of a National Wildlife Refuge established prior to ANCSA are subject to National Wildlife Refuge System compatibility requirements. If land is exchanged with the State of Alaska, then a National Environmental Policy Act EIS is likely required, unless new statute dictates otherwise.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Gohmert, Westerman, Johnson, Denham, and Tsongas
ISSUE: D.C. Circuit Decision on FWS Interpretation of Lacey Act Interstate Transport Prohibition

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Under the Lacey Act (18 U.S.C. §42), the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to regulate the importation and transport between the continental U.S., the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or any other territory of the U.S., of species determined to be injurious to human beings, the interests of agriculture, horticulture or forestry, or to wildlife or wildlife resources of the U.S. FWS has long interpreted the language related to shipment of injurious species to prohibit transportation of injurious species between states within the continental U.S.
- The U.S. Association of Reptile Keepers (USARK) filed a lawsuit in December 2013 challenging FWS authority. The District Court for the District of Columbia found that 18 U.S.C. § 42(a)(1) does not prohibit interstate transport of injurious wildlife between states within the continental U.S. and enjoined FWS from implementing that provision with respect to two species at issue in the litigation. FWS appealed this decision.
- On April 7, 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit affirmed the District Court's judgment and held that FWS lacks authority pursuant to the Lacey Act to prohibit shipments of injurious species between states within the continental U.S.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Aquaculture and live animal trade industries have expressed support for the Appellate Court's decision.
- The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has concerns regarding the FWS losing its ability to regulate the interstate transport of injurious species between States within the continental U.S.
- Senator Gillibrand (D-NY) has an interest in revising the injurious species listing process

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Rep. Gohmert (R-TX-1) introduced HR 1807 - Public Water Supply Invasive Species Compliance Act of 2017 (companion bill in the Senate, S. 789 sponsored by Sen. Cruz (R-TX)), exempting certain water transfers between public water supplies located on, along, or across the boundaries of Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana from the Lacey Act. Reps. Westerman (R-AR-4) and Mike Johnson (R-LA-4), who are on the House Natural Resources Committee, are co-sponsors. The bill was passed out of committee.
- October, 2017: Senator Gillibrand (D-NY) had a press conference on the emerald ash borer beetle in the Adirondacks, mentioning the injurious species listing process. Gillibrand has previously introduced legislation to reform this process. Reintroduction of this legislation is likely to occur this session; but, it has not yet happened.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS did not seek additional appeals and as a result of this decision the FWS may no longer place any limitation on transport of injurious wildlife across the 49 continental states

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Gardner, Cole, Calvert, Gohmert, Pearce, Tipton
ISSUE: Lesser Prairie-Chicken

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In April 2014, FWS listed the lesser prairie-chicken as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and concurrently finalized a special rule under section 4(d) of the ESA that established compliance with the State-led Range-wide Conservation Plan as also being ESA compliant.
- In June 2014, the Permian Basin Petroleum Association and four New Mexico counties filed a lawsuit challenging the FWS's final rule to list the lesser prairie-chicken. Separate lawsuits were filed by other plaintiffs, including environmental groups.
- In September 2015, a U.S. District Court ruled on the Permian Basin lawsuit and vacated the FWS's listing rule. The Government decided not to appeal.
- Prior to the 2015 court ruling, FWS began work on a species status assessment for the lesser prairie-chicken, with input from the five range states. The goal of the status assessment was to synthesize the best available science to inform recovery planning and conservation actions.
- In September 2016, FWS was petitioned to list the lesser prairie-chicken as endangered. FWS found the petition to be substantial. The status assessment will also serve to inform the 12 month finding on that petition.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), in partnership with New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, created *The Lesser Prairie-Chicken Range-wide Conservation Plan* to develop a conservation and mitigation strategy for the species. FWS will incorporate WAFWA's 2016 Annual Report into the status assessment, along with 2017 population survey results.
- Several Members of Congress disagreed with FWS's 2014 decision to list the lesser prairie-chicken under the ESA.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 114th Congress, Rep. Lucas (R-OK) filed an amendment to the House National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to prohibit listing the bird under the ESA; the amendment was withdrawn. Similar language was included in other NDAA amendments, appropriations bills, and a standalone bill.
- There has been no relevant legislation introduced in the 115th Congress.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS anticipates completing the status assessment in 2017, though exact timing depends on recommendations and comments received from peer and Working Group reviewers. The status assessment will inform future decisions related to the bird. Coordination with the States, WAFWA and others is expected to continue.
- FWS did not meet the deadline for the 12-month finding on the petition to list (September 8, 2017). The finding is expected after completion of the status assessment and will fully consider the conservation actions underway.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Murkowski, Simpson
ISSUE: FWS Mitigation Policy Status

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The FWS has used a mitigation policy since 1981 to guide agency recommendations on mitigating the adverse impacts of land and water development projects on fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats.
- In 2016, FWS finalized revisions to the 1981 policy. Notably, the scope of the revised policy expanded to address all resources for which FWS has authority to require or recommend mitigation, including those listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
- In December 2016, the FWS finalized the ESA compensatory mitigation policy, a more detailed, ESA-specific stepdown of the revised Service-wide mitigation policy.
- These policies were consistent with the Presidential Memorandum entitled *Mitigating Impacts on Natural Resources from Development and Encouraging Related Private Investment* (PM) (November 3, 2015) and with Secretarial Order 3330, *Improving Mitigation Policies and Practices of the Department of the Interior* (October 31, 2013).
- A March 28, 2017, Executive Order (EO) rescinded the 2015 PM and directed all agencies to identify affected agency actions (including existing regulations, orders, and policies) and, as appropriate, suspend, revise, or rescind them.
- Sec. Order (SO) 3349 (March 29, 2017) implements the March 2017 EO. It revoked SO 3330 and required the Deputy Secretary to inform the Bureaus whether to proceed with reconsideration, modification, or rescission of actions related to the PM or SO 3330.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Sen. Murkowski (R-AK) strongly opposed the 2016 revised mitigation policy and sent a letter to former FWS Director Ashe urging him to retract it, expressing concern about its standard and the impact of the policy on smaller entities, such as Alaska Native communities, who want to develop resources on their lands.
- At a March 2016 Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing, the State of Alaska expressed concerns with the PM and requested its revision to incorporate the Alaska Native Settlement Claims Act and Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation.
- Response from State agencies varied; FWS received comments from States both supporting and expressing concerns with the policies.
- In some cases, industry had concerns that the policies were an attempt to create new authority for FWS.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Rep. Newhouse (R-WA) introduced two resolutions to disapprove the two FWS mitigation policies through the Congressional Review Act (CRA), but no further action has been taken on them.

IV. NEXT STEPS

- Consistent with SO 3349, this October, FWS will solicit public comment on the policies. Based on comments received, FWS will contemplate next steps on the policies.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: McCollum, Udall, Feinstein, Stewart, Bishop
ISSUE: Southwest Border Law Enforcement and Conservation Issues

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- There are eight National Wildlife Refuges along the U.S.-Mexico border, three in Texas, two in California and three in Arizona. FWS has 18 Federal Wildlife Officers (FWO) that cover these refuges.
- Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge sits along the U.S.-Mexico border in Texas, and has been identified as a location for early preparations for border wall construction. The Refuge has been visited this year by Senator Cornyn's (R-TX) staff and Representative O'Rourke (D-TX-16). Senator Cruz (R-TX) has expressed an interest in visiting the refuge as well.
- The FWOs at border refuges provide safety and security for visitors and protect fish, wildlife, cultural, and archaeological resources. Additionally, working closely with DHS, they address border issues that spill onto refuges, including drug and human trafficking and fatalities of undocumented immigrants.
- These refuges also face increased habitat degradation from significant amounts of human trash and waste left on site, escaped camp fires, sewage spills, and trail and road erosion. Additional trash is generated on Arizona border refuges by humanitarian organizations who, contrary to refuge regulations, leave stock piles of food, water, and clothing for illegal border crossers.
- Many native animals, like pronghorn antelope and ocelots, migrate across the Southwest border; physical barriers could also affect movement of wildlife and could affect surface water movement, causing local flooding.
- Sec. 102. of the REAL ID Act (P.L. 109-13), signed into law in 2005, gives the Department of Homeland Security authority to waive most environmental laws, including NEPA and the ESA, to ensure expeditious construction of barriers and roads.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Some Congressional Members have expressed concern about the cost of expanding and maintain a wall along the border, and the impact it may have on species and habitat in the area, as well as the impact on public lands, including National Wildlife Refuges.
- Other Members have explained how effective border security protects the environment by deterring illegal activity and border crossings.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- On October 4, the House Homeland Security Committee passed the Border Security for America Act (H.R. 3548), which includes a $10 billion authorization for construction of a U.S.-Mexico border wall.
- On July 27, the House passed the Make America Secure Appropriations Act of 2018 (H.R. 3219), which includes $1.6 billion in funding for construction of the border wall.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Congress will continue to debate funding for the border wall.
- The President's FY18 budget request includes $1.6 billion for border wall construction.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Senator Murkowski (R-AK), Representative Don Young (R-AK-AL)
ISSUE: Alaska Native-Crafted Walrus Ivory

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In 2016, FWS finalized regulations to prohibit most commercial domestic trade in African elephant ivory. Also, several states (including California, New Jersey, Hawaii, and Nevada) have taken steps to ban the intrastate purchase and sale of ivory (some including walrus and other types of ivory). Some state ivory bans have provisions that exempt items expressly authorized by federal law, license, or permit. At least 8 more states are considering such measures.
- Alaska Native artists are expressing concern to the Alaska Congressional delegation about loss of sales, because consumers are nervous about buying ivory and confusion over federal and state laws governing the sale of ivory.
- The U.S. does not prohibit the sale, purchase, import, export, or transport of genuine, Alaska Native-crafted walrus ivory pieces, and these may be brought into the lower 48 states by individual consumers or shipped to retail stores.
- In May of 2017, DOI announced the release of a brochure, coordinated by DOI's Indian Arts and Crafts Board (Board) and FWS to inform consumers and Alaska Native artists about walrus conservation, relevant laws, and how law enforcement recognizes walrus ivory and distinguishes it from elephant ivory.
- This brochure is being distributed online, through DOI venues, and has been offered to cruise lines and other tourism outlets. Related advertisement has also been published.
- FWS ensures its law enforcement officers are fully knowledgeable about identifying elephant vs. walrus ivory during inspections of imports and exports.
- FWS also works closely with the Board to investigate and pursue cases of counterfeit Native arts and crafts that violate the Indian Arts and Crafts Act, including several in AK.
- On October 4, 2017, the Service announced a "not warranted" finding for listing of walrus under the ESA.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Alaska delegation has expressed concern about the impact of the elephant ivory ban and state ivory bans on the sales of genuine Alaska Native-crafted walrus ivory.
- Members are pleased with the efforts of FWS and the Board to inform consumers and artists about the importance of Native American arts and crafts, and the legality of the sale of Alaska Native-crafted walrus ivory, as well as our efforts to enforce the Indian Arts and Crafts Act.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- This issue was raised by Senator Murkowski during the June 21, 2017 Senate Interior Appropriations hearing for FY 2018.
- FWS and the Board have met on this issue with staff of the three AK delegation offices.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The Department will continue to work to increase awareness and provide best information about relevant Federal laws.
- During the FY 2018 Senate Interior appropriations hearing, the Secretary committed to a Secretarial Order and to convene a working group on the matter.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Young, Grijalva, Beyer, Flake, Portman, McCollum, Udall
ISSUE: Combating Wildlife Trafficking

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- FWS (via DOI) is a co-chair, along with the State Department and Department of Justice, of the interagency Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking.
- In 2016, Congress passed the bipartisan, bicameral END Wildlife Trafficking Act, which codified the Task Force, National Strategy, and Implementation Plan, and included additional requirements of federal agencies.
- In 2016, FWS finalized regulations to prohibit most commercial domestic trade in African elephant ivory. Exemptions for antiques and items containing small amounts of ivory were included to allow for the continued trade in items that do not impact conservation of African elephants.
- In February 2017, the President signed an Executive Order on Transnational Organized Crime, which states the U.S. shall address threats to national security from transnational criminal organizations involved in a variety of activities, including wildlife trafficking.
- FWS has stationed law enforcement special agents at U.S. embassies as international attachés to address wildlife trafficking in key nations.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Combating wildlife trafficking has strong bipartisan support in Congress.
- Several Members of Congress are also supportive of FWS' broader international conservation and wildlife law enforcement work.
- Some Members have sought to limit FWS authority to restrict elephant ivory trade.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, there have been several bills introduced that address wildlife trafficking and international conservation, including:
    - H.R. 227, sponsored by Rep. Young (R-AK-AL) reauthorizes the Multinational Species Conservation Funds (Funds).
    - H.R. 1247, sponsored by Rep. Donovan (R-NY-11), and S. 480, sponsored by Sen. Portman (R-OH), reauthorize the Tiger Stamp.
    - S. 826, sponsored by Sen. Barrasso (R-WY), reauthorizes the Funds and creates a prize competition to address wildlife trafficking.
    - H.R. 226, sponsored by Rep. Young (R-AK-AL), would allow for the commercial trade of African elephant ivory.

IV. NEXT STEPS/OUTLOOK

- The Task Force continues to implement the END Wildlife Trafficking Act. FWS and State have taken the lead in developing a list of countries of concern due to wildlife trafficking. This list will be included in a report due to Congress in early October.
- We expect less focus on wildlife trafficking issues in this Congress given the passage of the END Wildlife Trafficking Act in the 114th Congress. However, there are still Members who are focused on this issue who will pursue events, briefings, and additional legislation.
- In FY 2018, the Service requests $8.9 million specifically dedicated for combating wildlife trafficking.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Barrasso, Flake, Heinrich, Gardner, Stabenow, Franken, Wyden, Merkley, Udall, McCollum, Stewart, Pearce, Gosar, Bishop, Tipton, Bergman, Cheney, Rouzer
ISSUE: Wolves

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- FWS believes the wolf is recovered under the ESA, and has attempted to delist it nationwide, except for the Mexican wolf and the red wolf subspecies.
- In 2014, final rules delisting **Gray wolves** in Wyoming and in the Western Great Lakes (WGL) were vacated by separate District Court judges; ESA protections were reinstated for these populations. FWS appealed both of these rulings.
- In March 2017, a court ruled in favor of FWS delisting WY wolves and, in April, the FWS reinstated its previous Wyoming delisting rule.
- In August 2017, a court ruled against FWS delisting of WGL wolves; Wolves remain federally endangered in WI and MI and threatened in MN.
- Wolves are under state management in eastern WA and OR, but wolves in the western portions of those states remain endangered, limiting management options.
- In January 2015, FWS separately listed the **Mexican wolf** as endangered and revised regulations for the nonessential experimental population under ESA section 10(j).
- In 2016, New Mexico sued FWS to enjoin release of Mexican wolves without state permits. An injunction was issued, but vacated upon appeal in April 2017. FWS is reviewing comments on the draft revised recovery plan for the Mexican wolf subspecies.
- **Red wolves** are listed as endangered and exist in the wild as a non-essential, experimental population (NEP) in eastern NC. In September 2016, after a review of the red wolf recovery program, FWS announced plans to propose changes to the NEP management, expand the captive population, and revise the recovery plan.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The environmental community largely opposes actions to lessen protections for wolves.
- States support efforts to delist wolves, and to prevent and compensate for depredation.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- 115th Congress Legislation: S. 368, Requires revised recovery plan for Mexican wolves (Sen. Flake); S. 164 and H.R. 424, Reinstates FWS final rules delisting wolves in Wyoming and WGL (Sen. Barrasso and Reps. Cheney, Labrador, Simpson, Bergman). Similar language is included in sportsmen's legislation and the House appropriations bill.
- In July 2017, FWS Principal Deputy Director Sheehan testified in support of H.R. 424.
- In the 114th Congress, the House Natural Resources Committee held an oversight hearing on Federal management of gray, Mexican, and red wolves.
- Rep. Newhouse sought to delist wolves in OR, WA, UT, and NV in the 114th Congress.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS is examining next steps for gray wolf management, in light of WGL court ruling.
- FWS will revise the recovery plan for Mexican wolves by the end of November 2017.
- FWS will soon initiate a NEPA evaluation of revisions to the NEP for red wolves in NC.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Daines, Tester, Merkley, Kilmer, Simpson
ISSUE: Dreissenid Mussel Discovery in Montana near Columbia River Headwaters

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Zebra mussels and quagga mussels (Dreissenids) have since spread throughout the Great Lakes region, south along the Mississippi River and to areas west of the Mississippi. In January 2007, the first population of Dreissenid mussels west of the 100th Meridian was discovered in Lake Mead. Both species are easily spread between water bodies by watercraft, and cause damage to water-based infrastructure that is estimated to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars.
- In October 2016, Dreissenids (microscopic larvae called veligers) were detected for the first time in the upper Missouri River Basin in Montana, near the headwaters of the Columbia River.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Montana Governor has declared an environmental disaster. The Idaho legislature and governor responded by enacting emergency state supplemental funding.
- The Montana Legislature called for development of the Upper Columbia Conservation Commission to address threats of Dreissenid mussels. DOI bureaus have been asked to participate.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- The QZAP was developed by the Western Regional Panel and approved by the ANSTF in 2010, and is the Department of Interior (DOI) roadmap for this issue. The FWS works with other DOI Bureaus, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, States, and partners to support boat inspection and decontamination, early warning systems, and training.
- Congress has appropriated approximately $2 million per year since FY 2010 to support this effort.

IV. NEXT STEPS

- The FWS Region 6 dive team specializes in Dreissenid mussel detection. They deployed to both Canyon Ferry and Tiber Reservoirs in Montana as well as the Columbia River Basin Team rapid response test exercise in Washington.
- In FY16 and FY 17, FWS allocated about $930,000 each year to partners through grants for projects to control the spread of invasive mussels in the western U.S. under the *Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters* (QZAP), with emphasis on containment and prevention. FY 2018 Budget Request included $2 million for support.
- FWS delivers $1 million of the QZAP funding to states and regional groups with Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) plans which have been signed by the respective governor and approved by the ANS Task Force (ANSTF). In FY17, each approved plan was awarded $46,715. Montana received an additional $16K from FWS R6 to support veliger detection.
- July 2017: DOI announced the "Safeguarding the West from Invasive Species" package to address the Columbia River Basin and other uninfested Western waters, to help better integrate government efforts to stop the spread of invasive mussels.

From: Skipwith, Aurelia
To: Larrabee, Jason; Chambers, Micah
Cc: Greg Sheehan; Willens, Todd
Subject: Re: Doc Review - NPS, FWS
Date: Thursday, October 12, 2017 5:30:08 PM
Attachments: FWS BPs UPDATED.zip

Micah and Jason,
Greg reviewed FWS and I agree with his comments. We are okay the attached briefing papers.

Aurelia Skipwith
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3148
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-5837

On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 6:26 PM, Larrabee, Jason <jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> I'm good with all the track changes. Greg was focused on FWS ones
>
> **Jason Larrabee**
> **Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks**
> **U.S. Department of the Interior**
> **1849 C Street, NW -- MIB Room 3154**
> **Washington, DC 20240**
> **office: 202-208-4416**
>
> NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*
>
> On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 4:14 PM, Chambers, Micah <micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
>
> > So are all the docs done then and these are the only edits or are these just the ones done thus far? Thanks
> >
> > On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 3:56 PM, Larrabee, Jason <jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > one change to the NPS Everglades sheet. Changes attached.
> > >
> > > **Jason Larrabee**
> > > **Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks**
> > > **U.S. Department of the Interior**
> > > **1849 C Street, NW -- MIB Room 3154**
> > > **Washington, DC 20240**
> > > **office: 202-208-4416**
> > >
> > > NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*
> > >
> > > On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 3:37 PM, Skipwith, Aurelia <aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> > >
> > > > I had one clarification; it's redlined in the attached NPS Deferred Maintenance briefing. Thanks.

Aurelia Skipwith
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

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1849 C Street, NW, Room 3148
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-5837

On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 11:37 AM, Chambers, Micah <micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> If you've reviewed these already, just let us know and we'll say they've been reviewed by politicals. Just so you're all aware, we tasked the bureaus with this and then after we'd done that, front office wanted to make sure a political had reviewed at the bureau level, so we're basically retroactively going back to make sure a political has signed off.
>
> On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 11:03 AM, Greg Sheehan <greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > A little background here. At some point all of these briefing papers have had a political review. They then went up to the Department. The Department asked us for any recent updates asap and those were quickly reviewed and updated as necessary and sent back to the Department. These are what Micah has asked us to look over. I'm going through the FWS briefing papers now and will let you know what I see.
> > Thanks
> > Greg
> >
> > Greg Sheehan
> > Principal Deputy Director
> > US Fish and Wildlife Service
> > 202-208-4545 office
> > 202-676-7675 cell
> >
> > On Oct 12, 2017, at 10:48 AM, Larrabee, Jason <jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > follow up here. Since your both mostly focused on FWS, I'll start with NPS docs.
> > >
> > > **Jason Larrabee**
> > > **Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks**
> > > **U.S. Department of the Interior**
> > > **1849 C Street, NW -- MIB Room 3154**
> > > **Washington, DC 20240**
> > > **office: 202-208-4416**
> > >
> > > NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*
> > >
> > > On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 8:59 AM, Larrabee, Jason <jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Both Greg and I are out tomorrow, so they'll be done today. Aurelia and Greg - please take whatever ones you want and send me your edits. I'll start work on them when I return from my 9am meeting. thank you.

Jason Larrabee
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
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NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 8:54 PM, Skipwith, Aurelia <aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> Micah,
> Reach out to me for both. Thanks.
>
> **Aurelia Skipwith**
> Deputy Assistant Secretary
> for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
>
> U.S. Department of Interior
> 1849 C Street, NW, Room 3148
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> (202) 208-5837
>
> On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 7:27 PM, Chambers, Micah <micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
>
> > Jason, Aurelia and Greg. Hope you're all doing well. I've attached two groups of documents to this email. I referenced them this morning in the politicals meeting. These are one-pagers for the secretary to have for his member meetings with HNR and HAC-I. They were created at the bureau level and have not been edited by a political. I need you all to determine who is responsible for the political reviews and get the edited versions back to me by COB Friday. If you separate FWS and Parks and I get two separate responses, that's fine. Just need them by Friday night. Once we get them back from you all, we will be working on them with PMB and up to the front office. Thanks and let me know who I should expect them from...cause I will bug you. haha
> >
> > Micah
> >
> > --
> > Micah Chambers
> > Acting Director
> > Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs
> > Office of the Secretary of the Interior

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Micah Chambers
Acting Director
Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs
Office of the Secretary of the Interior

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Micah Chambers
Acting Director
Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs
Office of the Secretary of the Interior

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Multiple Member interest
ISSUE: Oil and Gas Development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) of 1980 created the 19 million acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (Arctic Refuge).
- Section 1002 of ANILCA required DOI to conduct a resource assessment, completed in 1987, of the 1.5 million acre Arctic Refuge coastal plain area (1002 Area) located adjacent to the Beaufort Sea.
- In the 1987 assessment, the Secretary recommended that Congress consider leasing the 1002 Area for oil and gas. In 2009, the USGS determined the area had a mean estimate of 10.35 billion barrels of technically recoverable oil with 80 to 90 percent of that volume being economically recoverable.
- The Arctic Refuge's initial Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP), completed in 1988, recognized the coastal plain as a critical calving area for the Porcupine caribou herd, which are an important subsistence resource for Alaska Native people.
- A revised CCP with a final EIS was completed on April 3, 2015. It recommended designating 12 million acres of the Arctic Refuge as Wilderness, including the 1002 Area. Additionally, four rivers were recommended for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Alaska delegation supports leasing the coastal plain for oil and gas development.
- The State of Alaska, North Slope Borough, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, and other development interests oppose the proposed Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River designations in the Arctic Refuge.
- The Native Gwich'in people, as well as environmental and conservation groups, support permanent wilderness designation.
- The majority of public comments on the 2015 CCP supported wilderness designation.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, Sen. Markey (D-MA) introduced S. 820, and Rep. Huffman (D-CA-2) introduced H.R. 1889, nearly identical bills which would designate 1.6 million acres of the Arctic Refuge as wilderness.
- Sen. Murkowski (R-AK) introduced S. 49, and Rep. Young (R-AK) introduced H.R.49, which would both allow oil and gas leasing in the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge.
- The Senate and House FY18 Budget Resolutions contain instructions for obtaining $1 and $5 billion in revenue to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources and House Natural Resources Committees respectively.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The Department included a legislative proposal in the FY 2018 President's Budget to open the coastal plain to oil and gas leasing. The first lease sales are projected to be in 2022 or 2023. A second lease sale would occur four years later.
- A FY18 Congressional Budget Resolution could pave the way for opening the 1002 Area.

October 2017

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Thompson, Portman, Stabenow, Bergman, Franken, Duckworth, McCollum, Joyce, Kaptur
ISSUE: Asian Carp

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Bighead, Black, and Silver carps (Asian carp) are listed as injurious wildlife under the Lacey Act (18 USC 42) and may not be imported or transported between the continental U.S., the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or any other territory of the U.S.
- FWS works with state and federal agency partners to implement the national *Management and Control Plan for Bighead, Black, Grass, and Silver Carps in the United States* (Plan), which addresses Asian carp issues across the nation. The Plan was written by the Asian Carp Working Group of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF). It was approved by the ANSTF in 2007.
- FWS and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) co-chair the 27-member Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee (ACRCC), which develops an annual Action Plan with activities funded through agency base appropriations and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding.
- FWS leads federal implementation of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) Sec. 1039, which calls for increased inter-agency collaboration to prevent the spread of Asian carp in the Upper Mississippi (UMRB) and Ohio River (ORB) Basins.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Asian carp are a high-priority for the Great Lakes Task Force, other Members from the Great Lakes, UMRB and ORB, State leadership, conservation groups, and the media.
- Rep. McCollum (D-MN-4) has an interest in actions conducted in support of WRRDA and efforts focused on the UMRB, especially in Minnesota.
- Sens. Portman (R-OH) and Stabenow (D-MI) and Reps. Kaptur (D-OH-9) and Joyce (R-OH-14) have an interest in actions conducted in the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS) and secondary pathways to protect the Great Lakes.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Sens. Stabenow and Portman held a Great Lakes Task Force meeting to discuss actions within the Midwest on Asian carp. FWS presented. Fourteen Members attended.
- FWS testified in March 2017 before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing, *"Examining Innovative Solutions to Control Invasive Species and Promote Wildlife Conservation".*
- FWS delivered the ANSTF's 2015 Report to Congress.
- July, 2017: In response to a silver carp being found above the last electrical barrier before Lake Michigan, FWS led a Congressional briefing on the 2017 Asian Carp Monitoring and Response Plan and the Upper Illinois Waterway Contingency Response Plan.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Deliver WRRDA 2016 Report to Congress. With OMB for clearance.
- The FY 2018 request for FWS's Asian carp effort is $7,885,000.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bergman, Westerman, Gosar, Cochran, Leahy
ISSUE: Cormorant Depredation of Fish in Southeast, Northeast, and Midwestern States

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Double-crested cormorants are fish-eating birds that are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The MBTA prohibits the take (killing, capture, selling, trading, transport, etc.) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization.
- Cormorants congregate in the southern states in the fall and winter, where they impact aquaculture facilities. In the spring and summer, cormorants congregate in northern states where they are perceived to be a competitor to fishermen for wild free-swimming fish.
- In May 2016, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia vacated two FWS Depredation Orders that previously allowed for the lethal take of cormorants, citing inadequate NEPA documentation.

II. POSITION OF INTERESTED PARTIES

- Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Thad Cochran and other Members representing affected southern states (AL, AR, LA, MS, NC) have urged the FWS to allow for the take of cormorants before they return to southern aquaculture facilities.
- Members from Northeast and Midwest states (MI, MN, NH, NY, VT) have urged the FWS to address cormorant impacts on wild free-swimming fish that are perceived to effect commercial and recreational fisheries in their states.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, Rep. Crawford and Sen. Cotton introduced companion bills, H.R. 368 and S. 219, cosponsored by Members from AR, AL, MS, and NC, to address cormorant impacts on aquaculture by reinstating the FWS Depredation Order that the U.S. District Court vacated.
- The FY 2017 appropriations conference report directed the FWS to expedite NEPA documents that would allow the agency to issue cormorant depredation permits per the direction of the U.S. District Court.
- On July 22, 2017 Rep. Bergman used his time during a House Natural Resources Committee to ask Sec. Zinke to address the cormorant and wild fish issue in his district.

IV. NEXT STEPS / OUTLOOK

- FWS and USDA are completing a NEPA Environmental Assessment to evaluate options for lethal take permits for aquaculture facilities, among other circumstances, which is expected to be completed by the end of October.
- FWS will also review the science and options for lethal take permits involving cormorants and their potential damage to recreational and commercial fishing, including by working with state fish and wildlife agencies to collect and share data. This process is expected to take at least a year.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Murkowski, Bishop, Cantwell, Grijalva
ISSUE: FWS' Deferred Maintenance Backlog

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Over 51 million people visited FWS hatcheries and refuges last year, including hunters, anglers, birders, and other outdoor recreationists.
- FWS real property assets include: 6,500 buildings; 8,600 water management structures; nearly 14,000 roads, bridges, and dams; and 10,500 "other" structures.
- Inadequate investments in asset maintenance have led to failing infrastructure and a deferred maintenance backlog at the FWS.
- While the FWS has reduced its backlog since 2010, a current FWS deferred maintenance (DM) backlog of approximately $1.4 billion remains.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- There is congressional interest in addressing the DM backlog at the FWS, and across the Department of the Interior.
- Chairman Rob Bishop (R-UT) and other Members have taken the position that funding the Department's DM backlog should be prioritized, specifically over new land acquisition funding.
- Chairwoman Murkowski (R-AK) has emphasized public-private partnerships to address DM funding.
- Ranking Members Cantwell (D-WA) and Grijalva (D-AZ) are supportive of DM funding.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- The House Natural Resources Committee included addressing the DM backlog in the Committee's oversight plan for the 115th Congress.
- Chairwoman Murkowski's Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hosted staff briefings in March on the DM backlog where FWS and other Bureaus presented.
- Chairwoman Murkowski held a hearing in March on the topic of "opportunities to improve and expand infrastructure important to federal lands, recreation, water, and resources" where she highlighted addressing the Department's DM backlog.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The President's FY18 budget request emphasizes DM funding, requesting $41.0 million in Refuge DM and $10.2 million in Hatchery DM.
- The House-passed FY18 omnibus appropriations bill increased Refuge DM by $1.3 million to $42.3 million and added $3.0 million to Hatchery DM for a total of $13.2 million.
- Outside of the annual appropriations process, Congress and the Administration are considering a separate infrastructure package that would likely include provisions to address the FWS's and the Department's DM.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bishop, Grijalva, Huffman, Calvert
ISSUE: Delisting/Downlisting 3-Year Plan

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In order to recognize success in recovering species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), keep the lists of endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species accurate and up-to-date, and focus conservation resources on those species most in need, the FWS reviews the status of listed species every five years, and responds to petitions received from the public to determine whether listed species should be reclassified from endangered to threatened (downlisted) or removed from the list (delisted).
- The FWS has developed a national workplan reflecting our schedule for actions addressing 5-year status review recommendations and substantive petitions to downlist and delist species over the next three years.
- The workplan was developed to provide greater clarity and predictability regarding the timing of eventual downlisting and delisting determinations to state wildlife agencies, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders and partners.
- A species' inclusion in this workplan does not mean that a final decision has been made to downlist or delist.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- There is congressional interest in focusing ESA recovery funding on activities that are inherently federal, such as 5-year reviews and status changes.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- The House FY 2018 Interior Appropriations bill contains $85,570,000 for ESA recovery activities, including $3,000,000 for delisting and downlisting activities.
- The House FY 2018 Interior Appropriations Committee Report directed the Service to complete all five-year reviews within the period required by law, and, for any determination on the basis of such review whether a species should be delisted, downlisted, or uplisted, promulgate an associated regulation prior to initiating the next status review for such species.

III. NEXT STEPS

- To keep the public informed of our progress in recovering species, the FWS plans to periodically update this work plan to reflect our consideration of new information over time, new status reviews initiated as a result of petitions, and new recommendations resulting from our 5-year reviews.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Feinstein, McCarthy, Calvert, McClintock, Denham, LaMalfa, Costa, Huffman
ISSUE: Delta Smelt, 08 Biological Opinion, California WaterFix Consultation, FISH Act

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The threatened Delta smelt is a small fish endemic to the San Francisco Bay-Delta that completes its entire one-year lifecycle in and near where fresh and salt water mix in the estuary. The Bay-Delta has been altered by land use changes, water development, and invasive species, reducing the amount of high quality habitat available for Delta smelt.
- Record-low abundance of Delta smelt reflects decades of habitat change, competition and predation from invasive species, and the recent multi-year drought.
- In 2008, FWS issued a jeopardy Biological Opinion (BiOp) on the operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. FWS included a Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA), affecting the amount of water that can be used from the system, to avoid jeopardy and adverse modification, which remains in place today.
- The WaterFix project represents the State of California's plan to upgrade outdated infrastructure in the Delta to secure water supplies and improve the Delta's ecosystem. FWS finalized the WaterFix BiOp in June 2017.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Water export restrictions to protect Delta smelt are opposed by agricultural and municipal water users, but supported by environmental groups and fishing interests.
- WaterFix is supported by a number of agricultural and municipal interests and the State of California, but opposed by many environmental groups (who have filed litigation challenging the WaterFix BiOp) and local landowners. The Westlands Water District Board recently voted against participating in WaterFix stating that the project is not financially viable.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- FWS is working with partners to implement the requirements contained in the 2016 WIIN (Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation) Act, which contained a requirement to develop and expand captive breeding capability.
- In October 2017, Congressmen Calvert, LaMalfa, and others introduced the Federally Integrated Species Health (FISH) Act to consolidate management and regulation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) with the FWS. This would essentially transfer authority over ESA-listed marine mammals and anadromous fish, such as salmon, from the National Marine Fisheries Service to FWS.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- In August 2016, a multi-year process, led by Bureau of Reclamation with federal and state partners, began to develop a new BiOp to find balance between the needs of agriculture, municipalities and conservation.
- FWS approved Reclamation's proposal to modify implementation of RPA Action 4 from the 2008 BiOp in October 2017, which is intended to maintain the low salinity zone in specific locations in the estuary during the fall in wet and above normal water years.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bishop, McClintock, Pearce, Grijalva, Tsongas, Beyer, Huffman
ISSUE: ESA Reform and Legislation

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In this Congress, the EPW Committee and HNR Committee have expressed an interest in moving legislation that would amend the ESA, and have held related oversight hearings.
- Hearings and oversight in the 114th Congress centered on the role of litigation and settlements, use of data, transparency in decision-making, policies for designating critical habitat, and barriers to recovery.
- FWS is participating in a multi-year process led by the Western Governors' Association (WGA) to examine species conservation and the ESA and to identify actions to improve the statute or its implementation.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Last June, the WGA passed a resolution urging Congress to reauthorize the ESA, including several principles to reform the law.
- This March, the National Governor's Association adopted a policy similar to the WGA.
- The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has participated in discussions on ESA reform, including an April EPW staff briefing with other state officials.
- Chairman Bishop (R-UT-1) has expressed strong interest in reforming the ESA.
- Ranking Member Grijalva (D-AZ-3) is opposed to reforming the ESA.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- H.R. 3916 (Calvert: R-CA) – Would transfer management of ESA-listed anadromous fish (salmon, sturgeon, etc.) from NOAA Fisheries to FWS. HNR Subcommittee legislative hearing is scheduled for Oct. 12. DOI statement for the record supports the bill.
- FWS Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan testified in July before HNR generally in support of 5 bills to amend the ESA. All 5 bills passed out of HNR on Oct. 4.
    - H.R. 424 – Gray Wolf State Management Act (Peterson: D-MN) – Reinstates delisting of Western Great Lakes and WY wolves.
    - H.R. 717 – Listing Reform Act (Olson: R-TX) – Requires economic analysis at listing for threatened species, gives flexibility to prioritize petitions, removes 90-day and 12-month deadlines.
    - H.R. 1274 – State, Tribal, and Local Species Transparency and Recovery Act (Newhouse: R-WA) – Requires data transparency, requires all data be provided to states prior to listing, defines best available data to include state & local.
    - H.R. 2603 – Saving America's Endangered Species (SAVES) Act (Gohmert: R-TX) -- Nonnative species in U.S. not considered listed under ESA.
    - H.R. 3131 – Endangered Species Litigation Reasonableness Act (Huizenga: R-MI) – Would tie ESA fee awards to EAJA cap of $125/hr

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The WGA issued recommendations for ESA reform over the summer.
- We anticipate continued oversight and legislative activity from HNR and EPW regarding ESA implementation and modernization.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Bishop, Lamborn, Labrador, Tipton, Cheney, Barrasso, Risch, Daines, Calvert, Stewart, Simpson, Amodei, Lee
ISSUE: Greater sage-grouse

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In 2010, FWS made the greater sage-grouse a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. In response, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service (USFS) worked with the states to develop a land use strategy to conserve and restore sagebrush habitat across the species' range.
- In 2015, citing the federal land use strategy and associated rangeland fire strategy, along with state and private lands conservation efforts, FWS determined that the greater sage-grouse was not warranted for listing under the ESA.
- The 2015 "not warranted" finding included a commitment to revisit the status of the species in 5 years, a commitment made to strengthen the defensibility of that finding.
- FWS and a coalition of public and private partners, particularly the states, have built a durable, collaborative effort to conserve sagebrush-dependent species, avoid future listing of those species, and secure a healthy sagebrush ecosystem for people and wildlife.
- BLM and USFS amended or revised nearly 100 resource and land management plans to improve protections for sage-grouse and sagebrush habitat.
- All states have sage-grouse plans; some interface seamlessly with the federal plans. States have management responsibility for the species and are leading the larger effort to proactively conserve the larger sagebrush ecosystem.
- In August 2017, Secretary Zinke received a report from the Department's Sage-Grouse Review Team regarding possible plan and policy modifications to complement state efforts to improve greater sage-grouse conservation and economic development on public lands, as required by Secretarial Order 3353.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Some conservation groups were critical of the FWS' not-warranted determination; others were highly supportive.
- Some industry and trade groups have filed litigation opposing the federal plans.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, legislation seeks to provide state management over federal land management plans and delay future action to list the sage-grouse. Sponsors include Sens. Risch (R-ID), Lee (R-UT), and Daines (R-MT) and Reps. Simpson (R-ID), Amodei (R-NV), Gosar (R-AZ), Stewart (R-UT), Tipton (R-CO), and Cheney (R-WY).
- The FY17 Omnibus appropriations bill bars FWS from expending any funds for status reviews, listing determinations, or rulemakings regarding the greater sage-grouse.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS will continue to provide technical assistance to public and private partners as they implement sage-grouse conservation measures. FWS will also continue to support collaborative efforts to conserve the larger sagebrush ecosystem.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Tester, Daines, Simpson, McCollum, Barrasso, Risch, Labrador, Cheney, Grijalva, Newhouse
ISSUE: Grizzly Bears

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In 1975, FWS listed the grizzly bear as threatened in the lower 48 states.
- FWS organizes grizzly bears into six recovery zones/ecosystems to allow for targeted recovery efforts. Recovery zones include parts of WA, ID, MT, and WY.
- In March 2007, FWS finalized a rule to establish the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem grizzly bear distinct population segment (DPS) and to delist this DPS due to recovery. Courts overturned this rule in 2009, reinstating ESA protections for Yellowstone bears.
- In June 2017, FWS published a new final rule to delist the Yellowstone DPS. The rule does not change the threatened status of the remaining grizzly bears in the lower 48 states. FWS has received several complaints from environmental groups and tribal interests challenging the rule.
- In early 2017, the National Park Service and FWS published a draft Environmental Impact Statement on alternatives to restore grizzly bear in the North Cascades Recovery Unit. Alternatives range from no action to the establishment of a population of grizzly bears in the North Cascades Ecosystem.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Most members of Congress and federal and state agencies supported the delisting of the Yellowstone grizzly bear DPS.
- Tribes had varying opinions regarding delisting and some had strong opposition to delisting grizzly bears in the Yellowstone ecosystem.
- Several environmental groups have been outspoken in their opposition to delisting.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Senators Daines (R-MT), Barrasso (R-WY), Enzi (R-WY), Rep. Cheney (R-WY), and House Natural Resources Chairman Bishop (R-UT) issued statements supporting the final delisting of the Yellowstone grizzly bear.
- Rep. Grijalva (D-AZ-3) opposed delisting, citing tribal rights and hunting concerns.
- Rep. Newhouse (R-WA-4) has expressed opposition to potential restoration of grizzly bears in the North Cascades. His office remains engaged with FWS on the issue.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The comment period on the North Cascades draft EIS closed in April 2017. Next steps include analyzing comments, developing a final EIS, and issuing a Record of Decision.
- In August 2017, in regards to delisting wolves in the Western Great Lakes, a court ruled that FWS failed to reasonably analyze or consider: (1) the impacts of partial delisting; and, (2) historical range loss on the already listed species. FWS will pursue any future proposals to delist a grizzly bear DPS in the context of that ruling. This is most relevant to the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem recovery zone in northern Montana.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Frelinghuysen
ISSUE: Highlands Conservation Act

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The Highlands Conservation Act (HCA) was enacted in 2004 to provide assistance to States to preserve and protect high quality conservation land in the 3.4 million acre Highlands region of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.
- The program was first funded in 2007. The program also received funding in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2015, 2016, and 2017.
- In FY 2016, Congress increased the appropriation "up to $10 million," and included administrative funding to the FWS, which had not been provided in several years. FWS works with the U.S. Forest Service and the four states to identify projects that meet the intent of the law to conserve important habitat in the Highlands region.
- To date, more than $26 million in Federal funds has been allocated to the four states for land acquisition. These funds have resulted in the permanent protection of over 6,200 acres and leveraged non-Federal funds at a nearly 3:1 ratio.
- Funding for the program comes from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- There is no funding for Highlands in the FY 2018 President's Budget.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Highlands Coalition is comprised of more than 200 national, regional, state and local organizations that work collaboratively with state agencies, the U.S. Forest Service and FWS to implement critical conservation in the Highlands region. This broad coalition has yielded sustained congressional support.
- House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee Chairman Frelinghuysen is a champion of the program which also has bi-partisan support across all four states.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Chairman Frelinghuysen introduced H.R. 1281(S. 1627, Sen. Gillibrand [D-NY]) to reauthorize the law through 2021. No Congressional action has been taken to date.

IV. NEXT STEPS

- FWS is working with the U.S. Forest Service on a Memorandum of Understanding to solidify roles and responsibilities for administering the grant program.
- August 2017: FWS announced funding distribution of $2,420,000 to each of the four states. Announcements of funding to states were sent to Congressional offices.
- The 2018 President's Budget did not include funding for Highlands.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Murkowski, Young
ISSUE: Izembek National Wildlife Refuge and King Cove Road

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- This issue centers on construction of a road through wilderness areas of the Izembek Refuge to provide access to an all-weather airport for the community of King Cove, AK.
- Congress previously appropriated funds to upgrade the local medical clinic, improve the King Cove airstrip, and enhance a marine transportation link between the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay.
- The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 directed the Secretary to develop an EIS to evaluate a three-party land exchange between the federal government, the State of Alaska, and the King Cove Corporation for the purpose of constructing a road between King Cove and Cold Bay, which has an existing all-weather airport.
- As part of the proposed land exchange, about 56,000 acres owned by the State and King Cove Corporation would be transferred to the Izembek and Alaska Peninsula Refuges.
- The proposed King Cove road would cross designated wilderness in the Izembek Refuge, potentially creating adverse impacts to high value habitat.
- In December 2013, as required by the 2009 law, former Interior Secretary Jewell issued a final decision that found the land exchange was not in the public interest.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Alaska Congressional Delegation strongly supports the road and land exchange.
- The communities of King Cove and Cold Bay support the land exchange and road.
- Wilderness and environmental groups strongly oppose a road due to the impacts to fish and wildlife habitat.
- Some Alaska Natives and subsistence users in the Yukon Delta also oppose the road.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Senator Murkowski included policy language in the FY16 and FY17 Interior-Environment appropriations bills that would require a land transfer at Izembek. The language was not ultimately included in the final FY16 or FY17 appropriations bills.
- At the time of drafting, the FY18 Senate appropriations bill was not yet released.
- This year, bills were introduced by Sen. Murkowski (S. 101) and Rep. Young (H.R. 218) to provide a land exchange for the construction of a road between the two communities. H.R. 218 passed the House on July 20, 2017.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Next steps depend on whether the land exchange is with the State of Alaska or Native Corporation. For example, if land is exchanged with the Native Corporation, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Section 22(g) and its implementing regulation, 50 CFR 25.21, stipulates that Alaska Native Village Corporation lands within the boundaries of a National Wildlife Refuge established prior to ANCSA are subject to National Wildlife Refuge System compatibility requirements. If land is exchanged with the State of Alaska, then a National Environmental Policy Act EIS is likely required, unless new statute dictates otherwise.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Gohmert, Westerman, Johnson, Denham, and Tsongas
ISSUE: D.C. Circuit Decision on FWS Interpretation of Lacey Act Interstate Transport Prohibition

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Under the Lacey Act (18 U.S.C. §42), the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to regulate the importation and transport between the continental U.S., the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or any other territory of the U.S., of species determined to be injurious to human beings, the interests of agriculture, horticulture or forestry, or to wildlife or wildlife resources of the U.S. FWS has long interpreted the language related to shipment of injurious species to prohibit transportation of injurious species between states within the continental U.S.
- The U.S. Association of Reptile Keepers (USARK) filed a lawsuit in December 2013 challenging FWS authority. The District Court for the District of Columbia found that 18 U.S.C. § 42(a)(1) does not prohibit interstate transport of injurious wildlife between states within the continental U.S. and enjoined FWS from implementing that provision with respect to two species at issue in the litigation. FWS appealed this decision.
- On April 7, 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit affirmed the District Court's judgment and held that FWS lacks authority pursuant to the Lacey Act to prohibit shipments of injurious species between states within the continental U.S.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Aquaculture and live animal trade industries have expressed support for the Appellate Court's decision.
- The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has concerns regarding the FWS losing its ability to regulate the interstate transport of injurious species between States within the continental U.S.
- Senator Gillibrand (D-NY) has an interest in revising the injurious species listing process

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Rep. Gohmert (R-TX-1) introduced HR 1807 - Public Water Supply Invasive Species Compliance Act of 2017 (companion bill in the Senate, S. 789 sponsored by Sen. Cruz (R-TX)), exempting certain water transfers between public water supplies located on, along, or across the boundaries of Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana from the Lacey Act. Reps. Westerman (R-AR-4) and Mike Johnson (R-LA-4), who are on the House Natural Resources Committee, are co-sponsors. The bill was passed out of committee.
- October, 2017: Senator Gillibrand (D-NY) had a press conference on the emerald ash borer beetle in the Adirondacks, mentioning the injurious species listing process. Gillibrand has previously introduced legislation to reform this process. Reintroduction of this legislation is likely to occur this session; but, it has not yet happened.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS did not seek additional appeals and as a result of this decision the FWS may no longer place any limitation on transport of injurious wildlife across the 49 continental states

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Gardner, Cole, Calvert, Gohmert, Pearce, Tipton
ISSUE: Lesser Prairie-Chicken

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In April 2014, FWS listed the lesser prairie-chicken as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and concurrently finalized a special rule under section 4(d) of the ESA that established compliance with the State-led Range-wide Conservation Plan as also being ESA compliant.
- In June 2014, the Permian Basin Petroleum Association and four New Mexico counties filed a lawsuit challenging the FWS's final rule to list the lesser prairie-chicken. Separate lawsuits were filed by other plaintiffs, including environmental groups.
- In September 2015, a U.S. District Court ruled on the Permian Basin lawsuit and vacated the FWS's listing rule. The Government decided not to appeal.
- Prior to the 2015 court ruling, FWS began work on a species status assessment for the lesser prairie-chicken, with input from the five range states. The goal of the status assessment was to synthesize the best available science to inform recovery planning and conservation actions.
- In September 2016, FWS was petitioned to list the lesser prairie-chicken as endangered. FWS found the petition to be substantial. The status assessment will also serve to inform the 12 month finding on that petition.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), in partnership with New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, created *The Lesser Prairie-Chicken Range-wide Conservation Plan* to develop a conservation and mitigation strategy for the species. FWS will incorporate WAFWA's 2016 Annual Report into the status assessment, along with 2017 population survey results.
- Several Members of Congress disagreed with FWS's 2014 decision to list the lesser prairie-chicken under the ESA.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 114th Congress, Rep. Lucas (R-OK) filed an amendment to the House National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to prohibit listing the bird under the ESA; the amendment was withdrawn. Similar language was included in other NDAA amendments, appropriations bills, and a standalone bill.
- There has been no relevant legislation introduced in the 115th Congress.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS anticipates completing the status assessment in 2017, though exact timing depends on recommendations and comments received from peer and Working Group reviewers. The status assessment will inform future decisions related to the bird. Coordination with the States, WAFWA and others is expected to continue.
- FWS did not meet the deadline for the 12-month finding on the petition to list (September 8, 2017). The finding is expected after completion of the status assessment and will fully consider the conservation actions underway.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Murkowski, Simpson
ISSUE: FWS Mitigation Policy Status

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- The FWS has used a mitigation policy since 1981 to guide agency recommendations on mitigating the adverse impacts of land and water development projects on fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats.
- In 2016, FWS finalized revisions to the 1981 policy. Notably, the scope of the revised policy expanded to address all resources for which FWS has authority to require or recommend mitigation, including those listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
- In December 2016, the FWS finalized the ESA compensatory mitigation policy, a more detailed, ESA-specific stepdown of the revised Service-wide mitigation policy.
- These policies were consistent with the Presidential Memorandum entitled *Mitigating Impacts on Natural Resources from Development and Encouraging Related Private Investment* (PM) (November 3, 2015) and with Secretarial Order 3330, *Improving Mitigation Policies and Practices of the Department of the Interior* (October 31, 2013).
- A March 28, 2017, Executive Order (EO) rescinded the 2015 PM and directed all agencies to identify affected agency actions (including existing regulations, orders, and policies) and, as appropriate, suspend, revise, or rescind them.
- Sec. Order (SO) 3349 (March 29, 2017) implements the March 2017 EO. It revoked SO 3330 and required the Deputy Secretary to inform the Bureaus whether to proceed with reconsideration, modification, or rescission of actions related to the PM or SO 3330.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Sen. Murkowski (R-AK) strongly opposed the 2016 revised mitigation policy and sent a letter to former FWS Director Ashe urging him to retract it, expressing concern about its standard and the impact of the policy on smaller entities, such as Alaska Native communities, who want to develop resources on their lands.
- At a March 2016 Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing, the State of Alaska expressed concerns with the PM and requested its revision to incorporate the Alaska Native Settlement Claims Act and Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation.
- Response from State agencies varied; FWS received comments from States both supporting and expressing concerns with the policies.
- In some cases, industry had concerns that the policies were an attempt to create new authority for FWS.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Rep. Newhouse (R-WA) introduced two resolutions to disapprove the two FWS mitigation policies through the Congressional Review Act (CRA), but no further action has been taken on them.

IV. NEXT STEPS

- Consistent with SO 3349, this October, FWS will solicit public comment on the policies. Based on comments received, FWS will contemplate next steps on the policies.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: McCollum, Udall, Feinstein, Stewart, Bishop
ISSUE: Southwest Border Law Enforcement and Conservation Issues

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- There are eight National Wildlife Refuges along the U.S.-Mexico border, three in Texas, two in California and three in Arizona. FWS has 18 Federal Wildlife Officers (FWO) that cover these refuges.
- Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge sits along the U.S.-Mexico border in Texas, and has been identified as a location for early preparations for border wall construction. The Refuge has been visited this year by Senator Cornyn's (R-TX) staff and Representative O'Rourke (D-TX-16). Senator Cruz (R-TX) has expressed an interest in visiting the refuge as well.
- The FWOs at border refuges provide safety and security for visitors and protect fish, wildlife, cultural, and archaeological resources. Additionally, working closely with DHS, they address border issues that spill onto refuges, including drug and human trafficking and fatalities of undocumented immigrants.
- These refuges also face increased habitat degradation from significant amounts of human trash and waste left on site, escaped camp fires, sewage spills, and trail and road erosion. Additional trash is generated on Arizona border refuges by humanitarian organizations who, contrary to refuge regulations, leave stock piles of food, water, and clothing for illegal border crossers.
- Many native animals, like pronghorn antelope and ocelots, migrate across the Southwest border; physical barriers could also affect movement of wildlife and could affect surface water movement, causing local flooding.
- Sec. 102. of the REAL ID Act (P.L. 109-13), signed into law in 2005, gives the Department of Homeland Security authority to waive most environmental laws, including NEPA and the ESA, to ensure expeditious construction of barriers and roads.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Some Congressional Members have expressed concern about the cost of expanding and maintain a wall along the border, and the impact it may have on species and habitat in the area, as well as the impact on public lands, including National Wildlife Refuges.
- Other Members have explained how effective border security protects the environment by deterring illegal activity and border crossings.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- On October 4, the House Homeland Security Committee passed the Border Security for America Act (H.R. 3548), which includes a $10 billion authorization for construction of a U.S.-Mexico border wall.
- On July 27, the House passed the Make America Secure Appropriations Act of 2018 (H.R. 3219), which includes $1.6 billion in funding for construction of the border wall.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- Congress will continue to debate funding for the border wall.
- The President's FY18 budget request includes $1.6 billion for border wall construction.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Senator Murkowski (R-AK), Representative Don Young (R-AK-AL)
ISSUE: Alaska Native-Crafted Walrus Ivory

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- In 2016, FWS finalized regulations to prohibit most commercial domestic trade in African elephant ivory. Also, several states (including California, New Jersey, Hawaii, and Nevada) have taken steps to ban the intrastate purchase and sale of ivory (some including walrus and other types of ivory). Some state ivory bans have provisions that exempt items expressly authorized by federal law, license, or permit. At least 8 more states are considering such measures.
- Alaska Native artists are expressing concern to the Alaska Congressional delegation about loss of sales, because consumers are nervous about buying ivory and confusion over federal and state laws governing the sale of ivory.
- The U.S. does not prohibit the sale, purchase, import, export, or transport of genuine, Alaska Native-crafted walrus ivory pieces, and these may be brought into the lower 48 states by individual consumers or shipped to retail stores.
- In May of 2017, DOI announced the release of a brochure, coordinated by DOI's Indian Arts and Crafts Board (Board) and FWS to inform consumers and Alaska Native artists about walrus conservation, relevant laws, and how law enforcement recognizes walrus ivory and distinguishes it from elephant ivory.
- This brochure is being distributed online, through DOI venues, and has been offered to cruise lines and other tourism outlets. Related advertisement has also been published.
- FWS ensures its law enforcement officers are fully knowledgeable about identifying elephant vs. walrus ivory during inspections of imports and exports.
- FWS also works closely with the Board to investigate and pursue cases of counterfeit Native arts and crafts that violate the Indian Arts and Crafts Act, including several in AK.
- On October 4, 2017, the Service announced a "not warranted" finding for listing of walrus under the ESA.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Alaska delegation has expressed concern about the impact of the elephant ivory ban and state ivory bans on the sales of genuine Alaska Native-crafted walrus ivory.
- Members are pleased with the efforts of FWS and the Board to inform consumers and artists about the importance of Native American arts and crafts, and the legality of the sale of Alaska Native-crafted walrus ivory, as well as our efforts to enforce the Indian Arts and Crafts Act.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- This issue was raised by Senator Murkowski during the June 21, 2017 Senate Interior Appropriations hearing for FY 2018.
- FWS and the Board have met on this issue with staff of the three AK delegation offices.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- The Department will continue to work to increase awareness and provide best information about relevant Federal laws.
- During the FY 2018 Senate Interior appropriations hearing, the Secretary committed to a Secretarial Order and to convene a working group on the matter.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Young, Grijalva, Beyer, Flake, Portman, McCollum, Udall
ISSUE: Combating Wildlife Trafficking

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- FWS (via DOI) is a co-chair, along with the State Department and Department of Justice, of the interagency Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking.
- In 2016, Congress passed the bipartisan, bicameral END Wildlife Trafficking Act, which codified the Task Force, National Strategy, and Implementation Plan, and included additional requirements of federal agencies.
- In 2016, FWS finalized regulations to prohibit most commercial domestic trade in African elephant ivory. Exemptions for antiques and items containing small amounts of ivory were included to allow for the continued trade in items that do not impact conservation of African elephants.
- In February 2017, the President signed an Executive Order on Transnational Organized Crime, which states the U.S. shall address threats to national security from transnational criminal organizations involved in a variety of activities, including wildlife trafficking.
- FWS has stationed law enforcement special agents at U.S. embassies as international attachés to address wildlife trafficking in key nations.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- Combating wildlife trafficking has strong bipartisan support in Congress.
- Several Members of Congress are also supportive of FWS' broader international conservation and wildlife law enforcement work.
- Some Members have sought to limit FWS authority to restrict elephant ivory trade.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- In the 115th Congress, there have been several bills introduced that address wildlife trafficking and international conservation, including:
    - H.R. 227, sponsored by Rep. Young (R-AK-AL) reauthorizes the Multinational Species Conservation Funds (Funds).
    - H.R. 1247, sponsored by Rep. Donovan (R-NY-11), and S. 480, sponsored by Sen. Portman (R-OH), reauthorize the Tiger Stamp.
    - S. 826, sponsored by Sen. Barrasso (R-WY), reauthorizes the Funds and creates a prize competition to address wildlife trafficking.
    - H.R. 226, sponsored by Rep. Young (R-AK-AL), would allow for the commercial trade of African elephant ivory.

IV. NEXT STEPS/OUTLOOK

- The Task Force continues to implement the END Wildlife Trafficking Act. FWS and State have taken the lead in developing a list of countries of concern due to wildlife trafficking. This list will be included in a report due to Congress in early October.
- We expect less focus on wildlife trafficking issues in this Congress given the passage of the END Wildlife Trafficking Act in the 114th Congress. However, there are still Members who are focused on this issue who will pursue events, briefings, and additional legislation.
- In FY 2018, the Service requests $8.9 million specifically dedicated for combating wildlife trafficking.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Barrasso, Flake, Heinrich, Gardner, Stabenow, Franken, Wyden, Merkley, Udall, McCollum, Stewart, Pearce, Gosar, Bishop, Tipton, Bergman, Cheney, Rouzer
ISSUE: Wolves

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- FWS believes the wolf is recovered under the ESA, and has attempted to delist it nationwide, except for the Mexican wolf and the red wolf subspecies.
- In 2014, final rules delisting **Gray wolves** in Wyoming and in the Western Great Lakes (WGL) were vacated by separate District Court judges; ESA protections were reinstated for these populations. FWS appealed both of these rulings.
- In March 2017, a court ruled in favor of FWS delisting WY wolves and, in April, the FWS reinstated its previous Wyoming delisting rule.
- In August 2017, a court ruled against FWS delisting of WGL wolves; Wolves remain federally endangered in WI and MI and threatened in MN.
- Wolves are under state management in eastern WA and OR, but wolves in the western portions of those states remain endangered, limiting management options.
- In January 2015, FWS separately listed the **Mexican wolf** as endangered and revised regulations for the nonessential experimental population under ESA section 10(j).
- In 2016, New Mexico sued FWS to enjoin release of Mexican wolves without state permits. An injunction was issued, but vacated upon appeal in April 2017. FWS is reviewing comments on the draft revised recovery plan for the Mexican wolf subspecies.
- **Red wolves** are listed as endangered and exist in the wild as a non-essential, experimental population (NEP) in eastern NC. In September 2016, after a review of the red wolf recovery program, FWS announced plans to propose changes to the NEP management, expand the captive population, and revise the recovery plan.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The environmental community largely opposes actions to lessen protections for wolves.
- States support efforts to delist wolves, and to prevent and compensate for depredation.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- 115th Congress Legislation: S. 368, Requires revised recovery plan for Mexican wolves (Sen. Flake); S. 164 and H.R. 424, Reinstates FWS final rules delisting wolves in Wyoming and WGL (Sen. Barrasso and Reps. Cheney, Labrador, Simpson, Bergman). Similar language is included in sportsmen's legislation and the House appropriations bill.
- In July 2017, FWS Principal Deputy Director Sheehan testified in support of H.R. 424.
- In the 114th Congress, the House Natural Resources Committee held an oversight hearing on Federal management of gray, Mexican, and red wolves.
- Rep. Newhouse sought to delist wolves in OR, WA, UT, and NV in the 114th Congress.

IV. NEXT STEPS/ OUTLOOK

- FWS is examining next steps for gray wolf management, in light of WGL court ruling.
- FWS will revise the recovery plan for Mexican wolves by the end of November 2017.
- FWS will soon initiate a NEPA evaluation of revisions to the NEP for red wolves in NC.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
MEMBER: Daines, Tester, Merkley, Kilmer, Simpson
ISSUE: Dreissenid Mussel Discovery in Montana near Columbia River Headwaters

I. ISSUE BACKGROUND

- Zebra mussels and quagga mussels (Dreissenids) have since spread throughout the Great Lakes region, south along the Mississippi River and to areas west of the Mississippi. In January 2007, the first population of Dreissenid mussels west of the 100th Meridian was discovered in Lake Mead. Both species are easily spread between water bodies by watercraft, and cause damage to water-based infrastructure that is estimated to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars.
- In October 2016, Dreissenids (microscopic larvae called veligers) were detected for the first time in the upper Missouri River Basin in Montana, near the headwaters of the Columbia River.

II. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

- The Montana Governor has declared an environmental disaster. The Idaho legislature and governor responded by enacting emergency state supplemental funding.
- The Montana Legislature called for development of the Upper Columbia Conservation Commission to address threats of Dreissenid mussels. DOI bureaus have been asked to participate.

III. RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- The QZAP was developed by the Western Regional Panel and approved by the ANSTF in 2010, and is the Department of Interior (DOI) roadmap for this issue. The FWS works with other DOI Bureaus, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, States, and partners to support boat inspection and decontamination, early warning systems, and training.
- Congress has appropriated approximately $2 million per year since FY 2010 to support this effort.

IV. NEXT STEPS

- The FWS Region 6 dive team specializes in Dreissenid mussel detection. They deployed to both Canyon Ferry and Tiber Reservoirs in Montana as well as the Columbia River Basin Team rapid response test exercise in Washington.
- In FY16 and FY 17, FWS allocated about $930,000 each year to partners through grants for projects to control the spread of invasive mussels in the western U.S. under the *Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters* (QZAP), with emphasis on containment and prevention. FY 2018 Budget Request included $2 million for support.
- FWS delivers $1 million of the QZAP funding to states and regional groups with Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) plans which have been signed by the respective governor and approved by the ANS Task Force (ANSTF). In FY17, each approved plan was awarded $46,715. Montana received an additional $16K from FWS R6 to support veliger detection.
- July 2017: DOI announced the "Safeguarding the West from Invasive Species" package to address the Columbia River Basin and other uninfested Western waters, to help better integrate government efforts to stop the spread of invasive mussels.