



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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



IN REPLY REFER TO:
FWS-2015-00133

December 8, 2014

Mr. Donald Triplett

Email: 13938-29688750@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Mr. Triplett:

This completes our response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated October 24, 2014. In your request, you asked for the following:

1. A copy of the article/webpage that was originally found at the following link before it was removed: <https://www.fws.gov/international/publications-and-media/ebola-outbreak.html>
2. A copy of any/all revisions to the following article/webpage within the last 60 days: <http://www.fws.gov/international/wildlife-without-borders/global-program/wildlife-disease.html>
3. A copy of the blog post written by Estelle Raballand, which was originally posted to the blog "Open Spaces" and found at the following link: <http://www.fws.gov/news/blog/index.cfm/2014/8/12/How-the-Current-Ebola-Outbreak-is-Affecting-OntheGround-Conservation-Work>
4. Any/all emails or other correspondence regarding the above articles/webpages/blog posts, as well as the CNS News article (<http://cnsnews.com/news/article/penny-starr/us-fish-and-wildlife-service-ebola-consequence-deforestation-and-climate>).

We provided 74 files to you on December 5, 2014, and advised you that one file was undergoing an additional review. We have enclosed the remaining file which consists of 54 pages of emails. Exemption 6 allows an agency to withhold "personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." [5 U.S.C. § 552\(b\)\(6\)](#). We are withholding two pages in part under Exemption 6.

The information that has been withheld under Exemption 6 consists of personal information and we have determined that the individual to whom this information pertains has a substantial privacy interest in withholding it. Additionally, you have not provided information that explains a relevant public interest under the FOIA in the disclosure of this personal information and we have determined that the disclosure of this information would shed little or no light on the performance of the agency's statutory duties. Because the harm to personal privacy is greater than whatever public interest may be served by disclosure, release of the information would constitute a clearly

unwarranted invasion of the privacy of this individual and we are withholding it under Exemption 6.

We do not bill requesters for FOIA processing fees when their fees are less than \$50.00, because the cost of collection would be greater than the fee collected. See [43 C.F.R. § 2.49\(a\)\(1\)](#). Therefore, there is no billable fee for the processing of this request and there is no need for us to address your request for a fee waiver.

You may appeal this response to the Department's FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer. If you choose to appeal, the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer must receive your FOIA appeal **no later than 30 workdays** from the date of this letter. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday.

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

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

DOI FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office Contact Information

Department of the Interior
Office of the Solicitor
1849 C Street, N.W.
MS-6556 MIB
Washington, DC 20240

Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office

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

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

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

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

Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the Department's FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pam Mozina at (703) 358-2698 or at pamela_mozina@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Melissa Allen
FWS FOIA Officer

Enclosure