



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

177-501

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MS
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May 13, 2011

Tonya Woods
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Staff
4700 River Road
Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20737

Sent Via Fax: (301) 734-5941 and mail

Dear Ms. Woods:

This is a request for records under the Federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) is requesting:

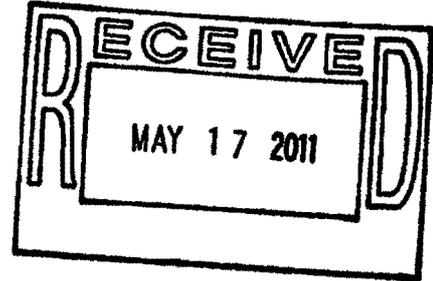
1. All cost-benefit analyses conducted by Wildlife Services between October 1, 2007 and the present;
2. The underlying data collected and reviewed to produce these analyses.

If possible, we would like to receive each analysis and underlying data as the materials are cleared for release rather than at that point at which the accumulated total of cost-benefit analyses for the requested time period is cleared.

For this request, the term "records" includes, but is not limited to, correspondence of any kind, memoranda, letters, notes, schedules, electronic mail, telephone logs, minutes of meetings, work papers, reports, studies, photographs, videos, DVDs, CDs, or data. If any information is withheld, please identify all such information with specificity and state the exemption under which the information is being withheld.

The FOIA provides that if portions of a document are exempt from release, the remainder must nevertheless be segregated and disclosed. Please provide us with all non-exempt portions of any otherwise exempt records. 5 U.S.C. § 552(b). Please explain any redactions by reference to specific FOIA exemptions.

This request is a matter of great concern to The HSUS, and thus your prompt and complete report is appreciated. As required by 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A)(1), an agency response is expected within twenty days of the date of receipt. If it is not possible to promptly comply with all portions or aspects of this report, please provide a partial response with materials readily available. Do not hesitate to call me should you have any questions concerning this request.



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Fee Waiver Justification

FOIA provides for a fee waiver when disclosure of the documents is in the public's interest. Specifically, FOIA states that:

Documents shall be furnished without any charge or at a charge reduced below the fees established under clause (ii) if disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.

5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The HSUS believes that this request satisfies the criterion for a fee waiver or reduction. The HSUS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated for over five decades to the protection of animals. The disclosure of the requested records will primarily benefit the general public by helping it better understand the government's use of this poison and its effects on non-target wildlife, domestic animals, and human health.

The information obtained will be disseminated to the general public. The HSUS has devoted substantial time and resources to monitoring activities of the federal government and keeping the public informed of these activities. The HSUS disseminates information to the general public through various sources including its websites, media outlets, litigation, legislation and public education.

The use of this information will help The HSUS further its function as a disseminator of information on recent issues involving government-sponsored wildlife conflict management. Finally, in no way will this information be used in any commercial practices. The request for this information does not relate to use for business, trade, or profit.

In the course of carrying out its educational and other charitable public interest activities, The HSUS requests that charges for searching and duplicating be waived. Should there be any difficulty with the fee waiver, please contact the HSUS by phone at _____ or email at _____. The HSUS may decide whether to pay the fees or to appeal the denial of the request for waiver or reduction.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. We look forward to receiving your reply within twenty business days as required by law.

Sincerely,

Susan Hagood, Ph.D.
Wildlife and Transportation Regulatory Affairs Specialist
The Humane Society of the United States