



United States
Department of
Agriculture

September 13, 2011

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Tom Knudson
The Sacramento Bee
2100 Q Street
Sacramento, California 95852

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Dear Mr. Knudson:

Legislative and
Public Affairs

This is in response to your August 8, 2011, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for copies of all documents pertaining to the non-target take of four otters in California in body grip traps, to include all memos, reports, e-mails and field diaries. Your request was received in this office on August 15, 2011, and assigned case number FOIA 11-752.

Freedom of
Information

700 River Road
Unit 50
Riverdale, MD
0737-1232

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files and enclosed are three pages of records that respond to this request consisting of a Wildlife Services (WS) spread sheet and pages from a WS trapper's field diary. However, information is withheld pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). This exemption protects information from disclosure the release of which would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Specifically, we have withheld private individuals' names.

You may appeal our denial of this information and or our no additional information determination. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be received within 45 days of the date of this letter to:

Administrator
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Ag Box 3401
Washington, D.C. 20250-3401

Please refer to FOIA 11-752 in your appeal letter and add the words "FOIA Appeal" to the front of the envelope. To assist the Administrator in reviewing your appeal, provide specific reasons why you believe modification of the determination is warranted.

Because the cost to process your request is less than \$25.00, the fee has been waived. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Deborah L. Leilich of my staff at (301) 734-3623.

Sincerely,


Tonya Woods
Director
Freedom of Information & Privacy Act
Legislative and Public Affairs

Enclosure