



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Marketing and Regulatory  
Programs

Animal and  
Plant Health  
Inspection  
Service

Executive and Public Affairs

Freedom of Information

1400 River Road  
Building  
50  
Beltsville, MD 20737-1232

Mr. Stephen Brown  
The Brooklyn Paper  
1 Metrotech Center North, Suite 1001  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

SEP 29 2010

Dear Mr. Brown:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated July 21, 2010, in which you are requesting all internal and external documents relating to the operation that led to euthanizing as many as 400 Canada geese on July 8, 2009 in Prospect Park, a park in Brooklyn, New York. Specifically you are seeking information on planning the operation, motivations for conducting such a culling inside Prospect Park, how the operation was carried out (including securing the area, etc.), how officials discussed the aftermath, and all documents exchanged among the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Wildlife Services, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey regarding this operation. This request was received in this office on July 22, 2010 and assigned case number FOIA 10-572.

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files and located 78 pages of responsive releasable records which are contained on the enclosed CD-ROM. However, names and phone numbers have been withheld under FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). This exemption protects information from disclosure when its release would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Information is also being withheld under FOIA Exemption 4, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). This exemption protects confidential business information from disclosure when release would cause substantial harm to the competitive position of an individual, a partnership, or a corporation from whom the information was obtained.

You may appeal our partial denial of this information. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be received within 45 days of the date of this letter. Send to:

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

Please refer to FOIA 10-572 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.



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Also contained on the CD-ROM are copies of your FOIA request, this response letter, and Adobe® Acrobat® Reader™, which is needed to view the responsive records. By opening rp505enu.exe and following the on-screen instructions, you will install Adobe Reader. After the installation, the Adobe Reader should render the PDF files correctly.

Because the cost to process your request is less than \$25.00, the fee has been waived. If you have any questions, please contact Anastazia Taylor, Mr. John Fischer or Ms. Katy Vagnoni of my staff at (301) 734-3254.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosures