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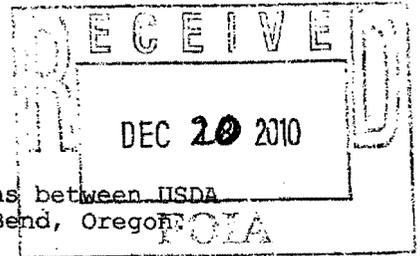
Foster Fell

To foia.officer@aphis.usda.gov

cc

bcc

Subject FOIA request



Thank you for your recent response regarding communications between USDA Wildlife Services and Bend Park and Recreation District, Bend, Oregon.

It was numbered FOIA 11-042.

If I may I would like to request some additional information.

(1.) I would request communications between USDA Wildlife Services and US Fish and Wildlife Services regarding how the permit to kill 109 geese in Bend's Drake Park on June 29, 2010, was obtained by USDA WS from USFWS. It would be useful to know the reasoning behind this action, why it was justified, and whether it was deemed that other nonlethal methods of controlling Canada Geese in Bend had been adequately attempted. What evidence was presented by USDA Wildlife Services to USFWS in order to obtain this permit?

(2.) Part of the FOIA requested materials I recently obtained was Amendment #1 to the Work and Financial Plan between Bend Metro Parks and APHIS-WS, in which an additional \$17,500 was added to the previously approved \$12,000 for the work plan period July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010.

In the budget for the amendment there was \$1,982 appropriated for "Project Supplies" and \$1,734 for "Program Support." Can I obtain information more specifically breaking down these items? What supplies were bought and what kind of program support was offered? Also what personnel were hired and what duties did they perform with the \$10,000?

In addition, I would request an accounting of what equipment and materials were purchased with the \$1,000 in the original work plan.

(3.) Why was June 29, 2010, chosen as the date to launch the capture and extermination of the 109 geese? Was it because the contract between APHIS-WS and Bend Metro Parks was due to expire the next day?

(4.) In one of the documents I just received Supervisory Wildlife Biologist Mike Slater of APHIS-WS writes, "Get aggressive with egg abatement." I would request the basis for this recommendation: i.e., what evidence suggested to Mr. Slater that egg abatement was not being pursued aggressively enough.

(5.) In a communication from State Director of APHIS-WS to Bend Metro Parks, David Williams writes he is pleased to be part of a goose management plan that has the support of the majority of the Bend community. My request would be on what evidence does he base the assertion that the majority do, indeed, support it? He further cites "tireless efforts" to avoid lethal control. What

material

does he have that supports his contention that no stone was left unturned to give nonlethal methods enough time and effort--only to be deemed inadequate?

(6.) Did USDA APHIS-WS know about Bend Metro Parks partnership with the organization GeesePeace in spring of 2010? Did APHIS-WS know about the additional recommendations offered by GeesePeace to improve upon Bend Metro Park's nonlethal goose management plan? And, if so, then why didn't APHIS-WS suggest giving these recommendations the time needed to be implemented.

(7.) APHIS-WS own guidelines acknowledge that a community which achieves zero population growth of resident geese has achieved a remarkable milestone. The Bend Bulletin of June 23, 2010, quotes a Bend Parks official as stating that this goal had been achieved in Bend. Was APHIS-WS aware that zero population growth had been achieved among Bend's resident Canada geese? Was APHIS-WS also aware that fewer goslings had been hatched in 2010 than in previous years, according to GeesePeace director David Feld?

(8.) Finally, I would request a more detailed breakdown of the budget items in the current Work and Financial Plan between Bend Metro Parks and APHIS-WS: What supplies are meant to be bought with the \$1,839 and what kind of program support is meant to be provided with the 2,656? How many personnel are expected to be paid with the \$19,833 and what duties will they be rendering?

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Foster Fell