



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Office of Law Enforcement
5275 Leesburg Pike (MS: OLE)
Falls Church, Virginia 22041



DEC - 2 2015

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/LE ADM 4-08-2016-00128

Mr. Stephen M. Kohn
Executive Director
National Whistleblower Center
3233 P. Street NW
Washington, DC 20007

Dear Mr. Kohn:

This is our response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), dated November 4, 2015. You requested the following records:

- An accounting of all monies placed into the fund known as the "Lacey Act Reward Fund" from 1983 through present. This would include documents that indicate how much money was placed into this fund and how much money was paid out of this fund, Please identify to whom the payments were made, If payments were made to whistleblowers or other confidential informants, we hereby consent to your deleting the name of each such person.

Your request was placed in the Department of the Interior (DOI) FOIA Tracking System under reference number FWS-2016-00128. Please refer to this number in your communications regarding this request.

In this final response, we are providing an excel spreadsheet that is responsive to your request. The enclosed spreadsheet is released to you in its entirety. We were able to gather information dating back to fiscal year (FY) 2004 relating to reward payments. Each line item relates to a single reward payment. Additionally, you sought information relating to the amount of money placed into the reward fund. In FY 2013 we change to a different financial database and therefore we are providing you information from FY 2013 to the present. This information was readily available to us and has been verified. The information is as follows:

FY 2013 - \$1,795,538.61
FY 2014 - \$1,398,635.11
FY 2015 - \$1,018,576.53



The information we are providing you relate to a previous agreement we had in order to expedite your request and get information out to you as quickly as possible. After the agreement you requested additional information to include records (original documents) associated with payouts. If you are still interested in that information then we recommend you submit another FOIA request and we'll be glad to gather that information and process it on your behalf.

The FOIA fee for processing your request is \$91.50, calculated as follows:

Search/review time (managerial), 1.5 hour @ \$91.50 per hour

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.

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Michael Jenkins, USFWS Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) at (703) 358-1949 or via email at michael_jenkins@fws.gov.

Sincerely,



William C. Woody
Assistant Director, Office of Law Enforcement

Enclosure